

# S C R A P      B O O K      N<sup>o</sup> 31-APRIL-3<sup>rd</sup> 1954 To May 13

1	Sam Paige - Re 3461 Cover - <sup>West Point</sup> MISS	35	W.S. Boggs Re-12451 Plating Article
2	"SPERATI" Article In GOSSIP 4/3-54	36	Walter Gisiyer Co 1451 - GRIE - 1451 - 1544 - 10455 - 7441 -
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4	Jack Molesworth Re-24469 SHORT PAID - Re-3461 Cover FAIGE Sale	38	Sam Paige Re 1451 <input type="checkbox"/> 4RI <sup>L</sup> 14RI <sup>L</sup>
5	Kurt E. Eckstein "Re Rheatown Tenn"	39	Robt A Peck - <sup>stampless - Utica N.Y.</sup> To Valparaiso
6	Henry Hill Re 5456 Miro Cover <input type="checkbox"/> <sup>Center</sup> Line	40	Van Dyk MacBride Re- War Books
7	Adolph Steeg 1451 <input type="checkbox"/> Pl. 4. - IIIA	41	Earl Oakley - 1451 <input type="checkbox"/> IA By Cole
8	R. Dickson	42	H. Herst Jr Re "Slave Poster"
9	E.C. KRUG Re Lot 92 In Harris Sale. 4/27-54	43	Harry M. Bortz - 1451 - Ic
10	Jack E Molesworth 14 1851 <input type="checkbox"/> Pl 4 Type III 1451 - <input type="checkbox"/> Pl 1E Type II	44	Robt Siegel - 1457 - Type IIIA
11	John A Fox Tracy Express Fake?	45	Howard Stasney - Block 10463 CSA.
12	C.W. Remele. Re Phila (5) AND "NY"	46	Dr A.J. Hertz Re "FREE" PONY
13	E.B. Jessup Re April 1 <sup>st</sup> Service <sup>And</sup> PONY FREE	47	J.D. Baker <sup>5/29 54</sup> Re Four W.F. & Co Covers
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15	J.G. Fleckenstein - Re 154 1869 Cover <sup>Type</sup> I	49	Raymond Weill - Re-3461 - PINK <input type="checkbox"/>
16	J.E. Molesworth " 154 1869 • Type I	50	Paul Christopher 1451 <input type="checkbox"/> TRI <sup>L</sup>
17	Raynor Hubbell Re 54 Knoxville	51	Greg. Mozian Re 24469 Invert-Stolow
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23	E.A. Weatherly Re Article Dean Covers	57	H.R. Harmer Re 6RI <sup>L</sup> - 1451
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# AIR MAIL

## Post Office Department

Received from: STANLEY B. ASHBROOK  
P. O. Box 31  
33 N. Ft. Thomas Ave.  
FORT THOMAS, KY



One piece of ordinary mail addressed  
to Samuel C Paige  
45 Bromfield St  
BOSTON (8) Mass

THIS RECEIPT, WHICH MAY BE USED FOR DOMESTIC AND INTERNATIONAL MAIL,  
DOES NOT PROVIDE FOR INDEMNIFICATION



Samuel C. Paige  
15 Bromfield St.  
Boston, Mass.

APR 3  
11 PM  
1954  
U.S. POSTAL SERVICE



PLEASE  
DO NOT  
STAPLE OR FOLD  
AIR MAIL  
SPECIAL DELIVERY

AIR MAIL  
SPECIAL DELIVERY

Mr. Stanley B. Ashbrook  
33 N. Fort Thomas Ave  
Fort Thomas  
Kentucky



Samuel C. Paige

45 Bromfield St.

Boston & Mass.

April 3<sup>rd</sup>

Phone

Dear Mr. Ashbrook,

Please find enclosed lot # 376 from my  
Auction of April 9<sup>th</sup> + 10<sup>th</sup>

There has been some question raised as to  
whether the three portions of the cancellation have been  
painted in by Jack Molesworth (he raised the  
question) saying he thinks the cancel. on the stamp  
and that portion on the envelope faked. It appeared  
to me that the cancel is OK and I have the  
corrs pictured on my front cover. However I  
have found a defect in the stamp at the UR  
corner and intend to offer the lot as having this  
defect.

Would you please give me your opinion  
as to the cancellation letting me know your fee  
as always. Inasmuch as the sale is next Friday  
I hope we can get the report as soon as possible.

With my very kind regards, Sincerely,  
Sam Paige

Member

A. S. D. A.      A. P. S.  
U. S. ENVELOPE SOCIETY  
COLLECTORS CLUB OF N. Y.  
U. S. CANCELLATION CLUB  
3c 51-57 UNIT  
R. I. PHILATELIC SOCIETY  
NEW BEDFORD STAMP CLUB

April 5, 1954.

Mr. Samuel C. Paige,  
45 Bromfield St.,  
Boston 8, Mass.

Dear Mr. Paige:

Your Air Special was not delivered to me until noon today, though there is no excuse why it should not have been delivered yesterday. Boston is only a few hours by air from Cincinnati. I note it bears the Boston postmark of "Apr 3 11 P.M." - Ft. Thomas is a sub-station of the Newport P.O. and your letter bears the postmark of the latter office as "Apr 5 - 9:30 A.M." Such service is sure disgusting. I am inquiring of the Newport office why this delay.

Regarding the cover. I examined it very carefully under my high-power binocular and I note some very suspicious features. I have run across covers which had the original 3¢ '61 stamps removed and some stamp with a rare cancelation substituted and the "tie" very convincingly painted. The upper right corner with the piece added shows monkey-business. I believe it would be advisable to offer the cover "as is." It is most discouraging to have fraudulent covers turn up because cancelations are such an interesting field for specialization.

My fee for this report is \$3.50.

With kindest regards -

Cordially yours,

Charge  
Page 350

Rec 31-1

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# THE SPERATI STORY

*British Philatelists Acquire  
Remarkable Business*

Jean deSperati, noted craftsman of Aix-les-Bains, France, has retired from business. The producer of many reproductions which have deceived the experts over the past forty years, has disposed of his stock, which is now under the control of the British Philatelic Association. Thousands of these dangerous counterfeits can now be prevented from ever reaching the market, and can be studied carefully to ensure that other Sperati reproductions in circulation can be recognized and branded as being what they are.

As far as is known, Sperati reproduced 558 different stamps, some of them as many as a dozen times. The period necessary for the manufacture of a "die" was several days. To print copies was a laborious business, as this master craftsman had to prepare the paper (often by dissolving in chemicals the design of a genuine but common stamp), the gum (if the finished article was to be unused) or the cancellation. Many of his copies showed the slight differences in shade which one expects to find in the genuine. Rarely was the cancellation on one copy similar to another. Each finished product had to be carefully "aged." Such meticulous work needed a lot of time, and he could only produce a few finished copies of a stamp in a week.

Now 71 years old, Sperati found his eyesight failing. He could no longer execute his work with that degree of accuracy necessary to satisfy his desire for perfection. Nothing enraged Sperati more than to be told that his "forgeries" were genuine! He tried every device to convince the unbelieving experts that he had made the stamps himself. Told it was impossible to reproduce old and valuable classics like this without some tell-tale difference exposing them, Sperati immediately retired to his carefully guarded laboratory, and duplicated the stamps for the benefit of the incredulous dealers.

To prove his case, he once sent through a relative, a used copy of a rare Oldenburg stamp to each of three prominent French dealers as genuine. Each dealer willingly bought the forgery and, on meeting, the three duly produced their purchases, only to find that the cancellation of each copy tallied exactly to a millimetre in its position on each stamp—a probability which defied the laws of chance, had the stamps been genuine. The dealers prosecuted Sperati through their Trade Organization for misrepresentation. Sperati's defense was that he immediately refunded the purchase money in each case, and had only sold the stamps as genuine in order to prove his claim that they were forged!

French law permitted the private reproduction of stamps provided that they were sold as imitations. This Sperati invariably did in the ordinary course of business, refusing naturally to accept responsibility for what happened to them once he had sold them. In recent years everything he sold bore his signature in soft pencil on the reverse. Only too often the purchaser sold them as genuine and frequently the new owners submitted them for an opinion to one of the leading experts, only to be told that they were genuine in every respect!

So eccentric was the artistic, sensitive Frenchman that he protected the copyright of the designs he was reproducing on the grounds that they were not stamps—even if they looked like them—but were in fact, products of his Sperati's genius.

Genius is the only word applicable to this master of art. Long years of study made him familiar with paper, ink and gum used a hundred years ago in the production of the issues he successfully copied.

Where the stamp was plateable (i. e. the individual peculiarity of the design enabled the original position on the sheet to be identified), Sperati frequently copied more than one sheet position. In the case of one popular stamp, the French 1 fr. carmine, he copied no less than twelve different positions.

His methods of applying cancellations were unique for he not only faithfully copied the format but the impression. In many cases he produced a wide variety of cancellations, the British 2/- brown being known with thirty-two different obliterations while the Ceylon provisionals are to be found with only one less.

It is only since the stock came under the control of the British Philatelic Association that the full extent of the danger has been realized. Dies of stamps which have never been recognized as Sperati's work have cast doubts on the authenticity of some of the rarest stamps in the world. Had Sperati's business been carried on the repercussions on the value of many fine collections of genuine early issues would have tumbled badly for faith in any stamps of these issues would have been undermined.

Sperati has been described as "an outstanding craftsman of printing, a fine chemist and a magnificent artist." Furthermore, he was a first class philatelist and it was this factor which made his work so dangerous.

During his long career, it is estimated that Sperati produced enough material to have realized over £1,700,000 if genuine. For several years past, members of the Expert Committee of the British Philatelic Association have been acquiring all the Sperati reproductions procurable and recording where other experts have similar material. With the purchase

of Sperati's own collection and stock, the B. P. A. either own or have recorded the ownership of over two-thirds of all that Sperati made.

Reference collections of Sperati forgeries are now being assembled and, once the "stamps" have been marked indelibly on the back "Sperati Reproduction" they will be placed in the hands of responsible philatelic bodies and private collectors who are recognized experts in the stamps of the various countries represented in the Sperati stock.

Some of the stamps that Sperati produced were worth less than a pound but most of his time was spent turning out copies of the minor rarities which are wanted by so many collectors to complete their sets.

The only British stamp he copied was the previously mentioned 2/- brown issued in 1880, but amongst the 88 stamps of the British Empire that were turned out in his workshop, were the Australian 1913 £2, Bahamas 1894 £1, British Honduras 1885 1/-, Ceylon 1883 24-cents, Newfoundland 1857 1/- scarlet vermilion, Gold Coast 1889 20/-, Lagos 1886 10/-, and Vancouver Island 1865 5-cents and 10-cents. Sperati charged nearly £200 for one of each of his copies of the British Empire stamps—possibly expensive at first sight but not so dear when one considers that the genuine articles would have cost collectors about £4,000.

The most valuable stamps to be found in Sperati's work are among the foreign issues and the great rarities include the Swedish 3 skilling banco error of color in yellow instead of green. The only known genuine copy of this rarity was for many years in the collection of the late King Carol of Roumania and is valued at about £10,000 today. Sperati's copy was one of his highest priced replicas at £13, and unlike the original which had had some of the defective perforations restored was perfect! Sperati used genuine copies of the common 4 skilling banco from which he dissolved the design of the stamp, on which to print the great rarity.

Sperati made few other stamps worth over £1,000 for it was his genius to copy the original and unless a genuine stamp was available from which he could work, he refused to make a replica.

The great rarities that he did copy were, like the Swedish error, made by copying the genuine design in the common color and printing it in the rare color, matching the shade with great care.

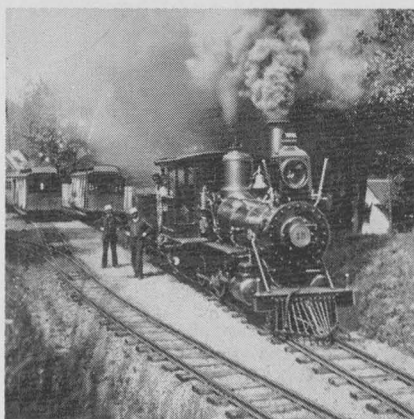
As far as is known, Sperati made 470 different dies and clichés of stamps issued by thirty-three foreign countries. His favorites were France, German States, Italian States, Spain, Switzerland, Argentine, Columbia, U. S. A. and Uruguay.



these days to many of our readers. If you receive stamps overprinted "KOMMISCHES KONFERENZ" they are not kosher. The words mean "Comical Conference" and relate to the recent conference held in both zones with a poker-faced Russian diplomat. You will pardon the use of the word so carelessly. The Karl Marx stamps are really something. Then there is that national flag for East Germany that we doubt even the residents know exists in its colors of black, yellow and white. This flag is crossed with the red flag, sickle, hammer and all. Then we are told of the renaming of some of the East Berlin sector's streets. They bear the names of Russian idols. But some of the towns have also been renamed. Shades of Rand McNally, where the heck is Stalinstadt, Karl Marxstadt and others, we cannot locate these on the newest maps of East Berlin. Then there comes to us, free, gratis and for nix, used stamps, neatly canceled but with full gum. Sort of "La Russe" which (you will please pardon the expression) sounds like a lot of Philatelic Ham to us. Then we get a batch of stamps, at least we think they are, announcing another five year plan for East Germany. Those Russians are really optimists! There may be a five year plan, perhaps less time than that, which they do not know about at the moment. When it clears up, the Russians may be back in Russia, that is, if there is a Russia then.

WE ARE GRATEFUL TO William T. Norris of Belfast, Maine who had Mr. L. W. Woody help us on what follows. Mr. Norris like many of our readers is intrigued by the old time narrow gauge railroads which often carried the mail. Mr. Linwood W. Moody wrote a book on these narrow gauge railroads and is an authority on them. Mr. Norris had Mr. Moody write our material on these narrow gauge roads for our readers, thanks to both of these gentlemen. The illustration is from our morgue, the name used in printing and publishing for pictures to be used at a future date. We do not know the exact location of the picture other than it is marked "Maine—Narrow Gauge two foot

equipment." To us it looks more like the forerunner of the interurban cars once used in Pennsylvania. But here is Linwood W. Moody our guest editor today.



"The Maine 2-foot gauge railroads were a result of the much older 2-footers in Wales, notably the Festiniog Railway which had operated since the middle of the nineteenth century.

"The first one in the United States, the Billerica & Bedford Railroad, between those Massachusetts towns, was built in 1877 with the Festiniog as its model.

"Two years later, in 1879, the Sandy River Railroad was built 18 miles from Farmington, Me. to Strong and Phillips, starting the rash of 2-footers in this state. About the same time the Peekskill Valley R. R. in New York State was also laid to 24-inch gauge, but was virtually an industrial railroad although rated as a common carrier. Like three or four similar ventures in the United States, the Peekskill Valley didn't survive the nineteenth century.

"The Maine narrow gauges, however, operated well into the present century, the first abandonment being in 1929.

"With the opening of the Sandy River Railroad other companies quickly followed. In 1880 the Bridgton & Saco River Railroad was opened, 21 miles from Hiram through Bridgton to Harrison. That same year the six mile Monson Railroad was built from a point on the Bangor & Piscataquis Railroad (now Bangor & Aroostook) in the town of Abbott, up to Monson. The Monson Railroad was the final survivor, ceasing operations early in 1945.

"The Sandy River was the stem of a narrow gauge tree in western Maine. Tapping it at Strong, 11 miles from Farmington, the Franklin & Megantic Railroad was built through Salem and Freeman to Kingfield, 16 miles, in 1883. A dozen years later it was extended, as the Kingfield & Dead River Railroad, from Kingfield through Carrabasset to Bigelow, 15 miles more.

, in honor of the anti-Leprosy ne by Military Order of Malta, Crusaders' Order. Details t yet been completed, but it is l that the issue will be limited, 0 sets, and that a part of the is will go to the Order to work. The information through P. Ostrow, de t in Italian stamps.

Y—A striking 25-lire Ita orative was issued on M popularize the duty of Ital government, according t dealer-specialist in Ita

tamp, violet in color, re the left the "Italia Tur which appears on Italy's r ps. The area to the rig le bears the following ins Putti sono tenuta concor se pubbliche in ragione acita contributiva (Art istituzione)" — that is: are expected to contribu ic welfare in accordance lity to do so; Article 53 o tion." The stamp ma against the increasing d of the Italian Govern the wealthy to bear a f the tax burden. The s valid until contrary noti taneously with the comm tamp, an ordinary pos ed with imprinted stan lia Turrita" type, in den f 20 lire and greenish

ED STATES — Postm Arthur E. Summerfield March 16th that the Bu aving and Printing has b on of the new Statue of I gn 8-cent ordinary po o be placed on first day ington, D. C. on April 9, new stamp is unique of reasons. It is the d ordinary issue in a ion less than \$1.00 and dinary stamp to carry "In God We Trust." roduced by the dry in rather than the wet m oeing printed on pregu

ome time the Bureau o and Printing has been experiments, exploring y of dry intaglio printi s. These experiments ed to the extent tha is deemed practical fo of postal items. Since tolerances of the new " gn are so critical, and be variation in expansion an associated with printing on a ed paper, it was felt that the thod was especially appropri the production of this particu up.

rinting is being accomplished ment previously procured for

EARL Oakley

APR	7 <sup>th</sup>	3.50
"	7 <sup>th</sup>	4.00
"	26	10.

PAID

17.50

MAY 22 1934.

Charge  
Earl Oakley  
All

31-3



From:

Earl Oakley,  
200 Continental Building,  
Los Angeles, California. -13-



**VIA AIR MAIL**

**REGISTERED**

202505

TO:

Mr. Stanley B. Ashbrook,  
P. O. Box 31,  
Fort Thomas, Kentucky.

REGISTERED.

AIR MAIL.

DO NOT FOLD OR STAPLE.





68<sup>TH</sup> ANNUAL CONVENTION  
SEPTEMBER 15-18, 1954  
SAN FRANCISCO



CALIFORNIA COLLECTORS CLUB  
A-P-S CONVENTION 1954  
SAN FRANCISCO



VIA AIR MAIL

36

ANCHOR  
K35 5x7 1/2  
U.S.A.

Earl Oakley  
Suite 200 Continental Building  
408 South Spring Street  
Los Angeles 13, California



Mr. Stanley B. Ashbrook,  
P. O. Box 31,  
33 North Fort Thomas Avenue,  
Fort Thomas, Kentucky.

AIR MAIL

AIR MAIL

AIR MAIL

**CERTIFICATE NO. CA 184917**

**FIREMAN'S FUND  
INSURANCE COMPANY**

**HEAD OFFICE  
SAN FRANCISCO, CALIFORNIA**

**IN CONSIDERATION OF THE PREMIUM AND OTHER CONDITIONS NAMED IN THE POLICY ISSUED WITH THE BOOK FROM WHICH THIS CERTIFICATE HAS BEEN DETACHED, THE ASSURED NAMED IN SAID POLICY IS INSURED AS PROVIDED THEREIN, AGAINST LOSS OR DAMAGE TO THE PROPERTY CONTAINED IN THE PACKAGE OR DESCRIBED IN THE INVOICE WITH WHICH THIS CERTIFICATE IS MAILED.**

**IN THE EVENT OF LOSS OR DAMAGE TO THE PROPERTY INSURED HEREUNDER, IMMEDIATE NOTICE SHOULD BE GIVEN TO THE SHIPPER FOR FULL INVESTIGATION.**

*Earl Oakley*  
*Attorney at Law*  
*Suite 200 Continental Building*  
*Los Angeles, California*  
*Mutual 7931*

April 2nd., 1954.

Mr. Stanley B. Ashbrook,  
P. O. Box 31,  
33 North Fort Thomas Avenue,  
Fort Thomas, Kentucky.

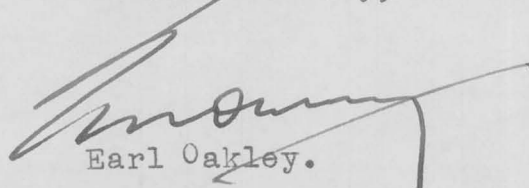
Dear Mr. Ashbrook:

I have your note of March 29th., 1954, concerning the items that I recently sent to you. I wonder if you would mind my adding another pair for you to check. I am enclosing such pair with some notations that I have made which might be of some help in the plating.

You may assume in the future on any items that I send to you that you can take any reasonable time to check them that you may desire without checking with me. If I have any reason to want a quick reply opinion, I shall let you know when I send the items to you. Usually and except for the two items that I sent that belong to friends the items belong to me and a week or two, or even a month or two would make no great difference to me in receiving your report. However, I may have occasion to want your opinion on material that may be submitted to me for purchase, in which event I would want your early opinion and will so notify you when I submit the same.

With my best personal regards to Mrs. Ashbrook and yourself, I am

Yours sincerely,

  
Earl Oakley.

EO/M.  
encs. noted.  
CA 184917.

April 7, 1954.

Mr. Earl Oakley,  
200 Continental Bldg.,  
Los Angeles, Calif.

Dear Mr. Oakley:

This will acknowledge receipt of yours of the 2nd with the h.p. of the 1¢ 1851. I will put this with your other One Cent items and report in the next few days on the lot.

I have carefully noted the contents of this letter and I will be guided by it in the future. Whenever you wish a reply by return mail on an item I will be pleased to comply and will endeavor to return the item or items by the mail of the same day. If you wish it sent Air - Special Delivery I will comply.

Further referring to yours of the 17th. May I thank you very kindly for the check for \$7.50.

As per your request I am enclosing herewith a print of the 24¢ 1861 Patriotic cover. I note that your friend Mr. Oscar Salzer may pay me a visit at some future date when he is in this part of the country. It would be advisable if he let me know in advance as I am not always available on short notice. When I have a big lot of material that requires my immediate attention, it is impossible for me to drop such work for an out-of-town visitor. I am sure you appreciate my position.

My sincere thanks for the old almanacs that you sent me. I have looked thru these very carefully and I find them very interesting.

With every good wish -

Cordially yours,



April 26, 1954.

Mr. Earl Oakley,  
Suite 200 - Continental Bldg.,  
Los Angeles, Calif.

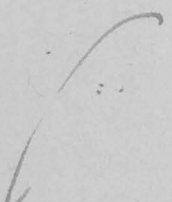
Dear Mr. Oakley:

Herewith the pair of the 1851 as per yours of the 2nd. I have examined this pair carefully and I feel quite sure that it is from Plate 3, however, the condition is so poor that I doubt if it can be plated. I note the various markings that you noted on your diagram but the majority of these are not consistent. About the only real guides to the plating would be the dots and the spacing and alignment. It is perhaps possible that the plate positions might be established by a process of elimination, that is, checking all the plated positions on Plate 3 but this would be a tedious job and time consuming, and the condition of the pair would not warrant the expense to you.

I am working on the balance of your material and will return it to you very shortly. I apologize for the delay but I have had so much prior work I found it impossible to get around to it.

With kindest regards -

Cordially yours,



# Post Office Department

Received from:

STANLEY B. ASHBROOK  
P. O. Box 31  
33 N. Ft. Thomas Ave.,  
FORT THOMAS, KY.



One piece of ordinary mail addressed

to

*Earl Oakley*  
*200 Continental*  
*Los Angeles*

*Blair*  
*Calif*

THIS RECEIPT DOES NOT PROVIDE FOR INDEMNIFICATION

750

PAID  
MAR 22 1954

Dec. 12, 1953.

PAID  
MAR 22 1954

Mr. Earl Oakley,  
Suite 200, Continental Bldg.,  
408 South Spring St.,  
Los Angeles 13, Calif.

Dear Mr. Oakley:

Thanks very much for yours of the 3rd with check for \$115.00.

I return the three One Cent 1851 stamps which you enclosed. I have put notations on each.

Herewith is a 1¢ 1857 from Plate 6 - This is a "B" relief (only 20 out of 200) and it shows the right side ornaments complete. Morris Fortgang and I have been doing some nice work in recent years on Plate 6 and Fortgang being in New York has managed to locate a number of new pieces. Much progress has been made in the reconstruction of the plate.

The enclosed copy shows some nice "mottling," which is consistent in early prints, also a line in "U" of U.S. that is consistent. If you have any pairs or strips from Plate 6 that I have not seen may I borrow them?

The price of the enclosed copy is \$7.50 in case you would like to keep it.

WITH CHRISTMAS GREETINGS -

Cordially yours,

March 29, 1954.

Mr. Earl Oakley,  
Suite 200 - Continental Bldg.,  
408 South Spring St.,  
Los Angeles 13, Calif.

Dear Mr. Oakley:

I am in receipt of your two registered letters of the 18th and 20th and the same will have my attention in the near future. At present I am terribly busy on some special rush work.

With regards -

Cordially yours,

*Earl Oakley*  
*Attorney at Law*  
*Suite 200 Continental Building*  
*Los Angeles, California*  
*Mutual 7331*

March 17th., 1954.

Mr. Stanley B. Ashbrook,  
P. O. Box 31,  
Fort Thomas, Kentucky.

Dear Mr. Ashbrook:

I have retained the 1¢ 1857 Type V stamp from Plate 6 and enclose my check in your favor in the sum of \$7.50 to cover the same. I have looked through all of my perforated material, of which I have comparatively little, and did not find any multiple pieces that I thought could come from Plate 6, nor did I find any single copies which appeared to come from this plate. However, I did find a cover with a single copy which may be from this plate, and I am enclosing it because it may be of some interest as the cover is dated in the writing of the receiptant in 1858.

My friend, Mr. Oscar Salzer, was very pleased with your report concerning his 24¢ 1857 patriotic cover, and he would like to have one of the prints that you made of it. He travels a good part of the time and is going to try and see you when he gets in your part of the country.

I have a group of items which I would like to have you check for me and which are enclosed. There are 26 items on cards and I have indicated the information I should like on them. The first three items I would like to have you check as to condition. I am also enclosing four covers for checking and have indicated similarly the information I would like on these. I realize that you may not be able to furnish the plating information on some of these matters without spending too much time in doing so, so give me such information as your time and the items warrant. In returning the enclosures, I would like to have them covered by \$500.00 of protection.

I am also enclosing by separate registered letter two additional covers for you to check, and in returning these I wish that you would cover them with an additional protection of \$250.00. The 90¢ 1869 is owned by another of my friends, Mr. Lloyd Taber, and he doubts that this stamp was originally upon the letter and thinks that the original stamp was removed and replaced by the 90¢ stamp. He does not know of any postal rate that would require this much postage, and is suspicious that the stamp may be of the re-issue series. I told him I would be glad to send it to you for an opinion, and that I thought you were more able to properly pass upon the cover than anyone else. Hope you do not object to my being so free in offering your services to others. Taber is a nice chap and you would like him if you could meet. Please bill me separately for checking this item.



*Earl Oakley*

Mr. Stanley B. Ashbrook

Page two

March 17th., 1954.

The other cover separately enclosed belongs to me and has a single copy of the 5¢ 1855 tied by a New Orleans and a French receiving cancellation to a letter sheet. I would like to have you check the condition of the stamp. It appears that the letter-sheet was folded at one time but I do not believe that the stamp was or that it is creased. However, I should like to have your opinion. I understand that single copies on cover are quite scarce, is this correct? Also, can you give me any idea of the ship that carried this letter? Would appreciate anything else that you can tell me about the cover.

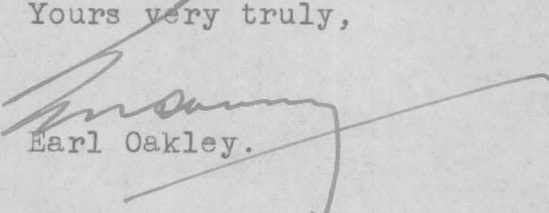
I am also sending you some of the old almanacs about which I wrote you long ago. I have other year issues if they would be of interest or help to you. In the 1829 issue on page indicated is a list of the stages, giving the places of departure. And, the last page gives the principal roads out of Boston with the distances and names of innkeepers. The last page of the 1932 edition gives the postage rates and postal data, and if you are interested - the fines in New Hampshire for derelictions of privates and non-commissioned officers. You may find some information of interest on pages 44, et seq. of the 1853 edition.

I am also returning to you under separate cover the booklet on the 12¢ 1851 which you so kindly lent me. I now have a copy of this.

Again thanking you for your many past favors, I am

Yours very truly,

EO/M. geg.  
encs. noted.

  
Earl Oakley.

*Parker & Co.*  
LAWYERS BOND

April 7th, 1954.

Mr. Earl Oakley,  
Suite 200 Continental Bldg.,  
408 South Spring St.,  
Los Angeles 13, Calif.

Dear Mr. Oakley:

Herewith the cover to France with the 5¢ 1856. This is a blue folded letter addressed to Mons. A. Quertier No 2 Rue Rossini - Paris (France). The letter inside is dated New Orleans "30 AOUT 1856". The red New York "BR. PKT" marking is dated "SEP 9." I regret to state that this 5¢ stamp was not used originally on this cover. All of the black markings on the stamp and which are supposed to tie the stamp to the cover are fraudulent, that is, "painted." The black French due marking is "13" or 13 French decimes, equivalent to approximately 25¢ in U. S. currency at that time. Inasmuch as the original U. S. postage on this letter was 5¢, I assume that this was paid by a 5¢ 1856 stamp which was badly damaged by a crease. This copy was substituted. It is possible that this was a stampless cover which had 5¢ paid in cash but that could only be determined by removing the present stamp.

I regret to state that I haven't a record of the names of the mail ships of each trip that carried the mail across the Atlantic in the fifties. I suppose the only way to obtain such information would be to search a New York newspaper. I do have a fairly complete record of the sailing dates of the various lines. For example, your cover bears a New York date of "Sep 9" (1856). My record shows that a ship by the Cunard Line (Br. Pkt) sailed from Boston on Wednesday, Sept. 10, 1856. So I assume this letter went in a sealed bag from New York Via Boston.

Yes, single copies of the 5¢ 1856 on cover bring anywhere from \$100.00 to \$150.00, according to condition.

My fee for this examination is \$3.50.

My kindest regards.

Cordially yours,

April 7, 1954.

Mr. Earl Oakley,  
Suite 200 Continental Bldg.,  
Los Angeles 13, Calif.

Dear Mr. Oakley:

Herewith the cover with the 90¢ 1869 as per yours of the 17th of March. This cover has a blue postmark of Savannah Ga of "Oct 24" - and the stamp is supposed to be tied by a blue cancelation. It has a forwarding handstamp of KNOOP, HANEMANN & CO of Oct 23 1870. The envelope is addressed to "Bremen, Germany." In my opinion, this 90¢ stamp was not used originally on this cover. I believe that the year-date of "1870" is correct and has not been changed. The red New York postmark is quite correct for this period. The date is "Oct 29" and my records show that on this date a mail steamship of the "Inman Line" sailed from New York with mail for the Continent. Such mail was sent via England in sealed bags, hence the wording in the New York postmark, "BR. TRANSIT." The rate at that time was 10¢ per 1/2 oz. I feel quite sure that a 10¢ Brown Bank Note of 1870 was removed and this 90¢ stamp substituted. Surely this small envelope could not have required a 9 x 10¢ rate.

My fee for this examination is \$4.00.

With regards -

Sincerely yours,

April 26, 1954.

Mr. Earl Oakley,  
200 Continental Bldg.,  
Los Angeles 13, Calif.

Dear Mr. Oakley:

Herewith I am enclosing the various items contained in yours of March 20th.

On most of the items you requested the plate positions. In this respect may I state that I gave you very few. As you are aware, plating stamps from Plate One Early, Plate 2, Plate 3 is not easy and in the great majority of cases requires time and very careful comparison. If I attempted to charge a reasonable fee I feel that the information I would be able to give you would be far too expensive. In other words, the charge might be worth more than the item itself. I might also add that I try to avoid plating single copies and especially Relief "A" stamps from Plate 2. And further, I do not plate singles of Type V unless there is something very unusual about them.

One of your 10¢ 1847 is a nice plate variety so I took time out to plate it for you, because of the marks down the right side. Some might think that this indicated a damaged copy which is not the case. - They were depressions in the surface of the plate that retained ink, hence are consistent.

Regarding these two 10¢ '47 and the 5¢ 1856. In examining these I note that you used a non-peelable hinge. I certainly think such use is unwise on any stamp that has value. The hinge put out by "Dennison" is probably the best peelable hinge on the market. You should be able to obtain them at any stationery store. I enclose a few samples.

My fee for this examination is \$10.00.

With regards -

Sincerely yours,

From Savannah Ga., Oct. 24 1870, New York Oct 29<sup>th</sup>.  
A Mail Ship of The "INMAN LINE" Sailed On  
Oct 29 1870 with U.S. MAIL FOR EUROPE. The  
Rate To Germany was 10¢ per 1/2 oz. It is  
Obvious That This Small Envelope Did Note  
Require A 9x10¢ Rate. Evidently A 10¢ 1870  
Was Removed And This 9¢ Stamp Substituted  
(31-3-4/7-1954.). Stanley B Ashbrook





FROM SAVANNAH Geo, Oct 24 1870, NEW YORK, Oct. 29th, By A SHIP  
of The INMAN LINE - Rate 10¢ per 1/2 oz. A 10¢ BROWN of  
1870, was Removed And This 9¢ Substituted.  
(31-3-47-54) - Stanley B Ashbrook

FOR QUARTZ OF 90¢ SEE B477

British Steamer



Monsieur A. Luchette  
No 2 Rue Rossini  
Paris

FAKE COVER - 5¢ Stamp Was Not Used Originally On  
This Cover. Letter Inside New Orleans, "30 AOUT 1856"  
Red British Marking on Back - "22 SEP 1856"  
(31-3-4/7-54)



FAKE COVER - 5¢ Stamp Was Not Used Originally On  
This Cover. Letter Inside New Orleans, "30 AOUT 1856"  
Red British Marking on Back - "22 SEP 1856"  
(21-3-A/7-SA)

FROM SAVANNAH GEO, OCT 24 1870, NEW YORK, OCT. 29<sup>th</sup>, BY A SHIP  
OF THE INMAN LINE - Rate 10¢ per 1/2 oz. A 10¢ BROWN OF  
1870, WAS REMOVED AND THIS GOD SUBSTITUTED.  
(31-3-4/7-54) - Stanley B Ashbrook



## Jack E. Molesworth

Philatelic Dealer and Broker

102 Beacon Street

Boston 16, Massachusetts

April 6, 1954

Mr. Stanley B. Ashbrook  
33 North Ft. Thomas Avenue  
Ft. Thomas, Kentucky

Dear Stan,

I recently had occasion to examine on behalf of several clients the cover photographed on the front cover of the catalog for Sam Paige's auction in Boston this weekend, and came to the conclusion that the 3 prongs of the cancel extending on to the cover had been either completely painted in or thoroughly touched up in addition to the upper right corner of the stamp having been quite obviously added although overlooked by Mr. Paige when describing the item. Since I informed my client of this opinion, I felt an obligation to also explain such to Mr. Paige which was done last week with a request that he re-examine the item himself. After doing so he naturally agreed that the corner had been added but was of the opinion that the cancel had not been painted in as was my conclusion.

Therefore, I urged him to send it along to you last Saturday, which he was glad to do, and also asked that he mention to you my opinion and the fact that I was the one that suggested it be sent to you. I would appreciate your advising whether or not in his letter of transmittal he did mention that the cover was sent at my request, as well as mentioning my specific doubts.

Today he read to me the portion of your letter in reply referring to the cover and unfortunately it is not as definite as I had hoped it would be such that the situation is still rather clouded and has left my relationship with Mr. Paige rather strained. I had hoped that it would be possible for you to give it a rather minute examination with <sup>ultra-</sup>violet ray, etc. as a basis for rendering your very definite opinion on the "painted-in" factor. I would therefor greatly appreciate it if you could let me know by return air mail, special delivery, for which an envelope is enclosed specifically what your opinion is on the part of the cancel extending on to the cover, as such will be quite helpful in clarifying the situation. Also, as a result of my own comments doubting the cover, another dealer friend of Mr. Paige's on the same floor asked if I was sure enough of my opinion to make a wager on it with the result that your opinion is necessary to determine who is the winner of my bet with him that "the cancel has been tampered with", for which I gave him 25 to 1 odds!

Thanking you for your assistance,

With kind regards,

Jack E. Molesworth

P.S. (over)

P. S. Enclosed is the letter received from Harmer, Rooke on the  
24¢ - 1869 cover. Your comments will be appreciated.

April 7, 1954.

Mr. Jack E. Molesworth,  
102 Beacon St.,  
Boston 16, Mass.

Dear Jack:

Thanks very much for a look at Gordon's letter. It gave me a good opening to write him a few things I had on my chest. Incidentally what I wrote him is true - no more free service to any dealer in New York or elsewhere. If they don't care to pay it is okay with me. I am damn tired of being quoted, by people who obtained the information free of cost. Please keep this confidential as I have no desire to offend anyone unless it might be some lousy rat down there like Konwiser, Rich or Sloane. These are my top entries in my S.O.B. book.

Now for the Paige cover. Jack you must realize that I have to be very careful because it is just as bad to condemn a genuine cover as it is to authenticate a fake. I have before me a copy of the letter that I wrote Paige. In it I advised him to offer the cover as is. I am sure that I saw what you saw and perhaps more. It is a waste of time to examine such a cover by the ultra-violet. I considered carefully whether it would be worth while to make an enlarged photograph by ultra-violet and after studying each feature of the "tie" on the cover I concluded that nothing would be gained.

When I am not sure I don't hesitate to state that I don't know. There were some good points about the cover and some that were bad so I couldn't state the cover was genuine and neither could I state the cover was bad. If I did either one I would be guessing and when one in my position resorts to guess-work his opinion isn't worth a tinker's damn. Several things occurred to me, viz., that perhaps someone removed a common stamp from the cover that was not tied and substituted a single he had with this cancel, then painted a tie on the cover. But my microscope convinced me that while the tie might have been retouched, there were parts if not all that had actually been stamped on, not painted. I have occasion almost every day to examine painted ties and I have been doing such work for a great many years. Some are very, very clever, and some are extremely crude.

To sum up, I gave Paige the soundest kind of an opinion and I charged him for it, viz., to offer the cover "as is."

The Cincinnati office of the Western Union called me today to report they were having an investigation made at Boston why my telegram of March 27 was not delivered to you. Perhaps they will contact you.

With regards -

Cordially yours,



COPY

April 2, 1954

Mr. J. E. Molesworth  
102 Beacon Street  
Boston 16, Massachusetts

Dear Mr. Molesworth:

We are very sorry to learn that Mr. Ashbrook does not consider Lot 165, purchased in the Axford sale, a genuine cover. We are notifying Mr. Axford as it was his property.

We are surprised that Mr. Ashbrook does not now consider the cover genuine. We say this because another client of ours requested permission to send it to Mr. Ashbrook before the sale. It was duly forwarded by our client to Mr. Ashbrook and returned to us, and came back directly from Mr. Stanley Ashbrook. If our customer had told us that Mr. Ashbrook considered it a fake, we would, of course, have gone into the matter very carefully.

While the expense of \$6 will fall on us we are quite willing for you to deduct this from your remittance.

Very truly yours,

HARMER, ROOKE & CO., INC.

By: (signed) Gordon Harmer

GH/lr

April 7, 1954.

Mr. Gordon Harmer,  
% Harmer, Rooke & Co.,  
560 Fifth Ave.,  
New York 36, N.Y.

Dear Gordon:

Jack Molesworth sent me your letter to him under date of April 2, 1954, regarding the 24d 1869 cover that was Lot 165 in the Axford sale. I was rather surprised at the contents of your letter because I am not in the habit of expressing an opinion on a stamp or cover unless same is requested. Wouldn't I be a regular old busy-body if I pursued such a policy? Besides, I charge a fee of \$5.00 per cover for an opinion. It is quite true that Mr. Krug sent the cover to me, requested an opinion, and instructed me to return the cover to you. I charged Mr. Krug a fee of \$5.00 plus postage. After charging him a fee it would hardly have been fair to write you that the cover was a rank fake.

I am sure you know your business and it is not up to me to offer any suggestions but I sincerely believe that you lay yourself open to criticism when you offer a rare cover without any assurance whatsoever that the item is genuine. Rather than make the seller pay the cost of examination you pass this on to the customers who bid at your sales. Of course, it is okay with me because in this case I received a fee from Krug and one from Molesworth.

One more point. Your description of Lot #165 would certainly give the impression that Harmer, Rooke & Co. considered the cover genuine in every respect. You described it as "Very fine. Scarce."

Back in 1939 you sold this same cover in the Brown sale. It was Lot 1351, and you described it at that time, "doubtful and sold as is." Phil Ward purchased it @ \$39.00.

For your information, a number of people have in recent years obtained from me information free of charge and then capitalized upon the information. I have adopted a strict rule that applies to everyone, collector and dealer alike. Everyone pays a fee and the fee is \$5.00 per cover unless I choose to make a slight reduction.

I think a collector who would buy a cover like this without having it authenticated is a damn fool. It is just as silly as buying a piece of real estate without having the title examined.

I might also mention that I am going to forbid the use of my name in auction catalogues unless special permission is granted for the particular lot.

If perchance you can point out one objection to anything in this letter

#2. Mr. Gordon Harmer - April 7, 1954.

I can assure you it will be most welcome.

With my kindest regards -

Cordially yours,

April 7, 1954.

Mr. Emmerson C. Krug,  
% Commodore Hotel,  
New York, N.Y.

Dear Em:

Here is a copy of a letter that Gordon wrote Jack Molesworth and also a copy of a letter that I wrote Gordon. Of course, these refer to the 24¢ 1869 cover. I guess there is little doubt that Ward sold the cover to Axford. Incidentally I never heard of the man. If he would buy a 24¢ '69 cover without having it examined he should lose every cent it cost him. I can't imagine Ward making any refund. I informed him years ago the cover was bad. He gets around such by stating - "Why should I take Ashbrock's word - my opinion is as good as his."

Please return these copies and don't mention the matter to Ezra or anyone else.

Regards.

Yours etc.,

Copy of Gordon Harmer Letter of 4/2



COPY

April 2, 1954

Mr. J. E. Molesworth  
102 Beacon Street  
Boston 16, Massachusetts

Dear Mr. Molesworth:

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While the expense of \$6 will fall on us we are quite willing for you to deduct this from your remittance.

Very truly yours,

HARMER, ROOKE & CO., INC.

By: (signed) Gordon Harmer

GH/lr



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Boston 16, Massachusetts

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GH/lr

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GH/lr

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While the expense of \$6 will fall on us we are quite willing for you to deduct this from your remittance.

Very truly yours,

HARMER, HOOKE & CO., INC.

By: (signed) Gordon Harmer

GH/lr

April 7, 1954.

Mr. Gordon Harner,  
Harner, Rooke & Co.,  
560 Fifth Ave.,  
New York 36, N.Y.

Dear Gordon:

Jack Molesworth sent me your letter to him under date of April 2, 1954, regarding the 24d 1869 cover that was Lot 165 in the Oxford sale. I was rather surprised at the contents of your letter because I am not in the habit of expressing an opinion on a stamp or cover unless same is requested. Wouldn't I be a regular old busy-body if I pursued such a policy? Besides, I charge a fee of \$5.00 per cover for an opinion. It is quite true that Mr. Krug sent the cover to me, requested an opinion, and instructed me to return the cover to you. I charged Mr. Krug a fee of \$5.00 plus postage. After charging him a fee it would hardly have been fair to write you that the cover was a rank fake.

I am sure you know your business and it is not up to me to offer any suggestions but I sincerely believe that you lay yourself open to criticism when you offer a rare cover without any assurance whatsoever that the item is genuine. Rather than make the seller pay the cost of examination you pass this on to the customers who bid at your sales. Of course, it is okay with me because in this case I received a fee from Krug and one from Molesworth.

One more point. Your description of Lot 165 would certainly give the impression that Harner, Rooke & Co. considered the cover genuine in every respect. You described it as "Very fine. Scarce."

Back in 1939 you sold this same cover in the Brown sale. It was Lot 1351, and you described it at that time, "doubtful and sold as is." Phil Ward purchased it @ \$39.00.

For your information, a number of people have in recent years obtained from me information free of charge and then capitalized upon the information. I have adopted a strict rule that applies to everyone, collector and dealer alike. Everyone pays a fee and the fee is \$5.00 per cover unless I choose to make a slight reduction.

I think a collector who would buy a cover like this without having it authenticated is a damn fool. It is just as silly as buying a piece of real estate without having the title examined.

I might also mention that I am going to forbid the use of my name in auction catalogues unless special permission is granted for the particular lot.

If perchance you can point out one objection to anything in this letter

#2. Mr. Gordon Harner - April 7, 1954.

I can assure you it will be most welcome.

With my kindest regards -

Cordially yours,



April 7, 1954.

Mr. Gordon Harmer,  
% Harmer, Rooke & Co.,  
560 Fifth Ave.,  
New York 36, N.Y.

Dear Gordon:

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With my kindest regards -

Cordially yours,

# HARMER, ROOKE

& CO., INC.

GORDON HARMER  
PRESIDENT

PHILATELIC  
AUCTIONEERS

CABLE ADDRESS  
PHILATORS, NEW YORK

AUCTIONS  
APPRAISALS

TELEPHONE  
JUDSON 2-0164

*560 Fifth Avenue*

NEW YORK 36, N. Y.

April 13, 1954

Mr. Stanley B. Ashbrook  
33 N. Ft. Thomas Avenue  
Ft. Thomas, Kentucky

Dear Stan:

Thank you very much for your letter of April 7. Before your letter arrived we had discovered that the cover was the one that was offered in the Brown sale or at least it answered that description. As there was no photograph in the Brown catalogue, it cannot be positively identified. I am sure that I have no criticism of anything you have written, and we have, of course, cancelled the sale of the cover.

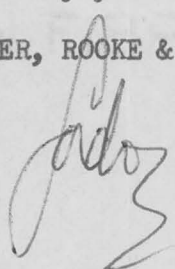
Time and expense are two essential factors in running an auction concern. It would be impossible for us to have every cover checked before entering it in a sale, and while we believe that we have a good all around knowledge you must remember that we do not handle only the stamps of the United States but those of the world. There is no auction firm that does not make a mistake, and so long as we are in business, such mistakes are bound to occur but we do think our record is fairly good.

Again many thanks for writing to me and my best personal wishes.

Sincerely yours,

HARMER, ROOKE & CO., INC.

BY:



GH/lr

**Ben's Stamp & Coin Company**

PROFESSIONAL NUMISMATISTS & PHILATELISTS

31 NORTH CLARK STREET

CHICAGO 2, ILLINOIS

April 6, 1954

Mr. Stanley Ashbrook  
Box 131  
Fort Thomas, Kentucky

Dear Mr. Ashbrook:

About two weeks ago I had the pleasure of visiting with a mutual friend of ours, Dr. David Sellens, of Mobile, Alabama.

I was just thrilled in looking at his marvelous Collection of Confederate Stamps, which is without a doubt the finest collection of this type, which we have ever seen. At that time, I showed him the enclosed piece, Scott's #69xl, or the "Rheatown, Tenn" Confederate Stamp. Dr. Sellens expressed an interest in this item; but suggested that I first send this item on to you for your expert opinion, which he and I would both appreciate.

We here at Ben's know very little about Confederate stamps; and therefore, we would appreciate your expert opinion, as to just what the particulars are concerning this item.

Kindly send your bill for any charges there might be.

We would appreciate your help in this matter, as soon as it is possible for you to do so.

Sincerely,

BEN'S STAMP & COIN CO.

*Kurt E. Eckstein*

Kurt E. Eckstein,  
Manager

KEE:lbh



**Ben's Stamp & Coin Company**

PROFESSIONAL NUMISMATISTS & PHILATELISTS

31 NORTH CLARK STREET

CHICAGO 2, ILLINOIS

April 14, 1954

Mr. Stanley B. Ashbrook  
P. O. Box 31  
33 North Ft. Thomas Avenue  
Fort Thomas, Kentucky

Dear Mr. Ashbrook:

Thank you very much for your speedy appraisal of the stamp, which I sent you. Enclosed is our check for \$3.50, for this service.

I was very much disappointed to find, that it wasn't the real thing; and doubly glad that I had you appraise it.

If I can be of service to you, at any time, please let me know.

Sincerely yours,

BEN'S STAMP & COIN

*Kurt E. Eckstein*

Kurt E. Eckstein,  
Manager

KEE;lbh

350

April 10, 1954.

Mr. Kurt E. Eckstein,  
Ben's Stamp & Coin Co.,  
31 North Clark St.,  
Chicago 2, Ill.

Dear Mr. Eckstein:

Yours of the 6th received, enclosing the Rheatown, Tenn. item on a piece. I regret to inform you that the stamp is a counterfeit, an imitation of the Confederate Rheatown Postmaster Provisional.

I made a photograph of it and I will send you a print later.

My fee for the above is \$3.50 which includes return registration.

I am forwarding a copy of this letter to Dr. Sellers of Mobile.

Sincerely yours,



APR 16 1954

POST CARD

Mr Kurt E Eckstein

31 North Clark St  
Chicago (2) Ill

Dear Mr Eckstein

This will acknowledge  
receipt of yours of the  
14<sup>th</sup> with enclosure  
for which please accept  
My thanks  
Sincerely yours



D. PENCE, P. M



PAID

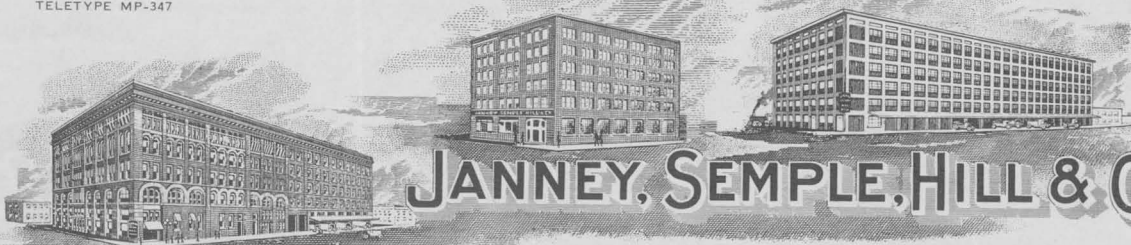
5

RHEATOWN, TENN.



TELEPHONE ATLANTIC 6191

TELETYPE MP-347



# JANNEY, SEMPLE, HILL & Co.

22-26 SECOND STREET SO.  
MINNEAPOLIS 1, MINN.

## DIRECTORS:

A. J. HILL - B. J. CASE  
H. W. HILL - H. P. HILL  
R. M. FLEMING - E. G. LANDE  
C. M. CASE, JR. - O. H. ENGLUND  
A. E. COX - S. J. MIROCHA  
P. L. COSGRAVE - T. S. SNYDER  
L. W. WELD



4-12-54

Stanley B. Ashbrook  
33 No. Ft. Thomas Ave  
Fort Thomas, Ky.

Dear Stan;

Enclosed is the beautiful cover of 5c 1856 with strip of three. This is lot 194 of Miro's Selection. Each stamp has a position dot including one in the guide line. On examination of my covers, I find one which I found in Paris two years ago which is from the same correspondence. My strip of 3 on cover was mailed 7 days earlier.

Too will you look at your slides # I-36 and you will see this cover, both addressed to Laval.

Miro sent it to me with a request that I return it promptly registered mail. However he sent me an invoice, presumably as a record charged to my account and I have used that to ask if he will accept 250,000 francs for it which is about 700.00. and told him I was having a slide made and a photo. Will you do this for me and return the cover as rapidly as you can. Dr. Van Horn paid 820.00 for his off cover last year. I like this better.

Your picture shows up the reppair on the I2c well and I am glad to have the photos. Charge me with the slide of the 5c 56 written about in your last service.

Now about Wards I2c material. Whether I can afford to buy the lot depends on his price and how much material there is. I am returning his letter to you and when we find his cost, I will tell you yes or no.

Dr. Sneller as you say is a very queer fellow. Came from Mpls, and says I was in school with him. Maybe but I cannot place him.. He means well, is conceited and at times an awful bore.

That is all for now. and thanks for what you are doing for me.

*Henry*

April 13, 1954.

Mr. Henry W. Hill,  
20-26 - 2nd St., South,  
Minneapolis, Minn.

Dear Henry:

The Miro cover was waiting for me at the Post Office and I gave it a very careful examination. There is no question but what it is genuine in every respect. No monkey-business with postmarks, dates, etc. Of course, you noticed that a piece of the strip is missing in upper right and that a vertical crease at right had been ironed out. However, these are defects to the center line margin and not to the strip, but I do think they should be taken into consideration in any description of the cover. On this account I wonder if the cover could be described as superb? Well that is a matter of opinion.

I made color slides of the cover itself and I will send you one for your collection and also a duplicate. I also made an enlarged slide of the strip. In addition, I made black and white photographs. Incidentally, I noted the guide dots and other features of the strip, color, impression, etc., etc.

I don't know how you feel but if I wanted this cover that nick out of the upper right corner would dampen my enthusiasm to quite an extent. Let us hope it will have its influence upon any rival that you might have.

This was a 15¢ rate from New Orleans in May 1857. The red New York is a brand new stamper and was never used before the 1st of April 1857. This was carried to England by a British Packet, a Cunard Mail Ship. Such ships sailed from New York every other Wednesday. The New York date is May 27 (1857). Therefore, that should have been a Wednesday, so I will look up my calender and see - Right - in 1857, May 27 - fell on Wednesday.

I will forward the cover by Air Mail Registered to Miro this afternoon. Up to this writing I have not received his "Selection" or whatever he calls it. I have an idea that he don't think much of me. A lot of crooked dealers feel the same way. Many of them in this country. They don't like to have items returned with the statement that Ashbrook said it was a fake.

I was very much amused at your account of the Steamboat cover. I don't suppose Ernie will ever get over the desire to be the biggest fish in the pond.

Our kindest regards -

Cordially yours,



April 13, 1954.

Mr. L. Miro,  
15 rue Laffette,  
Paris 9, France.

Dear Mr. Miro:

At the request of Mr. Henry Hill, I am forwarding to you herewith the U. S. 5¢ 1856 cover, from New Orleans to Laval, France in May 1857. This shows a H. S. of 3 of the 5¢ 1856 with center line to right, and red New York postmark of May 27 (1857).

Very truly yours,

MIRO COVER BY HENRY HILL - RETURNED  
BY S&AT. MIRO

B480

*Via Liverpool*

Black



194

*Messrs. J. M. Barre & Co.*

*Rue du Marché No 6*

Black



Red

Red

1857

*Laval*

*France*

MIRO  
Cover

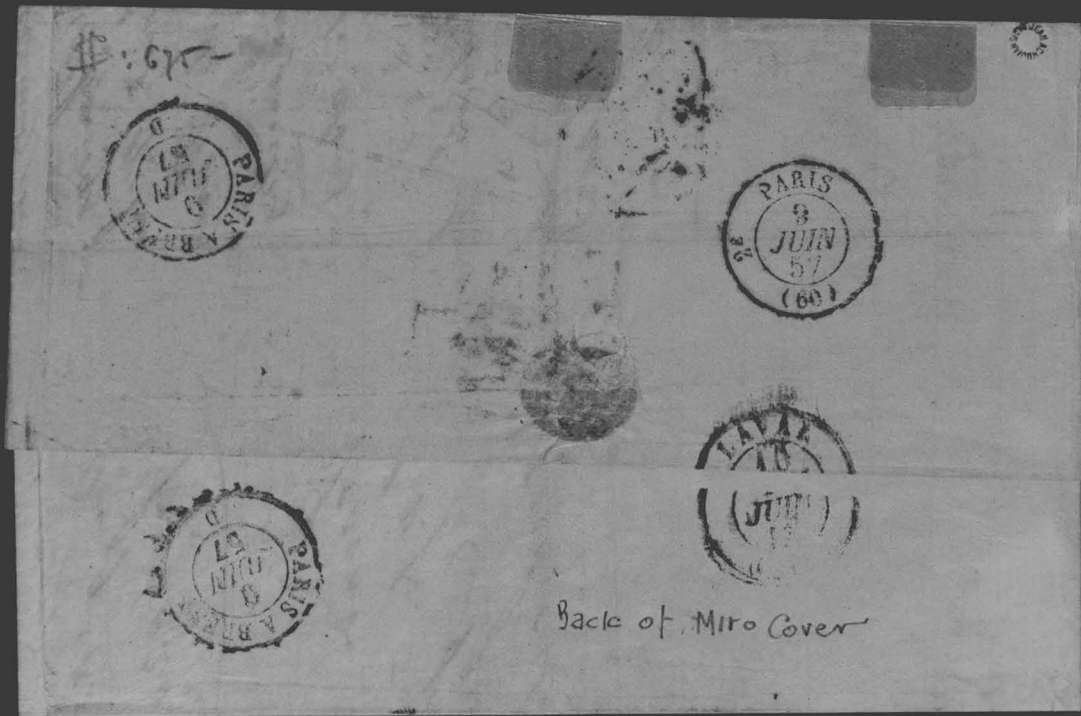
B480

SEE B481 FOR BACK



B481

SEE B480 FOR FRONT



5# 1856 COVER III CENTER LINE

B481



## AMERICAN PHILATELIC SOCIETY

INCORPORATED

OFFICE OF TREASURER  
ADOLPH STEEG

April 8, 1954

1048 GENESEE STREET  
BUFFALO 11, NEW YORK

Mr. Stanley B. Ashbrook,  
P. O. Box 31,  
Fort Thomas, Ky.

Dear Stan:

No doubt, you have noticed in the philatelic press the announcement of the death of Harry C. Flierl of Buffalo, who for the past 12 years acted as the Executive Secretary of the A.P.S. Board of Examiners.

My proximity to his home and the fact that I had preceeded Flierl in that capacity as Executive Secretary, it was the logical decision of our President to ask me to take over. Because of the condition of my health and doctor's orders that I take things easier, I am not keen in taking over but probably will have to do so temporarily until a permanent Secretary has been appointed. Flierl's files prior to July 1, 1953 are not available and in the open file since that time I did not see any examinations made by you and am wondering if he had been submitting stamps, especially the lc 51-57s.

My recollection is that when I reorganized the Committee fifteen years ago that you had consented to pass on the lc 51-57s. While none of the examiners have been paid for their services, my own feeling in the matter is that in some cases there should be an exception made. I am sure that there has been nobody that has been put in so much time, study and expense in the study of a speciality as you have that it would be an imposition to ask you to do the work for nothing. Of course, you know that our charge for expertization is nominal; \$8.00 if a certificate is issued and \$2.00 plus the actual postage and registration if the item is rejected, that there is little profit in it. Assuming that you are willing to co-operate with me or my successor, would a token fee of \$2.00 if the stamp is approved or \$1.00 if rejected be satisfactory to you.

I just received the enclosed strip of three of the lc 51 which the owner believes to be type Ia stamps. I would be pleased to have you give me your opinion on the same and if my proposed fee is not satisfactory I will assume the charge whatever it may be.

Hope that you are in the best of health, which is our late years of live we now realize is more valuable than wealth, with my kindest regards, beg to remain,

Very sincerely yours,

*Adolph*

P.S. 43c in postage enclosed to pay postage, registration and return receipt fee.

April 13, 1954.

Mr. Adolph Steeg,  
1048 Genesee St.,  
Buffalo 11, N.Y.

Dear Adolph:

Yours of the 8th received and I can assure you that it was nice to hear from you.

I was indeed sorry to learn of the passing of our mutual friend Harry Flierl which I noted in the press at the time. Our beloved philately suffers when one of its staunch supporters, such as Harry, passes on to a non-philatelic world.

Regarding my fees for examinations of stamps and covers that are of fields in which I specialize. Some years ago I found that I was devoting far too much time to passing out data free of cost and to lessen the burden I adopted a fee system but did not make this applicable in all cases. In recent years I found that there were certain persons who were capitalizing on the data that I furnished them free of cost so last fall I decided to adopt a very stringent rule, viz., where an opinion was requested or my authentication on a cover, I would charge a stiff fee.

It seemed unfair to me that any organization or individual would use data furnished by me for profit. For example, the A.P.S. has a large cash fund in the Treasury and also a very substantial annual income, hence well able to pay me my regular fee for the examination of items submitted. Why should the Society profit to even a dollar on any service I render? The only exception that I have made is the Philatelic Foundation. I do render service to their Expert Committee free of any charge because after my death all of my records are to become the property of the Foundation.

In the case of the enclosed strip I am not charging any fee because you were not aware of the rule that I recently put into effect, and further, I want you to know that the rule does not apply to you personally. Whenever you have any item on which you think I can give you a bit of information I can assure you it will indeed be a pleasure.

Regarding the enclosed strip. All three stamps are Type IIIA, that is, the top line broken, the bottom line unbroken, and side ornaments complete (more or less). This strip comes from Plate 4, and from the sixth row of that plate. It is an "F" relief strip and stamps from this row are fully described in Volume One of my two-volume study of the U. S. One Cent 1851 - 1857 (Chapter on Plate 4). I could give you the plate positions but I doubt if they would be at all helpful to the owner.

I am pleased to report that I manage to keep out of bed and to work

#2. Mr. Adolph Steeg - April 13, 1954.

seven days a week and many days all day long and the evenings also. Seems like I am never able to clear my desk entirely. I suppose most any old codger passed three score and ten has an ache and pain from time to time but as long as there is some new philatelic problem every day in the week why bother about aches and pains.

I do trust that you are in the best of health and that all goes well with you.

My kindest regards -

Cordially yours,



21854 Cromwell Ave  
FAIRVIEW PARK Ohio  
April 7-1954

Dear Mr. Ashbrook:

I know you have many more important things to do, than to bother with my trials and tribulations - but I seem to have a mania for buying covers that stump me!

I have been doing a lot of studying this past year through your books of the 1<sup>st</sup> 1851-1857 stamps - Dr. Chase's book - The Great Mail and others and while at times I feel I arrive at logical solutions - I am not sure.

Am taking the liberty of enclosing a few covers which I would appreciate your help on. Have put my questions on a piece of paper enclosed with each cover. I felt that it would save you some time if you could and would get your comments on the same piece of paper.

If you are ever in or around Cleveland on business (especially some nice hot summer day - we just had our home completely air conditioned)



I'd like to have you stay over. I would especially like you to see my Packet Boat cow collection. I would also probably ask you enough questions that you would never want to see me again.

No hurry over these comments - just when you find the time.

I have enclosed sufficient amount for postage and if there is any charge - please feel free to request same.

With Kind Personal Regards - I am

Sincerely yours

A. Dickson

21854 Cromwell Ave  
Fairview Park Ohio

April 10 - 1954

Dear Mr. Ashbrook:

Just a hurried note! One of the courses I sent you for examination - I feel sure I have the answers to.

In your book (that I have been reading this afternoon) I note on page 249

Senior Monthly Sailing Dates of the Ocean Mail.

In February of 1852 a temporary change was made to regular sailing dates of the 5th & 20th, but in March, April and May - regular sailings of the mail occurred on the 5th - 9th - 20th and 24th of each month.

Looks as though I did not do enough searching on that one.

Sincere Regards

R. Dickson

*Hotel* **COMMODORE**

42nd STREET AT LEXINGTON AVENUE · NEW YORK 17, N. Y.

Monday nite -

Dear Stan -

I thought you might be writing  
me to bid for you at John's sale  
Thursday - But no word -

Will you give me your idea  
of lot 92 - in Harmer Brooke's  
sale of Harris collection. April 27<sup>th</sup>?

Do you think the 13<sup>th</sup> has been  
added.

I'd be glad to bid for you on any  
at that sale if you wish -



April 14, 1954.

Mr. Emerson C. Krug,  
1/2 Hotel Commodore,  
42nd at Lexington Ave.,  
New York, N.Y.

Dear Em:

Re - yours of Monday night, and Lot 92 in the Harris Sale. The use appears to be 1861. The 10¢ and 12¢ 1857 show the rate was a double, that is, 2 x 10¢ plus 2¢ ship fee. Apparently this was paid at Hawaii by a pair of 5¢ Hawaii and a 13¢ Hawaii or 23¢, but what about the Hawaii postage of 2 x 5¢? I suppose it was paid in cash, that is, if the cover is genuine, and of course I don't know whether it is or not as I have no record that I ever saw the cover. My records show that it was in the Seybold sale - (March 1910) and was Lot 507 and "fetched" \$86.00. It also was in the Tows sale by Pelander Oct. 7th, 1948, and was Lot #101. You bid \$300.00 on it and it cost Admiral Harris \$450.00. I have a memo that I wrote you about it at the time and I was suspicious that the pair of 5¢ had been added. Well, maybe they were and maybe not. It is hard to judge a cover from a partial illustration in a catalogue. I have a memo that the stamps are tied by two postmarks by S.F. dated June 11, 1861. This is very late for a 13¢ Hawaii, as it was issued in the early fifties when the paid U.S. rate from S.F. to the East was 6¢. The 13¢ stamp represented -

5¢ Hawaii Internal  
2¢ Ship Fee into S.F.  
6¢ U. S. postage

A person in Hawaii could buy a 13¢ stamp and the Honolulu office would then pay the U. S. postage and the ship fee. After the U. S. rate was changed to 10¢ in 1855 the Honolulu Post Office used up their old supply of 13¢ stamps by surcharging them with a "5" and selling them at 5¢ each. In the case of Lot 92 a use in 1861, I suppose a person could have had an old 13¢ stamp, also a pair of the 5¢, so she(?) took them to the post office, handed them in and paid the difference in cash of 9¢ as follows:

2 x 5¢ Hawaii Internal -	10¢
Double U.S. 2 x 10¢ - -	20¢
Ship Fee - - - - -	2¢
Total	32¢

The above was paid as follows:

13¢ Hawaii .....	13¢
Pair 5¢ " .....	10¢
cash .....	9¢
	32¢

If the cover is genuine I can imagine no other explanation. However, one wonders why the pair was not canceled.

Confidential - Re - the Fox sale. I am not bidding on any of the lots. The One Cent material belongs to Ben Newman and I want no part of that Mike in any way, shape or form.

GRegards

Yours etc.,

A.P.S.  
S.P.A.  
C.C.N.Y.



U.S.A.  
A.P.A.  
B.N.A.P.S.

## Jack E. Molesworth

Philatelic Dealer and Broker

102 Beacon Street  
Boston 16, Massachusetts

April 16, 1954

Stanley B. Ashbrook  
33 North Ft Thomas Ave  
Fort Thomas, Ky.

Dear Stan,

Enclosed is a cover with what I believe to be a very nice copy of the 1¢ type III. I would appreciate your examining and signing it if you agree.

Also enclosed is an item which may be a Ty IIIa on which I would appreciate the same treatment. Advise your fee and I shall remit promptly as usual.

I appreciate very much your letter of April 7th regarding the Paige cover and can of course understand your reluctance to render a definite opinion when you are not positive. I personally still believe that the part of the cancel on the cover was at least seriously touched up if not completely painted in. I understand Dan Kelleher rendered exactly the same opinion, tho Mr Paige showed it to Usticke who was here for the Auction and based on his opinion that the "Cancel is Genuine" sold it with no qualification except mentioning the added corner on the stamp. However, I checked with Usticke after the sale and he indicated to me that he felt the cancel has been touched up some. I certainly believe that Mr. Paige should have followed your advice and offered it "as is".

With kind regards,

*Jack E.*

JEM/ppc



April 20, 1954.

Mr. Jack E. Molesworth,  
102 Beacon St.,  
Boston 16, Mass.

Dear Jack:

Herewith the 1¢ '51 cover and single off  
I have endorsed each one on the back for you. No  
charge but you can reimburse me for the postage.

PAID APR 30 1954

Re - the Paige cover. I note that Kelleher  
and Ustick were of the opinion that the cancel might  
have been retouched. Such off hand opinions are of  
little value. I examined that cover very carefully  
under a microscope and you know my opinion. I was not  
sure. If we have to resort to guessing then one  
person's opinion is as good as another's.

Regards.

Yours etc.,

JOHN A. FOX

173 Tulip Avenue • Floral Park • New York • FL 4-4636

AUCTIONS • APPRAISALS • RETAIL • WHOLESALE • STAMPS • COVERS • ACCESSORIES

April 16, 1954

Mr. Stanley B. Ashbrook  
33 N. Ft. Thomas Avenue  
Fort Thomas, Kentucky

Dear Stan:

Enclosed is another letter from Ed Payne in Salem, Oregon and a cover he submitted. Send this back to me registered because we don't want to risk the chance of losing it.

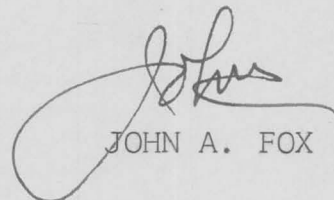
I have examined it from all angles and while the strike looks a bit odd, can't quite make up my mind whether or not it is a fake. It has the sloppy appearance that a fake cancellation has when made from a rubber stamp, but I have seen genuine cancellations that looked peculiar too. This happened usually when a fellow was careless about mixing his ink in the old days, and if he had a fresh pad sometimes it looked like it was squeezed on instead of applied. However, I thought you would like to see this and probably make a photograph of it and eventually we may have all the details.

Frankly, Tracy franks are good and if they are being faked I'd like to know about it! It's easy enough to get your neck in a sling without having the boys manufacturer a few nooses for someone to sell in the future.

My 1¢ sale went well and everybody was pleased with the results.

Trust that Mildred and yourself are enjoying the best of health. With kind regards from Virginia and me.

Sincerely,

  
JOHN A. FOX

JAF:ew  
encl..  
registered



*Buy at the Sign of the Triangle*

April 20, 1954.

Mr. John A. Fox,  
173 Tulip Avenue,  
Floral Park, N.Y.

Dear John:

Herewith the Tracy item as per yours of the 16th. I regret to state that I am really not qualified to pass on this piece of a cover. I have had various reports on what has been reported as faked Western franks that came out of the northwest in recent months. Some seem to think some are quite clever, whereas some are positive they are rubber stamp fakes copied from the Herst - Zareski book. I believe that one has to be very familiar with this class of material to spot the bad from the good and I am not in that class. The letter from Ed Payne is very interesting and he seems to know his stuff.

I made a color photograph of the item principally to see how I could reproduce the rather faint markings. I also made a black and white. I will send you print later.

I understand that your sale last week was quite a success but it seems some of my friends who were in attendance didn't get very much. I have some of the prices but will look forward to a complete list.

With every good wish -

Cordially yours,

JOHN A. FOX

173 Tulip Avenue • Floral Park • New York • FL 4-4636

=====

AUCTIONS • APPRAISALS • RETAIL • WHOLESALE • STAMPS • COVERS • ACCESSORIES

May 28, 1954

Mr. Stanley B. Ashbrook  
33 N. Ft. Thomas Avenue  
P.O. Box 31  
Ft. Thomas, Kentucky

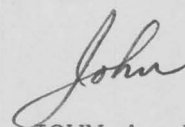
Dear Stan:

Just had a card from Ed Payne in Salem, Oregon and they have apprehended the culprit who made the fake Tracy covers. They took him to the shop where the 21 rubber stamps were made and he turned all the material over to them and made a reimbursement of several hundred dollars they were stuck. Do not have all the details yet, but I know they destroyed the handstamps and do know that it happened in Eugene, Oregon.

Will keep you advised for your own information as soon as I hear the final results.

With kind personal regards and best wishes,

Sincerely,



JOHN A. FOX

JAF:ew



*Buy at the Sign of the Triangle*

MATTHEW E. HAZELTINE, M.D.

W. SCOTT POLLAND, M.D.

HOWARD HAMMOND JR., M.D.

ARNOLD A. NUTTING, M.D.

AUSTIN W. LEA, M.D.

JOHN H. CARR, M.D.

ALBERT BUILDING

SAN RAFAEL, CALIFORNIA

TELEPHONE GLENWOOD 4-2451

And he is really after them.

The father of the Long Francis  
and other westerns is a well known  
member of the APS and Western  
Cover Society, and a "Kicking Mule  
Squatter." It is interesting that he  
tried to keep the <sup>GOLITA</sup> <sup>MULE</sup> fake  
handstamp - there were <sup>really</sup> <sup>22</sup> 22; not  
21. The Oregon boys are after that one  
now, after I tipped them off to its  
~~existence~~ <sup>EXISTENCE</sup>. - Because the man has a  
family etc, they do not want to expose  
him publicly. Also he has given them  
a lot of post dated checks in repayment  
of the forgeries they bought, and they want  
to be sure and collect their money.

Kindest regards,  
Sincerely  
W. Scott Polland



June 17, 1954

Dr. W. Scott Polland,  
Albert Bldg.,  
San Rafael, Calif.

Dear Doctor:

Thanks very much for yours of the 12th with check for \$48.00 which I have placed to the credit of our mutual friend Mr. Marcel Levy of Paris. I am today advising Mr. Levy of the receipt of same.

I note that you had a session recently with Edgar. Yes, he has surely gathered together some wonderful items.

I also note your remarks re - the Tracy Franks and I was sorry to learn that no action is contemplated against the thief who made them. If I ever get hold of his name I will insist that the A.P.S. Board expell him and give the reason publicity. As far as I am concerned a damn lousy cheat, faker and counterfeiter is a criminal regardless of whether he is married and has one or a dozen children. He should have thought of his family before he started his crooked work. That may be a hard attitude to take but if we get soft with criminals and traitors, where will we wind up?

With best wishes -

Cordially yours,

June 17, 1954.

Mr. Herman Herst, Jr.,  
Shrub Oak, N.Y.

Pat -

I have yours of recent date and was pleased to learn that you will do all you can to have some action taken against the faker of the Express covers. I had a letter today from my good friend Dr. Pollard of San Rafael, Calif. I quote as follows from his letter which please treat as confidential:

"The faker of the Tracy Franks and other Westerns is a well known member of the A.P.S. and Western Gover Society, and a "Kicking Mule Specialist." It is interesting that he tried to keep the Golita Mule fake handstamp - there were really 22, not 21. The Oregon boys are after that one now, after I tipped them off to its existence - Because the man has a family, etc., they do not want to expose him publicly. Also he has given them a lot of post dated checks in repayment of the forgeries they bought, and they want to be sure and collect their money." (unquote)

I note the statement that the man is a well-known member of the A.P.S. - If I can obtain his name I will write Burleigh Jacobs and inquire if the A.P.S. Board intends to expell the crook. Just imagine!! - not good enough for the S.P.A. but good enough for the A.P.S. That sort of makes me laugh. I didn't know anyone was too bad to belong to the S.P.A.

I understand that an "Ed Payne" has all the facts. I don't know Payne but I may have had some correspondence with him in past years.

I suppose you are aware that John Fox is also familiar with the facts in the case. I wonder if John would be in favor of dropping the case.

I turned my slave circular back to the person from whom I obtained it and stated I would be glad to retain it if I had any assurance it was an original. Could be, but I seriously doubt it.

With regards -

Sincerely yours,

B483

BY JOHN FOX



B483

C. W. REMELE  
14 E. Carrillo St.  
Santa Barbara, Calif.

Santa Barbara - April 15, 1954

Dear Stanley:

Thank you for the check for the Little Miami cover. There's no question but that the price was somewhat high, but as I told you I really wasn't at all anxious to sell the item.

I wrote Bill Wyer who I thought might possibly have a Mad Riv. & Lak. Erie that he would sell, and suggested he write directly to you - perhaps you have heard from him. If you haven't, he probably doesn't have one for sale. He isn't too prompt about answering letters but I told him this was an urgent matter, so I think he would have written at once if he wanted to sell.

May I have a little information at your convenience? On page 133, Vol. II., of your book on the One-cent, there is an illustration of a figure 5 in a circle with the accompanying remarks that it was used as a rate marking at Philadelphia, both before and after July 1, 1851, and was also used as a "Ship letter" rating on letters addressed to outside points. I have a stampless cover with this marking on a letter from New York to Philadelphia, dated in May, 1851, but it has no postmark or other marking except the 5. Is there any significance to that, except that the New York office neglected to handstamp and rate the letter as they sometimes did? I have another cover from N. Y. to Phila with a 3¢ orange brown cancelled by the Philadelphia blue grid - and no other markings - this one in July, 1851.

Now further - I have seen this same 5 in a circle on several covers - all stampless N. Y. to Philadelphia - along with a large capital N, or a large N. Y. The N and the N. Y. are both supposed to be railroad markings but just why is beyond me, although I have no argument on the other side either. In the case of the examples I have seen, the N. Y. and the figure 5 appeared to be in the same blue ink. Do you suppose Philadelphia could have had a handstamp reading N. Y. just for the purpose of marking letters which came in from New York without markings? I'll be very glad to have your ideas.

No news since my last. Did I tell you I had a fine evening with Earl Oakley and Ed Bingham in Los Angeles as while back?

You haven't run across any railroad covers for sale lately, have you?

Sincerely,

Chuck

and in other  
markings.



April 21, 1954.

Mr. C. W. Renele,  
14 East Carrillo Street,  
Santa Barbara, Calif.

Dear Chuck:

Yours of the 15th received.

I have not had any word from Wyer but in case you can locate  
a Made Riv & Lak Erie stampless please submit it to me.

Re - your query, Phila, "5" in circle - my Vol. II - page 133.  
I have a cover with this rate marking and postmarked Phila. Aug. 29 (1845).  
This is the earliest I have seen, and I suppose this "5" came into use  
July 1, 1845. My guess is that on outgoing mail, it was always accompanied  
by a postmark, but when there was no Phila. p.m. it indicated incoming mail,  
that was mailed enroute to Philadelphia. The late Bob Chambers had a cover  
(F.L.) with this encircled "5" and in upper left was a large "NY." The  
letter inside was headed "Steamer H. Hudson - 4 o'clock - Oct 2 1845."  
Both markings in the same dark blue - an indigo. I assume that both markings  
were applied at the Phila. Office. I failed to mention that the letter was  
addressed to Phila. The "5" was of course a rate marking and was used on any  
kind of mail on which 5¢ was due. I have no positive evidence regarding the  
"NY" marking unless it indicated mail originating in New York City. Or could  
it have meant New York State? I doubt very much if it had any R.R. connection.

There is someone in Phila. who is quite a student of Philadelphia  
markings but I don't recall his name.

I keep in rather close touch with Earl Oakley but I do not recall  
anyone by the name of Ed Gingham.

With regards -

Cordially yours,



# MERCHANT CALCULATORS, INC.

OAKLAND 8, CALIFORNIA

EDGAR B. JESSUP  
PRESIDENT

April 6, 1954

Mr. Stanley B. Ashbrook  
33 North Fort Thomas Avenue  
Fort Thomas, Kentucky

Dear Stanley:

Just received your wonderful issue of April 1, 1954. I think it is one of the best you have ever gotten out and I want to congratulate you.

I did not know you were going to exploit the 5¢ '47 oranges so soon, but it was a very interesting story.

I just had an annual meeting and with the preparation for it and all of that I have had no time for stamps recently so hope you will overlook this delay.

The pony covers from the east and from the west were very interesting. You are right -- there are not very many that have the double oval but both of these happen to have it. It is somewhat of a mystery as to just how the west bound pony you show got from New York to St. Joseph. The special envelopes with the large Wells Fargo imprint in red, it seems, were originally intended for use from Washington and were usually enclosed in the diplomatic pouch or something of that kind and distribution made in New York bearing a New York postmark as they started on their western trek, which is the direction most of them went. This, I noticed, was postmarked in New York but just how it was transported from New York to St. Joseph, by the U.S. Mail, without the stamps being cancelled even before they were put in the private sack as you mention, is not clear. I do think it is a beautiful cover and certainly a great rarity.

One of the best things you ever placed in your service is that map of the various mail routes in the southwestern part of the United States. I had several large copies of it, but they were



Dr. Ergo A. Majors (second from right), a practicing physician for 52 years, was honored at a luncheon Saturday, the 94th anniversary of the Pony Express, which his grandfather helped found. From left are Waddell F. Smith, in

whose San Rafael home the party was held, Mr. and Mrs. Edgar B. Jessup and Mrs. Joseph R. Knowland, co-hosts with Smith, Ergo A. Majors Jr., Mrs. William F. Ostrander Jr., Mr. and Mrs. Ergo A. Majors III, Dr. and Mrs. Majors.

## How 'Medical Pony Express' Saved Boy Bridge Traffic Check Slated

Relays of horseback riders, a system used by Pony Express to carry mail from California to Missouri in less than eight days, were once used by Dr. Ergo A. Majors of Piedmont to save the life of a small boy.

Dr. Majors, 76, a grandson of the late Alexander Majors, one of the founders of Pony Express, was honored Saturday at a luncheon marking two events—the 94th anniversary of the founding of Pony Express and Dr. Majors' 52 years of continuous medical practice.

In eulogizing Dr. Majors during the affair, held in the home of Waddell F. Smith in San Rafael, Dr. Fletcher Taylor, Oakland physician, told of Dr. Majors' medical "pony express."

### EARLY IN CENTURY

The incident took place shortly after the turn of the century when Dr. Majors was practicing in Soledad, Monterey County. The boy, whose home was 22 miles from the little community, was stricken with lockjaw, and the only chance of saving him was with a rare serum, available only in San Francisco.

Dr. Majors had the serum rushed from San Francisco to Soledad, but there still remained

the problem of getting it to the boy's country home.

So the physician, recalling the pioneer mail-carrying methods of his grandfather, recruited 20 cowboys to form a medical pony express.

And the case had a happy ending—the boy's life was saved.

Saturday's party, attended by 90 guests from both sides of the Bay, was given by Smith and Mr. and Mrs. Edgar B. Jessup and Mr. and Mrs. Joseph R. Knowland of Piedmont.

Smith is a great-grandson of William B. Waddell, who founded Pony Express in 1860 with Alexander Majors and William B. Russell. He calls his Spanish-type home "Pony Express Retreat," and in it and an adjoining gallery are many relics of early California and the Pony Express which served it.

### ANOTHER SPEAKER

Another speaker during the party was Raymond W. Settle of Monte Vista, Colo., who, with Mrs. Settle, has authored a new book, "Empire on Wheels." It is the story of the Pony Express founders, Russell, Majors and Waddell.

Three generations of the Majors family were present at the party. They included, in addi-

tion to Dr. and Mrs. Majors, their son, Ergo A. Majors Jr., of Fresno, and their grandson, Ergo A. Majors III, of Piedmont, and Mrs. Majors III.

Dr. and Mrs. Majors have recently sold their home in Piedmont, and within a few weeks will leave for an extensive tour of Europe. They are now making their home at the Claremont Hotel.

### 500,000 Visit GM Motorama in S.F.

General Motor's Motorama played to more than 500,000 Bay Area residents during its nine-day stand in San Francisco's Civic Auditorium.

The big show, which closed last night played to a total of 520,597 persons, which topped the previous national record for the show set in Los Angeles with 469,767.

The all time single day's attendance record of 89,700 was set Saturday, and the weekday record was set Wednesday when 55,187 saw the free show.

The Motorama show will go from San Francisco to Chicago where it will open April 24 at the International Amphitheater.

Traffic on the Bay Bridge will be interviewed Wednesday and Thursday by the Bay Area Rapid Transit Survey.

Survey operations will begin at 6 a.m. Wednesday and continue until 10 a.m. Interviews will begin Thursday at 10 p.m. and continue to 6 a.m. Friday.

Nineteen interviewers will be at the toll gate plaza interviewing one out of 10 drivers during the off-peak hours. During peak hours motorists will be handed a pre-paid postcard to be filled out and mailed at any postbox.

Tomorrow, beginning at 6 a.m. San Francisco-bound traffic will be interviewed on all major metropolitan Oakland highways.

### Gruenther Laughs Off Kremlin Offer

LONDON, April 5.—(AP)—Gen. Alfred M. Gruenther, supreme Allied commander in Europe, today jocularly dismissed the idea of Russia's joining NATO, as the Kremlin offered to do last week.

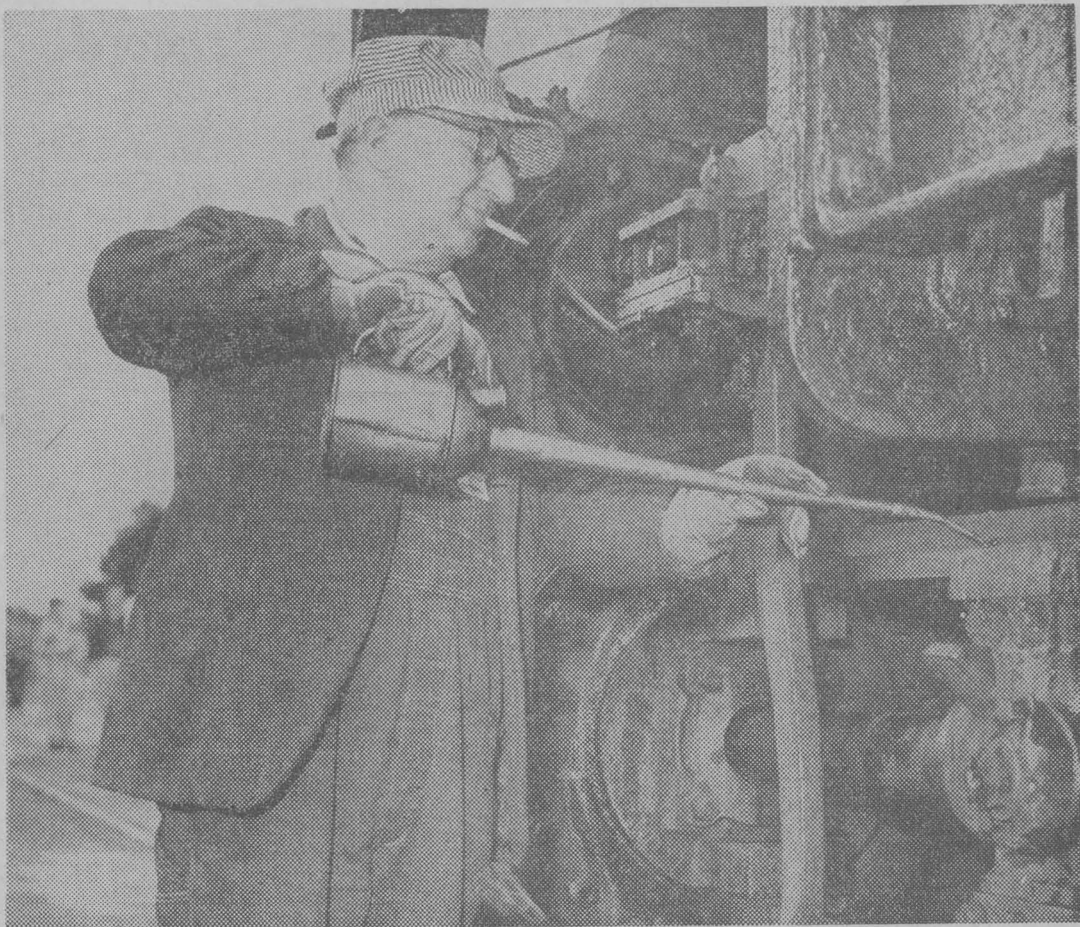
"It is beyond my field of responsibility to comment on the suggestion," Gruenther told newsmen. "But I don't quite see myself being interviewed as supreme commander in Moscow. That is beyond my imagination."



# AND AREA WEEKEND EVENTS



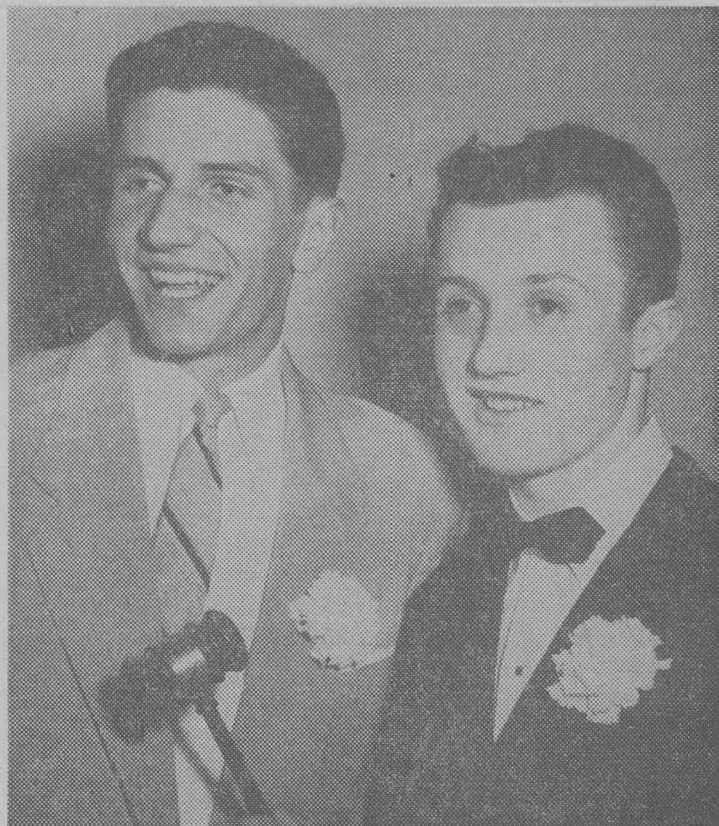
keley, Oakland and Alameda.  
with SP, sponsored the event.



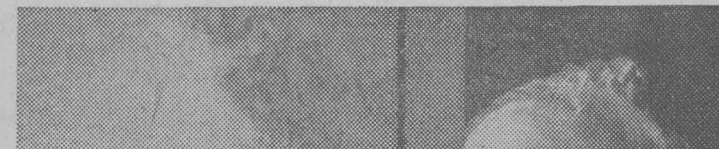
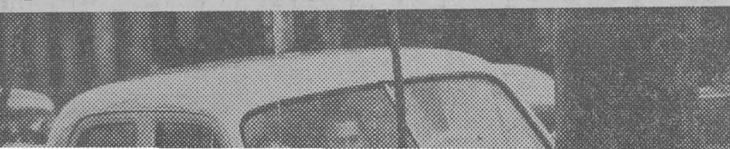
Engineer A. N. Leiser gives his steam engine some grease before starting on the excursion which retraced the old Stonehurst local route discontinued by the railroad in 1930.



ay during performances of "Our Own Circus" presented by  
Boys Club. The show was given at clubhouse, 8530 E. 14th St.



Ted Simas (left) is installed as master councilor of the Charney Chapter of DeMolay by Jon Adams, councilor.



# History Breathes As Tree Gives Up 1851 Plaque

SAETO BEE  
3-29-54

ROBERT'S FERRY, Stanislaus Co.—AP—Knowles Taylor, a New York soldier who died, apparently unheralded, fighting Indians in California's Sierra Nevada foothills 103 years ago, finally has achieved the recognition a devoted brother intended.

But the grave of Taylor, a member of a group of mounted infantrymen killed by Indian horse thieves, might have gone unnoticed had not Arthur Hudelson, rancher of nearby Hickam, needed some firewood a month ago.

## Deep In The Wood

Sawing into an oak with a power saw, Hickam stopped when the saw chain hit an obstruction deep in the gnarled wood.

Taking an ax, he hacked 12 inches deep and removed an 8 by 10 copper plaque reading:

"Under This Clump Of Five Trees Repose The Remains Of Knowles Taylor Esq. Late Of City Of New York. He Died In September 1851."

## Tale Reconstructed

Investigating how such a plate could have been placed on a tree so long ago that the tree had grown around it, Hudelson contacted California historians and surviving pioneers, from whom he reconstructed this tale.

A century ago, a company of dragoons, heavily armed mounted infantry, was pursuing a band of Indians who had run off the horses of white men ranching in the fertile San Joaquin Valley.

In the company were Knowles Taylor and his brother, F. W.

In the foothills near here, where the Tuolumne River turns into a sharp defile, the Indians ambushed their pursuers and Knowles was killed.

His comrades, for want of a better place, buried him in the midst of a clump of five oaks on a knoll.

## A Determination Lives

Knowles' brother, determined that his kin's grave should not go unmarked 3,000 miles from home, took the next opportunity to trek to San Francisco where he had a smith prepare a copper plate and a jeweler engrave it.

He journeyed back and with copper nails secured it to the largest of the oak trees.

In 1855, the story goes, F. W. Taylor died and by his own request was buried alongside his brother. Over the years, the quiet graves were obliterated and the oak grew around the marker.

The brothers, buried side by side so far from home, were forgotten until last week, when Hudelson presented the plaque to the Native Sons of the Golden West to be included in a collection of California mementos.

"PRE-EASTER"

# Fabric Values

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Machine washable.  
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Guaranteed washable.  
Gloss finish.  
Colored backgrounds.

**9<sup>c</sup>**  
Yd.



OAKLAND'S  
LOCALLY OWNED AND  
LOCALLY CONTROLLED  
DAILY NEWSPAPER

EDGAR B. JESSUP  
1424 Dowell St.  
Oakland 8, Calif.

Author  
unknown  
to me

# Oakland Tribune



ASSOCIATED PRESS...WIREPHOTO...WIDE WORLD...UNITED PRESS...CHICAGO DAILY NEWS FOREIGN SERVICE

WANT ADS

MAIN OFFICE, 13TH AT FRANKLIN  
PHONE TEMPLEBAR 2-6000  
IN BERKELEY, 2040 ADDISON ST.

VOL. CLX

OAKLAND, CALIFORNIA, FRIDAY, APRIL 2, 1954

19 D

NO. 92

## Grandson of Pony Express Founder Will Be Honored

Ninety-four years ago tomorrow a pony with two U.S. flags flying from the saddle galloped down San Francisco's Market Street, and the famed Pony Express was born.

Fifty-two years ago Dr. Ergo Alexander Majors of Piedmont, newly graduated from Tolon Medical College (now the University of California), became a practicing physician.

Both events will be celebrated tomorrow with a luncheon in Pony Express Retreat, the San Rafael home of Waddell F. Smith. Mr. and Mrs. Joseph R. Knowland and Mr. and Mrs. Edgar B. Jessup of Piedmont have been announced as co-hosts with Smith.

It might appear that the two events are unrelated, but such is not the case. For Dr. Majors, 76, is the grandson of the late Alexander Majors, the famed plainsman who founded the Pony Express, together with William H. Russell and William B. Waddell. Smith is Waddell's great-grandson.

### COLORFUL CAREER

And Dr. Majors' career—in its way—has been as colorful as that of the Pony Express.

Since the day when he hung out his "shingle," his assets \$5, and an attractive new wife, Dr. Majors estimates that he has delivered more than 3,000 babies, many of them the children of children he delivered.

Still actively practicing, he is the "dean" of the Peralta Hospital medical staff and was honored at a testimonial dinner by his co-workers two years ago, after 50 years as a physician.

Tomorrow's party to honor Dr. and Mrs. Majors was planned as a farewell before their departure for an extended tour of Europe. They have recently sold their home in Piedmont and don't plan to return here until September.

are the tales growing from his experiences in fighting off Indians and wild animals.

The Pony Express ceased operation in October, 1861, when the coast-to-coast telegraph line was completed.

But the firm itself continued operating as an express and passenger line until 1866. Some five years later Wells Fargo bought the equipment for a stage line.

Smith, host at tomorrow's party, makes his home in a Spanish-style dwelling filled with relics of early California.

In fact, his collection is so extensive that it has overflowed into a second building, which he calls the Pony Express Museum and Gallery. In it he houses a collection of Pony Express paintings, several of them by Julian Links of Oakland.

## HISTORY RECALLED

And, as Dr. Majors wants it, guests at tomorrow's party will spend the day listening to new accounts of Pony Express adventures. Many of these will be told by Mr. and Mrs. Raymond W. Settle of Monte Vista, Colo., authors of a current book, "Empire on Wheels." This new volume, published by the Stanford University Press and made possible by a grant-in-aid from the Huntington Library, San Marino, covers the lives and adventures of the Pony Express founders: Russell, Majors and Waddell.

While this pioneer transport company is best known for its Pony Express, it had far flung activities which played a major role in the development of the West.

Alexander Majors organized the firm in Missouri in 1849, and six years later Russell and Waddell joined forces with him. In their heyday they had a virtual monopoly on freighting for the government west of the Missouri river. Their payroll was over \$5,000, and they owned 75,000 oxen—more than half of all those in the country—and more than 5,000 prairie schooners.

## IDEA OF SENATOR

The Pony Express, which alone needed 80 experienced riders and horses, grew from a casual suggestion made by U.S. Sen. William M. Gwin of California, who thought it too bad that it took almost one month for mail to go from coast to coast.

By contrast, the east-west record for Pony Express was set when the news of Lincoln's election was carried from St. Joseph Mo., to San Francisco in 7 days and 17 hours.

Letters carried by the express were written on the thinnest of paper. They were wrapped in oiled silk to preserve them from dampness—many times the horse and rider had to swim a raging river. The cost for a letter weighing half an ounce was five dollars.

## PIONEER ROUTE

Actually, the route of the Pony Express was from Sacramento to St. Joseph, but perhaps because a press agent had a hand in it the "official" start 94 years ago was made from the more populous San Francisco.

Covering 2,000 miles, usually in eight days, the relays of Pony Express riders rode prepared for almost any emergency. Their complete suits of buckskin were made with the hair to the outside, a protection against rain or snow. They carried four eight-inch six-shooter Colts, half-cocked, and an 18-inch knife with a tube of mercury on the back of the blade . . . and a company-provided Bible.

And of course, as history records, William F. (Buffalo Bill) Cody was probably the most famous of the "pony boys." Many

MARCHANT CALCULATORS, INC.

Mr. Stanley B. Ashbrook  
Page Two  
April 6, 1954

photostats and very poorly done. From them I judged that the negative was bad but I see from your print that the negative is good. I am going to try to have it blown up in the photograph shop we have here for I would like it a little larger. I have always used it as a pretty authentic reference to the various routes and would only make a few insignificant changes even at this late date if I were to attempt a similar map and routing.

I am enclosing a little clipping from the Oakland Tribune (published by J. R. Knowland, the father of the Senator) covering an event we celebrated Saturday. Just imagine all the physical evidence we had of an enterprise such as the Pony, and then to have three generations of the descendants of Alexander Majors, in the presence of Dr. Ergo Majors I, Ergo Majors II and Ergo Majors III; then to have the great grandson of Waddell present as our host. It was indeed an interesting affair. About a hundred people were present and a few of us made short remarks.

Would you mind sending this clipping on to Harry for it might be interesting reading for him and I do not have another copy?

I was happy to see another photograph of your famous Noisy Carrier from Sacramento and have been endeavoring to find some evidence of such a service up there so we can prove this black hand stamp was not put on in San Francisco, but we have not been very successful. No doubt he either gave or sold those envelopes to people who took them home to write their letter and address the envelope then mail it, presumably at his place or in his boxes. This man evidently went to Sacramento and used the envelope from there, which makes it unique, but we have not yet located any Noisy Carrier service outside of San Francisco through evidence handed down by similar covers. Yours is certainly unique.

MARCHANT CALCULATORS, INC.

Mr. Stanley B. Ashbrook  
Page Three  
April 6, 1954

I think your exposing that 5¢ '56 on a fake cover is one of the greatest services you have rendered recently. As I look at it I can follow each remark you make. You will recall that famous cover we looked at in Cincinnati when we were all sitting around the table and it was the fiddling with the year date on the French cancellation that first aroused my suspicions which you at first opposed. Then we found the year date torn off the letter you will recall and in three places year dates had been concealed. That seems to be the way this man goes at it and you certainly have him here with what you facetiously call "The Double Transfer" in the year date. But I think it was just a very careless job of cleaning off the '59.

Your concluding paragraph was well expressed and I think it was an ideal place to introduce the hand stamp to which you recently drew my attention, whereby you guarantee covers for \$5 each. Many people have lots of covers that should have such an inspection and your approval would be very comforting indeed.

I just received Gordon Harmer's catalog of the Admiral Harris Hawaiian and aren't they wonderful? There are a couple there I should have and while they are red hot, and no doubt those New Yorkers will be after them, I will give them a little run. A dealer can easily run up someone for whom he is agent since he is on a percentage basis, and, on top of that, wherever he builds it up it makes it easier for a resale at that high price. It is really getting to be a matter of "frenzied finance" or something of that kind, isn't it?

Tell me anything you have of particular interest with regard to the Harris Hawaiians and you will notice that almost all of them are "through San Francisco" so I am interested.

MERCHANT CALCULATORS, INC.

Mr. Stanley B. Ashbrook  
Page Four  
April 6, 1954

Mildred is not feeling very well but she has great hope of this new doctor in San Francisco who is treating her, and who has enjoyed great success with many similar cases.

Everybody else is fine and we hope you all are.

Sincerely yours

*Edgar B. Jessup*  
Edgar B. Jessup  
President and  
General Manager

EBJ:B



# MERCHANT CALCULATORS, INC.

OAKLAND 8, CALIFORNIA

EDGAR B. JESSUP  
PRESIDENT

April 9, 1954

Mr. Stanley B. Ashbrook  
33 North Fort Thomas Avenue  
Fort Thomas, Kentucky

Dear Stanley:

I just received Siegel's Auction Catalog for April 19 and see an illustrated Pony on the cover. It struck me that this might be the Will Awl cover which you had, but you recall I never saw it at any time.

We have several Pony franks and they are all marked "free" when they were franked over the Pony line. We have a good many letters which went over the Pony line at the regular charge but bearing senatorial franks for the U.S. portion of the postage. This looks to me like such a case.

I have seen, and have had in my hands, covers similar to this with the pencil rating of \$5 on it, which could easily be erased. That was the Pony rate and the frank paid the U.S. postage part. On the other hand, we have such franks as this with the word "free" either in manuscript or hand stamped. They have no rating on them of course and they did violate the Pony rules and were franked over the line.

Into which category do you place this cover?

Is this the same cover you had? You will recall you meant to send me a photograph of it but never did and I thought by the addressee and the description of the contents it might be the same one, although, no doubt, heavy correspondence went on between Latham and Wallace at that time. There could be several.

I am interested in the free frank over the Pony line, if I could get some evidence of such. I have several of the U.S. franks like this one appears to be. You must have a series of photographs of various types and I think it would be very interesting for us to get a little of this study and research behind us before the auction date, don't you?

MARCHANT CALCULATORS, INC.

Mr. Stanley B. Ashbrook  
Page Two  
April 9, 1954

When the man who addressed this letter even added on in personal manuscript "per pony express" he could have easily added "free" if such had been the case -- and I think he would have done so. When I go home I will get my photographs out also, but I was writing this quickly so we could exchange letters if necessary before the sale occurs. I have demands in Washington and in New York along the latter part of April, but I do not think I will make the trip. We had a Federal case in a Richmond court, but I feel it will be settled before it appears on the calendar.

Let me hear from you on this for you know a lot about these things and I would appreciate your comments.

Sincerely yours

*Edgar*  
Edgar B. Jessup  
President and  
General Manager

EBJ:B

April 12, 1954.

Mr. Edgar B. Jessup,  
1 MARCHANT  
1475 Powell St.,  
Oakland, Calif.

Dear Edgar:

Re - the Pony cover illustrated on the front page of the Siegel sale for Apr. 29th. No this is not the Will Aull cover. It was addressed to Gen'l James W. Denver and I sold it to a wealthy collector who thinks very highly of it and it will probably not come on the market in our lifetime as he is under fifty.

The Siegel cover is illustrated on page 110 of the Loeb article in the A.P. of NOVEMBER 1930. Knapp acquired the cover and it was Lot 1549 in the Knapp sale. It sold @ \$270.00. It came up again in a Costales sale of June 7, 1950 and sold @ \$800.00. I was surprised you had forgotten it. Just to the right of the Pony marking is the word FREE in pencil. It shows very plain in the A.P. illustration because Kennel retouched the photo print. There is another FREE on the same A.P. page.

This cover was surely sent under separate cover to the St. Joe office of the Pony Co., and the frank of Latham was the "Free" by Pony. It is true that no free letters were permitted by Pony but this did not apply to so important a person as Senator Latham of California.

The Denver cover is almost a duplicate of this Siegel cover - It is addressed to Denver at Sad City and franked by Latham - The oval St. Joe is "JUN 3". - Same note at left end and same pencil FREE. You have a photo of it as I have a memo stating that I sent a print to you.

I am rushing this off to you and will reply to your other letter later.

Regards.

Yours etc.,

Post Office Department  
ASSISTANT POSTMASTER GENERAL  
BUREAU OF POST OFFICE OPERATIONS  
Washington 25, D. C.

70958-R  
G:RR

April 16, 1954

Mr. Stanley B. Ashbrook  
33 North Ft. Thomas Avenue  
Ft. Thomas, Newport, Kentucky

Dear Mr. Ashbrook:

Further reference is made to your recent report of damage to the contents of a registered article mailed at Portland, Maine, due to improper use of a wire staple in affixing the return receipt.

The postmaster at Portland reports that renewed instructions have been issued cautioning all employees of his office who accept mail for registration not to use staples in affixing return receipts when the articles are known, or presumed to contain valuable documents or stamps of philatelic value, or in any case where the sender objects to the use of staples.

It will be appreciated if you will advise this Bureau as to the name and address of the sender of the registered article in question in order that it may be suggested that he request the accepting postal employee not to affix the return receipt by means of staples when presenting mail of this character for registration.

Sincerely yours,

*N. R. Abrams*

N. R. Abrams  
Assistant Postmaster General



April 21, 1954.

Mr. N. R. Abrams,  
Asst. Postmaster General,  
Bureau of P.O. Operations,  
Post Office Department,  
Washington 25, D.C.

(Refer 70958R)

Dear Mr. Abrams:

Thanks very much for your kind letter of the 16th with reference to the use of wire staples on registered mail at the Portland, Maine Post Office.

I have advised the sender of the item in question to request the register clerk to refrain from using wire staples on any letters that he has registered and better still not to request a return receipt. I believe that here is where the trouble arises. If senders would not request a receipt I believe there would be no occasion for a P.O. clerk to use a wire staple.

Again many thanks.

Sincerely yours,



Post Office Department  
ASSISTANT POSTMASTER GENERAL  
BUREAU OF POST OFFICE OPERATIONS  
Washington 25, D. C.

70958-R  
G:RR

April 7, 1954

Mr. Stanley B. Ashbrook  
33 North Ft. Thomas Avenue  
Ft. Thomas, Newport, Kentucky

Dear Mr. Ashbrook:

The Postmaster General has requested me to reply to your recent communication, in which you report that the post office at Portland, Maine, is not observing instructions regarding the use of staples in affixing return receipts to registered articles.

The Department regrets any inconvenience which may have been occasioned you by the improper use of staples in attaching registry return receipts, and the matter is being brought to the attention of the postmaster at Portland in order that renewed instructions on the subject may be issued to all employees concerned.

Your action in reporting the matter is appreciated.

Sincerely yours,

*N. R. Abrams*

N. R. Abrams  
Assistant Postmaster General

*Dear Mr. Ashbrook:*

*Sorry I've been so late on this — been off on a survey. Told postmistress not to staple them, but couldn't stop her. She made sure stamps were in other end, tho. In awful hurry now — letter follows. Glad you took action!!*  
*Lewis Mann*

31-14

**Post Office Department**  
ASSISTANT POSTMASTER GENERAL  
BUREAU OF POST OFFICE OPERATIONS  
Washington 25, D. C.

IN YOUR REPLY REFER TO

70958-R

AMS:vp

July 15, 1954

Mr. Stanley B. Ashbrook  
33 North Ft. Thomas Avenue  
Ft. Thomas, Kentucky

Dear Mr. Ashbrook:

This will acknowledge your letter of July 8 regarding the use of wire staples in affixing return receipts to registered articles mailed at Dayton, Ohio.

A It is noted that you are apprehensive lest the use of the staples cause serious damage to the contents. While the postmaster of Dayton will be requested to issue renewed instructions to all employees concerning the use of staples patrons may, when presenting registered mail containing philatelic stamps, valuable documents, etc., request the accepting postal employee not to affix the return receipts by means of staples.

Sincerely yours,

Used  
In Sep 1 1954  
Special  
Service

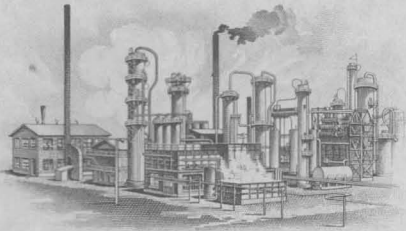
N. R. Abrams

N. R. Abrams  
Assistant Postmaster General

495



PHONE 125



# CRYSTAL Refining Company OF CARSON CITY INCORPORATED

CRYSTAL PETROLEUM PRODUCTS

CARSON CITY, MICHIGAN

Ionia, Michigan.  
April 21, 1954.

Mr. Stanley B. Ashbrook,  
Ft Thomas, Ky.

Dear Stan:

Received yours of the 16th returning the 10¢ 1847 cover with horizontal pair also the 5¢ 1862 red brown used block of four. I will be interested in receiving the color slide photos of these two items when they are finished. As mentioned before, I have in mind sending you all my choice pieces to be photographed on color slides.

At present time, I hesitate to sell the 1847 Brooks cover. It brought \$325 in the Knapp sale but I paid Brooks \$430 for it according to my records. I am well pleased with the 5¢ red brown block - is'nt it wonderful color?

Am leaving tonight for Minneapolis and if have any time while there, will contact Mr. Henry W. Hill and hope he will invite me to look at his wonderful collection of the 5¢ 1856-57.

I sent my bids on the Fox sale of April 15th to Molesworth and he obtained for me the three lots enclosed. Any one of these three lots would have brought double the price I paid had they been in a Kelleher sale, and with this I am sure you will agree after looking them over.

On the 15¢ Type I 1869 cover, would like to have your signature either in pencil or the rubber stamp type, provided you can guarantee same and are of the belief this stamp originated on the cover. The markings look OK to me - the red "6" is correct I believe for the French marking "AM.CALAIS" based on a single 15¢ rate. You have my permission to remove the stamp from the cover if necessary. If it is a fake, please send me something in writing that Molesworth can send on to Fox when he returns the cover, altho I sincerely hope it is OK as I really need this 15¢ Type I on cover.

Only reason I am sending you the 1¢ single imperf's is because I believe you will be interested in looking them over. They were real bargains! Lot #88 must have been a sleeper. Am surprised neither Mort nor Fortgang noticed it. Fox described it: "Type II Pos 18Rle red Pmk V.F. cat \$14.00." Of course anyone familiar with your book knows that 18Rle is a Type LLL-A and if one examines the photo in Fox's catalog, the lower half of the full scroll of 8Rle shows at upper left. So I sent in a high bid on this and got it for only \$13.50. It would bring \$50.00 in a Kelleher sale, except Dan would describe it properly. Lot #204 too is a beauty - sharp and clear and lovely deep color - worth more than \$10.50. Regards.

Sincerely,  
*J. G. Fleckenstein*  
J. G. Fleckenstein.

JGF/

Let me know fee and will mail you check on receipt. Please try and get me list of prices realized at this Fox sale, Stan.



April 22, 1954.

Mr. J. G. Fleckenstein,  
419 Union Street,  
Ionia, Mich.

Dear Jack:

Herewith the three lots from the Fox sale. I think you obtained the 15¢ 1869 cover very cheap. It is unquestionably genuine in every respect and I have endorsed it as such on the back.

Mail was sent via England to France from New York on Apr 21 1869 as per my records, so the credit and date are correct, etc. I suppose you got this cheap because the stamp is not superb but close at right. I think this detracts from an off cover single but is not so important for a cover. My fee in this case is not \$5.00 but \$3.50.

Yes, I agree that you obtained the two 1¢ singles at bargain prices, especially the 18RLE. Note how it shows the Type I ornaments of 8RLE. This is of course a late I E, Type IIIA.

PAID  
APR 30 1954

Jack, I am sorry that you turned over the 10¢ '47 cover to Molesworth. From a certain source I was today advised he was hawking this cover all around. This don't do a cover any good. If he had some particular customer who wanted such a cover it would be quite a different matter but to go out and offer it indiscriminately is harmful. What I wish you would do would be to have him send it back to you and then you keep it and let me sell the one you bought from Brooks. I suggest you offer the latter to me at \$600.00 net to you, and this would reduce the cost of the Stark cover to you to \$580.00 net.

I do hope you contacted Mr. Henry Hill of Minneapolis and had a nice visit with him.

I will have Fox send me some duplicate lists of prices realized at his recent sale.

Regards.

Yours etc.,



A.P.S.  
S.P.A.  
C.C.N.Y.



C.S.A.  
A.R.A.  
B.N.A.P.S.

## Jack E. Molesworth

Philatelic Dealer and Broker

102 Beacon Street  
Boston 16, Massachusetts

April 20, 1954

Mr. Stanley B. Ashbrook  
33 North Ft Thomas Ave  
Fort Thomas, Ky.

Dear Stan,

Enclosed is a cover with a Type I, 15¢ 1869 which I would appreciate your examining and signing if it is genuine.

Advise your fee and I shall remit promptly as usual.

With kind regards,

*Jack.*

JEM/p

April 22, 1954.

Mr. Jack E. Molesworth,  
102 Beacon Street,  
Boston 16, Mass.

Dear Jack:

Herewith the 15¢ 1869 Type I cover as per yours of the 20th. I have endorsed this cover on the back as genuine in every respect.

Commodore George Worthington purchased this cover from W. L. Aldrich & Co. of Boston in 1912 for \$30.00. In the Worthington sale on Aug. 21, 1917, it was Lot #450 and sold for \$17.00. Apparently it again came up in the Eagle sale in 1923.

The markings show it was carried direct by American Packet to France, leaving New York on June 29, 1869. The stamp is evidently quite a fine copy.

My fee for the above is \$3.50.

With regards -

Sincerely yours,

PAID

APR 30 1954

Jack E. Molesworth : 102 Beacon Street : Boston 16, Massachusetts

Dear Stan, April 27, 1954

Many thanks for your notes of April 20th and 22nd. Enclosed is my check for \$3.86 to cover your postage on the first and your fee on the second. Just returned from a week in Bermuda so I am snowed under.

Hastily and with kind regards,

  
Jack E. Molesworth

10/12/12

10/7/12  
Aldrich & Co  
- TNN

EAGLE  
4/7/23

In My Opinion This Cover  
Is Genuine In Every Respect  
I Have Known It For Many Years  
It Was Lot 459 In The Worthington  
Sale Aug 20 1917  
J. M. Munn  
Apr 22 1954

Worthington  
W.C.

11/15/54  
28

Memo  
By  
Alvin Good

10/7/12  
Aldrich & Co  
- TNN

In My Opinion This Cover  
Is Genuine In Every Respect -  
I Have Known It For Many Years  
It Was Lot 450 In The Worthington  
Sale Aug 21 1917  
J. M. Moore  
Apr 22 1954

Eagle  
Sale  
Apr 7 1923

EAGLE  
4/7/23

Worthington  
WG.

?  
Who Is  
WG?

LOT 470 PAIGE SALE APR 9 1954 - Submitted Apr 22 - 54  
By Jack Molesworth - See S.B. 31 page 16.





470

Mrs George McAt. Bliss  
Care John Munroe & Co  
Bankers.

Paris

- France

No 7 Rue Scille - *St. Pierre I*

10/15/12  
as

10/7/12  
Aldrich & Co  
- TNN

EAGLE  
4/7/23

In My Opinion This Cover  
Is Genuine In Every Respect -  
I Have Known It For Many Years  
It Was Lot 450 In The Worthington  
Sale Aug 20 1917  
J. M. Moore  
Apr 22 1954

Worthington  
W.C.

LOT 470 PAIGE SALE APR 9 1954 - Submitted Apr 22 - 54  
By Jack Molesworth - See S.B. 31 page 16.



470

Mrs George McIt. Bliss  
Care John Munroe & Co  
Bankers.

Paris

France

No 7 Rue Scille - *Staple II*

# RAYNOR HUBBELL

SPECIALIZING IN THE PURCHASE OF OLD STAMPS



COLONEL C. S. A.  
MEMBER: A. S. D. A.  
A. P. S.  
S. P. A.

BOX 573

GRIFFIN, GEORGIA

April 19/1954

Dear Stanley  
Will you please pass  
on the authenticity of the  
enclosed. - Will of course  
pay for it.

Thank you for your  
letter of the 16<sup>th</sup>. By all  
means send me the items  
of Confederate which you  
find you can offer.

Sincerely  
Ray

April 23, 1954.

Mr. Raynor Hubbell,  
P. O. Box 573,  
Griffin, Georgia.

Dear Raynor:

Herewith the Knoxville item contained in yours of the 19th. I am no authority on Confederate Provisionals and in a case such as this I think you should obtain the very best advice possible. Therefore, I suggest that you forward this item to the Expert Committee of the Philatelic Foundation.

Personally I seriously doubt if this is an original unused copy of the Knoxville P.M. Provisional but my opinion is practically worthless.

Sincerely yours,

Copy To L.L. Shenfield

Copy To Phil. Found.



Dear Stan:

Your letter, bulletin and slides came just as we were leaving to visit my son in Phila. Hence this hasty note. Will reply to your letter on my return. I return the slides however - They are inadequate - The whole idea of slides to identify colors & types is the perfect solution and what a simple solution. It took you to think of it! It has a great future for all of us -

Best

Larry

Aug 10/54

By-the-way - altho I do not have any reference material here the 54th magazine looks ok to me - altho I do not see the paper which is the full-table.

L.

No. 895

April 12 19 48

THE PHILATELIC FOUNDATION

22 EAST 35<sup>TH</sup> STREET

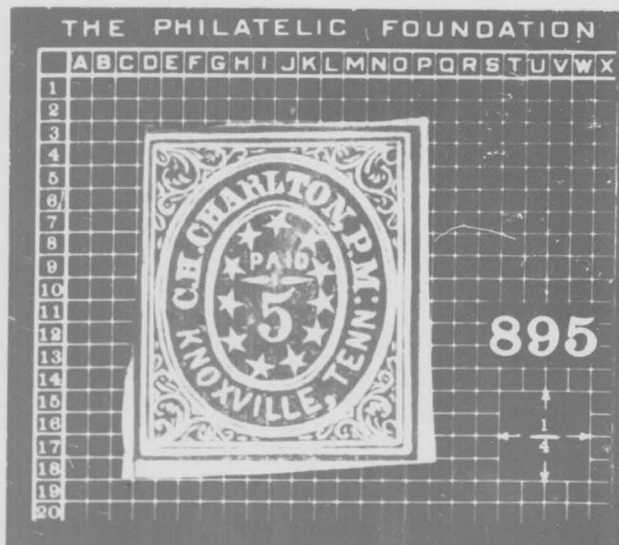
NEW YORK 16, N.Y.

EXPERT COMMITTEE

We have examined the attached item a Confederate  
States, 1861, 5¢, red, uncanceled, of which  
a photograph is affixed below -----

submitted by ---Mr. S. H. Shock -----

and are of the opinion that it is a counterfeit -----



*Thurman H. H. H. H.*  
For The Expert Committee

73-12✓

F 8

4

## THE PHILATELIC FOUNDATION

22 EAST 35<sup>TH</sup> STREET

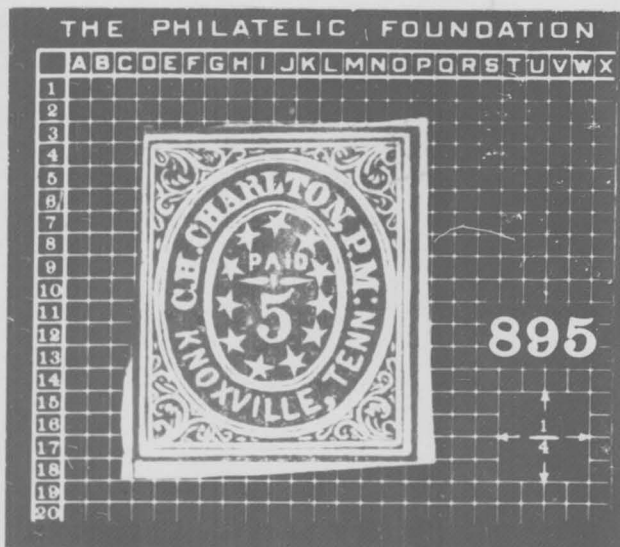
NEW YORK 16, N. Y.

## EXPERT COMMITTEE

We have examined the attached item a Confederate  
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a photograph is affixed below -----

submitted by ---Mr. S. H. Shock -----

and are of the opinion that it is a counterfeit -----



*Henry H. H. H.*  
For The Expert Committee

73-12✓

F 8

4



APRIL 23, 1954

STANLEY B. ASHBROOK  
434 SO. ERANA AVE.,  
FORT THOMAS, KENTUCKY

DEAR SIR;

MR. B.W.H.POOLE OF PASADENA, CALIF., SUGGESTED  
THAT I SEND THE ENCLOSED STAMP FOR AUTHENTICATION  
AND APPRAISAL.

I WOULD LIKE ALL POSSIBLE INFORMATION AS TO  
TYPE, CAT. NO., VALUE, ETC., WHICH YOU MIGHT BE  
ABLE TO GIVE ME.

ENCLOSED PLEASE FIND MY CHECK FOR \$5.00 TO COVER  
APPRAISAL FEE. MR. POOLE THOUGHT THIS WAS THE  
CORRECT AMOUNT.

ALSO I AM SENDING A SELF ADDRESSED STAMPED EN-  
VELOPE FOR RETURNING THE STAMP.

I WOULD GREATLY APPRECIATE HEARING FROM YOU AS  
SOON AS POSSIBLE.

THANKING YOU IN ADVANCE, I REMAIN

SINCERELY,

*Ormie R. Brimmer*

ORMIE R. BRIMMER  
1147 N. VICEROY AVE.,  
COVINA, CALIF.

*The Expert Committee of*  
**THE PHILATELIC FOUNDATION**

22 EAST 35TH STREET  
NEW YORK 16, N. Y.

No. **4903**

Meeting of **May 1954**

Dear *Mr. Ashbrook*:

Herewith is an item described by the applicant as follows:

Country **U. S.** Issue **1857** Denomination **1¢**

Color **blue** Cat. No. **21**

**Brief Description**

**Type III (99R11)? Tied to cover with blue Louisville, Ky., cancellation dated August. (Date of month undecipherable) Condition looks very fine for this issue.**

**Exact type, plate position, color, cancel date & city, centering & condition & estimated market value?**

*The Expert Committee* requests you to examine the item and give us your valued opinion. All expressions given are strictly confidential between you and *The Committee*.

(Details of opinion on inside.)

ORMIE R. BRIMMER  
1147 N. VICEROY AVE.,  
COVINA, CALIF.

April 26, 1954.

Mr. Ormie R. Brimmer,  
1147 N. Viceroy Ave.,  
Covina, Calif.

Dear Mr. Brimmer:

Herewith I am returning the One Cent 1851 as per yours of the 23rd. I am pleased to report that this is a copy of Type IV, the plate position being 6R1E. This type is listed in the Scott's Specialized Catalogue (S.U.S.) as No. 6A and "6R" is mentioned. The catalogue quotation is \$250.00. I enclose a diagram of this particular position on the plate which was Plate One Early. Adjoining this position to the right was the Type I stamp, 7R1E. I have endorsed the stamp on the reverse.

You requested my appraisal, which I understand to be my opinion as to the value of this particular copy. Because there is so much difference of opinion on values and also because I am no authority on that subject, may I be excused from any expression.

If you care to dispose of the stamp I will be only too glad to assist you in any way that I can in obtaining a fair price. I might add this, however, that this is a pencanceled copy and unfortunately this is held as detrimental.

May I thank you very kindly for your check and add that \$5.00 is the proper fee for such an authentication.

I would like to add just these few words. I doubt very much if anyone in philately is held in any higher esteem than my valued friend Mr. Bert Poole of Pasadena.

Sincerely yours,

Please write clearly in pencil, and sign your opinion.  
(Do not use pen and ink.)

P.F.C.H # 4903

141857 - Tied By Blue  
Louisville Ky Postmark.

This Stamp is Not A  
Type III

It is Not THE 99R2

It is A Type V

Relief "F" From The  
Bottom Row of One  
of The Type V Plates

William B. Shroder  
Apr 23 1954

Please write clearly in pencil, and sign your opinion.  
(Do not use pen and ink.)

P.F.C.H # 4903

141857 - Tied By Blue  
Louisville Ky Postmark.

This Stamp is Not A  
Type III

It is Not THE 99R2

It is A Type V

Relief "F" From The  
Bottom Row of One  
of The Type V Plates

William B. Hoover  
Apr 23 1954



*The Expert Committee of*  
**THE PHILATELIC FOUNDATION**

22 EAST 35TH STREET

NEW YORK 16, N. Y.

No. 4203 .....

Meeting of May 1954 .....

Dear Mr. Ashbrook .....

Herewith is an item described by the applicant as follows:

Country U. S. ..... Issue 1857 ..... Denomination 1¢ .....

Color blue ..... Cat. No. 21 .....

**Brief Description**

Type III (99R11)? Tied to cover with blue  
Louisville, Ky., cancellation dated August. (Date  
of month undecipherable) Condition looks very  
fine for this issue.

Exact type, plate position, color, cancel  
date & city, centering & condition & estimated  
market value?

*The Expert Committee* requests you to examine the item and give  
us your valued opinion. All expressions given are strictly confidential  
between you and *The Committee*.

(Details of opinion on inside.)

April 29, 1954.

Mr. Emmerson C. Krug,  
3008 - 13th Ave., South,  
Birmingham, Ala.

Dear Em:

Herewith your 10¢ 1869 cover and also the 5¢ 1856 with the  
"Paid in Grid."

Regarding the latter. I made a very careful examination of this stamp under my binocular microscope and compared it with tracings and examples of the large Boston Paid in Grid that was used subsequent to Jan. 1st, 1856. I also made an enlarged photograph, print of which will be sent to you later. In my opinion, this stamp is a cleaned copy to which has been added a fake cancelation. I recognize the fact that the strike is supposed to be a distorted and blurred impression of a stamper with a Paid in grid. Further, I was convinced by my examination that this is not a strike from a stamper but rather a paint job. While the black ink did not penetrate the paper, it is my conviction that it does not resemble the black ink that was used at the Boston Post Office in the last half of the eighteen fifties.

I have no objection if you wish to quote the above to the person from whom you obtained the stamp.

I enclose a cover with a 1¢ 1857 tied by the large Boston Paid in Grid. The Boston postmark is "9 NOV" so this could be Nov. 9, 1857 or later, but no earlier. Please return this at your convenience.

I made a photograph of the 1869 cover and I will send a print of it to Leonard Huber with the query if he is familiar with the killer on the two stamps. I am doing this solely because I don't seem to have a record that this particular cancelation was used at New Orleans in 1869 and 1870. Not because I doubt for a moment that it was.

With regards -

Yours etc.,

E.C. KING  
AT 13 1/2 - RED - 50 SEC

DL7

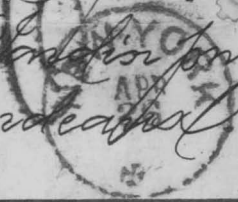
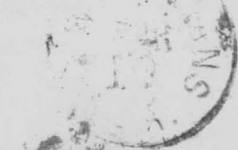
SEE 31-20



DL7

Madame Bre Leroy Leprieux  
N° 27 Cour du Jardin public  
Gendres

---



A 485



A Double lod Rate Direct To France In 1870  
In My Opinion This Cover Is Genuine In Every Respect  
STANLEY B. ASHBROOK  
Wm. B. Ashbrook



By Direct U.S. PKT TO CHERBOURG, FRANCE. To The French Frontier. U.S. Rate 10d per  $\frac{1}{2}$  oz. From New Orleans Apr 19 1870. French Internal Due of 16 Decimes. (Approximately 30d U.S.). This Cover Endorsed on Back As Genuine In Every Respect By Stanley B. Ashbrook - E.C. Krug Collection.

A. ROCHER & CO.  
APR 19 1870  
NEW ORLEANS  
Madame Pre Léon Léprieur  
N° 27 Cours du Jardin public  
Gare d'Orléans.

By Direct U.S. PKT TO CHERBOURG, FRANCE. To The French Frontier. U.S. Rate 10¢ per 1/2 oz. From New Orleans Apr 19 1870. French Internal Due of 16 Decimes. (Approximately 30¢ U.S.). This Cover Endorsed on Back As Genuine in Every Respect By Stanley B. Ashbrook - E.C. Krug Collection.

By John Fox - 4/29 - 1954. See 31 - 21. Query - Is  
This Cover Genuine? The Black Ink of  
Both Markings is the same!!!

JOHN A. FOX

173 Tulip Avenue • Floral Park • New York • FL 4-4636

AUCTIONS • APPRAISALS • RETAIL • WHOLESALE • STAMPS • COVERS • ACCESSORIES

April 26, 1954

Mr. Stanley B. Ashbrook  
P.O. Box 31  
Fort Thomas, Kentucky

Dear Stan:

Trying to catch up on my back correspondence, I will answer several of your letters at once. If possible, I would like to buy a color slide of the Knapp shift.


Have you moved the collection of 5¢ and 10¢ 1847's. I trust you have by now. If not, let me know - I may have a prospect.

Relative to your letter of April 21st, regarding lot #66 in our recent sale, the 1¢ 1A variety, we did see something at the top of the stamp, which, while I am not sure was a paint job, might have been a minor repair. It was very difficult to tell. We sold the stamp to a client, who saw the item and with whom we discussed the possibility of the stamp being repaired. He bought it, despite this. In fact, at \$100 under his bid. I trust this will answer your question satisfactory.

I am enclosing a cover I have had for several years. At first I was not sure it was genuine because of the blotched appearance of the Steam Ship. However, I guess this could have happened because of a sloppy application. Would like your valued opinion on it. Enclosed is a check for \$15.00. Please do not return the check. Just put it in the war chest.

Trusting all is well with Mildred and yourself. With kind personal regards from Virginia and me.

Sincerely,

  
JOHN A. FOX

JAF:ew  
registered



*Buy at the Sign of the Triangle*

April 29, 1954.

Mr. John A. Fox,  
173 Tulip Ave.,  
Floral Park, N.Y.

Dear John:

Herewith the 12¢ 1851 Bisect cover with the marking "Via Nicaragua." You inquired my opinion regarding whether I was of the opinion that the cover is genuine. First, may I state that I examined this cover very carefully and particularly as to the ink that was used for the "STEAM SHIP" and the oval "VIA NICARAGUA." I am convinced that the ink of both strikes is the same. I made a careful comparison both by ultra-violet and by binocular microscope.

I believe that all well-informed students agree that the "Via Nicaragua" markings were privately applied, and were not in any way postal markings of the U. S. Postal Service. Further, I am quite sure that the well-known two-line marking "STEAM - SHIP" was an official U.S. postal marking and was applied at the New York Post Office.

A piece of mail such as this is represented to be had its origin in San Francisco, was sent direct to a ship of the Nicaragua Line at San Francisco and carried privately to New York and it was there that it first entered the U. S. Mail.

I believe that the Nicaragua markings (of which the one on this cover is of a type that is well known) were applied at San Francisco, though it is possible that such markings may have been applied by the pursers of the various ships of the Nicaragua Line, sailing between San Francisco and Nicaragua. The point that I wish to emphasize is that the two-line marking, "STEAM" - "SHIP", is official, whereas the "oval Via N" is not, hence it seems impossible to me that a cover could be genuine that showed both were applied at the same time in same ink from the same paid.

I have quite an extensive photographic record of "Via Nicaragua" covers but I have no record of any cover that showed such a "wet" strike of the two-line "STEAM - SHIP".

I dislike very much to question a cover that might possibly be genuine but in this case it is my opinion that this cover is fraudulent, and that both markings are not genuine.

With regards -

Sincerely yours,



April 29, 1954.

Mr. John A. Fox,  
173 Tulip Ave.,  
Floral Park, N.Y.

Dear John:

Herewith the 12¢ 1851 Bisect cover with the marking "Via Nicaragua." You inquired my opinion regarding whether I was of the opinion that the cover is genuine. First, may I state that I examined this cover very carefully and particularly as to the ink that was used for the "STEAM SHIP" and the oval "VIA NICARAGUA." I am convinced that the ink of both strikes is the same. I made a careful comparison both by ultra-violet and by binocular microscope.

I believe that all well-informed students agree that the "Via Nicaragua" markings were privately applied, and were not in any way postal markings of the U. S. Postal Service. Further, I am quite sure that the well-known two-line marking "STEAM - SHIP" was an official U.S. postal marking and was applied at the New York Post Office.

A piece of mail such as this is represented to be had its origin in San Francisco, was sent direct to a ship of the Nicaragua Line at San Francisco and carried privately to New York and it was there that it first entered the U. S. Mail.

I believe that the Nicaragua markings (of which the one on this cover is of a type that is well known) were applied at San Francisco, though it is possible that such markings may have been applied by the pursers of the various ships of the Nicaragua Line, sailing between San Francisco and Nicaragua. The point that I wish to emphasize is that the two-line marking, "STEAM" - "SHIP", is official, whereas the "oval Via N" is not, hence it seems impossible to me that a cover could be genuine that showed both were applied at the same time in same ink from the same paid.

I have quite an extensive photographic record of "Via Nicaragua" covers but I have no record of any cover that showed such a "wet" strike of the two-line "STEAM - SHIP".

I dislike very much to question a cover that might possibly be genuine but in this case it is my opinion that this cover is fraudulent, and that both markings are not genuine.

With regards -

Sincerely yours,

April 30, 1954.

Mr. John A. Fox,  
173 Tulip Ave.,  
Floral Park, N.Y.

Dear John:

Herewith a separate letter regarding the "Via Nicaragua" cover. I feel that I am right in my analysis of this cover based to a large extent on my conviction that the ink of the two markings is the same. If perchance you disagree with my opinion on this point I will be only too glad to further reconsider the cover. Let me know. I carefully studied each and every letter in the oval marking and compared them with strikes that are known to be genuine. If you desire, I will be glad to go into this with you. I have no idea who might have made this particular item, but it is just the sort of thing that Zareski likes to turn out.

Regarding the check that you sent me. I don't think it is right for you, one of my most valued of friends, should pay me three times a fee that I charge others and especially some whom I do not consider in my circle of friends. Of course, anyone - good, bad or indifferent, has a right to send me an item and pay for an opinion. Because I don't welcome some, I charge them a high fee hoping they will not return. If I didn't know you would send your check back, I would return it to you, so the only thing I can do is to put another credit mark against you and hope that someday I'll be able to even up the account.

Herewith with my compliments a color slide of the famous Knapp shift. I am a bit proud of this as I think it is just the same as looking at the stamp itself. In fact, better, because the light transmitted thru the transparency discloses every feature of stamp and cancelation, much better than looking at a black and white photo print. In short, I think this is a wonderful piece of photography, and I am completely sold on it, as a most accurate method of recording philatelic material. Incidentally, I am constantly adding new equipment and trying to constantly perfect my technique.

Re - the 1847 collection. It was a superb lot and I had no trouble in placing it intact.

Re - Lot #66 in your recent sale. After I wrote you I learned that Mort Neinken purchased the stamp, so several days ago I wrote Mort requesting him to send it to me. I want to see for myself just what is wrong. I have quite a record of 97L4, and comparing my photograph of this particular copy with others in my file, I cannot see anything wrong at the top. However, I will advise you later.

I am pleased to report that Mildred and I are both well and we send our best wishes to Virginia and you.

Cordially yours,

JOHN A. FOX

173 Tulip Avenue • Floral Park • New York • FL 4-4636

AUCTIONS • APPRAISALS • RETAIL • WHOLESALE • STAMPS • COVERS • ACCESSORIES

May 18, 1954

Mr. Stanley B. Ashbrook  
P.O. Box 31  
33 North Ft. Thomas Avenue  
Fort Thomas, Kentucky

Dear Stan:

Thank you for your recent letters. I appreciate your opinion on the 12¢ Bisect and will not offer it for sale.

As to Lot 66 in my sale of April 15th there is still some doubt in my mind that this stamp had a defect. However, it is impossible for me to recall it from the present owner. There are reasons this cannot be done. Perhaps someday I may be able to acquire it, and if so, will send it to you at that time.

I, too, want to get some pictures in color of some of the Confederates. Will send down a group as soon as they come back. How long will it take you to perform the photography.

Trust all is well with you. With kind personal regards to Mildred and yourself from Virginia and me.

Sincerely,

*John*

JOHN A. FOX

JAF:ew



*Buy at the Sign of the Triangle*

F128 K3-5sec

B487.

White  
Envelope

Nothing on  
Back

Black



Black

Mr. Cairus Cranchall  
Little Geneva  
Allegany Co.,  
N.Y.

By John Fox - 4/29 - 1954. See 31 - 21. Query - Is  
This Cover Genuine? The Black Ink of  
Both Markings is The Same !!!

fee for segment

"C"

3.50

fee for segment

"D"

PAID

MAY - 7 1954

3.50

fee for segment

"E"

3.50



CRYSTAL Refining Company OF CARSON CITY  
INCORPORATED

CARSON CITY, MICHIGAN

650 ok  
Ionia, Michigan.  
April 26, 1954.

Mr. Stanley B. Ashbrook,  
Ft Thomas, Ky.

Dear Stan:

Your registered received this AM and hasten to reply. Check enclosed for \$6.50 covering three slides at \$1.00 and fee of \$3.50 per letter for signing the 15¢ 1869 cover. Many thanks, Stan. Am sure pleased with these colored slides and plan to send you all the outstanding pieces in my collection to be photographed in color, but can only send a few now as most of the 1¢ collection is on exhibit at Muskegon at present moment and won't get it back for a week. Other rare items like the 7RLE cover etc are in the bank vault and can't get to them at present moment. These slides are simply wonderful!

The colored slide of the used block of the 5¢ red brown Scott's #75 is indeed beautiful. I think the color in the slide closely matches the true color of the block, except I wish you could get my name on each slide for identification on all future slides.

Got back from three days in Minneapolis late Saturday night - Rene had already left for fishing trip on Pere Marquette River and will be up there a week. Joan and I are here together. Called Les Brookman Friday and he arranged to take me to dinner Friday night with Henry Hill and Bilden - wonderful evening together. Henry Hill is charming company as are the others. Then had lunch with them all again Saturday noon. Henry Hill is very proud of the Knapp "shift" and showed it to me - also the wonderful color slides you made of it.

Re the Ludlow Beebe cover I let Jack Molesworth have on consignment. He has not been able to sell it as yet so I wrote him today and told him if he could not move it within thirty days, to send it back. Only reason I have for not wanting to sell the other Ludlow Beebe cover - the one with positions 23-24-L, is that I had a special album page made for it along with other 10¢ '47's which you will recall are pseudo engraved pages are terribly expensive - cost me \$25 to \$30 a page and if I take this cover out and retain the other, it means having a new album sheet printed at this cost, besides all the fuss and time consumed. Would you care to handle the other cover - the one Molesworth now has - in case he does not move it? If he moves it, I would want to retain the only other 10¢ '47 cover, as I have no more - just these two.

Glad Rasdale sent you the CIPEX sheets promptly. He promised he would. He is a rather decent chap but knows nothing of early covers except as they look good or bad. Has a good reputation tho for honesty.

Am enclosing eight (8) covers to be photographed in color, listed as follows:

- (a) single 5¢ 1856 imperf tied, was Lot #904 in Chase sale 1925.
- (b) superb vertical strip three 1857 - 5¢ brick red, was Lot #891 in Brown sale.
- (c) vf vert strip three 1857 - 5¢ Type I ex-Gibson (is this red brown, Stan)?
- (d) vf hor strip three 1857 - 5¢ Type I brown - shows C/L left - Ex-Chase.
- (e) five 12¢ 1857 plus 5¢ Type I red brown (65¢ rate) (See Lot #1310 in Chase sale 1925 - is this the same cover?)
- (f) 10¢ 1861 Type I tied blk "COLOMA Cal"
- (g) superb 3¢ pink pigeon blood 1861 tied "MYSTIC BRIDGE Ct"
- (h) superb hor pair 1862 5¢ red brown tied blue New Orleans target to S.F.

Most of these are signed by you on back. Please sign those not already signed and let me know fee when returning with slides. Show my name if possible below each in slide. Regards.

Sincerely,

J. G. Fleckenstein.

JGF/  
Enc:REG:

April 30, 1954.

Mr. J. G. Fleckenstein,  
419 Union Street,  
Ionia, Mich.

Dear Jack:

Herewith the various covers as per yours of the 26th, numbered as per your letter. I made color photos of each one and included a descriptive notation for each one, copies of which I enclose. This is an exception as I do not include this in the cost of the slides as the preparation of these "notes" occupies considerable time. If you wish them on future slides please advise me and I will make an extra charge. I also endorsed three of the covers on the back as follows: (These had not previously been authenticated)

Cover "C" - fee	\$3.50
" "D" - "	3.50
" "E" - "	3.50
Total -	\$10.50

PAID  
MAY -7 1954

I also rubbed out some of the former authentications and put on new ones, as you will note. Also advise me if you like the style I am now using.

Thanks very much for the check for \$6.50 as per former advice.

Jack, I was pleased that you liked the three slides. I quite agree and I also think they are wonderful. I was also pleased that the slide of the block of the 5¢ Red Brown closely matched the color of the original.

I note that you gave Molesworth 30 days in which to sell the 10¢ 1847 cover. I hope he succeeds in getting the price he had in mind. When and if he returns it we can then discuss it. Of course, I would like very much to handle either one but I do think you should keep the Gray Muzzy cover and sell the Knapp cover with the 23-24L, in spite of the fact you paid a high price for the page. Couldn't I make one just as good at a lower figure? Do you prefer the printed pages you use to the work I did for Brooks?

Re - the covers I return. In your letter you had some queries regarding some of them. I believe all the questions you asked are included with the covers, but if not let me know.

Re - the Pigeon blood. I photographed the cover but not an enlargement of the stamp itself. So far I have not been able to obtain what I consider a satisfactory color reproduction of my Pigeon. Being a pale color I will have to do a bit more experimenting. Bear this in mind - if, later on, you want me to make a color slide just of the stamp itself.

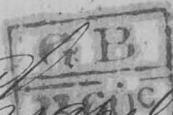
So Rene is away on a fishing trip and Joan is running the house for you.

We had our first word from Stan Jr. today. It was from Panama City and he had attended a bull fight.

Our regards to all - Cordially yours,

GREEN-F128 145FC

*For British Steamer*



*Monsieur Elestin Chagnella,  
Proprietaire de l'Hotel de ville no 22,  
Bordeaux  
France.*

See 31  
22

(A)  
J.G.F.



*Arrived Jan 18/63*

See 31  
22

(H)

*Mr. L. I. Martel  
Agent for Absentees  
Red Deer 13/2 San Francisco. Ca*



Red  
Brown

See  
31  
22

(E)

J.G.F.

N.Y. Am. PKT  
On Redie

*See 31 Jan 1863*

Red

Red

COVERS  
BY  
FLECKENSTEIN  
SEE  
31-22  
COLORS  
SLIDES  
MADE  
FOR HIM  
4/29-54

A489

A486



May 8, 1954.

Mr. Harry L. Lindquist,  
153 Waverly Place,  
New York 14, N.Y.

Dear Harry:

My good friend Earl Weatherly of Greensboro, N.C., recently made quite an interesting find of Confederate covers and I persuaded him to write an article about a few of them, and permit me to send the article to you. I don't know whether you are acquainted with Earl or not but he is a grand fellow and one of the few collectors below the Mason & Dixon Line who really has a fine collection of Confederates. He is also a student of such stamps and covers, and a former President of the Confederate Society, known as the C.S.A. For his contributions to Confederate Philately, he was honored by the Society with the title of "General." A lot of damn foolishness in my opinion, but because the same honor was conferred upon me I can hardly express my opinion publicly on the system of conferring military titles on stamp collectors.

I found this article extremely interesting and in the course of my correspondence with Earl regarding it, I suggested various changes which he made. I also made the photographs for him and I am enclosing them herewith. The captions on the back are mine.

I informed Earl that I would request of you as a special favor to me that you publish this article at the earliest possible date in "STAMPS."

I examined these covers very carefully and was convinced that there was no funny-business about them. Like Earle I was convinced that the colored stickers were placed on the letters at the time they were mailed at Limestone Springs. Whether they are actually Confed Postmasters' Provisionals, I do not know and I don't suppose anyone else knows and will not know until some possible proof, one way or the other, might show up. The covers bearing the "stickers" are not postmarked nor does a "Paid" appear on any as is the case in the usual P.M.P. to show that the letter was prepaid. However, there is no denying the possibility that the Postmaster at Limestone Springs, S.C. might have had these stickers prepared and sold over the counter at their face value with the assurance that anyone placing them on their mail could rest assured that such mail would be forwarded as paid. The question could be raised that how would the receiving postmaster at destination know the letter was prepaid, and the answer might be - civilian mail in the Confederacy had to be prepaid - only mail of the armed forces could be sent unpaid. And further, no doubt a way bill accompanied such mail which showed so many "Paid" letters. Thus there are features that make this find quite interesting. At least, I found the subject of much interest and I am sure other students will also.

Earl might have brought out the points I mentioned above but he didn't. I am wondering if you would think it advisable to head the article with an "Editor's Note" and mention such points?

With every good wish -

As ever yours,

A. EARL WEATHERLY  
IRVING PARK MANOR  
GREENSBORO, N. C.

4-15-54

Mr. Stanley Ashbrook  
Ft. Thomas, Ky.  
Dear Stan:

In the recent past I found an interesting lot of covers and among them were the three 5¢ adhesives the subject of the story and photos inclosed. I wanted to send these covers to you for your examination, etc., but have been working on the story for stamps (most likely) about the find. I took the covers with me to New York and Mac and Larry have seen them. All say genuine. but lack of cancellations or postmarks make listing difficult.

The photos were made locally and are none too good. Can I send the covers to you and you make the photos for my story. Mac is working with me and the final story is now in the final stage of preparation. The story I am sending is the first draft. Some of it must be deleted.

Please advise me when to send the covers. Please give me your opinion regarding them after you have examined them.

Sincerely,  
Earl



April 20, 1954.

Mr. A. Earl Weatherly,  
1/2 Irving Park Manor,  
Greensboro, N.C.

Dear Earl:

Yours of the 14th received together with the photo prints and the very interesting article on the Dean correspondence. I will be glad to make the photographs for you so send over the covers at any time that is convenient. I will try and be reasonable in my charge.

Your article was most interesting and I note you intend to give it to "STAMPS." Perhaps I can be of a bit of assistance. If you wish I will write Harry Lindquist and inform him that I read your manuscript and found it most interesting, that I am making the photographs for you and as a special favor to me will he please run the article at the earliest possible moment and will he please give his personal attention to the half-tone cuts of the photo prints. They have so many articles submitted that a great number fail to be published for months.

For over a year I have been experimenting with philatelic color photography and have achieved some marvelous results. I do not recommend color prints but rather color transparencies which are known as "color slides." When you send over the Dean cover I will make several slides in color. I also suggest that you send me some of your finest Confed covers and I will make color slides of them. I charge \$1.00 each for small lots but for large lots or whole collections, 75¢ each. I can reproduce in the natural color a single stamp, or as mentioned, covers.

With my kindest regards -

Cordially yours,

RECENTLY DISCOVERED STAMPS OF  
LIMESTONE SPRINGS, SOUTH CAROLINA

APPEARS TO BE NEW CONFEDERATE POSTMASTER'S PROVISIONALS

By: A. Earl Weatherly

A recent original find of approximately 200 letters of the South Carolina Dean family disclosed three 5¢ adhesive stamps of a unique and unknown design, each on cover. They were found in a package with several Confederate <sup>va.</sup> Covers most of which were addressed to Corporal Edward Dean at Tudor Hall, Virginia. None of the <sup>va.</sup> Covers in the package contained their original enclosures and those bearing the three 5¢ adhesive stamps were not postmarked nor were the stamps cancelled. A thorough search of the many related letters and covers found with the package disclosed several that gave applicable information and made identification of the three covers possible. The story follows:

The Dean family lived in Spartanburg, <sup>S.C.</sup> ~~South Carolina~~, during the period of the Civil War and the member of that family who provided a great contribution to Confederate Philately was Corporal Edward J. Dean. His address in the early stages of the War was "Spartan Rifles, 5th Palmetto Reg., So. Car. Volunteers, Col. M. Jenkins, Commander, Tudor Hall, P. O. near Manassas Junction, Va., Care Capt. Walker". Confederate Collectors are greatly indebted to Corporal Dean for <sup>PRESERVING</sup> ~~pressing~~ the Covers and letters he received from his home folk. His life in the Confederate Army was one of hardship, but the splendid condition of his Covers discovered in this little package is evidence of the care he gave them. Most likely he carried his letters back to his home in Spartanburg upon the occasion of his furloughs or sent them by an obliging friend. His mother, Mrs. Mary O. Dean, took tender care of them from there on.

In the present "find" four very important facts were established concerning the three Covers which bear the hitherto unknown 5¢ adhesive stamps referred to above.

(1) There was a letter that proved that one of Corporal Dean's sisters, Miss Lizzie <sup>S.C.</sup> E. M. Dean, was attending a school at Limestone Springs, ~~South Carolina~~, when

Corporal Dean's address was Tudor Hall, Va. (2) Two of the covers were addressed in her handwriting. (3) The "5" handstamper used in the post office at Limestone Springs during the pre-war period was doubtless the one used in stamping the "5" on the three adhesive stamps. (4) One cover addressed in the handwriting of Miss Lizzie E. M. Dean to her brother, Master Hosea J. Dean, Spartanburg, <sup>S.C.</sup> South Carolina, was routed "Via Jonesville", 16 miles distant from Limestone Springs and located on the Spartanburg and Union railroad. The letter was undoubtedly carried via mail buggy from Limestone Springs to Jonesville, thence via rail to Spartanburg. (See Map)

It would seem impossible for the three covers under discussion to have originated at any point other than Limestone Springs but the lack of post marks necessitates as much proof as possible, which will be presented as we proceed with pictures of the covers, descriptions and historical background. Let us now study the covers themselves.

Figure 1: 5¢ Adhesive, Black "5" on Green Paper - Type 1 - Circular die cut. Used by Miss Lizzie E. M. Dean, a student at Limestone Springs High School, early in 1861, addressed to her brother, Corporal Edward J. Dean, "Spartan Rifles, 5th Reg., So. Car. Volunteers, Col. M. Jenkins, Commander, Tudor Hall, P. O. near Manassas Junction, Virginia, care Capt. Walker.

Figure 2: 5¢ Adhesive, Black "5" on Green Paper - Type 1 - Circular die cut. Used by Miss Lizzie E. M. Dean at Limestone Springs, S. C. Addressed to a younger brother, Master Hosea J. Dean, Spartanburg, S. C., the family home of the Deans. Endorsed "Via Jonesville", 16 miles distant from Limestone Springs and located on the Spartanburg and Union railroad, this being the rail route to Spartanburg.

Figure 3: 5¢ Adhesive, Black "5" on Blue Paper - Type 2 - Cut rectangular. The "5" is similar to Type 1 but is more blurred in character. Addressed to Miss Lucy E. Simpson, Laurens, C. H., S. C. Some variations are noted in the handwriting on this cover compared with that of Miss Lizzie E. M. Dean and it is possible that some other



student at Limestone Springs High School addressed this cover. Lucy E. Simpson was a member of the family of Honorable William Simpson of Laurens C. H., S. C., who was a member of the Confederate Congress and later became Governor of South Carolina. Some of the Dean and Simpson children later intermarried and many Simpson letters were found with the Dean letters in this correspondence.

Figure 4: Folded letter addressed to Miss Lizzie E. M. Dean, High School, Limestone Springs, S. C., by her mother, Mrs. Mary O. Dean of Spartanburg, S. C. Dated August 3, 1861. It verifies the fact that Lizzie E. M. Dean was in school at the time when cover shown in Figure 1 addressed in her handwriting was sent to her brother, Capt. Edward J. Dean. The contents of this letter also refers to her brothers, Edward and Master H. J. Dean (Hosea J. Dean) to whom the cover in Figure 2 is addressed.

Figure 5: Limestone Springs, S. C., pre-war cover showing the identical "5" handstamper which later was used in preparing the 5¢ adhesive stamps, except that this was struck in pre-war red. The measurements of the two "5's" are the same.

Figure 6: Cover showing the handwriting of Miss Lizzie E. M. Dean to her husband, Dr. C. E. Fleming, a surgeon in the Confederate Army, to whom she was married in December, 1861, after leaving Limestone Springs High School when the institution closed as a result of the war. This handwriting matches that shown on the Limestone Springs covers shown in Figure 1 and 2 which bear the 5¢ adhesive stamps. This cover is accompanied by a letter from her mother, Mrs. Mary O. Dean, in which she refers to her daughter's marriage in December, 1861.

Figure 7: 5¢ Spartanburg, S. C. Postmaster's Provisional Adhesive Stamp, used on a cover to Corporal Edward J. Dean, postmarked July 11, 1861. (Ex Emerson and Brooks Collections. Now in the Weatherly Collection). This was one of several similar covers found several years ago and it is shown to further confirm the fact

that the type of stamps or handstamps used on his mail addressed to Tudor Hall were either provisional or provisional in character.

The round die cut 5¢ adhesive stamps show signs of premeditated preparation. The age stains on the covers and stamps match. The aged gum on the back of one of the loosely attached stamps has left a circle of gum stain on the cover. All three covers have the "look" and "feel" of unmistakable genuineness. It is interesting to note that Limestone Springs' neighboring Postmasters at Spartanburg ("28 miles via Jonesville") and at Union (25 miles away) issued Provisional stamps during the same period and employed the use of office handstamps in their preparation, as in the case of the stamps on the Limestone Springs covers.

Limestone Springs High School was founded in 1846 by Rev. Thomas Curtis, D. D. and his son, Rev. William Curtis, D. D., and became one of the most popular schools in the South. The number of pupils amounted sometimes to 300 and the roll showed them representing almost every state in the South. That there was a regularly established post office, is proven by the official U. S. Registers of 1859 and 1863 in which Limestone Springs, S. C., appears, with C. L. Clarke as Postmaster. With every confidence this writer believes that this Postmaster provided Philately with new Confederate Provisionals in the form of the two types of the 5¢ adhesive stamps illustrated and described herein.

But conclusive as the evidence seems, however, the fact remains that none of the three covers in this "find" which bear the 5¢ adhesive stamps are postmarked or are the stamps cancelled. The possible reasons for this omission are entirely theoretical, but final proof that these stamps did regular postal duty await the discovery of cancellations and postmarks on similar stamps and covers. The aid of all collectors to that end is greatly desired and any one finding covers postmarked Limestone Springs, S. C. during the Confederate period, with or without these or other adhesive stamps, <sup>will please</sup> ~~is urged~~ to communicate with the writer at once in care of A-3 Irving Park Manor, Greensboro, North Carolina.



A. EARL WEATHERLY  
IRVING PARK MANOR  
GREENSBORO, N. C.

May 5, 1954

Dear Stan:

I have changed the phraseology of my story to eliminate any assertion that the adhesives are Postmaster's Provisionals and have used the word "stickers" in reference to them. I hope this will conform to your thoughts in the matter.

I have also attached a short biography of Edward J. Lean.

I will appreciate your forwarding the story and photos on to Stamps together with the letter you so kindly offered to write. Send me the photos you made for me personally along with the bill.

Thanking you deeply for your cooperation.

Sincerely  
Earl

A. EARL WEATHERLY  
IRVING PARK MANOR  
GREENSBORO, N. C.

April 25, 1954

Mr. Stanley Ashbrook  
Fort Thomas  
Kentucky

Dear Stan:

Your letter of April 20 was welcome and I appreciate your kindness in offering to assist in getting the story published in "Stamps". I accept it gladly and will thank you to write Mr. Lindquist as you suggest.

I am enclosing herewith a revised copy of the story together with the following original covers.

1. "5" Black on Green - Limestone Springs - For Figure No. 1
2. "5" Black on Green - Limestone Springs - For Figure No. 2
3. "5" Black on Blue (Rectangular) - Limestone Springs - For Figure No. 3
4. Folded Letter addressed to Miss Lizzie E. M. Dean - For Figure No. 4
5. Pre-war "5" (Red) - Limestone Springs Folded Letter - For Figure No. 5
6. Cover showing handwriting of Lizzie E. M. Dean - For Figure No. 6
7. 5¢ Spartanburg, S. C. - P. M. Provisional - For Figure No. 7

Please make an extra set of pictures for my personal use. Possibly a little later I can send a selection of my best covers for photographing as mentioned in your letter.

I am enclosing a revised copy of my story which is final (for me) but subject to editing by any of you gentlemen accomplished in story writing. MacBride suggests omitting the biography of Edward J. Dean. The reason I included it, even though separate from the story, is because there are many Confederate covers in collections that bear his name, including the Spartanburg P. M. Provisionals. In Confederate days, the town of Limestone Springs was colorful, hence the story. But Harry Lindquist can be the final judge. It will be okay with me.

Kindest regards.

*Earl*

---

A. Earl Weatherly

April 30, 1954.

Mr. A. Earl Weatherly,  
Irving Park Manor,  
Greensborough, N.C.

Dear Earl:

Herewith the various Dean covers as per yours of the 25th. I made photographs and color slides of the various items as requested.

Please advise me if you wish me to send the copy of your article direct to Harry Lindquist together with the photo prints, or do you wish to do this yourself with me writing him that you were doing so upon my recommendation? I will be glad to do the former if you so desire.

I disagree with MacBride about omitting the biography of Edward J. Dean. I certainly think that you should include it.

We certainly have a problem here - viz - What is the meaning of these labels? Are they actually a Confederate Postmaster Provisional adhesive? Consider the one addressed to Corp. Edw. J. Dean, Tudor Hall. This has no postmark or the word "PAID," or any indication that the postage had been prepaid. When this letter arrived at the Army P.O. at "Tudor Hall" how was the Postmaster to know that the postage had been paid and where? I suppose one might answer as follows: that while a member of the arm forces of the C.S.A. could send a letter without paying the postage, that a civilian could not do this. In other words, had this letter been delivered to Dean, the Postmaster at Tudor Hall would have assumed that it would not have been sent to him from the forwarding P.O. unless the postage had been prepaid.

It seems odd that none of the labels were not canceled or defaced in some manner. If they were valid for postage why couldn't Corporal Dean have removed them and sent them back home to be used again? Perhaps someone could answer that they were put on only by the P.M. at Limestone Springs to denote payment and any letters mailed with them would indicate a second use, but why should he have used this sticker instead of stamping the "5" direct to the letter?

There was, as you state, a Limestone Springs Post Office as I note by my List of 1859. I suppose there was one there in the summer of 1861. If these three envelopes originated at that office why is there no postmark or a handstamped "PAID?"

Earl it seems to me that the above points should be brought out in your article, so as not to give the impression that these could be C.S.A. P.M. provisionals, when there is surely some question.

I trust that you will consider the above as constructive. I will hold your manuscript until I hear from you.

Again I wish to state that I would include all the data you have on the Dean family - the more the better - the more, the more interesting will be your

#2. Mr. A. Earl Weatherly, April 30, 1954.

- article.

.With every good wish -

Cordially yours,



800  
PAID

May 8, 1954.

Mr. A. Earl Weatherly,  
Gem-Dandy, Inc.,  
Madison, N.C.

Dear Earl:

Yours of the 5th received and I have today mailed your manuscript to Harry Lindquist and requested as a special favor to me that he published it as soon as possible. I am sure that he will. I also sent him very fine prints of the covers and I put descriptive captions on the back of each. I gave Harry some data regarding the possibility that these might be Confederate P.M.P.'s and suggested that he might head the article with an "Editor's Note" commending the article.

Herewith I am enclosing a set of the photo prints. My charge is \$8.00 for the two sets - a special price to you.

Later I will show you some color slides that I made of some of the covers.

I am wondering if you ever saw any of the Sperati counterfeits of the Confed "TEN?" I have a very excellent color slide that I can supply.

With best wishes -

Cordially yours,



5/8

Charge

Neatherly

800

Rec

5 19 31

p. 23

PAID  
MAY 14 1954

PAID  
MAY 14 1954

A. EARL WEATHERLY  
IRVING PARK MANOR  
GREENSBORO, N. C.

May 11, 1954

Dear Stan:

The photos received O.K. Thanks for a fine job. Let the color slides come forward when ready and I would like very much to have the sperati slide of the T-E-N counterfeit. The latter will be interesting indeed.

I appreciate the very reasonable charge for the photos and I am inclosing my check to cover.

With warm regards, I am

Sincerely,  
Earl

Mr. Stanley B. Ashbrook  
Fort Thomas, Ky.

# Post Office Department

STANLEY B. ASHBROOK

Received from: P. O. Box 31  
33 N. Ft. Thomas Ave.,  
FORT THOMAS, KY.



One piece of ordinary mail addressed  
to A. Earl Weatherly  
% GEM DANDY Inc  
Madison N.C.

THIS RECEIPT, WHICH MAY BE USED FOR DOMESTIC AND INTERNATIONAL MAIL,  
DOES NOT PROVIDE FOR INDEMNIFICATION

May 14, 1954.

Mr. A. Earl Weatherly,  
1/2 Gem Dandy, Inc.,  
Madison, N.C.

Dear Earl:

Thanks for yours of the 11th with check  
for \$8.00.

I am glad you liked the prints and I am  
sure you must have been much impressed with the color  
slides. As requested I am enclosing a slide of the  
Sperati Confed "TEN."

With all good wishes -

Cordially yours,

Enclosed:

One slide S14 - @ \$1.00

# Post Office Department

STANLEY B. ASHBROOK

Received from:

P. O. Box 31

33 N. Ft. Thomas Ave.,

FORT THOMAS, KY.



One piece of ordinary mail addressed

to

MR A. Earl Weatherly

90 GEM DANDY Inc.

Madison N.C.

THIS RECEIPT, WHICH MAY BE USED FOR DOMESTIC AND INTERNATIONAL MAIL,  
DOES NOT PROVIDE FOR INDEMNIFICATION



May 13, 1954.

Mr. A. Earl Weatherly,  
% Gem Dandy,  
Madison, N.C.

Dear Earl:

Under separate cover, I am forwarding to you eight (8) color slides of your Dean covers. The charge for these is \$1.00 per slide.


I especially call your attention to the Spartansburg P.M.P. Is this not a wonderful reproduction of this cover in color?

I had a letter today from Lindquist acknowledging receipt of the article and the photographs and he stated that he would run it in "STAMPS" at the earliest possible date. He seemed quite pleased with it.

You are not obligated to retain any of the slides but it is my recollection you stated you would like a set in color.

With best wishes -

Cordially yours,



Enclosed:

eight (8) slides as follows:

T11 - T12 - T13 - T14 - T15 - T16 - T17 -  
T18 - @ \$1.00 each.

8.00

LS Sperati \$15.00  
104 Rose

May 15, 1954.

RETURNED BY  
MAY 22 1954

Mr. A. Earl Weatherly,  
J. Gem Dandy, Inc.,  
Madison, N.C.

Dear Earl:

I don't know whether you have even seen any of the "Sperati" Confed forgeries but here is a copy of his 104 Rose. I can offer this to you at \$15.00 net.

Inasmuch as Sperati's work is generally been considered very clever and inasmuch as it has been reported that he sold out "bag and baggage" to the British Philatelic Association and no more of his "work" will be put on the market I suppose it is possible that his copies might become collector's items. At any rate, here is one of his works of art. Return it if you have no use for it. It is signed on the back by him - I believe his name is "Jean Sperati." I can also supply you with a color slide @ \$1.00.

Recently I acquired a most interesting old poster dated Charleston, S.C. 1853 in which a planter offered a family of slaves. It is the most interesting item of its kind that I have ever run across. I had to pay an exceedingly high price for it so to reduce the cost I am offering photographic copies @ \$2.00 each. I believe that such items add to a fine collection of Confederates.

With all good wishes -

Cordially yours,

A. EARL WEATHERLY  
IRVING PARK MANOR  
GREENSBORO, N. C.

No Check

May 18, 1954

Dear Stan :

Inclosed is check for nine Dollars for slides. Believe this is correct, if not, advise. I am returning the Speerati 10¢ Rose. Doubt I'd have use for it. Thanks!

As to the Charleston poster, I naturally am interested but I am stacked up with items some what similar that I can't find time to get around to enjoy. I'll have to pass on this.

I am re mounting my Confederate collection and what a job. I do my own lettering etc. and enjoy it.

I recieved a letter from Harry Lindquist acknowledging receipt of the story. He was complimentary. Thanks for your part in it.

Best regards,  
Earl.

P.S. Don't you have any fine Confederate items these days? Would like to be on your list. Need Confederate Pockets  
book -  
Earl.

May 22, 1954.

Mr. A. Earl Weatherly,  
% Gem Dandy, Inc.,  
Madison, N.C.

Dear Earl:

Yours of the 18th received but there was no check in your letter. Yes, \$9.00 is the correct sum due. Just an oversight on your part and no doubt it will reach me before this letter reaches you. It is an error that I pull ever so often. I state I am enclosing a check then forget to make it out.

Thanks Earl for the return of the Sperati 10¢ Rose counterfeit.

I sincerely regret that I do not have any fine Confederate material and haven't had anything worth mentioning since the Brooks lot. Should I get anything I will certainly remember you.

With every good wish -

Cordially yours,

STANLEY B. ASHBROOK  
P. O. BOX 31  
33 NORTH FT. THOMAS AVENUE  
FORT THOMAS, KY.

May 22, 1954

*Sorry I failed to in-  
close check Stan.  
Here it is -  
Regards,  
Earl  
5/24/54*

Dear Earl:

Yours of the 18th received but there was no check in your letter. Yes, \$9.00 is the correct sum due. Just an oversight on your part and no doubt it will reach me before this letter reaches you. It is an error that I pull ever so often. I state I am enclosing a check then forget to make it out.

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With every good wish -

Cordially yours,

*Stanley B. Ashbrook*



RECENTLY DISCOVERED STAMPS OF  
LIMESTONE SPRINGS, SOUTH CAROLINA

APPEARS TO BE NEW CONFEDERATE POSTMASTER'S PROVISIONALS

By: A. Earl Weatherly

A recent original find of approximately 200 letters of the South Carolina Dean family disclosed three 5¢ adhesive stamps of a unique and unknown design, each on cover. They were found in a package with several Confederate Covers most of which were addressed to Corporal Edward Dean at Tudor Hall, <sup>Va.</sup> Virginia. None of the Covers in the package contained their original enclosures and those bearing the three 5¢ adhesive stamps were not postmarked nor were the stamps cancelled. A thorough search of the many related letters and covers found with the package disclosed several that gave applicable information and made identification of the three covers possible. The story follows:

The Dean family lived in Spartanburg, <sup>S.C.</sup> South Carolina, during the period of the Civil War and the member of that family who provided a great contribution to Confederate Philately was Corporal Edward J. Dean. His address in the early stages of the War was "Spartan Rifles, 5th Palmetto Reg., So. Car. Volunteers, Col. M. Jenkins, Commander, Tudor Hall, P. O. near Manassas Junction, Va., Care Capt. Walker". Confederate Collectors are greatly indebted to Corporal Dean for <sup>PRESERVING</sup> ~~passing~~ the Covers and letters he received from his home folk. His life in the Confederate Army was one of hardship, but the splendid condition of his Covers discovered in this little package is evidence of the care he gave them. Most likely he carried his letters back to his home in Spartanburg upon the occasion of his furloughs or sent them by an obliging friend. His mother, Mrs. Mary O. Dean, took tender care of them from there on.

In the present "find" four very important facts were established concerning the three Covers which bear the hitherto unknown 5¢ adhesive stamps referred to above.

(1) There was a letter that proved that one of Corporal Dean's sisters, Miss Lizzie E. M. Dean, was attending a school at Limestone Springs, <sup>S.C.</sup> South Carolina, when

Corporal Dean's address was Tudor Hall, Va. (2) Two of the covers were addressed in her handwriting. (3) The "5" handstamper used in the post office at Limestone Springs during the pre-war period was doubtless the one used in stamping the "5" on the three adhesive stamps. (4) One cover addressed in the handwriting of Miss Lizzie E. M. Dean to her brother, Master Hosea J. Dean, Spartanburg, <sup>S.C.</sup> South Carolina, was routed "Via Jonesville", 16 miles distant from Limestone Springs and located on the Spartanburg and Union railroad. The letter was undoubtedly carried via mail buggy from Limestone Springs to Jonesville, thence via rail to Spartanburg. (See Map)

It would seem impossible for the three covers under discussion to have originated at any point other than Limestone Springs but the lack of post marks necessitates as much proof as possible, which will be presented as we proceed with pictures of the covers, descriptions and historical background. Let us now study the covers themselves.

Figure 1: 5¢ Adhesive, Black "5" on Green Paper - Type 1 - Circular die cut. Used by Miss Lizzie E. M. Dean, a student at Limestone Springs High School, early in 1861, addressed to her brother, Corporal Edward J. Dean, "Spartan Rifles, 5th Reg., So. Car. Volunteers, Col. M. Jenkins, Commander, Tudor Hall, P. O. near Manassas Junction, Virginia, care Capt. Walker.

Figure 2: 5¢ Adhesive, Black "5" on Green Paper - Type 1 - Circular die cut. Used by Miss Lizzie E. M. Dean at Limestone Springs, S. C. Addressed to a younger brother, Master Hosea J. Dean, Spartanburg, S. C., the family home of the Deans. Endorsed "Via Jonesville", 16 miles distant from Limestone Springs and located on the Spartanburg and Union railroad, this being the rail route to Spartanburg.

Figure 3: 5¢ Adhesive, Black "5" on Blue Paper - Type 2 - Cut rectangular. The "5" is similar to Type 1 but is more blurred in character. Addressed to Miss Lucy E. Simpson, Laurens, C. H., S. C. Some variations are noted in the handwriting on this cover compared with that of Miss Lizzie E. M. Dean and it is possible that some other



student at Limestone Springs High School addressed this cover. Lucy E. Simpson was a member of the family of Honorable William Simpson of Laurens C. H., S. C., who was a member of the Confederate Congress and later became Governor of South Carolina. Some of the Dean and Simpson children later intermarried and many Simpson letters were found with the Dean letters in this correspondence.

Figure 4: Folded letter addressed to Miss Lizzie E. M. Dean, High School, Limestone Springs, S. C., by her mother, Mrs. Mary O. Dean of Spartanburg, S. C. Dated August 3, 1861. It verifies the fact that Lizzie E. M. Dean was in school at the time when cover shown in Figure 1 addressed in her handwriting was sent to her brother, Capt. Edward J. Dean. The contents of this letter also refers to her brothers, Edward and Master H. J. Dean (Hessen J. Dean) to whom the cover in Figure 2 is addressed.

Figure 5: Limestone Springs, S. C., pre-war cover showing the identical "5" handstamper which later was used in preparing the 5¢ adhesive stamps, except that this was struck in pre-war red. The measurements of the two "5's" are the same.

Figure 6: Cover showing the handwriting of Miss Lizzie E. M. Dean to her husband, Dr. C. E. Fleming, a surgeon in the Confederate Army, to whom she was married in December, 1861, after leaving Limestone Springs High School when the institution closed as a result of the war. This handwriting matches that shown on the Limestone Springs covers shown in Figure 1 and 2 which bear the 5¢ adhesive stamps. This cover is accompanied by a letter from her mother, Mrs. Mary O. Dean, in which she refers to her daughter's marriage in December, 1861.

Figure 7: 5¢ Spartanburg, S. C. Postmaster's Provisional Adhesive Stamp, used on a cover to Corporal Edward J. Dean, postmarked July 11, 1861. (Ex Emerson and Brooks Collections. Now in the Weatherly Collection). This was one of several similar covers found several years ago and it is shown to further confirm the fact

that the type of stamps or handstamps used on his mail addressed to Tudor Hall were either provisional or provisional in character.

The round die cut 5¢ adhesive stamps show signs of premeditated preparation. The age stains on the covers and stamps match. The aged gum on the back of one of the loosely attached stamps has left a circle of gum stain on the cover. All three covers have the "look" and "feel" of unmistakable genuineness. It is interesting to note that Limestone Springs' neighboring Postmasters at Spartanburg ("28 miles via Jonesville") and at Union (25 miles away) issued Provisional stamps during the same period and employed the use of office handstamps in their preparation, as in the case of the stamps on the Limestone Springs covers.

Limestone Springs High School was founded in 1846 by Rev. Thomas Curtis, D. D. and his son, Rev. William Curtis, D. D., and became one of the most popular schools in the South. The number of pupils amounted sometimes to 300 and the roll showed them representing almost every state in the South. That there was a regularly established post office, is proven by the official U. S. Registers of 1859 and 1863 in which Limestone Springs, S. C., appears, with C. L. Clarke as Postmaster. With every confidence this writer believes that this Postmaster provided Philately with new Confederate Provisionals in the form of the two types of the 5¢ adhesive stamps illustrated and described herein.

But conclusive as the evidence seems, however, the fact remains that none of the three covers in this "find" which bear the 5¢ adhesive stamps are postmarked or are the stamps cancelled. The possible reasons for this omission are entirely theoretical, but final proof that these stamps did regular postal duty await the discovery of cancellations and postmarks on similar stamps and covers. The aid of all collectors to that end is greatly desired and any one finding covers postmarked Limestone Springs, S. C. during the Confederate period, with or without these or other adhesive stamps, <sup>will please</sup> ~~is urged to~~ communicate with the writer at once in care of A-3 Irving Park Manor, Greensboro, North Carolina.

PHILIP H. WARD, JR.

1616 WALNUT STREET

PHILADELPHIA 3

April 29, 1954

Mr. Stanley B. Ashbrook  
33 N. Ft. Thomas Avenue  
Fort Thomas, Ky.

Dear Stan:

Here is a pair of the 1¢ 1851 Type IV that has me puzzled. It looks to me as if the left stamp is recut twice at top and that the right stamp is recut twice at top and once at bottom. I can find nothing in your plating that gives any such two stamps side by side which, of course, means that I do not recognize what is before me. Will you please be so good as to tell me what these two stamps are? This certainly is a nice looking piece which I have just purchased. It would have made a nice cover paying the 5¢ rate, which generally has a single 5¢ stamp on the cover to France.

Regarding your letter of April 21st, which I find on my desk after returning from New York where I was a witness in behalf of the Church Estate in their suit against Souren, I find your letter. The Confederate plate I hope to have in my possession this week. I will then tell you more about it for the information I gave in my column was received over the phone. They are going to let me have some impressions run off, so as soon as it comes to hand I will make a decision as to what will be done. It belongs to a non-profit making organization that is doing a lot of good in this world and it is my thought to run off these impressions and sell them in behalf of this organization. My first thought was to run them off in the color of the issued stamp on paper as near the original paper as possible and sell them at around \$5 a sheet. I then thought if we ran them off in several colors we could sell more sheets and perhaps give six different colors for \$20. If I could get at least \$1,000 in this manner they would be exceedingly pleased. I would want all checks made out payable to them. Have you any suggestions to make?

I certainly hope to write the book which I mentioned while my brain is still clear although my father, who died in his ninetieth year, had as clear a brain three days before he died as most people have at forty. I would like to get permission from Washington to illustrate the early demone-tized stamps in colors. I think if I showed them a portion of my collection, indicated to them the value of such an article, that I might receive this permission.

As to the 90¢ 1867, a copy exists on the cover and I have seen an excellent photograph. It is a single copy and belonged to Captain Randall, who was Commodore of the American steamships that carried passengers between here and Europe. He retired around 1940. You will recall we were going to have the 100th Anniversary of the first stamp in London at that time. Arrangements were made for one of the American ships to take those from the U. S. to London. Capt. Randall was about to retire but was going to stay in active service

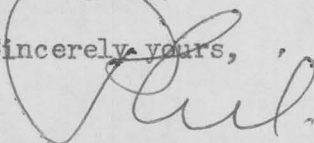


until this trip was made as he personally was a stamp collector and was anxious to take the people over and bring them back. When the war broke out he retired. He was a friend of George Sloane and I think it was George who showed me, or sent me, a photograph. I cannot find it in my records. Write George and I am sure he can give you the whole history. Of course, the 1860 and 1861 90¢ exist but I have never seen a 90¢ 1869 on cover that I liked. The Ackerman copy did not appeal to me for Bartels had written on the back that he added one of the other stamps and it was always my opinion that he or someone else added the 90¢. I may be wrong.

In further reference to the condensed book on U. S. issues, the expense is not bothering me in the slightest. It is the work, however, that does bother me for I am really active and with other activities outside of the philatelic field, I am busy most of the time. I would like to publish such a book to present copies to the numerous collectors and dealers who have helped me to put together my collection and make a very handsome profit in the meantime.

With kind personal regards,

Sincerely yours,



PHILIP H. WARD, JR.

enc.

May 1, 1954.

Mr. Philip H. Ward, Jr.,  
1616 Walnut St.,  
Philadelphia 3, Pa.

Dear Phil:

Re - the 1¢ 1851 pair herewith. This pair is 51L1L - 52L1L. See my One Cent Book - Vol. 1 - page 128. Note the left pane. There were six positions on Plate One Late that were recut double at top - 51L - 52L - 60L - 71L - 77L and 79L. None in the right pane. Of these six only two were recut double at top and double at bottom - viz - 52L and 79L. See chart. To obtain a pair of the double top recuts, one would have to obtain a pair of 51L1L - 52L1L - which is the positions of your pair. I think this is an intensely interesting item, and of course very rare. Years ago when I first started to study the 1¢ stamp I thought these double recuts were wonderful and a pair such as this would have made me dig awful deep in my pocket before passing it up if offered. This was surely cut from a cover from New Orleans to France and shows the 5¢ U. S. Internal. It is entirely in error to term this the ship-to-shore rate. It was no such thing, but rather a payment fixed by the U.S.-British postal Treaty of 1848. It is the "U.S. Internal under the terms" of that Treaty. Also see my Vol. 1 - page 162 - positions 51L - 52L.

I doubt if covers paying this rate with the 5¢ 1856 are more common than those with a 3¢ '51 and a pair of the 1¢ Type IV. Years ago I used to buy all of the latter <sup>1</sup> could lay hands on and then cut off the pairs, so I could put them on plate reconstructions. I have quite a number of such cut covers left. In this class the covers ~~that~~ are not common are those with the marking "G.B. 1F 60C" in a frame.

I was interested in your discussion of the Confederate plate. It seems to me that if any prints are made from it they should not be in any color that resembled the original color. This to avoid crooks using the fake covers. However, this depends on which stamp you have. I have an idea it must be the 5¢ Typo of 1862. If so, my advice is to communicate with Gus Dietz before you spend any money on reprints.

Thanks for the data on an 1867 - 90¢ cover. I made mention of the rarity of a 90¢ Grill (1867) cover in my May 1st Service Issue which will be mailed next week. Perry had such a cover for sale in the spring of 1937 and mentioned it in his "Pats." I never saw it and have no description of it. Perhaps it is the same one known to Sloane. I don't have anything to do with Sloane. <sup>1</sup> have no use whatever for him. If I put on paper what I think of him it would burn. He occupies a top listing in my 18 K S.O.B. book up near Colson.

I read with a great deal of interest this week's copy of LIFE with all the color illustrations. Had this come out in the middle nineteen twenties Moran then the head of the S.S. would have had a stroke. <sup>1</sup> believe the present administration takes a more liberal view of stamp illustrations. As long as such are for educational, research work, or scientific study of any kind, I don't think any attention will be paid.

<sup>1</sup> note Sloane in STAMPS states that no Sperati books (B.P.A.) will be

#2. Mr. Philip H. Ward, Jr., May 1, 1954.

permitted to enter the country. I think any such a ruling would be a mistake. We need copies over here for study and reference.

Re - that 90¢ 1869 Bartels cover. I wrote this up in an issue of my Service. I forget what I thought about the cover but was it not to the effect that the 90¢ stamp could have originated? It is my recollection that while Bartels monkeyed with the cover I don't think he ever intimated that he did not believe the 90¢ stamp was used originally on the cover.

With regards-

Yours etc.,

May 7, 1954.

Mr. Samuel C. Paige,  
45 Bromfield St.,  
Boston, Mass.

Dear Mr. Paige:

Here are two photo prints that I made of your 10¢ 1847 by ultra-violet. One is a light print to show the area of the cancel removal, why I have outlined by pen marks. The other is a darker print that shows more detail of the cleaning. In my opinion this stamp had a cancelation which has been removed.

I want to see if I can plate the stamp and if so it is possible that I may have a photograph of another stamp from the same position for side-by-side comparison. Of course, ~~there~~ are some red spots on the stamp which show up on the photo prints, but what these are I do not know.

I will return the stamp next week.

Thanks very much for sending me the catalogue of your June sale which arrived this morning. I am pleased to refund the postage.

With regards -

Sincerely yours,



## INVOICE

Samuel C. Paige  
45 Bromfield Street  
Boston 8, Massachusetts

April 29 1954

Dear Mr Ashbrook -

Enclosed please find stamps listed below

Item	Value	Kept
Enclosure is a US #2 apparently unused which shows some tiny spots -		
Would you look this stamp over for me as I want to put it in a sale next Fall if you think it OK and <u>not</u> a cleaned or a <u>used</u> copy -		
Best regards		
Sincerely		
Sam Paige		



May 3, 1954.

Mr. Samuel C. Paige,  
45 Bromfield St.,  
Boston 8, Mass.

Dear Mr. Paige:

Yours of the 29th received with the 10¢ 1849.  
I am terribly busy at present so there will be some delay in returning the stamp to you as I would like to make several photographs to see if they would show positive evidence of cancel removal. I judge from your letter that there was no need for immediate return.

With kindest regards -

Sincerely yours,

May 3, 1954.

Mr. Elliott Perry,  
P. O. Box 333,  
Westfield, N.J.

Elliott:

Here is a 10¢ 1847. Will you please give me the plate position. It seems to me that a copy such as this is rather difficult to plate. Am I correct? I note a break in the bottom line at left, but this is surely a damage and not consistent.

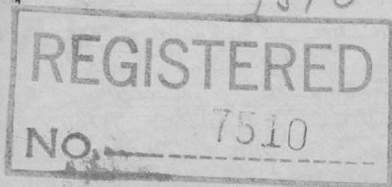
Under a strong glass I note very few specks of the blue dye used in dying the paper. Rather than a blue cast to this paper it is grayish. To what cause do you attribute this?

Bill me for the above and I will send check by return mail. I enclose stamped addressed envelope for return.

Yours etc.,



**VIA AIR MAIL**



STANLEY B. ASHBROOK  
P. O. Box 31  
FORT THOMAS, KY.





May 6, 1954

Stan;

Just a hasty note to acknowledge the Registered letter which came by airmail from you when I was in New York yesterday. I have to go for a heavy session today but shall try to clean up all this week end.

We are just finishing a job that was started a year ago and beginning another that will take John more than a year to finish. Too many things coming all in a bunch.

As ever,

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read "Elliott Perry".



May 10, 1954



Stan;

I ran the 10c 1847 thru the plate yesterday but it might have been any one of about a dozen positions. John checked it with other photos today and located it as 22L. One photo has a similar break in the bottom frame a little farther toward the left, and perhaps a faint trace of the blur in the lower limb of the left X. A similar blur occurs on several positions but hardly with enough regularity to rate as a constant, i.e., it may or may not mean anything.

The stamp looked to me as tho it might have been cleaned and I note that the effects show in the U-V photo which you sent and for which I thank you.

I suspect that some of the paper was bluish and some was grayish or quite definitely gray. Some unused O.G. copies are on paper which is gray and no visible tinge of blue. I seem to recall Dr. Chase stating the dye was prussian blue which is an iron salt, and not particularly permanent, but I think more so than synthetic ultramarine.

Work needs to be done to determine if the papers are distinctive, or are merely gradations from definitely bluish to gray with no blue at all. The possibility of a developed color might be investigated altho I would not expect to find it in a printing ink. Textiles were colored with vegetable indigo which became blue by exposure to the air (oxidation). The development might be increased or retarded by differing conditions, and thus a range from gray to bluish could be produced from the same batch of ink.

This may explain the considerable range in the 24c "steel blue" group of 1861 - all of which stamps from gray to bluish, or very bluish, could have come from one printing, or one batch of ink, and quite probably did. But I incline to think the blue faded out to or toward gray rather than "developed", from gray to or toward the bluest examples. Another possibility that when printed the color was between the gray and the most bluish, and that the blue tinge faded out on some stamps and became stronger on others.

It seems unreasonable to assume that R.W. etc. used only one paper for stamps from 1845 to 1851. It is a fair guess that if more than one batch was used no two lots would be exactly alike. Not to mention variations that might occur in the same batch. Also something in the gum arabic might have removed the bluish tint, or strengthened it. Few have asked these questions and I am not sure that anyone has attempted to answer them since Chase's book was written. You ask a question in one sentence which I find difficult to answer intelligently in several paragraphs, without merely saying "I don't know."

There is a collateral point which may have some bearing. Inks

#2

Stan

5/10-154



were commonly prepared from a formula and I suppose everyone who has done much such work has discovered a peculiar fact. Even when exactly the same proportions are used in large and small batches, the result is likely not to be identical. Nobody seems to know why.

In 1866 the 17 ore Sweden is purple (red violet). Three years later another printing was made which turned out to be gray. You find either one color or the other. There are no gradations such as would occur if the purple or violet faded out to gray. In the 1870s one printing of the 6 ore turned out violet and another was gray. A similar result occurred among early Tasmania 6 pence stamps.

Who can say regarding the buff colored 5c U.S. of 1861 whether the formula was at fault, or the correct amount of black was not included either in the formula, or in the preparation of the ink from the formula? We can be certain of one fact - a brown stamp was intended. I believe the next printing came from a different formula for the ink.

Shall try to write again tomorrow. What ever you sent must be here.

I have to help out a friend with an article for which there is a dead'line. About a dozen letters from him have piled up and all must be checked for possible errors of fact or statements that might be misread.

As ever,

*Cliff Perry*

John says you can send \$2 but if more 10c will come from time to time just lety this one ride and include it in the three for \$5 rate.

May 12, 1954.

Mr. Elliott Perry,  
P.O. Box 333,  
Westfield, N.J.

Elliott:

Yours of the 10th received with return of the 10¢ 1847. I enclose check herewith for the plating. Tell John to check my photo again. I don't doubt he is correct that the stamp is 22L but it differs in some respects from my record of position 22L. No hurry and I only mention this as it is possible John would like to be sure. In the meantime I am marking the stamp as 22L without any question mark. Yes, I feel quite sure the stamp is a cleaned copy.

I have carefully noted your remarks re - the paper. Thanks. This copy under the microscope seemed to have very few specks of the blue dye, so many of which are noticeable in the regular bluish paper.

I note that you mention the 24¢ 1861 steel blue and others that I call changelings of color. I am quite aware that you differ with me on this subject but it is useless to argue such subjects as we get nowhere. I would merely like to cite a certain example. Some years ago I borrowed from a well-known Cleveland collector what I considered to be a very fine example of the 24¢ 1861 Violet. It was such a fine color and a use on Sep 5 1861 that recently I decided to borrow it again and make a color slide of it to record the remarkable color. When he sent it to me he was much surprised and so was I. It was no longer a Violet but more of a gray. He don't know what happened to it and neither do I.

What I sent you was a remarkable color slide of the 10¢ 1847 Knapp shift. I didn't send it because it was that stamp but rather as an example of the remarkable color photography, I have been doing lately. Please have a look at the slide and return it to me. If you would like to see some other examples I will be glad to loan some to you. I don't believe you would be put in jail for merely having them on loan.

Yours etc.,

May 12, 1954.

Mr. Samuel C. Paige,  
45 Bromfield Ave.,  
Boston 8, Mass.

Dear Mr. Paige:

Herewith I am returning the 10¢ 1847 as contained in yours of April 29th.

I wanted to be quite certain before rendering an opinion on this copy. I trust that you will pardon the delay. This is one of a few copies of the 10¢ 1847 that is difficult to plate but it appears to be 22L. I am quite certain that the copy has had a cancelation removed as per the photo prints that I sent you last week.

Under the left "X" is a break in the bottom line. This is not a consistent plate variety but rather some sort of a "scuff" or thin spot. Position 22L does not show any such a break.

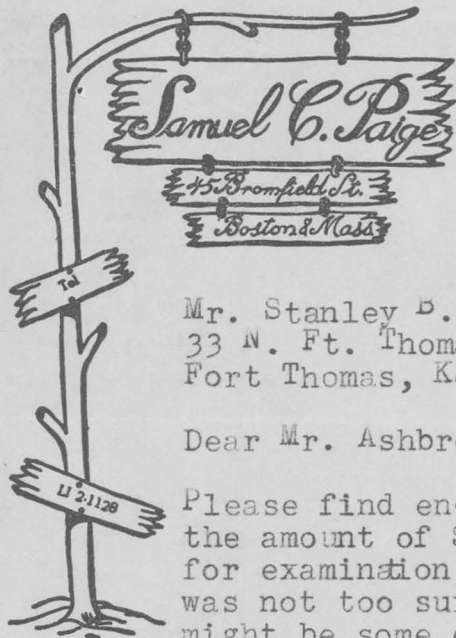
The paper of this stamp differs in several respects from the ordinary blue paper of the "Forty Sevens." The average copy under the microscope shows small particles of the blue dye used in the making of the paper. While some such particles appear in this paper they are unusually few.

My charge for the above examination is \$4.00.

With kindest regards -

Sincerely yours,





May 14, 1954

Mr. Stanley D. Ashbrook  
33 W. Ft. Thomas Ave.  
Fort Thomas, Kentucky

Dear Mr. Ashbrook:

Please find enclosed my check in the amount of \$4.00 covering your charge for examination of the 10c 1847. I was not too surprised to find there might be some evidence of cleaning, as it seems that nearly all of the '47's which appear to be unused are copies that have been tampered with. At least I have found very few without gum that would pass muster.

I appreciate your looking up the stamp and send my very best regards as always -

Sincerely,

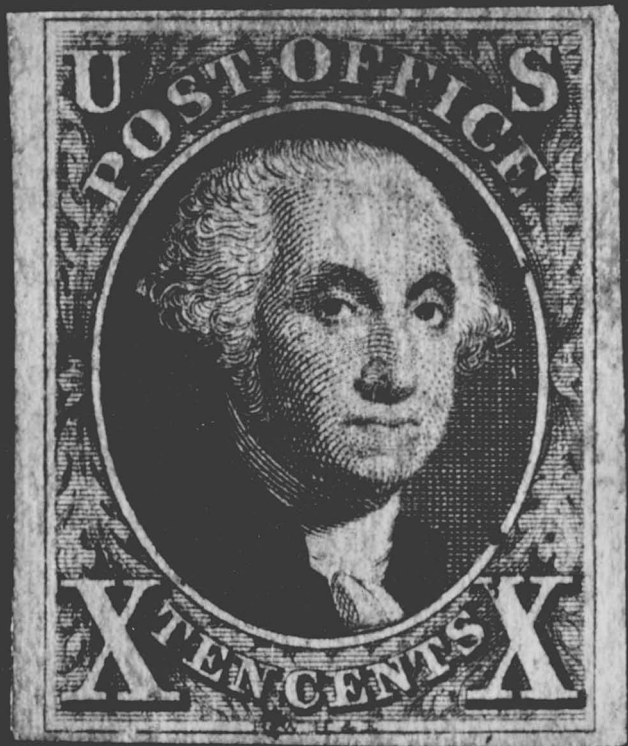
*Sam Paige*

Samuel C. Paige

Encl. (1) check



BY SAM PAIGLE - 5/2-54-SEE-31-P.26



FOREHEAD CLEANED-  
AT 12<sup>3/4</sup>

BY QUARTZ-F64-25MIN

C206

This Photograph  
Was Made By  
ULTRA - VIOLET  
RAY

By Stanley B. Ashbrook

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C20b

This Photograph  
Was Made By  
ULTRA - VIOLET  
RAY  
By Stanley B. Ashbrook

# EZRA D. COLE

*Rare Postage Stamps*

NYACK . NEW YORK

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*Commissions . Appraisals*

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TELEPHONE NYACK 7-0964

May 5th, 1954

Mr. Stanley B. Ashbrook,  
P. O. Box 31  
Fort Thomas, Kentucky.

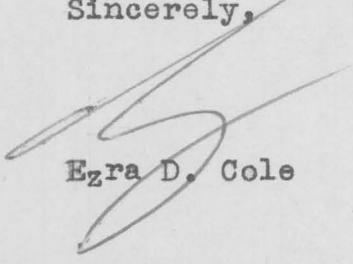
Dear Stan:

From a friend of mine in France with whom I have been corresponding about some fakes, I have the following information which I will quote exactly. It is a little difficult for me to understand - his English is alright but a little confusing. Do you suppose the P. F would be interested or do you assume they don't want to know either.

"Another fakes, I recently examined two letters to France, unpaid stampless by Liverpool with 1851's stamps added making the rate of a paid by direct way. (the common forgerie Zareski made). But even under the very strong U.V lamp of the Sciences University Laboratories nothing was disclosed, but pen cancels cleaned. The part of the cancels on the stamps and the part on the covers were of the same luminescence. I pursued the examination by chemical means and I found this new forgerie system: the original markings are faded by an oil solvent probably near Teapol, who neutralizes the fat parts of the old inks,- and after all overpainted with a new ink. With the old forgers system of overpaint without prealable neutralization of the original ink, under a strong U.V lamp it was always a difference between the different part of the markings. With the new system, it is none. I think the best way to detect such forgeries if the Wood's lamp gives nothing is to use the micro-photography a direct 24/36 millimeters photo enlarged to 60/90 centimeters. The stroke of the paint brush is not similar to the printing of a metal marking. Even if painted by an "artist" like Zareski."

Rather interesting.

Sincerely,



Ezra D. Cole

EDC:mkl



May 8, 1954.

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

Dear Ezra:

Thanks for yours of the 5th which was most interesting. May I ask one question? Did you quote from a letter from Marcel Levy of Paris? The wording sounds like his and I know Levy has ways of knowing what Zareski is doing. I also was aware that the Paris crooks have means whereby they can remove a cancel without a trace in many cases. I have been informed that the X-ray will show up such work and that in many cases a photograph by a powerful lamp such as I have will show traces of the most scientific removal. Only last week I made such a photograph of a 10¢ 1847 and the negative showed up traces that could not be detected in any other way. I never waste time any more trying to see with my eyes any funny business under the lamp.

I wish you would refer your letter to your brother in Washington and ask him what he thinks of it.

Thanks very much for bringing it to my attention. I intend to pursue the subject further.

I have often wondered how the crooks could remove a cancelation from a stamp such as the 5¢ 1861 buff yet I know that they do.

I think a person who collects unused mint 19th U. S. is just a plain damn fool. It would be much cheaper to have one of the Paris fixers by the month or year. Ward collects unused U.S.

Regards.

Yours etc.,

Paris, May 15<sup>th</sup>. 1954.

Dear Mr. Cole.

Enclosed the photo print of my best Sierra Nevada marking. It is well printed (and not over painted) - but the cover itself, the stamps also are torn. But very rare with the other Via Nicaragua marking together with it. I get another letter with this steamer marking but only 4/5c readable — The stampless letters are not popular in Europe, but if really old with historical appeal: XVII<sup>th</sup> and XVIII<sup>th</sup> centuries letters, Revolution and Napoleon Wars letters, etc. If after 1845/1850 years, the collectors want stamps on. In fact they are stamps collectors and not philatelic or postal uses students. It is always possible to catch a big rarity for few dollars only — I often wrote to Stanley Ashbrook about forgeries. (Recently about the 1869's Miro letter). But he is wrong when thinking all the forgeries are made in Europe by Sperati or by Zanoni. They are also American forgers. A French I know leaving before 1940 in Los Angeles Calif. knew a Chinese with was a very clever man about forgeries and any sophisticated items, and they are other! — Not yet any answer about your repairing 2¢. Hawaii.

Sincerely yours.

Marcel Peiry

# EZRA D. COLE

*Rare Postage Stamps*

NYACK . NEW YORK

---

*Commissions . Appraisals*

---

TELEPHONE NYACK 7-0964

June 8th, 1954

Mr. Stanley B. Ashbrook,  
P. O. Box 31,  
Fort Thomas, Kentucky.

Dear Stan:

I heard from my brother and he sums up Levy 's letter as follows:

"About all the Frenchman says about the color of stamps is that the red inks of stamps used in 1850 were animal or vegetable colors and that these were hard for Sperati or any one else to duplicate since they are no longer available. Most of the colors today are Aniline based. The brown colors are easier to fake because they are or were usually mineral materials and have not changed over the years. The statements about the lamp black seem clear. In case some stamps are in question because of their color, the Massachusetts Institute of Technology Color Laboratory, Cambridge, Massachusetts, c/o Professor Hardy, or better still Professor S. Q. Duntley, could run a non damage test of its color and compare it with the genuine article. This machine is a little better than the eye in detecting color since it does not put in subjective judgment. I would imagine they would charge about \$10.00 per shot, but it may be less."

Do you suppose it would pay us to pursue the subject further and see what they could do up there with some stamps?

There is at least one stamp collector up there at M.I.T. One of the professors whose name escapes me but who knows my brother too, I have met at Kelleher's sales. I would be glad to write some letters and see what they could tell me if you think it is worth while. What I would like to try them on would not only be some stamps, but some fake covers of some kind to see if they could tell which were genuine and which were bad for we could get some pretty good scientific help which we need on checking these fake covers.

Sincerely,



Ezra D. Cole.

EDC:mkl

# DOUGLAS ROTH

Dealer in Rare Stamps of the Nineteenth Century

Amer. Phil. Soc.  
Brit. Phil. Assoc.  
Collectors Club, N.Y.  
Cape Town Phil. Soc.  
China Stamp Soc.  
Essay Proof Soc.  
Postal History Soc.

FAIRWAYS

MONA CRESCENT

NEWLANDS, C.P.

SOUTH AFRICA

11th March 1954.

100  
Enclosure

Dear Mr. Ashbrook,

I should be extremely grateful if you would be so kind as to have a look at the enclosed and mark on the hinge the type number. I do not see enough of these stamps to be familiar with them and your help in this matter would be greatly appreciated. I enclose return postage.

With many thanks in advance,

yours sincerely,

Douglas Roth.

March 23, 1954.

Mr. Douglas Roth,  
Fairways  
Mona Crascent  
Newlands C.P.  
South Africa.

Dear Mr. Roth:

Herewith the items as per yours of the 11th.  
I have typed each one for you. I charge a fee for such  
service, from 25¢ each for common types to \$2.00 each for  
the expensive. If I provided a free service I would be  
swamped and it would be out of all reason. If you wish  
to reimburse me you can send me the two items I have  
marked with red crosses on the card.

Sincerely yours,



# DOUGLAS ROTH

*Dealer in Rare Stamps of the Nineteenth Century*

Amer. Phil. Soc.  
Brit. Phil. Assoc.  
Collectors Club, N.Y.  
Cape Town Phil. Soc.  
China Stamp Soc.  
Essay Proof Soc.  
Postal History Soc.

FAIRWAYS

MONA CRESCENT

NEWLANDS, C.P.

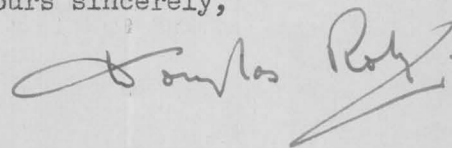
SOUTH AFRICA

30th March 1954.

Dear Mr. Ashbrook,

Thank you for your letter of the 23rd and for  
taking the trouble to plate the 1c. stamps. This is greatly appreciated and  
I am only too happy to send you herewith the two items which you requested.

Yours sincerely,



May 8, 1954.

Mr. Douglas Roth,

Fairways

Mona Crescent

Newlands, South Africa.

Dear Mr. Roth:

I am in receipt of yours of the 30th of March enclosing the single and the pair of the U. S. 1¢ 1857 for which kindly accept my sincere thanks. If I can be of further assistance at any time I trust you will advise me.

Sincerely yours,

(31-28)

Please address all replies to 19 Rosendale Road, West Dulwich, LONDON  
S.E.21.

BARNATO JOEL LABORATORIES,  
THE MIDDLESEX HOSPITAL,  
W.1

1st May 1954.

Dear Mr. Ashbrook,

I do hope that you do not think I am neglecting you by not having you in mind, but I can assure you that this is not so.

You may think that not having sent you any further articles that I could be accused of the neglect referred to above.

I have not been able to publish as much as I should like and have only been able to deal with current topics such as those which you should receive shortly sent under separate cover.

My Serials on "Electron Philately" and "Ultra-Violet Philately" were begun two years ago and due to many domestic matters concerning my old Mother, who is 94 this year; I have not been able to complete what I set out to do.

You will have seen the articles in the "Weekly Philatelic Gossip" which have been held up for awhile and so I do not send you the ones published.

The great pleasing feature of the W.P.G. is the good quality of paper which has brought out my results splendidly and far better ~~in~~ their original journal "Stamp Magazine."

I do not know whether you heard about the Half-Tone blocks sent from here to the W.P.G.; they were completely lost in transit and I had to <sup>send</sup> Harry Weiss a complete set of photographs for the illustration of the articles.

After 18 months, nothing has been heard about these blocks and so they have been given <sup>up</sup> as a complete loss.

As you will see when you read the Progress of X-rays in 1952 in "Stamp Collecting" for June last year; that the problem of watermarks and reproduction by means of x-rays, is now definitely established.

Most of 1952 was taken up in the search for the method of reproduction of designs printed with carbon inks and contrary to theory has shown a certain measure of success in which green coal-tar colours and mauve have both responded to the x-rays applied.

These results are really a triumph and equal to the original discovery of the first application of x-rays to stamp designs; for the paradox is that where the postmarks on the stamps are completely removed yet the design of the same constitution as the postmark is retained. <sup>d</sup>

This new research is still continuing and will no doubt eventually cover the whole ranges of colours of a coal-tar nature.

Progress of x-rays for 1953 will be published in the near future where I mention this new great forward step in the application of X-rays to philately.

So, this new research and the other matters mentioned account to a certain extent of the slowing down of my contributions to the various philatelic journals.

You will be interested to hear that I am in constant touch with Pollack and Bridgman, though more with Bridgman, and he told me that you had seen or been writing to him.

I am mentioning some of their results in my year's progress for the reason that they are really helping me in their study of the minor problems which gives me time to get on with the major problems

Some of their results, which I had not done, are really very good and I welcome their contributions to the research.

Again my facilities here are rather limited and I could not in any way, hope to compete with Bridgman of the Eastman Kodak Co. of New York, where he has all the best modern equipment at his disposal.

After all, I am only an amateur photographer and my apparatus and resources are very limited; Bridgman has already said that that he wished I could avail myself of his facilities.

I am full of ideas about the research, but with limited time it is not easy to keep up with each new development; further I shall soon be 70 years of age which means as the years creep on, I may later have to give up the research.

Though I enjoy good health and come of a long lived family, one has to consider the possibility of not being able to continue.

What annoys me greatly, is the disgraceful attitude of the powers that be, in Gt. Britain; they still wish to ignore my research though the rank and file here are wildly enthusiastic about it.

Pollack and Bridgman are scooping in award after award whilst the originator of the research does get even recognition in his own country.

The Editor of the London Philatelist has been most intolerant and after offer and offer to write for the journal, he has put every obstacle in my way, which no one would accept.

From time to time, I have received many results of the Expert Committee from the individuals concerned and each ~~time~~ had to reverse the opinions expressed by such committees.

I have notified the Hon. Secretary of the work done by Pollack and Bridgman and their recognition of my research, but no reply came nor even a mention in the London Philatelist.

One cannot fight against such a studied indifference and I have had more recognition from your country than here in Gt. Britain.

I have put in a lot of money into my research and I get practically nothing out of it, but I shall continue as long as I can, in spite of the indifference shown by the powers that be in this country.

The experts here rely on absurd methods absolutely out of date and there is already an outcry against such closed shop methods and questions such as when the members of these committees here pass on, as to who will continue the findings.

The Sperati purchase recently is another ridiculous piece of nonsense, for no one could fail to see even at a glance that the inks used by Sperati, give him away, and any doubt about these productions, could easily be detected by means of the x-ray technique, though their value is obvious with the naked eye.

Anyway you have my opinion and the state of affairs here as concerned with my research which I think you ought to know.

I trust you are well and will continue so, with my kindest regards

yours very sincerely,

*W.H.S. Cheavin*  
(W.H.S. Cheavin.)

Stanley G. Ashbrook Esq.,  
P.O. Box 31.  
33 North Fort Thomas Avenue,  
FORT THOMAS, Kentucky

U.S. U. S. A.



May 8, 1954.

Mr. W. H. S. Cheavin,  
19 Rosendale Road,  
West Dulwich  
London S.E. 21, England.

Dear Mr. Cheavin:

Your very interesting letter of the 1st received and I wish to thank you very kindly for same. I assure you that I have read it and re-read it with much interest.

I am positive that your articles in GOSSIP have attracted a great deal of attention in this country and if you do not receive numerous letters commending you, please do not believe that they are not read and appreciated. In this day and age people don't seem to have the time to sit down and write letters of appreciation to authors of articles that they read. This ~~is certainly~~ is my experience. I have published articles that I spent quite a bit of time in the preparation and after publication I never received a single letter in acknowledgment.

I note your comments on the editor of the London Philatelist. They certainly are a queer bunch who run the Royal Society. In my opinion, they are more or less ridiculous. I could go into this at some length but I suppose it would not be appropriate for me to do so.

I was much impressed with your remarks regarding the Sperati counterfeits and I agree with you most heartily. I believe that you are doing a grand piece of work and I trust that you will not be discouraged in any way, shape or form.

I have had some interesting correspondence with Mr. Bridgman in recent weeks.

With my kindest regards -

Cordially yours,



May 8, 1954.

Mr. Philip H. Ward, Jr.,  
1616 Walnut St.,  
Philadelphia 3, Pa.

Dear Phil:

Yours of the 30th received regarding the article in "LIFE". I think your suggestions are excellent and I will be pleased to follow same. It is too bad that there is any darn fool law that prohibits the illustration of canceled postage stamps of this country in color. Of course, I realize fully that the purpose of the law is to make the convictions of counterfeiters easier, but it certainly works a hardship on philately. Personally I do not believe that a test case in court could result in a conviction. A canceled postage stamp is no longer an obligation of the United States Government. It certainly is not in the same category as a piece of United States currency. Take for example any of the stamps of the 1847 issue or of the issues of the 1851-1857. All of these stamps were demonetized. In 1861 and from that time they have not been an obligation in any way of the United States Government. The Post Office Department repudiated them and now we have a law that in effect gives the impression that it is illegal to produce photographs or illustrations of such stamps in color. It all seems absolutely absurd to me and I was hoping that "LIFE" would at least illustrate such stamps and make a test case. More absurd is the section forbidding the illustration in color of the foreign stamps of any nation. Why don't you write the Attorney General of the United States and tell him that you have a large block of the 5¢ 1847 that you desire to have illustrated in color - Remind him that this stamp was demonetized at the outbreak of the Civil War and is no longer a Government obligation in any sense of the word. Inquire if it is his opinion that it would be a violation of the law if you would illustrate it in color in a scientific book on philately that you intend to publish. Of course, I am thoroughly conversant with the illustration problem that confronted American philately way back to the period of the First World War, in fact, after Chase returned from France I was the one who persuaded him to run for president of the A.P.S. with the purpose that he would appoint Adolph Fennel as Editor of the A.P. so that we might have a worth while magazine and one with illustrations of U.S. stamps. As you know, Chase was elected president - Fennel was appointed Editor and I was made Chairman of the Lookout Committee, the Committee which was to handle the work of getting a bill thru Congress permitting the illustration of United States stamps. I put Judge Emerson on the Committee to handle the legal end and Senator Ackerman to handle the bill in Washington. Perhaps you have forgotten all of this but there is no question, as the records will show, that my Committee laid the groundwork which eventually resulted in the modification of the law. You will also recall that the great stumbling-block all thru the years that followed the original work was Moran of the Secret Service. That old devil for years vetoed every effort that we made. Eventually I gave up in disgust. Every bill that we brought up was referred to him and he consistently slapped it down. His excuse being that as conditions existed it was hard enough to obtain convictions of criminals who violated any sections of the counterfeit law and that any modification would make it harder and might provide loop-holes whereby guilty ones could escape.

#2 - Mr. Philip H. Ward, Jr., - May 8, 1954.

I suppose you noticed my reference to color slides in my current Service Issue. I would like very much to have your opinion of my remarks. For your own information, the Eastman Company at Rochester held up the possessing of some of my slides for almost thirty days. I was furious and sent urgent letters and telegrams at which they paid no attention at first. Eventually all of my slides came thru okay. While I have no confirmation, I have a suspicion that they sent my slides down to Washington and requested a ruling. I mention this because several people have written me and inquired if I knew it was a violation of the law to make color slides of 19th Century stamps.

I did notice your remarks in your column regarding the British book on the Speerati counterfeits. I dislike the whole British Philately fraternity so very much that any expression from me on anything that they do over there would be highly prejudice. I think the whole damn Nation is so jealous of us that they hate us worse than poison. They beg and take our money and want our boys to shed their blood to protect them but an American girl is too damn common to marry one of their moth-eaten kings. They are so jealous of us because we displaced them as the leading and wealthiest nation on the globe that they think they would rather be under the heel of Russia than play second fiddle to Americans. They may get that wish someday.

I noted your remarks regarding the 90¢ 1867 cover. I really doubt that Hollowbush is the owner though he may be. When I visited him several years ago I saw a great many fine covers but I have no recollection of seeing a 90¢ 1867. I do hope that you keep this in mind and let me know if he owns one. I am trying to find out from Perry what become of the cover that he advertised for sale in his "Pats" in the spring of 1936. I am also trying to obtain a description of it and an expression on his part as to whether he considered it genuine beyond any question of a doubt. A 90¢ stamp used on a cover as late as 1867 or 1868 would be an item that I would regard with suspicion until I had an opportunity to make a most thorough examination.

Regarding the Confederate plate, my suggestion is to keep this absolutely confidential for the present, that is, until you decide upon the best method to pursue. I believe I could advise with you much better if I could see an impression of one of the panes. I think that the most important step would be to first establish the authenticity of the plate. When this is done it might be well to run off a hundred sheets or a limited number of additional, and offer them first to the members of the Confederate Society, with the promise that if the members take all that are offered that no additional sheets will be offered to the public. I remember that years ago the Scott Company had a quantity of counterfeit panes of 100 of this stamp. I know I had quite a few. Off hand I don't recall the origin but perhaps there is an explanation in the Dietz book. I also remember that George Linn had some pieces of a plate from which he made prints. I think it is highly important that before you proceed with any plan that it would be wise to establish whether or not any of the issued stamp were ever printed from this plate. I will naturally be interested in further development.

I sincerely apologize for the great length of this letter.

With best wishes -

Sincerely yours,

PHILIP H. WARD, JR.  
1616 WALNUT STREET  
PHILADELPHIA 3

April 30, 1954

Mr. Stanley B. Ashbrook  
33 N. Ft. Thomas Avenue  
Fort Thomas, Ky.

Dear Stan:

Our stamp article in "Life" has at last appeared and I imagine you have seen a copy of the May 3rd edition. I am simply addressing this letter to you, suggesting that you write them, congratulating them on the story and suggesting more. This is wonderful propaganda for our hobby and I would like to see them given every encouragement to continue the good work.

Personally, I am also writing "The Saturday Evening Post", calling their attention to the article and suggesting a similar article in their magazine. The national magazines devote space and time to photography, gardening and about two or three other hobbies but they seem to ignore stamps entirely.

The Pan American inverted center blocks on the last page are from my collection but they give none of us credit for these U. S. pieces. I am sorry they did not illustrate my magnificent block of six of the 10¢ 1847 which I loaned them and which they photographed. They pushed the U. S. issues aside due to the fact that they could not reproduce them in color.

Sincerely yours,



PHILIP H. WARD, JR.

PHILIP H. WARD, JR.  
1616 WALNUT STREET  
PHILADELPHIA 3

May 5, 1954

Mr. Stanley B. Ashbrook  
33 N. Ft. Thomas Avenue  
Fort Thomas, Ky.

Dear Stan:

Thank you for your letter of the 1st which helps me out greatly. Personally, I had not noticed the extra recut at the top, which threw me off. I just picked this up at auction, where it was incorrectly described.

Regarding the Confederate plate, since writing you I have inspected it and find that it is quite a large affair consisting of four complete panes of 100 each for printing the 5¢ blue, Scott's #6 and #7. We know from past writings that during the war a shipment of these 5¢ stamps consigned to the Confederate Government by DeLaRue were captured on the high seas and brought into Philadelphia, where the cargo was sold as a prize. We knew of the stamps but I had never heard of a plate being captured at the same time. I am just guessing that this is from the same lot for otherwise, why would the plate have been found here, where it has been put away for probably sixty or more years? I was told that it had about an eighth of an inch dust on it when found and this was really fortunate for it prevented moisture affecting the plate. It seems to be in excellent condition and I had a printer inspect it yesterday to see what could be done in running off some impressions. The plate is so large that every printer could not do the work. I am turning to the best one in Philadelphia and I should know within the next several days as to the possibilities. There are substantial spaces between the four panes, which makes the plate much larger than necessary. I imagine DeLaRue used this in producing some of Scott's #6, although the entire printing from this plate might have been the captured stamps so that impressions never were postally used by the Confederacy. I wish you were up here so we could go over the plate and see what could be done. I will accept your suggestion and not have the printer turn out any blue ones, even approaching the original shade of the stamps. Do you think we should allow the plate to lay idle without making any impressions? The thought just occurred that we could sell probably 100 or more and let us say, at \$5 a pane or \$15 a sheet for the benefit of the educational institution that now owns it. In this way we could possibly raise \$1,500 in behalf of a good cause.

Regarding the British book on Sperati, I suppose you noticed my remarks in my column. I think it is a shame that for the money they soak us for most things, they are going to try and keep us from getting the books we could really use. I have had two or three people inform me that they would be glad to order their copies in my behalf but I have been wondering if they are going to confiscate them.

I am glad to see that the Department has been so liberal in permitting "Life" to illustrate in colors. I did hear from a reliable source



that they had trouble with the front cover but evidently finally received official approval. I am going to make inquiries and see who their contact happened to be in either the Treasury or Justice Departments. I think I will then go down and have a personal interview and take my personal collection. I am going to ask if I issued a book on our early U. S. whether they might permit me to illustrate my numerous blocks in color. I know this would add considerable to the cost but think how attractive a publication would be with most of our early blocks in their proper colors.

"Life" had many more illustrations of U. S. stamps but because they were not allowed to print them in color, they only gave one page in black and white. The three 1901 blocks with inverted centers are from my collection. Only two blocks are known of the 2¢. I had the other block also at one time and sold it on three different occasions to Wood, Gibson and Sinkler. It finally went to Souren and I am not aware as to its present location.

Regarding the 90¢ 1867 cover, I would like to bet money that Sloane sold it to Hollowbush and that Hollowbush loaned it to Perry to write up. I will ask Frank, if I don't forget it, when I see him next week. If he bought it, of course, he still has it for I do not recall his ever having traded or sold anything after he once acquired it.

I learn that the "Life" people will probably do another story if there is sufficient reader response, so please write a letter and have as many friends, both philatelic and otherwise, also send letters.

One in New York proposes a follow-up article which would be devoted to U. S. stamps, especially the Commemoratives, and bring out the historical angle as a background.

With kind personal regards,

Sincerely yours,

PHILIP H. WARD, JR.



A.P.S.  
S.P.A.  
C.C.N.Y.



C.S.A.  
A.R.A.  
B.N.A.P.S.

## Jack E. Molesworth

Philatelic Dealer and Broker

102 Beacon Street  
Boston 16, Massachusetts

May 7, 1954

Mr. Stanley B. Ashbrook  
P. O. Box 31  
33 North Ft. Thomas Avenue  
Fort Thomas, Kentucky

Dear Stan,

Thanks for your note of the 30th. I was quite interested in your comment about Stan, Jr. going through the Panama Canal on route to the Far East as I once had a similar experience myself though did not have the pleasure of seeing a bull fight. I am wondering if the Mediterranean cruise has been cancelled, or whether the ship will ultimately end up there?

Enclosed is an item from the Harris sale which I noticed contained a photo by you though no signature on the reverse. If you feel it is genuine I would appreciate your signature on the reverse verifying this fact. If not, your comments as to the reason will be greatly appreciated. Advise your fee and I shall remit promptly as usual.

With best wishes,

Jack E. Molesworth

JEM/mrn

May 11, 1954.

Mr. Jack E. Molesworth,  
102 Beacon Street,  
Boston 16, Mass.

Dear Jack:

Herewith the Hawaii cover. Admiral Harris sent this to Henry Meyer, who, as you know, wrote the Hawaii book with notes and material supplied by the Admiral. I suppose Henry sent the cover to me and I made a photo, thinking they intended to illustrate it in the book.

The chances are the cover is genuine but I cannot sign it as such in the absence of some definite proof. The use looks like November 1861 and San Francisco would have recognized the 12¢ stamp at that time as the old stamps were good out there until Jan. 1st, 1862. However, a use as late as Nov. 28, 1861 of a 12¢ '51 is very late but of course possible, especially a use from Hawaii. One more point, the rate was not 10¢ from S.F. to Oregon but 3¢, hence if rated properly this rate should have been - 5¢ Hawaii Internal - 2¢ Ship Fee - 3¢ U.S. I do not state that the following did happen but could have - a substitution of this 12¢ for some other stamp, for example, a 3¢ 1857, with the 2¢ ship fee paid in cash. It seems to me that the ink on the 12¢ is different than that on the 5¢ Hawaii.

No fee for the above.

Re - Stan's trip. Originally it was planned as a world cruise returning via Suez and the Mediterranean to Norfolk, but it seems that the plans were changed. His Ship is part of a squadron conducting a Carrier to Indo-China waters, so he may be over there indefinitely instead of any training cruise.

Regards.

Yours etc.,

May 11, 1954.

Mr. Jack E. Molesworth,  
102 Beacon Street,  
Boston 16, Mass.

Dear Jack:

Since writing the enclosed letter I dug out the correspondence that I had with Henry Meyer and Admiral Harris back in 1949 regarding this cover. It seems that this cover was sent to Henry by Mort Sampson with the statement that he had offered it to a client @ \$35.00 and the latter had returned it stating it was a fake. Sampson requested Henry to have a look and then send it to me. Instead Henry sent it to Admiral Harris with the opinion it was a fake and he gave a number of reasons why he thought so. Harris returned the cover to Henry stating he was convinced it was genuine and that he would be glad to purchase the cover @ \$35.00. He sent me a copy of his letter. Henry then sent the cover to me and I made a photograph. In a letter to the Admiral I concurred in his opinion and agreed that the cover was probably genuine.

I believe if a buyer had all of the above correspondence he would not hesitate to buy the cover but of course it was all personal and I could not give out copies.

Regards.

Yours sincerely,

# MORRISON CAFETERIA COMPANY

INCORPORATED

Birmingham, Alabama.

Saturday, May 8, 1954.

Mr. Stanley B. Ashbrook,  
33 No. Ft. Thomas Ave.,  
Fort Thomas, Ky.

Dear Stan,

This past Monday H.R. Harmer had a sale of more or less junk. I looked the sale over when I was up there and left about six bids with Ezra. I today received two lots from the sale. Since one illustrates so markedly a point we discussed the other day I am sending them to you to see, not nice enough to have expertized.

Lot 6 @ \$27.00 is supposed to be strip of three 1¢ 1851s. The first one is supposed to be type IIIA. I did not notice how big a wrinkle was thru the middle stamp for that is what it is. But it also looks like a IIIA. But my point that it is marked as if plated by you for it is "Signed" on the back "ASHBROOK" purportedly as by you. I feel sure this is not your printing and that you may never have even seen this cover. Am I not right.

As long as I am sending one I wanted you to see what a nice Lot #7 was @ \$34.00. The 5¢ 1856 if you hold to the light has a nice wide margin at the left and also at the bottom and right. The type IVs are fairly nice. And it is an interesting rate to Bermuda. I could not figure out why the NOT PAID.

Am going to Shreveport and be back here Wednesday.

Sincerely,



May 11, 1954.

Mr. Emmerson C. Krug,  
3008 - 13th Ave., South,  
Birmingham, Ala.

Dear Em:

Herewith the two covers that you obtained in the H. R. Harmer sale of May 3rd.

Re - Lot 6. This is a strip from Plate One Early and I judge the use was "FEB 23" 1852. I note the description in the catalogue is hardly fair. The stamp to left is a IIIA and the pair is a Type II, but a bad crease thru the center stamp which practically severs the strip can hardly be termed "FAULTS AND CUT INTO but attractive strip." I don't know why my name is on the back as I did not put it there. I have no recollection of ever seeing this cover, but I suppose an owner might have submitted it to me at some period in the past with a query as to the type.

Re - Lot 7. This is a nice combination of 10¢. Both 1¢ - IV - are nice double transfers - excellent examples of the variety. I note the date - "19 DEC." in all probability 1856. All the rate tables I have give a 10¢ rate to Bermuda so I can only guess why this is marked "NOT PAID." The rate to British possessions in the West Indies was 10¢ per 1/2 oz. To the West Indies - other than British - it was 34¢. I have no record in my files of a cover to Bermuda. I note that there is a pen "4." I judge this was 4 pence postage due.

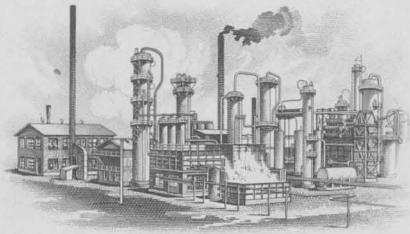
I have made a photograph of the cover and I will see if I can later find the reason why this marking is on the cover. Perhaps its meaning is, "NOT PAID TO DESTINATION," that is, the postage paid to the frontier of Bermuda but not to include the local postage.

Regards.

Yours etc.,



PHONE 125



# CRYSTAL Refining Company OF CARSON CITY

INCORPORATED

CRYSTAL PETROLEUM PRODUCTS

CARSON CITY, MICHIGAN

Ionia, Michigan.

May 8, 1954.

Mr. Stanley B. Ashbrook,  
Ft Thomas, Ky.

Dear Stan:

Thanks for your last letter. Rene got home last night and will be here over Sunday for "Mother's Day" and then going back fishing for another week or two. Joan got notice that she has been admitted to graduate school at Colorado School of Mines, Golden Colorado, and will probably be out there next Fall. The letter from the Dean of the Graduate School was most interesting - two pages long. He stressed the fact that she would be the "first" woman ever to be admitted to the Graduate School and this would bring about some serious problems which he hoped however might be overcome.

Stan - am enclosing my three (3) most valuable covers to be photographed in color on the slides, about which you now know I am most enthusiastic. It might even be desirable (if it can be done) to have enlargements on prints made in color too - I'll leave this to you. You are familiar with all these covers, of course, but I imagine you will still like to look them over.

(a) The former Richey cover with the strip 7-8-9 RLE is already endorsed on back by you in pencil and suggest leaving it just as is - don't use the rubber stamp endorsement on any of these three covers, please.

(b) The Steve Brown cover with the imperf Type 1-A should have your endorsement on the back in pencil - not rubber stamped.

(c) The former Brooks perforated Type 1-A position 100-L-4 is already endorsed by you on back but you might want to add to this, but again, please do not use the rubber stamp.

Please return after photographing and will send you some more covers from the one cent 1851-57 collection as well as some off cover material for photographing.

Rene joins me in best regards to Mildred and yourself, and send our best wishes to Stan Jr when you write him.

Sincerely,

J. G. Fleckenstein.

JGF/k  
Enc:REG:

May 12, 1954.

Mr. J. G. Fleckenstein,  
419 Union Street,  
Ionia, Mich.

Dear Jack:

Herewith the three covers as per yours of the 8th, viz:

(A) The former Richey cover with the 7R1E - 8R1E - 9R1E. I made no change in the endorsement on the back.

(B) The Steve Brown cover - Type IA. I think this cover speaks for itself and I don't want to put you to the expense of signing it on the back.

(C) The 1¢ 1857 - Type IA cover. I also think this speaks for itself and I doubt if anything that I could add would make it any more valuable. This cover is certainly a gem.

Jack, I have laid down a strict rule on signing covers on the back, and I don't think I should make any exceptions. I have told such intimate friends as Krug and many others that I intended to charge everybody - no exceptions. I hate to enforce this in the strictest sense of the word but I think it is only fair that I do so. Also I will not use my rubber stamp on any covers unless instructed to do so. I think it is up to the owner to decide what he wants and that is what I wish to abide by. I don't think anyone would question the 1851 1¢ Type IA cover - Ex-Brown but if you want me to sign it on the back I will be glad to do so and I will charge you a fee in accordance with its value.

Up to this writing I have not had any prints made in color from any of the philatelic slides I have made. I don't intend to do so as I don't wish to invite any trouble from Washington. A slide is a transparency and I am sure it would not be considered any violation of the law. On the other hand, a print made from a slide might invite trouble though as I stated in a former letter, I doubt if any U. S. official would care to waste time on such a silly expedition.

Too bad Rene is having such lousy weather on her fishing trips, but maybe some real spring weather is on the way.

Our congratulations to Joan on being accepted at the Colorado School of Mines. I note that the Dean stated her admittance would pose some problems and I can imagine such to be the case.

Stan Jr. called us Sunday night from San Diego to bid us good-bye as his ship was leaving the next morning for Pearl Harbor. I guess it will be many months before we hear his voice again.

I mentioned in my last letter that the Fleckensteins sent him their regards and wished him well.

With every good wish -

Cordially yours,

FRED W. ALLEN, Box 539, NEW ROCHELLE, NEW YORK  
(Owner of the WESTCHESTER STAMP COMPANY)

May 11 1954

Dear Stan -

Could you write a note for me as I have suggested on the enclosed. I want this stamp to be a birthday present to my best customer - retired V. Pro. of 20<sup>th</sup> Cent. Box whose general collection has a net worth of over \$250,000 ~~from~~ from his grandson who is like a son to me & my prototype something like Steve B. was to Frank. — Mr. Lee is the first man I have ever known in connection with stamps and his liking me represents one of the greatest satisfactions I have ever had in the business. I have made a real philatelist out of his grandson during our six years of close relation ship which is a matter of deep gratitude to Mr. Lee so he wanted his favorite grandson to share his wide spread philatelic interest.

Also if you get something beautiful & unusual that might have real appeal to Mr. Lee. I believe I could arrange the sale - He naturally knows of you and highly respects you and your opinion in every way. —

Hoping that you can give me this note almost certainly - Jan

Cordially,

— Fred W. Allen

I would also like to know how you think this really occurred note or with that opinion separate note size include it. Note should be about size of card or album page. — spread this up from Seigle who had spread \$15 & intend to give it #25 for Mr. Lee.

# Post Office Department

Received from: STANLEY B. ASHBROOK  
P. O. Box 31  
33 N. Ft. Thomas Ave.  
FORT THOMAS, KY.



One piece of ordinary mail addressed  
to Fred W Allen

Box 539

New Rochelle N.Y.

THIS RECEIPT, WHICH MAY BE USED FOR DOMESTIC AND INTERNATIONAL MAIL,  
DOES NOT PROVIDE FOR INDEMNIFICATION

POSTMASTER.



May 13, 1954.

Mr. Fred W. Allen,  
Box 539,  
New Rochelle, N.Y.

Dear Fred:

I am in receipt of yours of the 11th.

I would indeed like very much to comply with your request, but if I did so, I would not be adhering to the truth. While this is quite a nice variety, I am sure it is not unique or extraordinary. Further, I am not acquainted with your friend Mr. L. and have never had any correspondence with him. I fear that he would consider it most presumptuous on my part, a stranger to him, to send him an opinion which he did not request of me. And further, I do not like letters of mine mounted in collections, and whenever I have such things brought to my attention I make a strenuous objection.

Because I have been imposed upon in the use of my name to enhance the value of items, I recently laid down a strict rule that I would charge a fee in all cases where an opinion was requested or where my signature was desired on the back of a cover. You are fully aware of the high regard that I have for you and I am more than glad to cheerfully comply with any reasonable request that you would make.

Several Eastern dealers have asked my opinions and have used same to sell their merchandise to much profit to themselves and only a "thank you" to me. One dealer who has always been charged a fee, recently inquired as to why I consistently charged him with a fee and apparently charged none to Mr. "X" and Mr. "Z." In order that no such criticism would be leveled in the future, I laid down a strict rule of "a fee to all," no exception.

One of the finest collections of the 3¢ Green that has ever been assembled was formed by the late Harold W. Stark of Detroit. It is housed in many, many volumes and contains all sorts of varieties such as double transfers, errors, of printing, etc., etc. If you could go thru the pages of that collection you would realize fully why I would be putting on paper, an untruth, such as you have suggested.

Fred, in my position, I am compelled to be extremely careful in expressing opinions on items submitted to me. It is equally as bad to condemn a genuine item as it is to authenticate a fake and I dread the possibility of one as much as the other. The fees that I derive from examinations by no means justify the time and expense of the research work required.

I think this stamp speaks for itself and I believe that a nice little letter from you would be more welcome to your friend than any statement from me, no matter how exaggerated such a statement might be.



#2. Mr. Fred W. Allen - May 13, 1954.

I do trust that by this lengthy explanation you will appreciate my position and bear in mind that I will always welcome the opportunity to do you any favor that I can.

One word regarding the variety. I believe the explanation is quite simple. The right side of the design failed to print, and the reason was doubtless because there was no ink to make the impression. This is not a plate variety but one of impression, viz., lack of ink to yield a full print of the stamp.

My kindest regards -

Cordially yours,

MAY 17 1954

Dear Stan,

First, I want to apologize for "putting you on the spot" with my suggested writeup for the 3¢ green variety.

Secondly, - for you have expressed yourself at such length and with such care is a courtesy to me that is fully understood and deeply appreciated. It took time and thought which represents an item not dismissed by me without a feeling of rebuke toward myself.

Thirdly, I will act on your suggestion —

Make a nice note to go with the stamp and offer it at \$15\* which is probably enough for it. I was a little "carried away" but it is certainly an outstanding "impression" variety and a nice item to own.

Is the Harold Stark collection for sale and if so - what is the price. You sort of conveyed the impression to me that it was in your hands — possibly for disposal.

If you have at any time for disposal, something outstanding as a collection, you might convey some details to me — as Mr. Leo would be a good prospect and leans upon me for advice even though his collection is worth a quarter of a million. I had impressed him with my sincerity and my integrity. There never was the any intention to pass the stamp in question in an untrue light — and my suggested comments were thrown at you for criticism. So truly appreciated by me that again I say "Thank you".

Sincerely

Fred —

\* do you agree this is a right price or would you say 10 or 15 ?

May 22, 1954.

Mr. Fred W. Allen,  
Box 539,  
New Rochelle, N.Y.

Dear Fred:

Thanks for your good letter of the 17th.

If I run across anything that I think might be of interest to your client I will be pleased to send it to you. Bear in mind I confine myself solely to U. S. 19th up to 1870. I do not do a great deal in the Bank Note issues and practically nothing in the 1867 grills. I suppose your friend does not confine himself to 19th U. S. I am wondering if he has copies of my books, such as the two-volume 18 1851-57, etc., etc.?

Re - the Harold Stark collection. I am sorry I might have given you the impression I had anything to do with its sale. The widow has never consulted with me and from reliable sources I have been informed that she has no intention of parting with any of her late husband's collection. He was quite wealthy and I am sure he left her well provided for. She took quite a bit of interest in his philatelic activities and I imagine she would hate to part with things that he loved so much.

I hesitate to give you advice on the 5¢ green because - personally such a variety has so very little appeal to me. If I were in your place I would much prefer to make the sale without any profit than to run the risk of having someone tell a friend of mine that I had charged him too much.

With best wishes -

Cordially yours,



The Collectors Club  
of New York

May 4, 1954

22 EAST 35TH STREET  
NEW YORK 16, N. Y.

REGISTERED

Mr. Stanley B. Ashbrook  
P.O.Box 31  
33 N. Ft. Thomas Ave.  
Fort Thomas, Ky.

Dear Stan :

The Collectors Club has recently acquired some papers formerly belonging to John Klemann, and among them is this article on Plating ~~\$~~.12¢ 1851-57.

I note that it is marked the only copy, and it is by McGuffin.

Would you be good enough to look this over and advise whether in your opinion it should be published in the Collectors Club Philatelist and who wrote it ?

I met Les Bookman the other day and told him that you thought my article on early perforations was outstanding, and he said that a compliment from you is better than a medal, a sentiment with which I agree.

I hope that you are well, and in the meantime all best wishes.

Sincerely,

  
Win

WSB/d  
encl.

# Post Office Department

Received from:

STANLEY B. ASHBROOK

P. O. Box 31

33 N. Ft. Thomas Ave.,

FORT THOMAS, KY.



One piece of ordinary mail addressed

to

W. S. Boggs

c/o The Collectors Club

22 East 35<sup>th</sup> St New York (16) NY

THIS RECEIPT, WHICH MAY BE USED FOR DOMESTIC AND INTERNATIONAL MAIL,  
DOES NOT PROVIDE FOR INDEMNIFICATION



May 14, 1954.

Mr. W. S. Boggs,  
1/2 The Collectors Club,  
22 East 35th St.,  
New York 16, N.Y.

Dear Win:

Herewith the article on the plating of the 12¢ 1851 Plate No. 1. Paul MacGuffin did not write this article but rather, it was written by the late Lt. Col. J. K. Tracy. The only plating of the 12¢ that was ever done by "Paul" was by the notes that he obtained when he purchased the entire 12¢ '51-'59 collection after Tracy's death. Paul was a great admirer of Tracy and was most anxious to have an article published on the plating in memory of Tracy. It is a long story but in brief, Paul made several trips to Cincinnati in 1934, 1935 and 1936 to see Fennel and me in regard to publishing this Tracy article in the A.P. of which Fennel was the editor. We were in perfect agreement that the article would be useless unless accompanied by illustrations of each position. I agreed to make drawings of each of the 200 positions which I did and which I still have. They were made from the Tracy collection, then the property of MacGuffin. We dropped the plan because I was convinced that my drawings were inadequate for accurate plating and that half-tone illustrations of actual stamps would also be inadequate. We investigated the process of photogravure but found the expense would be too great.

You will recall that I wrote a book on the plating of the stamp back in 1925 that was based on the Tracy plating. It was published by Hugh Clark of the Scott Co.

This Tracy article would be fine for publication if one had actual photographs of each of the 200 positions for comparison. I am quite positive that zinc etchings or half-tone cuts would be useless in an attempt to enable a person to plate the 12¢ Plate One Stamps.

You will note that in this article Tracy refers to "Scott's Notes on the 12¢ 1851-1857," and also no mention is made as to who accomplished the original plating. Had MacGuffin written this article I am sure he would have given credit to Tracy.

I spent a lot of time and hard work, also expense, in checking Tracy's work. He was very careless and in his original work I found and corrected a lot of errors. In the middle thirties when we were planning an article, I checked each and every article and in doing so I used a large lot of photographs I had made in the decade prior. I also had the original Tracy collection for months. Thus the final checking gave me an accurate record. Inasmuch as this article was written in the late nineteen twenties and before my final check-up of Tracy's plating in the middle thirties, I have good reason to believe that it is not 100%.

#2. Mr. W. S. Boggs - May 14, 1954.

correct. I believe the above will answer the queries in your letter.

Thanks for the kind words regarding your recent conversation with  
Les Brookman.

With best wishes -

Cordially yours,

POSTAGE STAMPS FOR COLLECTORS  
UNITED STATES AND FOREIGN

# Walter Gisiger Co.

ESTABLISHED 1931

*110 West 42nd Street, New York 36, N.Y.*

Phone: CHickering 4-0650



May 13, 1954

Mr. Stanley B. Ashbrook  
33 N. Fort Thomas Avenue  
Fort Thomas, Kentucky

Dear Mr. Ashbrook:

We are sending you enclosed the following three used U.S. stamps:-

- A - #6a, 1¢ Blue, 6R 1 Early
- B - #8, 1¢ Blue, Type III, Plate IV
- C - #16, 10¢ Green, Type IV, 74 LI

The undersigned figured out the above numbers together with your friend, Mr. Donald Malcolm, and the above specifications are, of course, only correct if you find them to be so upon inspection of the stamps.

We would like to get certificates from you for these three stamps and, possibly, also a photo of the two 1¢ stamps.

Please send us your bill when returning the stamps.

With best wishes, we remain,

Sincerely yours,

WALTER GISIGER CO.

*W. Gisiger*

Encl.  
Registered  
WG/ar

May 16, 1954.

Walter Gisiger Co.,  
110 West 42nd St.,  
New York 36, N.Y.

Gentlemen:

Yours of the 13th. Herewith the three stamps  
by return mail. You will note that I have signed each one  
on the back and later I will forward you a photograph of  
the two 1¢ and certificates, as this Saturday and a short  
day.

My fee for the threestamps is \$6.00.

Very truly yours,

WALTER GISIGER CO.

110 WEST 42nd STREET • NEW YORK 36, N. Y.



AIR MAIL

AIR MAIL - REGISTERED

Mr. Stanley B. Ashbrook

33 N. Fort Thomas Avenue

Fort Thomas, Kentucky



REGISTERED  
532196

FRAGILE





The Walter Gisiger Co., 110 W. 42nd St., New York 36, N. Y., will hold their 9th large Mail Sale on June 7, 1954, consisting of over 1700 lots. Almost five hundred collectors and dealers were bidders in their last sale. The next sale contains a fine assortment of U. S., 19th and 20th century, British Colonies, General foreign and a fine group of wholesale lots for dealers. A large illustrated catalog will gladly be sent free upon request.

POSTAGE STAMPS FOR COLLECTORS  
UNITED STATES AND FOREIGN

# Walter Gisiger Co.

ESTABLISHED 1931

*110 West 42nd Street, New York 36, N. Y.*

Phone: CHickering 4-0650



May 18, 1954

Mr. Stanley B. Ashbrook  
P.O. Box 31  
33 North Ft. Thomas Avenue  
Fort Thomas, Ky.

Dear Mr. Ashbrook:

This will acknowledge receipt of your letter of May 16,  
as well as the three stamps you returned to us. Your  
prompt attention to this matter was appreciated.

We are sending you enclosed our check for \$6.36, covering  
your fee of \$6.00 plus your postage expenses.

We shall be glad to receive your photographs and certificates  
for the two 1¢ 1851 stamps, which you state you will forward.

Sincerely yours,

WALTER GISIGER CO.

W. Gisiger

Encl.  
WG/ar

May 22, 1954.

Walter Gisiger Co.,  
110 West 42nd St.,  
New York 36, N.Y.

Gentlemen:

Thanks very much for yours of the 18th with  
check for \$6.36 as per my letter of the 15th.

I am enclosing herewith enlarged photo  
prints of the two 1¢ stamps duly signed on the back.

Sincerely yours,

P.S.--I note that you are to have a sale on June 7th, but  
I never receive your catalogues.

S.B.A.





RAYMOND H. WEILL Co.  
ROGER G. WEILL - RAYMOND H. WEILL

*Philatelic Dealers*

MEMBERS  
AMERICAN STAMP DEALERS ASS'N  
AMERICAN PHILATELIC SOCIETY  
SOCIETY PHILATELIC AMERICANS  
COLLECTORS CLUB, NEW YORK  
BRITISH PHILATELIC ASS'N, LTD.

407 ROYAL STREET  
NEW ORLEANS 16, LA.

May 5, 1954

Stanley B. Ashbrook  
Ft. Thomas, Ky.

Dear Stan:

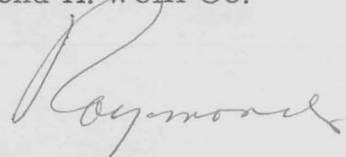
What do you think of the cancellation on the enclosed stamp ?  
We have no doubts about the perfs being trimmed but are hoping that you  
might think this is a genuine "Southern Letter Unpaid. "

We are enclosing a return envelope. Please include a bill for  
expertizing this and also for the 1¢ 1851 sent separately which we asked you  
to plate.

Yours sincerely,

Raymond H. Weill Co.

By



rhw:lc  
enc.

## Post Office Department

Received from: STANLEY B. ASHBROOK

P. O. Box 31

33 N. Ft. Thomas Ave.

FORT THOMAS, KY.

One piece of ordinary mail addressed

to Raymond H Veill Co

407 Royal St

New Orleans (16) La

THIS RECEIPT, WHICH MAY BE USED FOR DOMESTIC AND INTERNATIONAL MAIL,  
DOES NOT PROVIDE FOR INDEMNIFICATION

May 8, 1954.

Mr. Raymond H. Weill,  
407 Royal St.,  
New Orleans 16, La.

Dear Raymond:

Thanks for your wire. I was sorry to put you to the trouble but the owner was pressing me for a return of the collection and I felt obligated to make a satisfactory report to him. The collection came back okay and I note you do not wish me to reimburse you for the postage. I can't very well present something to you that you would refuse so I will make it up some other way.

Herewith I am returning the 1¢ 1851 - I have made a rather complete notation on the card.

I also acknowledge the 24¢ 1860 with a part of a "S.L.U." marking. There is no question in my mind but what this is a fake. Someone, and I suspect Zareski, has a counterfeit stamper of this marking and is turning out fakes. I suppose you noted how the ink shows thru the paper. Several years ago I had a cover sent to me for my opinion. I spent about two months working on it because I was positive it was bad. However, the fake markings were exact in size as the original. This is the type of work they are doing in Paris. Paying big prices for "rare" cancelations on 19th United States is risky business, believe me. I also think a person is a plain damn fool to buy many things in 19th "unused" U.S. without being absolutely sure. A typical example is a 10¢ 1847.

Do you mind if I hold this 24¢ for a few days so I can show it to Shenfield who handles markings of this class on the Expert Committee of the P.F.?

No fee for either of the above.

I made a wonderful color slide of the Sperati fake of the Confed "TEN." Would you like to have one? I can also supply slides of his 5¢ New York and U.S. Despatch Post.

My best wishes to Roger and you.

Cordially yours,

May 8, 1954.

Mr. L. L. Shenfield,  
40 Highland Circle,  
Bronxville, N.Y.

Dear Harry:

No doubt you remember that Fox cover "SOUTH<sup>N</sup> LETTER UNPAID." I remember I did quite a lot of work on it and if my memory serves me correctly I felt sure it was bad. The reason I mention this is because I have a suspicion that some crook has made excellent reproductions of these markings and is quietly turning out off cover fakes. I haven't much to go by so I may be wrong but bear the above in mind in case you have any copies submitted to you. I have on my desk a 24¢ 1860 off cover that I feel positive is a fake. It shows in blue

TTER

D.

The letters match the genuine and the alignment is okay.

Going thru my records I was looking at the Knapp cover (First Sale) Lot 2686. This shows no sign of southern origin but the description states it was from Petersburg, Va. It shows no C.S.A. postage so I assume that if it is genuine it was conveyed under separate cover to Louisville. However, if it was placed in the mail there how did the Louisville P.O. know it was of Southern origin? Don't you think this Louisville postmark is rather odd for a use on July 11, 1861? This could have been a stampless cover sent unpaid at an earlier date and some crook could have changed the dates and applied a 24¢ and canceled it with a fake "S.L.U." "DUE" etc. I suppose my suspicions are totally unfounded on this cover but I do wonder how the Louisville P.O. knew it came from the Confederacy. This is surely a nice point in itself so disregard my suspicions that it might be a fake.

Herewith I am enclosing a copy of my May 1st Service Issue. Please note my remarks re - my work in philatelic color photography and in this respect I am enclosing herewith two of my color slides. One is of the Knoxville fake that Hubbell sent me recently and about which I wrote you. The other is of a Sperati "TEN." I have also made some wonderful recordings of the 10¢ 1863 colors - blue, green, "opaline blue," "K & B" etc., etc. Please return these two enclosed slides at your convenience. I will appreciate your appraisal of them.

Sam is his some old self and apparently no older than he was in the days when you used to come out here and join us at lunch at the Metropole. Just imagine, about 17 years ago. I think it would be an excellent idea to write him a letter. I am sure he would appreciate it.

With every good wish -

As ever yours,

Enclosed  
55 - 53

May 15, 1954.

Mr. Raymond H. Weill,  
407 Royal St.,  
New Orleans 16, La.

Dear Raymond:

Herewith the 24¢ 1860 "imperf" copy with the "S.L.U." marking. As per mine of the 8th, I am quite sure that the marking on this stamp is fraudulent but if you are not satisfied with my opinion, may I suggest that you submit it to the Expert Committee of the Philatelic Foundation, New York City.

I was so interested in the cancel on this stamp that I neglected to mention the "imperf" feature of the stamp. In my opinion, this copy is not a 24¢ 1860 imperforate but rather a perforated copy with the perfs trimmed. I assumed that you were well aware of this.

With kindest regards -

Cordially yours,



May 22, 1954.

Mr. L. L. Shenfield,  
40 Highland Circle,  
Bronxville, N.Y.

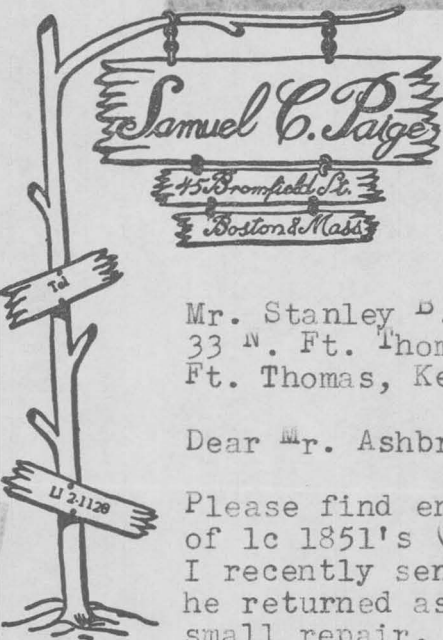
Dear Larry:

Re - yours of the 19th, and the "S.L.U." marking. You will recall the Fox cover, which as I remember, was a very doubtful item. Wrong ink entirely, etc. The stamp I recently examined was a 24¢ 1860 with the perforations trimmed. I received the impression that some faker overseas cleaned a 24¢, cut off the perfs, and added a part of an "S.L.U." marking. The blue ink was not right. Of course, I am aware that genuine covers exist with the S.L.U. and the 24¢ 1860 as well as other values of the "old stamps."

Re - the color slides. I regret to state that I do not possess a set showing many of the rare colors of Confeds, hence could not supply very many. I further doubt if the P.F. would care to acquire a set even if I could supply because the field they try to cover is so large - the world.

With regards -

Cordially yours,



May 17, 1954

Mr. Stanley D. Ashbrook  
33 N. Ft. Thomas Avenue  
Ft. Thomas, Kentucky

Dear Mr. Ashbrook:

Please find enclosed a vertical pair of 1c 1851's (Nos 4, 14 RLL) which I recently sent to a customer and which he returned as he was afraid it had a small repair.

Would appreciate your opinion on it as I think there may be some question as to whether it is repaired or whether it has a natural paper crease.

As usual, please let me know your charge for your service.

With my very best regards -

Sincerely,

*Sam Paige*

Samuel C. Paige

May 19, 1954.

Mr. Samuel C. Paige,  
45 Bromfield St.,  
Boston 8, Mass.

Dear Mr. Paige:

As per yours of the 17th, I am returning herewith the One Cent pair and include my opinion regarding it.

In paper manufacture it is not always possible to maintain equal thickness to a microscopic degree in all portions of a sheet of paper. Some small agent such as a thread or other foreign matter could become imbedded in the pulp and later become disengaged. I have noted such minor defects in stamp paper on numerous occasions. It is my opinion that this is what happened in this case.

Just to be absolutely sure that the enclosed opinion is correct, I made a photograph of the back of the pair by ultra-violet and will report on same after developing the plate.

This is quite an exceptional item and in case your client does not care to purchase it I will be very glad to buy it as a pair that is superb in every way.

May I inquire if you would have any objection if I mentioned this pair in the June issue of my "Special Service," and furnished a photograph print to the subscribers?

My fee for this examination is \$3.50.

With kindest regards -

Cordially yours,

May 19, 1954.

Re - U. S. One Cent 1851

Vertical pair - Plate One Late

Positions 4R1L (Type II), 14R1L (Type IV)

I have very carefully examined this pair in tetro-chloride and under the binocular microscope, in the top stamp, 4R1L, there is a small rather shallow line in the paper running in a diagonal direction from N.E. to S.W. about one millimeter below the "E" of POSTAGE. In my opinion, this is a small and rather insignificant defect that occurred in the manufacture of the paper. I do not believe it is a crease or what is generally termed a "thin spot." I failed to detect any evidence of repair work of any description. I consider the pair absolutely sound.

---

Stanley B. Ashbrook.

May 19, 1954.

## INVOICE

Samuel C. Paige  
45 Bromfield Street  
Boston 8, Massachusetts

June 10 1954

Enclosed please find stamps listed below

Item

Value

Kept

Dear Mr. Ashbrook -

Please excuse the handwritten letter as my secretary is out of the office today -

Am enclosing my check for \$6.50 covering your fee of \$3.50 plus two of the photos @ \$1.00 + \$2.00. The third photo I am returning to you. Thanks for sending them to me. I also feel as you do that the pair was perfectly OK.

Naturally it was all right for you to mention the price in your "Special Service".

With best regards -

Sincerely -

Sam Paige



May 29, 1954.

Mr. Sam Paige,  
45 Bromfield St.,  
Boston 8, Mass.

Dear Mr. Paige:

Referring to my letter of May 19th, I am now enclosing the following items which I made for myself to demonstrate that the opinion that I gave you on the vertical pair of the 1¢ 1851 was correct.

- 1) A color photograph of the pair - Price \$1.00
- 2) A photo print of the pair - enlarged - price \$2.00
- 3) A photo print of the back of the stamp by ultra-violet light - price \$2.00.

3 00

RETURNED BY

You can retain any of these at the prices named or return them to me.

Regarding item No. 3, I believe that you will agree that the paper does not show a crease.

Sincerely yours,

(slide W22)

Stanley B. Ashbrook

3 50  
3  
6 50

PAID

JUN 11 1954

Charge

Sam Page

350  
—

See 31 — 38

B495

AT 14-F128 - 50 MIN



4R1L - 14R1L

BY SAM PAIGE MAY 19 1954 - SEE B494 -  
SEE S.B. 31 - P38

311

B496

This Photograph

Was Made By

ULTRA - VIOLET

RAY

By Stanley B. Ashbrook



POLICY NO. **LB 1737 016**

ESTABLISHED 1886  
THE **LIVERPOOL**

STOCK COMPANY



INCORPORATED IN THE UNITED KINGDOM

AND **LONDON**

AND **GLOBE**  
**Insurance Co., Ltd.**  
OF LIVERPOOL, ENGLAND.

**In Consideration** OF THE PREPAID PREMIUM AND OTHER CONDITIONS STIPULATED IN THE POLICY FROM WHICH THIS CERTIFICATE HAS BEEN DETACHED, HEREBY INSURES THE PROPERTY CONTAINED IN THE PACKAGE OR DESCRIBED IN THE INVOICE, WITH WHICH THIS CERTIFICATE IS MAILED, AGAINST LOSS OR DAMAGE AS PER POLICY CONDITIONS.

IN THE EVENT OF LOSS OR DAMAGE FULL PARTICULARS SHOULD BE FURNISHED THE SHIPPER IMMEDIATELY.

POLICY NO. **LB 1737 017**

ESTABLISHED 1886  
THE **LIVERPOOL**

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IN THE EVENT OF LOSS OR DAMAGE FULL PARTICULARS SHOULD BE FURNISHED THE SHIPPER IMMEDIATELY.

1850 Baltimore St. N.W.  
Washington 9. D.C.  
May 16, 1954

Mr. Stutz B. Ashbrook  
Ft Thomas Ky

Dear Sir:

I am enclosing my Check for  
\$1.60. Also a Cover which was  
given to me. to send to you and  
a list of statements and questions  
which its owner would like  
answered.

Thanking you in advance  
I am

Very truly  
Robert Beck.

Mr R. A. Peck  
1850 Baltimore St N.W.  
Washington (9) D.C. Engraved

Dear Mr Peck

Here with the plumbers  
cover from Utica N.Y. to  
Talparisco Chile in the  
summer of 1847.

The <sup>U.S.</sup> postage that was paid  
on this cover was but 5¢  
which was the rate from  
Utica to Boston. This is shown  
by the encircled "5" and the  
"Paid" in oval of Utica.

That your friend took for  
"Empress of America" was not  
a ship name but rather was  
applied at Havana Cuba and  
reads "Empresa - N. America". I  
believe the word "Empresa"  
is Spanish and translated means  
"Company". That was taken for  
"Panama" is the straight line

"HABANA" and the "1" was also applied at that rate and indicated the letter was a single rate. The ~~HAB~~ Havana "Empresa" marking is quite well known. In other words these Habana markings meant, ~~"1"~~ "A single rate letter ~~for~~ from North America." It is not unusual to see a marking which meant the same, viz "NA1".

Regarding the route. About all the data I have on the ship "Corsair" is that she was a clipper ship, was built at Medford Mass in 1845 and was owned by Augustus Hemmingsway of Boston. Her master was ~~Ben~~ Simon V. Peabody. I judge that this letter was placed aboard this



Ship at Boston and conveyed to  
Havana Cuba where it might  
have been turned over to  
some ship sailing for Panama  
convey to Panama City and  
thence by a British mail  
ship down the West Coast  
of South America to Chile. The  
addressee was probably charged  
~~with post~~ for the conveyance from  
Boston but on the envelope  
there is no marking indicating the  
sum charged. It is well to  
remember that at this time the  
U. S. did not have a postal  
treaty with Cuba or any of the  
South American Countries, nor  
was there any U. S. Mail route  
- that is "contract route" to  
transmit mail to such Countries.  
<sup>TO POSTMASTERS</sup>  
Instructions for handling such  
a letter as this is contained in



the P.L. & R. of 1847 - (Regulations -  
Pages 64 - 65 - Sections 459 - to  
464 inclusive). In brief, ~~at~~ these  
sections state that U.S. postage is  
to be paid to "sea ports" and  
that it is the duty of postmasters  
to place such mail aboard a  
ship that is scheduled to sail.  
Of course it is quite possible  
that this letter was conveyed  
from Havana by a sailing  
vessel enroute to the Pacific  
~~to~~ via the Horn. I have  
no idea what the red  
postmark is.

~~I regret that~~ I

Regarding ~~the~~ the addressee  
Henry D. Cooke, he was a  
younger brother of Jay Cooke  
founder and head of the  
Hambros New York banking  
firm during the Civil War of

cannot furnish data on covers  
at that rate as too much time  
is required etc. In the past  
you have been most kind in  
forwarding checks in advance  
and I have accepted them,  
as I recall, with out objection.  
I charge a fee of \$5<sup>00</sup>  
each for authenticating  
covers, that is explaining the  
rate and signing on the back,  
if same is genuine. Fees on  
other covers depend on the  
time required to look up  
data, postal facts, etc etc etc  
also preparing the letter, return  
postage insurance etc. I am  
quite sure that you  
appreciate this explanation.

My fee therefore on this  
cover is \$3<sup>00</sup> and you can,  
if agreeable, forward me your  
check for \$1<sup>50</sup>.

Jay Cooke & Co. Here are some  
facts about Henry D. Cooke.  
He was a journalist born in  
Sandusky Ohio,

---

## Cong A

---

It will be noted that  
mention is made above of  
Cousin Mr. G. Moorhead.

A word about the older  
brother Jay Cooke. In 1861  
he established the firm of  
Jay Cooke & Co. Through the  
influence of Salmon P Chase

Mr — Copy B

---

I beg to acknowledge receipt  
of your check for \$150 but  
regret to state that I

With my kindest regards  
Sincerely yours



Change

Robb Peck

PAID

Write \$1<sup>50</sup>—

PAID  
MAY 29 1954

See 31

Page 39



1850 Baltimore N. V.  
Washington D.C.  
May 25/1954

Henry B. Ashbrook  
Fort H. Cornes Ky

Dear Sir:

I am enclosing my check for  
for 3.00 to cover the rest of the fee  
on the Cover to Panama transit. I  
am sorry that I did not tell  
you in my previous letter that  
there is an additional fee on this  
Cover but did not know how much  
it would be.

I borrowed a Spanish dictionary to look  
up the word *Empreda*. They give it as  
symbol but that seems to be very vague.  
I think your definition is much better.

Thanks very much  
for your kindness

Very Truly  
Robert H. Ashbrook

P.S.  
Have you any copies of your other works besides  
your book on the Ten Cent and the One Cent 51-57  
Robert H. Ashbrook

May 29, 1954.

Mr. Robert Peck,  
1850 Biltmore St., N.W.,  
Washington 9, D.C.

Dear Mr. Peck:

Thanks very much for your check for \$3.50 but the additional charge was but \$1.50, (total \$3.00) so I am enclosing my check to your order for \$2.00.

Re - other books beside the 1¢ 1851-57 and 10¢ 1855-57. My other articles were principally those that appeared in the philatelic press and later were issued in booklet form. I regret that I have little left in this class. I suppose about the only source is when they are offered at auction.

In recent years I have been devoting my philatelic writings to what I call my "Monthly Service." I am enclosing a sample copy of the April Issue. These issues are accompanied by very fine photographs of the items discussed. The subscription price is \$100.00 per years.

Sincerely yours,

SEE SB 31-P38 [B 493]

[B 493]

SEE B 492  
FILE 18

VTICA  
JUN 25

1



PAID

Blue

*Henry & Co. Esq.*  
*Capt. Wm T. Moorhead, U.S. Consul.*  
*Valparaiso.*  
*HABANA Chili C. A.*

Blue  
23  
AGO  
1847

*Per Ship Corsair. at Barron.*  
Red Brown

DARK BUFF ENVELOPE - Nothing On Back

*Noaps.*

RED - 15 Sec

# Sam Dyk MacBride

744 BROAD STREET

NEWARK 2, NEW JERSEY

May 18th, 1954.

Mr. Stanley B. Ashbrook,  
33 North Fort Thomas Ave.,  
Fort Thomas, Kentucky.

Dear Stan:

Thanks for your nice note of the 17th, - always glad to hear from you!

No, I do not own the latest edition of the Diary from Dixie, but do have an earlier revised two volume set. There have been an unusual number of new Confederate and Civil War books published lately, of which one of the most interesting is Horan's Confederate Agent, of which you speak. I happen to know the author very well, and he has promised me an autographed copy "for free", - so I haven't bought one.

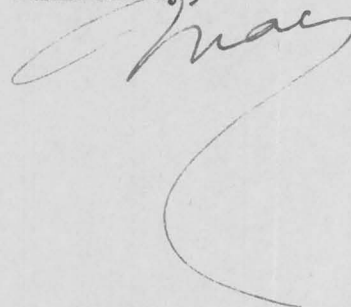
In addition to that, the old "Freemantle Diary" has been published in a new edition, and it is very worthwhile. Then there is a book called "General Jo Shelby-Undefeated Rebel" by Daniel O'Flaherty which sounds interesting, and a more serious type of book called "A History of the Southern Confederacy" by Clement Eaton which I plan to get and read. Keeping up with these new ones, and at the same time wading through the many old books which I am continually adding to my library, interferes badly with my television viewing!

I wish I could accede to your request and sell you my copy of "Confederate Operations in Canada and New York" by Headley. However, I waited a long while for it and I do want to keep it in my library. I will continue to search for another copy for you, and have "requests" for it out with a number of old book dealers right now.

Thanks for your offer of the photograph of the Sale of Negroes broadside. If it were only of "war dating" I would be eager to own one, but 1833 is a little too early for me!

My best!

Sincerely,



MacB/HK

c.c.: L.L. Shenfield  
T.M. Parks



FOR YOUR

CONFEDERATE COLLECTION

I have recently acquired a very fine piece of Americana, a small poster measuring 8 inches by 12, headed,

"PUBLIC SALE OF NEGROES."

The sale was advertised to take place at Charleston, S.C. on March 5th, 1833.

I found this poster exceedingly interesting and quite educational as it provides the answer in a very few words why slavery had to be abolished in this great country of ours.

Among the negroes offered was a "valuable negro woman with four children," two of whom would be sold "with the mother," - the others "separately." We of this generation, whether from the south, the north, the east or the west, can hardly conceive of such a thing as selling human beings as merchandise and separating a mother from daughters of "13 years and 7 years."

I had made very fine photographs of this poster and will supply a limited number of prints @ \$2.00 each postpaid.

STANLEY B. ASHBROOK  
P.O.Box 31  
33 N. Ft. Thomas Ave.,  
Fort Thomas, Ky.

May 17, 1954.



May 11, 1954.

Mr. Earl Oakley,  
Suite 200 Continental Bldg.,  
Los Angeles 13, Calif.

Dear Mr. Oakley:

I am enclosing herewith a cover that was sent to me by a New York dealer @ \$350.00 less a commission. You will note it is a strip of the U. S. 1¢ 1851 from the bottom row of Plate 4, Type IA, positions 93-94-95R4. I have endorsed this cover on the back as follows, quote:

"Strip of 3 of Type IA - Plate 4. Bottom row plate positions - 93-94-95R4 - Type IA in a strip of three is a great rarity on the original cover.

STANLEY B. ASHBROOK

May 11, 1954." (unquote)

While this strip is cut into and is therefore not fine, a cover such as this is extremely rare and I believe you will agree that it is worth the price asked. I went thru my files but failed to find only a few actual covers with a strip of three of this type. Strips of three off cover are known but mighty few covers. Inasmuch as you surely do not own such a cover I thought that this might be an item that would add much to your specialized study of the One Cent 1851-57.

Inasmuch as the cover does not belong to me, may I respectfully request that you return it to me as soon as convenient if you do not care to acquire it. Of course, I have no objection if you wish to show it to Dr. Alter.

My kindest regards -

Sincerely yours,

*Returned*

MAY 22 1954

May 22, 1954.

Mr. Herman Herst, Jr.,  
Shrub Oak, N.Y.

Pat -

I sure was surprised to receive yours of the 20th. I recently paid a dealer \$20.00 for my copy of the Slave Sale and I thought I obtained a bargain. I enclose a photo print with my compliments. So far I have sold eleven copies. I have little doubt that my copy is genuine but of course such things can be very easily reproduced. It does seem strange that there would be two of these and that both would come to light within a year's time. I will send my copy to you if you think it would be worth while. If someone has put something over on me and my copy is not an original I can get my money back. What do you suggest?

I do thank you for your offer to hold up publication of yours. My photo print is slightly smaller than the original, which measures 8 $\frac{1}{2}$  x 12.

By the way, you wrote me last winter that you would loan me a set of photographs of some fake Western Express covers but I never heard from you further regarding them.

Again my sincere thanks for calling my attention to the Slave Sale. I will be pleased to return the favor.

Sincerely yours,

May 22, 1954.

Mr. Philip H. Ward, Jr.,  
1616 Walnut St.,  
Philadelphia 3, Pa.

Dear Phil:

A friend of mine advises me that he has one of the "Slave Sale" posters which he purchased in a Siegel Sale at the Houston Convention last fall and this makes me wonder if these are actually genuine originals or reprints of our original. Can you give me any history of the copy I obtained from you? My friend had a cut made of his and intends to give many copies away. I enclose you a proof that he sent me, which please return. Everything considered I am wondering if I purchased a pig-in-a-poke? What do you think?

Yours etc.,

May 22, 1954.

Mr. Sylvester Colby,  
505 Fifth Ave.,  
New York 17, N.Y.

Dear Sy:

Herewith two (2) prints of the "Sale of Negroes." I thought that my original of this was "unique" but this A.M. I had a note from Pat Herst, Jr. stating that he has a copy that he purchased in the Siegel Sale, held at Houston last Sept. 24th. By referring to the catalogue I find that Lot 588 sold @ \$16.50. I have every reason to believe that my copy is not any sort of a reprint. The paper has an "aged" appearance and it looks genuine in every way.

If you have any reason to doubt otherwise, or if you are not satisfied with the enclosed prints, I will gladly refund your \$4.00 and present the prints to you with my compliments. I paid \$20.00 for my copy and was delighted to have it and I am having it framed for my den. I am, however, advising the person from whom I purchased it and requesting any information he can give me regarding it and its source, etc.

Herewith the 1/ 1851. I have signed this on the back as 7R1E but I believe that you will agree that while this is from that plate position it is no longer a Type I, but rather "it was a Type I" before the cut at bottom destroyed the type. I call such stamps ENUCHS - not something that is but something that was. In both cases, very, very tough.

My fee for the signing is \$3.00 - return postage included.

Cordially yours,

*Postage Stamps for Collectors*

TELEPHONE  
LAKELAND 8-8331

EXPRESS OFFICE  
PEEKSKILL, N.Y.



*Herman Herst. Jr.  
Shrub Oak, N.Y.*

I received your mimeographed notice on the Slave Bill of Sale that you are offering. It would seem that we own the identical item, as I have an exact duplicate of yours, mine having come from the Siegel sale held in Houston last September. I had a cut made of mine and it was to have been reproduced in the issue of the Outburst coming out next week.

I surely don't want to cut into the sale of your reproductions and I am sure that if I were to give away my own reproduction for nothing, it would. I think it best that I hold off on mine until Fall by which time you will undoubtedly have sold as many of your pictures as you are going to sell. I am writing you now about it so that when you do see it in the Fall, you will know how I happened to reproduce it then and why I delayed.

I will enclose a printer's proof with this letter of mine so that you can compare it with yours, just to see if there are any differences.

*Pat*



A.P.S.

YOU HAVE A FRIEND IN THE BUSINESS

S.P.A.



May 28, 1954.

Mr. Herman Herst, Jr.,  
Shrub Oak, New York.

Pat,

Thanks very much for your informative letter of the 24th, the photo prints which I return herewith and your card of the 26th.

First permit me to state that I was not aware that Mrs. Herst had been seriously ill. I was sorry to learn of this and trust that she has a speedy and final recovery. Sickness in the family is very depressing.

Regarding the Slave Sale poster. You have one, I have one and there are two (2) in Bob Siegel's next sale. Of course, they might be originals and come from a lot that were left over, but from 1933, that I doubt. I think they are all fakes printed on some old paper. I think most any dealer in old books or manuscripts would agree. By fakes, I mean recently reprints from a possible original. Someone could have copied an advertisement in a Charleston newspaper of that date. There is perhaps nothing easier to fake than an item of this kind, in my very humble opinion.

I have carefully noted your card. While I have no particulars it does appear to me that whoever made these fake covers and attempted to sell them as genuine should be prosecuted to the fullest extent of the law and it should be the duty of the largest philatelic society in the world - the A.P.S. to see that such a prosecution was carried out to their best ability and that the finest legal talent employed. This organization never does anything of that kind, at least not to my knowledge. If there is any damned excuse for the existence of the A.P.S. or the S.P.A. I am sure I know of none. However, that is just one man's opinion.

Again thanks.

Sincerely yours,

570	☒	10c Blue (11, 12). Fourteen covers includes Red Petersburg, Va., University of Va., Ladies Envelope, Black & blue grids, Due 10, mostly Fine-V.F.	—
571	☒	10c Blue (12). Tied Lexington, Va. pmk. on attractive cover with Virginia Seal and Executive Dept. Fine	—
572	☒	10c Greenish Blue (12). Tied on cover with Very Fine strike "Bristol V.&T.R.R." pmk. (Photo)	—
573	☒	10c Blue (12). Barely tied, Flat Rock, N.C. pmk. on attractive Wall Paper, cover	—
574	☒	10c Blue (12). Very Fine copy tied on ragged cover, La Grange, Tex, pmk.	—
575		20c Green (13). Richmond pmk. margins all around, slight thin, V.F. appearance	25.00
576	★	20c Green (13). Block of 8, V.F.	15.00
577	★	20c Yellow Green (13). Block of 50, Very Fine, o.g.	90.00
578	☒	20c Green (13). Tied from Richmond on cover, stamp cut in at B. slightly* stained	50.00
579	★	1c Orange (14). Block, Very Fine	18.00
580		1c-20c, 1861-64 Issues. 86 stamps includes Blocks, Covers, balance of collection, incl some faults, Fair-V.F.	163.00+

PI See S.B. 31 - p 42

581	☒	3c Red (26). Flag Patriot	derate photo	—
582	☒	3c Red (26) Apr. 22, 186	lk, Va.	—
583	☒	3c Red (26) on back of	ier card	—
584	☒	3c 1860 U. Post Office Department, signed A. Dimitry, blue Ms. "Free," addressed Danville Railroad, Richmond, signed letter from Confed. States P.O. Dept. enclosed, Fine	America, Bureau, it, P.O.D. (Photo)	—
585	☒	3c Rose (65). Str. edge copy tied from Sandusky, Ohio, oval "Prisoner's Letter, Johnsons Island, O." marking, prisoners letter enclosed, V.F.	—	—
586	☒	3c Rose (65). Prisoners Letter Johnson's Island in oval, Sandusky, O. pmk. V.G.	—	—
587		R.E. Lee signature on document of Harbor of St. Louis as Capt. of Engineers	—	—
588		Broadside, Public Sale of Negroes. Charleston, S.C. 1833, V.F.	—	—

1650  
To  
Pat Herst

*Postage Stamps for Collectors*

TELEPHONE  
LAKELAND 8-8331

EXPRESS OFFICE  
PEEKSKILL, N.Y.



*Vernon Herst. Jr.  
Shrub Oak, N.Y.*

I still find it difficult to believe that those notices are fakes but as you say, it can easily be done. When the printer ran off that proof that I sent you, I remarked to him about how easy one could fake this if one had a supply of old paper. I don't know what Bob's source is on them, but next time I see him, I shall ask if they are coming from someone who is in a position to guarantee them as originals. Certainly the number of them that are turning up is sufficient justification for suspicion.

I am glad that you go along with me in wanting to see the chap on the Coast prosecuted. The SPA had already thrown him out for crooked business years ago and I know personally people who demanded his expulsion from the APS for fraud, without success. I am certainly going to follow this thing through and do my best to see that the matter is not closed. I am most surprised at the attitude of the Federal Government which says that since they were private express companies that were faked, they have no interest in the matter.

*Pat*



A.P.S.

YOU HAVE A FRIEND IN THE BUSINESS

S.P.A.

STANLEY B. ASHBROOK  
P. O. BOX 31  
33 NORTH FT. THOMAS AVENUE  
FORT THOMAS, KY.

May 21, 1954.

Mr. Harry M. Bortz,  
Jenkintown Gardens,  
Jenkintown, Pa.

Dear Mr. Bortz:

This will acknowledge receipt of yours of the  
15th enclosing the U. S. 1¢ 1851.

I charge a fee for examination of stamps and  
in this case the fee will be \$2.50 plus 33¢ return postage.  
If you do not care to pay this sum please send me 33¢ so  
that I can return the stamp by registered mail. If you  
wish I will sign the stamp together with the type and  
catalogue number on the back.

Very truly yours,

*Stanley B. Ashbrook*

*Please sign and identify as suggested*  
*HMB*

May 21, 1954.

Mr. Harry M. Bortz,  
Jenkintown/Gardens,  
Jenkintown, Pa.

Dear Mr. Bortz:

This will acknowledge receipt of yours of the  
15th enclosing the U. S. 1¢ 1851.

I charge a fee for examination of stamps and  
in this case the fee will be \$2.50 plus 33¢ return postage.  
If you do not care to pay this sum please send me 33¢ so  
that I can return the stamp by registered mail. If you  
wish I will sign the stamp together with the type and  
catalogue number on the back.

Very truly yours,



HARRY M. BORTZ

REPRESENTATIVE FOR  
B. J. BROCK & CO., INC.  
THE POPE-GOSSER CHINA CO.  
JENKINTOWN GARDENS

JENKINTOWN, PA.

May 15<sup>th</sup>/54

Dear Mr. Ashbrook

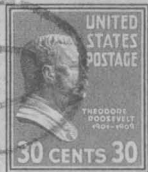
Will you please identify this stamp  
and give me Scott's number on same.

Thanking you in advance I am

Very truly yours  
Harry M. Bortz

**REGISTERED**

3241



Stanley B. Ashbrook  
33 N. Ft. Thomas Ave  
Ft. Thomas Ky.



May 28, 1954.

Mr. Harry M. Bortz,  
Jenkintown Gardens,  
Jenkintown, Pa.

Dear Mr. Bortz:

Thanks very much for yours of recent date with check for \$2.83 as per mine of the 21st. As requested I have authenticated the 1¢ 1851 on the back and I feel sure you will be pleased. This is a fine copy of the scarce uncatalogued Type IC which comes only from certain positions from Plate 4 as fully described and illustrated in my two-volume study of the U. S. One Cent of 1851-57.

Very truly yours,

(31-43)

ROBERT A. SIEGEL

POSTAGE STAMPS

AUCTIONS

APPRAISALS

WANT LISTS

TELEPHONES

MURRAY HILL 2-4309  
WHITE PLAINS 9-5837

505 FIFTH AVENUE  
NEW YORK CITY

May 24th, 1954.

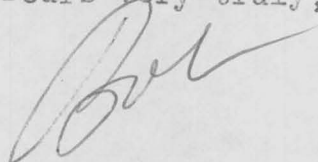
Mr. Stanley Ashbrook  
33 N. Ft. Thomas Ave.,  
Fort Thomas, Ky.

Dear Stan:

A customer of mine would like you to give your opinion as to the type the enclosed stamp is. Kindly return it at your convenience with opinion and bill for same.

Kindest regards,

Yours very truly,



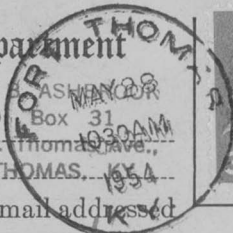
ROBERT A. SIEGEL

RAS mcg



# Post Office Department

Received from: STANLEY B. ASHENOR  
P. O. Box 31  
33 N. Ft. Thomas Ave.,  
FORT THOMAS, KY 4



One piece of ordinary mail addressed  
to Robt A. Siegel  
505 Fifth Ave  
New York 17 N.Y.

THIS RECEIPT, WHICH MAY BE USED FOR DOMESTIC AND INTERNATIONAL MAIL,  
DOES NOT PROVIDE FOR INDEMNIFICATION

May 28, 1954.

Mr. Robert A. Siegel,  
505 Fifth Ave.,  
New York 17, N.Y.

Dear Bob:

Replying to yours of the 24th, I return  
herewith the 1¢ 1857. This is a stamp from Plate 4  
and it is a Type IIIA, top line nicely broken,  
bottom line not broken. In this case there is no fee  
to you.

With my kindest regards -

Cordially yours,

(31-44)

REFERENCE  
MISSION CITY BANK

ALCO  
811 N. ST. MARY'S  
SAN ANTONIO, TEXAS

5/15/54.

Stanley B. Ashbrook  
Fort Thomas, Ky.

Dear Mr. Ashbrook,

Thank you for your kind letter and offer  
of the rr and. I am enclosing 36¢ postage  
for the return of the Confederate block I sent  
you.

Sincerely,

Gleason Hainey

May 22, 1954.

Mr. Howard Stasney,  
811 N. St. Mary's,  
San Antonio, Texas.

Dear Mr. Stasney:

Re - the block of the Confederates that you sent me. You are surely aware that an item such as this is rather common and not of any special value.

I am not at all interested in acquiring it. I will pay you \$5.00 for it. If not acceptable kindly send me 36¢ so that I can send it back to you via registered mail.

Very truly yours,

## ALCO

REFERENCE  
MISSION CITY BANK811 N. ST. MARY'S  
SAN ANTONIO, TEXAS

5/18/54.

Stanley B. Ashbrook  
Fort Thomas, Ky.

Dear Sir:

I am enclosing a part sheet of # 11 Confederate  
States mint C. G. showing gutter running vertically. (42)

I realize it suffers the usual thins, etc which is  
found in these stamps, however, some very fine gutter  
blocks can be cut from it, pairs, strips, singles etc. Would  
you be so kind as to send me your offer by  
return?

Thank you for your attention in this matter.

Cordially,

Lawrence of Chesney

HOWARD STASNEY



May 28, 1954.

Mr. Howard Stasney,  
% Alco  
811 N. St. Mary's  
San Antonio, Texas.

Dear Mr. Stasney:

As per yours of the 25th, I am returning herewith the block of Confederates. I am sorry the forwarding to me put you to so much expense for postage. May I respectfully suggest that you write Mr. Raynor Hubbell - P.O.Box - Griffin, Ga. Describe what you have and inquire if he would care to make an offer. You may, if you so desire, inform him I referred you to him.

Sincerely yours,

(31-45)

→ 30 00  
May 22, 1954.

Dr. A. J. Hertz,  
150 West 82nd St.,  
New York 24, N.Y.

Dear Doctor:

Thanks very much for yours of the 19th with check. Photo print herewith and I trust that it will be of much interest.

I understand that you were fortunate in obtaining the Free Pony in the recent Siegel Sale. If so, my hearty congratulations. You obtained a great rarity.

Some years ago I owned one of these Latham "FREE" Pony 's which is addressed to "J. W. Denver." I enclose a poor photo print. As you are aware, the City of Denver was named for Gen'l Denver when he was Territorial Governor of Kansas. He was very prominent in California politics and quite a good friend of Latham and Gwinn. I am enclosing a cover with letter enclosed from Latham to Gen'l Denver. I am wondering if this wouldn't make a nice companion piece to your "FREE" Pony. The price is \$30.00. If not, just return and I will refund the postage.

Incidentally, Edgar Jessup does not own a "FREE" Pony. I offered my Denver to him @ \$1,000 but he thought the price too high. It was snapped up by the next friend to whom I offered it. I thought sure Jessup would go after the Siegel cover regardless of what he had to pay.

With kindest regards -

Sincerely yours,

DR. A. JAY HERTZ  
150 WEST 82ND STREET  
NEW YORK  
—  
SUSQUEHANNA 7-4622

May 24, 1954.

Mr. Stanley B. Ashbrook,  
P.O.Box 31 - 33 N. Ft. Thomas Ave.,  
Fort Thomas, Ky.

Dear Mr. Ashbrook:

Enclosed you will find my check for \$30 which is payment for the Latham-Denver cover. I want to thank you for it and think it will make a suitable companion piece for my Latham Pony cover.

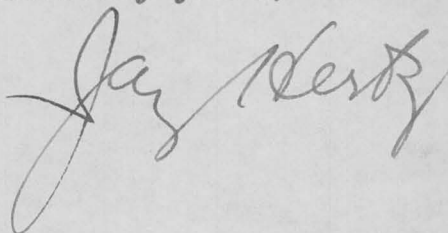
The photograph about the sale of slaves is also very interesting. Were is history, not from books, but actually from the events as they happened. I am indebted to you for it.

My Pony collection is growing. I have the 10 cent adhesive Sacramento Pony of the first period, the gem of the Knapp sale. I have the one with the two 5 cent 1857's. I have the dollar Pony, the gem of the Steve Brown sale. I have the \$2 red Pony. I have the Latham Pony. And I have a 10 cent brown and a 25 cent blue of the Little Pony. My entire western collection is housed in eight volumes.

Will you be in San Francisco this summer? Dolores and I hope to be there. We've been looking forward to the trip for some time.

With kindest regards, I am,

Sincerely yours,

A handwritten signature in cursive script, reading "Jay Hertz". The signature is written in dark ink and is positioned below the typed name "Sincerely yours,".

May 28, 1954.

Dr. A. Jay Hertz,  
150 West 82nd Street,  
New York 24, N.Y.

Dear Doctor:

Thanks very much for yours of the 24th with check for \$30.00 for the Latham cover as per yours of the 24th.

I located the negative of my photograph of the Free Pony addressed to Gen'l Denver and I will make a print and send it to you in the near future. Thanks also for reference to the very fine lot of "Ponys" which you have added to your collection. My sincere congratulations. A very wise and safe investment.

I regret that I will not be able to attend the A.P.S. at San Francisco this summer. I am no longer as I was in former years and I find such affairs hard on my health. I am sure that you both will have a most enjoyable time.

My kindest regards to Delores and you.

Cordially yours,

JOHN DAVID BAKER  
3909 NORTH DELAWARE STREET  
INDIANAPOLIS 5, INDIANA

May 16, 1954.

Dear Stan:

Thanks for your letter telling of the book about the Donner Party.

I haven't seen it or read it.

I have three covers I would like you to verify the rates on:

1. A Wells Fargo cover originating with Wells Fargo at Mazatlan, Mexico and addressed to New York. It bears 2 3¢ '61s. This cover has no postal markings, only Wells Fargo marks. Is the 6¢ the right postage from Mazatlan to New York? What is the earliest date this rate could have been used considering the stamps on the cover?

2. A Wells Fargo cover addressed to London, England. The envelope is a 6¢ envelope of 1872 and bears two 6¢ Canada postage stamps. Wells Fargo carried this cover from Victoria to New York where it was posted and the envelope stamp and Canadian stamps were cancelled. The New York marking is circular 24mm and shows no credit figure. Also handstamped on the face is the English mark London Paid. Is this the rate from Canada to England 18¢ in 1872?

3. Another Wells Fargo Cover showing only W. F. Northern Coast Outer markings has a 1¢, 2¢, 3¢ '61 stamps on a U59 3¢ envelope. The cover is addressed to San Francisco. What is the 9¢ rate?

4. Another Wells Fargo cover, again on a U59 envelope with Vancouver Island 5¢, 2¢ Jackson, and 5¢ brown. The Vancouver Island stamp is cancelled with a black 35, while the other stamps are only tied by the Wells Fargo Victoria oval. No other postal markings and the cover is addressed to San Francisco. My guess is that the date of this cover is Feb 8, 1865. What is the explanation of the rate?

These questions have been puzzling me for awhile. I thought you probably knew the answers. Will you please help me?

Sincerely,

*Dave*



May 22, 1954.

Mr. John D. Baker,  
3909 North Delaware St.,  
Indianapolis 5, Ind.

Dear Dave:

Replying to yours of the 16th, I could comment on each of the four descriptions but I think it would be much more satisfactory if you sent the covers to me so that I could have a look at them. I am sure you will agree.

With best wishes -

Cordially yours,

STANLEY B. ASHBROOK  
P. O. BOX 31  
33 NORTH FT. THOMAS AVENUE  
FORT THOMAS, KY.

May 22, 1954.

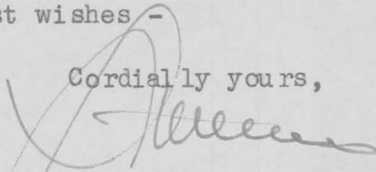
Mr. John D. Baker,  
3909 North Delaware St.,  
Indianapolis 5, Ind.

Dear Dave:

Replying to yours of the 16th, I could  
comment on each of the four descriptions but I think  
it would be much more satisfactory if you sent the  
covers to me so that I could have a look at them.  
I am sure you will agree.

With best wishes -

Cordially yours,



5/26  
Here they are  
Dave

May 29, 1954.

Mr. J. David Baker,  
3909 North Delaware St.,  
Indianapolis, Ind.

Dear Dave:

Herewith the four covers as per yours of the 26th. I will comment as follows on them in the same order as per yours of the 16th.

1) The Mazatlan cover. As you are aware, this town is on the west coast of Mexico and mail ships of the "Pacific Mail" made frequent stops there to and from Panama and San Francisco. There is no evidence of year use on this cover and very little evidence of same, such as shade of stamp, etc. I judge that this was a use after July 1, 1863, when the single rate between points in the U. S. was 3¢. There was no such a thing as a rate to or from Mexico, other than a 10¢ steamship rate, which transmitted mail to or from the Mexican border. The dates in the Wells Fargo marking are quite confusing, but my analysis of the cover is that it originated at Mazatlan, was sent by Wells Fargo to San Francisco - "FRANCO" being evidence of payment to W.F. & Co. to transmit the letter to New York. I assume it was over 1/2 oz., hence a double rate and the 6¢ was the U. S. postage. This had to be paid whether carried "in" or "out" of the U.S. mail. I suppose a W.F. messenger carried it via Panama to New York and the Express Company delivered it to the addressee. Their fee at Mazatlan could have included such total service. As a philatelic item, I think the significance is - a double rate from San Francisco to New York carried "outside of the U. S. Mail."

2) From Victoria B.C. to London - A use in 1872. The blue two-line at left reads, "For Great Britain and Ireland." Your description is in part quite correct, viz., originating at Victoria, B.C., it was carried to San Francisco and thence to New York (by rail) by a W.F. & Co. messenger. The U. S. rate to England at that time was 6¢ per 1/2 oz. The letter was first placed in the U. S. Mail at New York. The rate from Canada to the U. S. was 10¢ per 1/2 oz. or 6¢ Paid. At the period of 1872 I doubt if more than one 6¢ Canadian stamp was required. It would seem to me that 6¢ Canadian would have paid the postage rate from Victoria to the U.S. and the 6¢ U. S. (envelope) paid the rate (per 1/2 oz.) to London. I know of no reason why either rate should have been higher.

3) Wells Fargo "Northern Coast" etc. - I know of no reason for a 9¢ rate unless this was over one ounce requiring a U. S. rate of 3 x 3¢.

4) 10¢ U. S. rate. This was prior to 1868 when the rate to or from Canada was 10¢. Here we have a case of payment of the local Victoria rate plus a 10¢ rate from Canada to San Francisco paid in U. S. stamps. This letter was never in the U.S. Mail but transmitted from origin to the addressee by Wells Fargo & Co. I suppose the use could well have been in 1865.

With regards -

Cordially yours,

BY DAVE BAKER SEE S.B. 31. P 47



Blue

Blue

*Mr. Wm. Wadsworth*

*Received Mar 19th  
answered*

*Ed. Luackebush Esq*

*#24. Gov. House -*

*San Francisco*

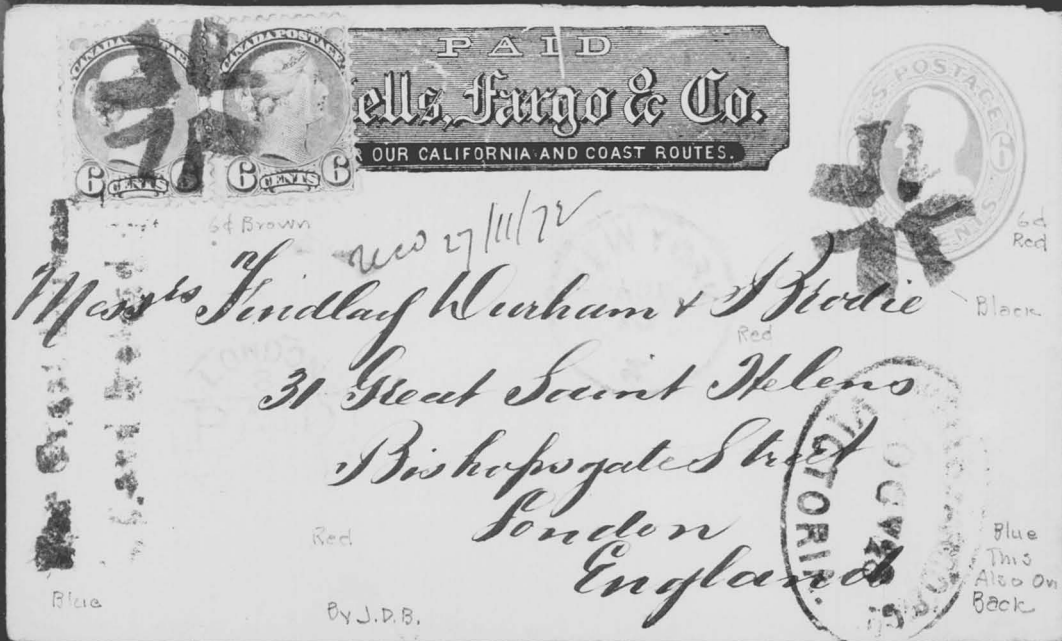
*Cal*

*By J.D.B*

Aug 6

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3 COVERS  
BY  
DAVE  
BAKER  
SEE  
31  
PAGE  
47

5/30  
1954  
E. FLITERS  
F128  
5 SEC

7R1E

*syvester colby*  
INCORPORATED  
505 FIFTH AVENUE · NEW YORK 17

May 20, 1954

Stanley B. Ashbrook, Esq.  
33 North Fort Thomas Avenue  
Fort Thomas  
Kentucky

Dear Stan:

COLBY'S Nice to know you made a picture of that "Public Sale of Negroes." Enclosed is check for \$4.00. Please send two copies.

COLBY'S Am also enclosing a copy of 7R1E, which has been with me for sometime. I feel it should have your personal OK. Will you please do so and advise me of the charges

COLBY'S Kindest regards.

Cordially yours,

SYLVESTER COLBY, INC.

Sy  
By  
SC:am  
Enclosure

May 22, 1954.

Mr. Sylvester Colby,  
505 Fifth Ave.,  
New York 17, N.Y.

Dear Sy:

Herewith two (2) prints of the "Sale of Negroes." I thought that my original of this was "unique" but this A.M. I had a note from Pat Herst, Jr. stating that he has a copy that he purchased in the Siegel Sale, held at Houston last Sept. 24th. By referring to the catalogue I find that Lot 588 sold @ \$16.50. I have every reason to believe that my copy is not any sort of a reprint. The paper has an "aged" appearance and it looks genuine in every way.

If you have any reason to doubt otherwise, or if you are not satisfied with the enclosed prints, I will gladly refund your \$4.00 and present the prints to you with my compliments. I paid \$20.00 for my copy and was delighted to have it and I am having it framed for my den. I am, however, advising the person from whom I purchased it and requesting any information he can give me regarding it and its source, etc.

Herewith the 1¢ 1851. I have signed this on the back as 7R1E but I believe that you will agree that while this is from that plate position it is no longer a Type I, but rather "it was a Type I" before the cut at bottom destroyed the type. I call such stamps ENUCHS - not something that is but something that was. In both cases, very, very tough.

My fee for the signing is \$3.00 - return postage included.

Cordially yours,

*syvester colby*  
INCORPORATED  
1505 FIFTH AVENUE · NEW YORK 17

May 25, 1954

Stanley B. Ashbrook, Esq.  
33 North Fort Thomas Avenue  
Fort Thomas  
Kentucky

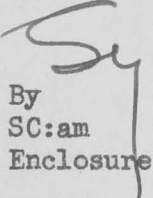
Dear Stan:

COLBY'S Thanks very much for sending the two "Sale of Negroes." It makes little difference at this point whether it was lot 588 in Bob's Sale or not. I think they are darn nice reproductions, and am keeping them. Certainly your copy can be contemporary with Pat Herst's; all of which just makes it a second copy rather than a unique copy.

COLBY'S Thanks very much for sending the "Eunuch."  
Enclosed is \$3.00 to cover.

Cordially yours,

SYLVESTER COLBY, INC.

  
By  
SC:am  
Enclosure

See SB 31 - p. 48



**syvester colby**  
INCORPORATED  
505 FIFTH AVENUE · NEW YORK 17

December 27, 1954

Stanley B. Ashbrook, Esq.  
P.O. Box 31  
33 N. Ft. Thomas Avenue  
Fort Thomas  
Kentucky

Dear Stan:

"COLBY'S" To bridge the gap, check my letter to you of May 20, 1954 and yours of the 22 and mine of the 25.

"COLBY'S" If there is any further way I can help you, please let me know. Best regards and wishes for the new year.

Cordially yours,

SYLVESTER COLBY, INC.

SC:rl



TELEPHONE  
RAYMOND 0022

RAYMOND H. WEILL CO.  
ROGER G. WEILL - RAYMOND H. WEILL

*Philatelic Dealers*

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SOCIETY PHILATELIC AMERICANS  
COLLECTORS CLUB, NEW YORK  
BRITISH PHILATELIC ASS'N, LTD.

407 ROYAL STREET  
NEW ORLEANS 16, LA.

June 1, 1954

Stanley B. Ashbrook  
Ft. Thomas, Kentucky

Dear Stan:

Thank you very much for expertizing the block of 3¢ 1861,  
pinks. We were surely happy to know that you agreed with the auctioneer.  
Check in the amount of \$5.00 is enclosed.

Yours sincerely,

Raymond H. Weill Co.

By 

rhw:lc  
enc.

RAYMOND H. WEILL CO.  
ROGER G. WEILL-RAYMOND H. WEILL

*Philatelic Dealers*

MEMBERS  
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COLLECTORS CLUB, NEW YORK  
BRITISH PHILATELIC ASS'N, LTD.

407 ROYAL STREET  
NEW ORLEANS 16, LA.

May 26, 1954

Stanley B. Ashbrook  
Ft. Thomas, Ky.

Dear Stan:

Here is a block which we just bought in the Harmer Rooke-Eno sale. We would appreciate your opinion as to its identity. The sale catalogue described it as 3¢ pink, catalog value \$1400. If you find it to be correctly described, please so indicate in pencil on the back of the block. Be sure to include a bill for this expertization.

We are very grateful for your opinion about the cancellation on the 24¢ 1860. We paid \$4.00 for this item from a dealer in Canada and so, very probably no one was fooled. We have a copy of the Sperati Confederate TEN and also his 5¢ New York. Therefore, we presume the color slides would have no added reference value. We also have his 10¢ 1847 and 10¢ rose Confederate. If you have not seen the latter two, we would be glad to send them along.

With kind regards,

Yours sincerely,

Raymond H. Weill Co.

By 

rhw:lc  
enc.  
regis.

May 29, 1954.

Mr. Raymond H. Weill,  
407 Royal St.,  
New Orleans 16, La.

Dear Raymond:

Herewith the 3¢ 1861 - PINK, #64, as per  
yours of the 26th. In excellent light I compared this  
with my reference copy and I think this is an excellent  
example of the color, and I have signed it as such on  
the back.

My fee is \$5.00.

With kindest regards -

Cordially yours,

PAID JUN - 7 1954

*Paul P. Christopher*



*42 Yale Avenue  
Wakefield, Massachusetts*

May 26, 1954

Mr. Stanley B. Ashbrook  
33 N. Ft Thomas Ave  
Ft Thomas, Ky.

Dear Mr. Ashbrook,

Thank you for your letter of May 18th returning my Hart book and for your information on the booklets by Hatfield, MacGuffin and the C.C.P. articles by Perry on the 10¢ 1847. I am on the trail of some of the latter and hope to have part of the set before long.

I am enclosing a 1¢ stamp from plate one late which I believe to be 7R1L, however, a friend of mine states that it is 6R, therefore, I would greatly appreciate your plating same and signing the back as to the correct plate position.

Please advise your fee and I shall remit promptly.

Another acquaintance of mine once mentioned that he had seen a set of Photos made by Souren that showed the complete 200 positions of the 10¢ (Pl 1) 1855. Do you know of such a work being in existence?

With kind regards,

*Paul P. Christopher*  
Paul P. Christopher

encl

May 29, 1954.

Mr. Paul P. Christopher,  
42 Yale Ave.,  
Wakefield, Mass.

Dear Mr. Christopher:

Herewith the 1¢ 1851 as per yours of the  
26th. You are quite right, this is the 7R1E, and  
both 7R's can be identified very readily by the marks  
in the "PO" of POSTAGE. There are two large dots in  
the left side of the "O." Of course, the double  
transfer at top is also a feature as well as lesser  
markings.

My fee is \$2.00.

With regards -

Sincerely yours,

7R1<sup>L</sup>  
\$2.00  
PAID

JUN - 7 1954



*Paul P. Christopher*



*42 Yale Avenue  
Wakefield, Massachusetts*

M June 1, 1954

Mr. Stanley B. Ashbrook  
P.O. Box 31  
Fort Thomas, Ky.

Dear Mr. Ashbrook,

My thanks for yours of the 29th returning my 1¢ 1851 with your signature and plate position etc. My check in the amount of \$2.00 to cover your fee is enclosed.

I must say that your note caused me a bit of excitement..to say the least. I phoned home earlier today and asked my wife if there was any mail of significance and she informed me of your letter (My wife acts as my secretary and process all mail so that it is ready for me when I get home at nite). I asked her to read your note to me over the phone and she read as follows ".....You are quite right, this is the 7R1E,....." Naturally, I was quite surprised that I was sure that I had sent you a Type IV. I then asked her to look at the back of the stamp to see your note there where you mentioned that the stamp was the 7R1L. I then realized that the "E" in your letter was a typographical error....but it sure did stir up some excitement for a few seconds.

Such things make life and stamps interesting....

With kind regards,

*Paul P. Christopher*  
Paul P. Christopher

Encl

June 7, 1954.

Mr. Paul P. Christopher,  
42 Yale Avenue,  
Wakefield, Mass.

Dear Mr. Christopher:

I am terribly sorry about the typographical error on the 7R in my recent letter. No matter how hard we try to avoid such things they will creep in now and then. I try to be extremely careful and it is disgusting to have such a thing happen. My sincere apologies. I will let this be a lesson and try to tighten up the strings.

Thanks very much for the check.

Sincerely yours,

# VAHAN MOZIAN INC.

DEALERS IN RARE POSTAGE STAMPS • ESTABLISHED 1901

505 FIFTH AVENUE AT 42ND ST. NEW YORK 17, N.Y.

PHONE VANDERBILT 6-0162

May 24th 1954.

Mr. Stanley B Ashbrook  
33 N Ft. Thomas Ave  
Ft. Thomas, Ky

Dear Mr. Ashbrook:

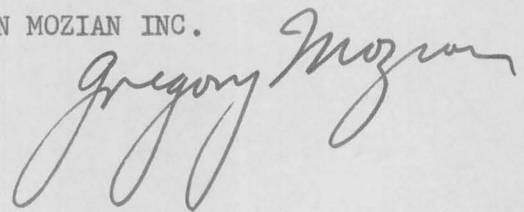
I just came back from Stalow and asked them  
if they would include lot #269 in your package for inspection.  
This is the 24¢ 1869 Invert.

A friend of yours, Mr. Millard H Mack of  
Cincinnati, Ohio is interested in this and if he purchased it  
he would naturally want you to look at it and I thought it  
would be better to get your opinion on this stamp before he  
purchased same.

Thanking you.

Sincerely yours,

VAHAN MOZIAN INC.



GM:SL

Mr. Gregory Mojian

c/o Vahan Mojian Inc

505 Fifth Ave

New York (17) N.Y.

Small Blue  
DO NOT MAKE ENVELOPE

Dear Gregory

The Stolaw firm sent me  
Lab # 269 in their sale for June 2<sup>nd</sup>  
together with some other lots that  
I sent for.

I only made a casual  
examination of the 244 1869 Invert  
because I had no instructions to  
make a thorough examination and  
for which I would charge a fee  
of \$10<sup>00</sup> which would include  
photographs both regular and by  
ultra violet. I did put the stamp  
into tetro chloride and I  
thought I noted a horizontal  
~~the~~ crease thru the stamp. If  
you bid on the lot I

Suggest you palesey yourself  
at this feature. Of course  
my examination was superficial  
and I may be mistaken

With my kindest regards  
Cordially yours

Copy to  
Mr. Willard H. Mack



AT 13 F128-RED-55 SEC

B497

STOLOW SAE - JUN 2 1954





**Jack E. Molesworth**

Philatelic Dealer and Broker

102 Beacon Street  
Boston 16, Massachusetts

May 21, 1954

Mr. Stanley B. Ashbrook  
33 North Ft. Thomas Avenue  
Fort Thomas, Kentucky

Dear Stan,

Thanks for sending along the 90¢ - 1861 cover. It is certainly a beautiful looking one and a shame that it has to have the closed tear. Though I may be wrong, I believe I bid on this cover in some auction in the recent past in the neighborhood of \$135 though do not recall which one it was. I do not believe I would care to buy it outright at \$162.50 as I have only one good prospect for it with about a fifty-fifty chance of a sale. However, if you want to let me have it on consignment at \$162.50 for a couple of weeks I shall be glad to submit it to him.

I shall hold the cover until receiving your reply and return it if you so desire. I greatly appreciate your thinking of me on it.

With kind regards,

Jack E. Molesworth

JEM/mm

P.S. Have you ever seen a 5¢  
N.Y. Prov. with Red "Savannah, Ga."  
Pink. That Kelleher had recently  
from the Sweet Coll.? If so,  
what was your opinion?



## Jack E. Molesworth

Philatelic Dealer and Broker

102 Beacon Street  
Boston 16, Massachusetts

May 28, 1954

Mr. Stanley B. Ashbrook  
33 North Ft. Thomas Avenue  
Fort Thomas, Kentucky

Dear Stan,

Thanks for your note of the 25th. The 90¢ 1861 cover is now out on approval and I hope that it will stick.

Enclosed is the 5¢ New York postmarked Savannah, Georgia which I referred to in my last letter. I gather that the cancel has been doubted by several people and concluded to be a paint job, though Dan Kelleher from whom I secured it claims it is 100% O.K. as far as he is concerned. Apparently it comes from the Sweet collection where it has been for 20 to 30 years. Your careful examination and comments about it will be appreciated.

I am also enclosing a 5¢ 1847, apparently uncanceled, with some o.g. on the reverse placed over Boston Penny Post stamp and would appreciate your comments on this also. Further enclosed is a 1¢ 1851 which may possibly be a type 1c. Your comments will be appreciated.

With kind regards,

Jack E. Molesworth

P.S. I originally had the 5¢ New York from Kelleher on consignment several months ago and was unable to sell it at the \$350 asking price necessitated by his price to me. However, he recently cut the price drastically on an outright purchase basis and I bought it.

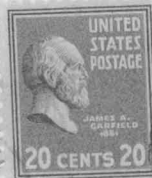
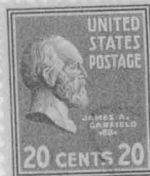
Jack E. Moleworth

102 Beacon Street  
Boston 16, Massachusetts

31-52

REGISTERED  
275657

Mr. Stanley B. Ashbrook  
33 North Ft. Thomas Ave.  
Fort Thomas, Kentucky



VIA AIR MAIL SPECIAL DELIVERY

R





May 29, 1954.

Mr. Jack E. Molesworth,  
102 Beacon Street,  
Boston 16, Mass.

Dear Jack:

The 1¢ 1851 is a Type IIIA from Plate 4  
as per my memo accompanying it. No fee for typing  
this but I am charging you as follows - for examination  
of the 5¢ New York plus photo by U.V. \$5.00 - for the  
examination of the 5¢ 1847 plus photo by U.V. \$3.00 plus  
return postage - 32¢ or \$8.32.

Regards.

Sincerely yours,

(81 - 52)

May 29, 1954.

Mr. Jack E. Molesworth,  
102 Beacon Street,  
Boston 16, Mass.

Dear Jack:

Regarding the 5¢ 1847 on the cover from Boston to Wadham's Mills, N.Y., there is still evidence under the microscope of traces of a red ink, and I note certain evidence on the forehead over Franklin's left eye of cleaning(?). To be sure I am making a photograph by ultra-violet and I will report later on this stamp. At the moment I do not believe it is an uncanceled copy.

Regards.

Sincerely yours,

(31 - 52)

Saturday afternoon  
May 29, 1954.

Mr. Jack E. Molesworth,  
102 Beacon Street,  
Boston 16, Mass.

Dear Jack:

Your registered Air Special arrived at 2 P.M. this afternoon.

I looked up my old records and I examined an off cover 5¢ New York that came thru a friend from Kelleher years ago and it was my opinion at the time that the "Savannah Ga" cancelation was a paint job. I have the tracing that I made at that time of a genuine marking and I am enclosing it herewith. Lay this over the stamp and under a good glass you can readily see that the letters are all wrong and so is the alignment. Note especially that the placement of the month and day logos are entirely out of line.

I suppose I have the report that I made some years ago on this stamp in one of my old scrap books but they are not indexed and it would take time to run thru a whole bunch of them. However, I think that is hardly necessary as I am satisfied the red postmark is not genuine. I real faker would not turn out a job like this but would have an exact imitation made of a genuine marking, then he could fool me if he used the right ink. Perhaps you will inquire how come a paint job on this stamp in lieu of a genuine cancel. Well, I fear I cannot answer that if the A.C.M. is genuine which I seriously doubt. A photograph, enlarged by ultra-violet might show something and it might not.

With regards -

Sincerely yours,

Charge

Mr. Jack E. Molesworth  
102 Beacon Street  
BOSTON (16) Mass.

8 32

as per 31 - 52

---

MAY 29 1954

PAID  
JUN - 6 1954

PAID  
JUN - 6 1954



## Jack E. Molesworth

Philatelic Dealer and Broker

102 Beacon Street  
Boston 16, Massachusetts

June 3, 1954

Mr. Stanley B. Ashbrook  
33 North Ft. Thomas Avenue  
Fort Thomas, Kentucky

Dear Stan,

My thanks for your comments and extremely prompt reply on the 3 items submitted on May 28th, which apparently reached you on May 29th and were again in my hands on May 30th. This was really service. Enclosed is my check for \$8.32.

I would appreciate it very much if you could possibly tell me for whom you previously examined the 5¢ New York with "Savannah, Ga." cancel and approximately what year this was done. That fact does not jibe too well with the understanding given me at the time of purchase and might be a legitimate basis for my requesting a refund which under the present circumstances I do not have. I am still wondering about the logic of the matter with respect to a faker apparently taking a superb unused stamp for such a job. Is it not possible that a different type of cancel might have been used at some time during 1845-47 than the one you used as a standard for comparison?

Enclosed is a 30¢ - 1869 tied on piece which of course looks quite good though such may be difficult to definitely establish. I have no reason to doubt it and in fact have sold it to a customer subject to your checking it so will appreciate your comments and of course your signature on the back if you feel convinced it is O.K.

With kind regards,

Jack E. Molesworth

JEM/mm



May 31, 1954.

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

Dear Ezra:

Yours of the 26th. Thanks for the data on the 1942 Rust sale. Whoever bought #669 in that sale was the seller in the Fox 10 '51 sale. Thus my query. There were several nice varieties in that last lot #669.

Re - the 5¢ New York - Savannah. Molesworth sent it to me. It is an off cover item and Jack bought it from Dan recently because Dan made him a very attractive price. Dan also assured him it was good. I had forgotten that you sent this to me some years ago. I evidently did not make a photo at that time. I reported to Jack that in my opinion the thing is a paint job and I sent him a tracing of a genuine Savannah to show that the painting fails to match the genuine. I also was of the opinion the "A.C.M." is a fake. I made a photograph by ultra-violet but so far have not developed the plate.

Re - the 4RLL pair in the Fox sale. I examined this pair very carefully - put it in tetro and to be sure I photographed the back by U.V. and there is no cresse. Strange how everybody overlooked this item as it is easily worth \$300.00 or more. Harry Keffer evidently bought it for Sam Paige. I thus assume that Sam did not attend the sale. How come Neinken overlooked it? I wonder?

I will be very much interested in your brother's comment on the Levy letters. Keep me posted.

Re - Jamet. Henry Hill has a high regard for him and thinks he is honest - Henry put Jamet in touch with me a year or so ago. All the dealings I have had with him have been okay except this recent slip-up which I believe was unintentional. It does seem however that it would be a miracle if there really was such a thing as an honest stamp dealer in Paris.

I have carefully noted your remarks re - Molesworth, and I am sure much of what you stated is true. I will be very careful to watch my step.

May 31, 1954.

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

Dear Ezra:

Yours of the 26th. Thanks for the data on the 1942 Rust sale. Whoever bought Lot 669 in that sale was the seller in the Fox 14 '51 sale. Thus my query. There were several nice varieties in that Rust Lot #669.

Re - the 5¢ New York - Savannah. Molesworth sent it to me. It is an off cover item and Jack bought it from Dan recently because Dan made him a very attractive price. Dan also assured him it was good. I had forgotten that you sent this to me some years ago. I evidently did not make a photo at that time. I reported to Jack that in my opinion the thing is a paint job and I sent him a tracing of a genuine Savannah to show that the painting fails to match the genuine. I also was of the opinion the "A.C.M." is a fake. I made a photograph by ultra-violet but so far have not developed the plate.

Re - the 4R1L pair in the Fox sale. I examined this pair very carefully - put it in tetro and to be sure I photographed the back by U.V. and there is no crease. Strange how everybody overlooked this item as it is easily worth \$300.00 or more. Harry Keffer evidently bought it for Sam Paige. I thus assume that Sam did not attend the sale. How come Neinken overlooked it? I wonder?

I will be very much interested in your brother's comment on the Levy letters. Keep me posted.

Re - Jamet. Henry Hill has a high regard for him and thinks he is honest - Henry put Jamet in touch with me a year or so ago. All the dealings I have had with him have been okay except this recent slip-up which I believe was unintentional. It does seem however that it would be a miracle if there really was such a thing as an honest stamp dealer in Paris.

I have carefully noted your remarks re - Molesworth, and I am sure much of what you stated is true. I will be very careful to watch my step.

Again re - the Geneva, N.Y. cover. I have no fault to find with your remarks. I do believe it is possible that the thing could be good and had no rate stamp and nothing, but the postmark to indicate payment (3 PAID) then the use must have been prior to Jan. 1, 1856, and it seems unlikely that a target was used there so early - still it could have been.

Regards.

Yours etc.,

June 7, 1954.

Mr. Jack E. Molesworth,  
102 Beacon Street,  
Boston 16, Mass.

Dear Jack:

Yours of the 3rd, and your query about the 5¢ New York. I do not like to give out confidential information and in this case I don't think the information would be of material assistance to you. Without violating a confidence, I think I can state that it was sent to me by a dealer. I am under the impression that when he returned it to Kelleher he informed him that it was Ashbrook's opinion the postmark was a fake. I probably have the correspondence in one of my scrap books but this was over ten or twelve years ago and at that time I did not index them, hence it would be a job to go thru them, but I will if you feel you have to have the full data.

Re - your comment about the logic of a 'faker using a superb unused stamp. That really would be a silly thing to do, and if I had been of any such opinion, I doubt if I would have expressed an adverse opinion. Did I not intimate that I questioned the A.C.M.? I will venture a guess - this was a blue pen canceled 5¢ New York - pencancels removed as well as the A.C.M. - result - an uncanceled 5¢ New York - Wouldn't the rest be easy? The "A.C.M." will almost wash off any 5¢ New York, hence very easy to remove and the blue ink used at New York left practically no trace when removed. This is why we have "unused New Yorks." In such cases the ultra-violet photographs seldom if ever show up a single thing. In 1845-1847 I don't suppose it ever occurred to anyone that quill pen cancels could be very easily cleaned.

Herewith the 30¢ 1869 on a piece. I fear that few people would have any confidence in my judgement if I okayed an item such as this. I don't think this item has any more value on this piece than if it was a single off cover stamp. I can't see that the piece adds a thing in interest or value so Jack what's the difference whether it was used originally or some "fixer" put a used copy on this piece and painted the "tie?" However, here are some points of interest -

1) I judge the "cover" was to "Prussia" as per the "Pruss Closed" - surely "By Prussian Closed Mail" and before this - I wonder if it reads, "Per Asia?" The New York p.m. is "Br Transit" all features of "P.C.M." In 1869 such a rate was 15¢ per 1/2 oz. If this was "Dec 16" 1869, and this 30¢ stamp was actually used as we see it, the letter had to be at least a double. By Dec. 1870, the rate had been reduced to 10¢ per 1/2 oz., hence this would have been at least a triple. My records show no British Packet sailing on Dec. 16, 1869, and I regret to state I do not possess a list of sailings for Dec. 1870.

With regards.

Sincerely yours,

June 7, 1954.

Mr. Jack E. Molesworth,  
102 Beacon Street,  
Boston 16, Mass.

Dear Jack:

Here is a photo by ultra-violet of the 5¢  
New York. Of course, you have my permission to  
inform Dan that in my opinion the postmark is a  
fake.

Note what is supposed to be an "S" in this  
paint job. Don't you think it is a funny looking  
"S" - Note its relation to the next letter, the "A."

Yours etc,



SEE  
31

QUARTZ F64 - 17 MIN  
BY MOLESWORTH - 5/29-54



C206





Pmkd. — Savannah, Ga.

B499



# U. S. ORIGINAL RESEARCH

by D. ORRIN PLOTZ, SPA 2399

A series of Philatelic Monographs:

Advanced and Lesser Studies . . . . New Unknown  
Discovery . . . . Allied History . . . . Serious and  
Consummate Opinion.

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## Real Pink    Rose Pink    Near Pink and Mock-Pink Among 3c 1861's

*Dear Philatelic Hobby:*

**MOCK-PINK:** This appellation is not mine alone— It has been given this name solely to distinguish it from the standard pink; by a few U. S. specialists fully cognizant of its existence and classification fundamentals. I refer to it as #64<sup>+</sup>.

**NEAR PINK:** The reference here—throughout this study—is specific. It does not appear herein loosely as an excuse or subterfuge (as among barterers) that this shade is/or maybe #64 (?). This research clearly defines IT referred to as #64o . . .

. . . Nor does this Near Pink shade even bear upon the plentifully common Rose Pink shade (#64a) which is so often stressed to be a Near Pink; an error, due principally account of lack of knowledge, which is understandable.

**PREAMBLE CLARIFICATION**—and there will be much more further on—may appear as repetitious, but it will take a lot of this to clarify my findings among the 3c pink stamps of 1861:

Mock-Pink is the deeper shade, a “stronger” pink color I define it the Positive shade in relation to #64. Our Near Pink, on the other hand, lacks much of the *pink color*, thus becomes the Negative shade of #64. Both of these variants, nevertheless, are very closely allied to the standard pink color of #64 . . .

Contrary—the Rose Pink—This shade is distinctly in a separate group; so understood by the competent philatelist. It is the common cheaper shade; causing the most trouble when fostered by the incompetent, using it as the fabulous #64. It is not that closely allied to the Real Pink. As stated in the paragraph immediately above, only the Mock-Pink and the Near Pink are of the family of #64: true pink variants, and as such, any, or all three are not common or plentiful.

Yes, in gaining a catalogue position, for orderly and numerical convenience, most cataloguers can only “group” this Rose Pink shade, with a minor number “a”, next below our scarce #64.

This troublesome sub-shade is a secondary production output item; secondary because another, later-type ink-mix (rose predominating) reached the presses and was put in use. This ink mixture lacked certain compounds and essentials, philatelically, which we seek to qualify the classic first purplish-pink stamp shade, which produced #64 and the variants #64<sup>+</sup> and #64o.

But, in its production, the Rose Pink was printed on the same paper stock because it was on hand and available; the same paper as used first for the three earlier pink stamps. Its production life was longer . . . grading gradually into rose red, rose, bright rose, etc., continuity eventually meeting-up with the paper-change: a soft-wove thicker paper of the so-called “September” and later printings.

Its rose coloring ink component—and I am still speaking about the Rose Pink stamps, or shades—has a more basic lasting nature. This same, cannot be said for the ink tones of #64, #64<sup>+</sup> and #64o.

(Continued on Page 156)

# U. S. Original Research

(Continued from Page 153)

Of all the perplexing subjects in U. S. Philately, surely this #64-Pink is "the \$64-Question." There is very little or nothing at all in our stamp literature that can give any concrete assistance to this writer. U. S. students have not uncovered very much in this 1861 issue to even compare with their monumental strides in the stamp issues which preceded it. Mock-Pink Among The 3c 1861's is strictly "Original Research" in every respect.

Mock-Pink #64+ (my number) is referred to herein as a *shade* only for literary explanation. It actually is the major color-*shade*. It also cannot correctly be classified as the minor-derivative of #64 . . . It is a major PINK—although an altered variety.

As per cataloguers' prerogative: Rose Pink #64a, accountable to their listing methods for many years, is therefore generally assumed to be a minor derivative of #64. This student stands contrary. Only the well-defined so-called Near Pink #64o is the *true shade derivative*.

On this point then, we now have a major and a minor shade of #64 the Real Pink; or, scholastically, a positive and a negative pink shade—in reaching proper variety classification:

Positive—because it is Pink; the Negative shade was pink in the past but on viewing it today, it appears to have lost its lustre. Therefore, this so-called Near Pink is given (my number) #64o in classifying: the "o" denoting minus, or lacking its original essential coloring.

On a similar basis: the "+" of Mock-Pink #64+, denotes a plus, or addition to the pink color. And the "a" of Rose Pink #64a, is the denotation of cataloguers; there is no problem involved in it.

Mock-Pink being the major shade, is truly #64 altered somewhat by *unkown atmospheric or chemical reactions* since August 1861. These changes or alterations are not due to human tampering.

Readers should understand we are dealing with a "fragile" — delicate color, notoriously susceptible to various kinds of deterioration—plus or minus—the normal.

Viz.: #64 is the normal—accepted official and issued color;

#64+ is the plus or major (shade)—deeper recognizable pink;

#64o is the minus or minor shade—lacking in color;

#64a—We have no difficulty with this common shade — (or New England pink), but in some quarters it may represent a monetary plus (sic.)

In refering to "unknown alterations" and causes thereof, in gradual deterioration . . . this alone has been the enigma all these years for proper stamp and shade classification; with the important ever-present factor: the element of human frailty in color vision.

Similarly, this great difficulty is not Philately's alone. The problem of steadfast color and faulty description has also plagued many fields of technical industry and commerce.

## PAPER OF THE PINK STAMPS

All four pink shades were printed on the early—"regular issue" paper; referred to in the past as the "August paper." A somewhat semi-transparent opaque paper. Much sturdier than the thin—(soft) transparent paper of the Premier Gravures.

I give a better description of this early regular issue paper: It is a hard paper on the brittle-side and if creased or folded, would crack.

Specimens examined appeared on a grayish-white paper; occasionally a specimen was found that would meet a fresh-white paper, notably among #64 and #64o.

The "September" paper of the later printings, a soft-wove yellowish, used mostly during the war years, varies in thickness: (late 1861 to early 1867). Again changed, after the war as national conditions returned to normal; during most of the period of the griled stamps: a finer quality thin wove—to a—thinner wove paper. (Middle 1867 to early 1869).

It will also be noted this more settled later period, the appearance of the 3c stamps improved, the rose shades returned; *but the classic pink* which ushered in this design was never equaled, or matched.

It is well known, generally, that shades run rampant among many of the 1861 stamps. This is especially true in the 5c and 24c values. The altered changlings as here reported for the 3c value, conceivably can be applied in the case of both of these values. Scan the shades of the 5c value, if you will: Buff, brown yellow, olive yellow, (mustard), red brown, dark red brown, brown, **dark** brown, pale brown, black brown and intergrading of all these. And shades of the 24c value: Red lilac, steel blue, blackish violet, lilac, dark lilac, gray lilac, gray, plus intergrades. A very numerous group.

A statement has appeared in the philatelic press; made by a leading student, in effect, hinting a variable shade-or-color, *in re*. U. S. #70b, the steel blue shade, with or without full original gum; for this particular stamp.

An accidental (experiment) with U. S. #R84, \$2.50 Inland Exchange revenue stamp, resulted in a gray-blue shade (as many are found) altered from violet, its original issued color.

It is very easy to branch off from the main topic of this article and reach into subjects as abovementioned and go on and on. This article will confine itself with my findings among the difficult early pink stamps.

With all this change in color and stamp paper, research opened-up a third summation. I have good reason to believe different kinds of gum adhesive was used and must be considered as an important alteration cause.

One instance revealed a yellow-white gum backed-up #64o; smoothly and carefully applied—perhaps, thus officially issued, and if so—the years had taken its toll. If this were a regummed stamp (?) to enhance its value as a Mint #64, a very valuable item, the vender himself may have believed his stamp was #64. Really a

(Continued on Page 159)



# United States

## Original Research



(Continued from Page 156)

fresh choice copy—but—as usual, lacking the purplish-tinge, and about 50 shade degrees off the true pink.

The usual gum adhesive on 1861 stamps was the very dark brown gum; some variations were noted.

Many postoffices of that era did have glue pots available for sealing envelopes, etc. Early envelope flaps were not gummed. Many persons used this available glue in affixing postage stamps also, and a really harmful glue it appears to have been.

Mention of the gum adhesive is quite important to this article. It substantiates an important fact uncovered during research, especially that harmful dark brown gum causing a darkening reaction in the pink stamps.

### #64—THE REAL PINK

This is *the* fabulous standard color.

I describe it as a pastel fresh pink with the *essential tinge* (or glimmer) of *Purplish-violet*; paper and engraving brilliantly fresh and clear; the stamp plate, of course, is brand-new without wear giving complete sharpness to all lines. Nearly a proof-like appearance.

An esteemed contemporary has maintained this premium pink shade of #64 can now be matched with some earlier shades of the 1938 9c Presidential stamp; that previous to this date there was good reason for making an error in the rarer pink stamp.

Perhaps his contention is factual in matching off-shade or graded-down 64's. But I must differ with him, if the true brilliant pink shade can be matched. Even his 9c Presidential chrome-capped stamp varies in-the-sheet itself. At best his stamp under the head of a chalky-pink shade on account of the intense white paper it is printed on.

Why not try any of these 9-centers with the bonifide Pink Proof on India #64P. That's the original color. It can't be done! And what's more the proof paper is comparable for whiteness.

To really find a color that will match and aid us, we must go outside the bounds of our hobby to Conchology; here we find the common large conch shell's interior to be the best match of all, pink and with a purplish-shine. This color is called a "shell pink" by horticulturists.

There is no exact color match—in Philately—when we must consider the purplish-tinge. In this No. 64 stands individually alone.

To continue:

Boldly stated (and the results of this research) #64 Real Pink IS A FUGITIVE COLOR—This, is the main reason why the stamp is scarce.

Not fugitive similar to our postage dues of 1894-'95 when emersed in water, BUT its loss of color is due to EVAPORATION and FADE-OUT. Of course, there is a time element involved, etc. #64 is nearly 100 years old. Strong light and heat may be the main causes among other harmful *detractions*, destroying this beautiful pink color.

In color-ink chemistry, especially in producing a pink dye: fruit juices are used. This in itself should convey the unstable and "fragile" quality in the product. (See chemistry reference to Italian-pink.)

It was a privilege to examine the "FREE" cancellation copy of #64 which made the listing in Scott's U. S. Specialized Catalogue. A very choice stamp, cancellation struck perfectly. I warned the possessor to keep this rarity away from strong light; and this warning goes out to all owners of the true #64.

The same advice especially to stamp dealers and auctioneers who insist on illustrating #64 in their printed lists and catalogues. This practice will, in time, drop the stamp down to a #640. The "cut-making" process requires very strong light which destroys the purplish-tinge, one of the first signs of deterioration.

Another learned authority concurs on this point against strong light and he prefers a soft-glow yellow light (kerosene) for examining: if an item may be the true shade #64 or is not the true shade, protecting such stamps' shades meanwhile.

One specimen under examination, with heavily smudged cancellation and soiled over-all, proved to be a protector of its true pink-tinged color under this curtain of smudge. It qualified a #64!

As a simple test in finding a pink stamp among your 3c 1861s: Place all your stamps on a sheet of dark craft paper, all spread out. If the real pink is present in the lot, it will stand out against all the other shades. No other shade will be like it.

With different kinds of eyesight, other colors of papers should be used for contrast: black, yellow, sky-blue or green paper instead of brown craft.

But once you have seen the Real Pink shade you will always remember it. #64 is the most abused of all our stamps, mainly attributed to failure in discerning variable colors; and the hope eternal, ever-present, of possessing the rarer and more valuable stamp. Let my readers understand, although many specimens are stated TO BE the "August" Pink, only a few can be truly chosen as a #64 from that multitude!

In closely watching many sales' catalogues over the years, viewing an item represented as #64, in a majority of cases, a bright rose-pink stamp was on display. This same was especially true when franking Patriotic covers. Certainly, if franked with the proper stamp, it would enhance any of these pictorials (as if a choice cover needed enhancement-plus), but, in the main, a lesser pink rose shade was usually apparent.

(To Be Continued)



# U. S. ORIGINAL RESEARCH

by D. ORRIN PLOTZ, SPA 2399

A series of Philatelic Monographs:  
Advanced and Lesser Studies . . . . New Unknown  
Discovery . . . . Allied History . . . . Serious and  
Consummate Opinion.

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## Real Pink    Rose Pink    Near Pink and Mock-Pink Among 3c 1861's

(Continued from Page 159, May 14th)



*Metceels  
May  
21  
1954*

### #64+—THE MOCK-PINK

*It is a true pink:* a dark-deeper more robust pink than #64 itself, *with the purplish tinge*, also. This distinctive shade, heretofore and without the number I give it, has been described a "deep or dark pink."

All of these stamps (#64+) lack a fresh appearance both as to paper and over-all brilliance. Reactions are the cause. Its alteration or changling is due, in part, to that heavy brown gum, and moreso—taken from this study—to the crude art of early paper-making, evidenced in the poor quality of the then current ORANGE-PAPER envelopes. The components, chemically, of these envelopes, sulphides, *coloring*, etc.—and only a qualified chemist would know all the answers—much beyond the ken of the philatelist . . . both dark gum and the orange dyes *in the envelopes*, reacted somehow in darkening our pink stamp #64, producing this "new" shade as a #64+ which now distinguishes Mock-Pink from all other pink shades.

It should be understood, although these reacting elements altered original color to a definite darker pink (and could pass, has passed as #64, because #64+ is unknown to a majority of collectors), its changling impairment, oddly enough, did not ruin the required purplish tinge in the stamp.

Also—Research pointed out, on the other hand, *when once* the darkening alteration took-hold, as with this #64+, no further reactions could occur . . . the *major-shade* held . . . *for now that shade was tempered!* . . . and resisted . . . time or influence of the elements. #64+ is unique; scarcer than the scarce #64 itself.

But again to these orange-paper envelopes (which had carried early 3c pinks), with such strong chemical components which not only altered and reacted upon the stamp, which we are interested in, but very plainly and visibly reacted upon the hand-inscribed INK addressing and even manuscript postal markings thereon. All such marking were faded-out, or to describe, more in point: the hand-inscribed markings on stamp and cover were *eaten-up*, illegible and difficult to read; all due to reacting infinities of the orange-paper envelope's chemical components. Such were the clues, indicating what had happened to these pink stamps thereon. In final analysis this alteration discovery, makes me believe my findings are correct (for this difficult group) and sums up the entire research; and also, not forgetting that harmful dark brown gum.

Strong light and heat therefore, poor grade paper envelopes, the gum, mishandling and unknown atmospheric or chemical causes, destroyed many Real Pink #64 stamps. Add to this list, lack of knowledge, in the hobby, over the years in protecting this stamp

(Continued on Page 164)

# MEKEEL'S WEEKLY STAMP NEWS

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## U. S. Original Research

(Continued from Page 161)

from fading-away to become in/and by degrees, gradually a No. 64o.

The change of color-shade for this Near Pink *veers* toward the opposite end of the spectrum — opposite from the Mock-Pink — placing each of these altered stamps at opposite ends of a color scale; with our beauty, the Real Pink, plumb-center this scale. As is usual in all color charts, scales or the spectrum, as such, there are numerous intergrading or degrees of shade. Pink when scaled for shade is more acute because in itself it is only a shade. With these reacting hazards, as mentioned, #64 will always be a philatelic problem.

We find the Near Pink stamp (#64o) an anemic, washed-out "weak" shade.

On the opposite side, Mock-Pink (64+) is a robust "strong" color.

The former, due to lack of knowledge, has been stressed a Rose Pink, which it is not and never was.

Both sub-shades: "o" and "+", in their respective categories, are very early printings; the same period as #64. The Rose Pink "a" or full number 64a, is not an early printing. It lacks the essential aura entirely of the purplish tinge qualification.

The deficiency in the Near Pink is due mainly to mishandling, long viewing and exposure to strong light. This destroyed its pristine state. It was #64 in the long, long ago, but is now only a "poor relation."

Two paper varieties were discovered for #64+ which should be listed:

#64+ on a smoother calendered paper.

#64+ on SILK PAPER.

The latter paper variety is of some importance, for it may appear also among #64 and the Near Pink #64o.

We now come to the matter of perforations. The previous 1857 issue is Perf. 15. The new 1861 issue which replaced it, is somewhat larger in stamp size and perforated 12. Here it was noted, especially, the excellence of a sharp clean cut by the perforating pins, on these early pink stamps only. This certainly shows the stamp contractors began operations with all new equipment all along the line, and in haste; were really ready on what we could call an emergency stamp issue. The urgency, of course, is understood, but the status of various stamp emissions, uncompleted stamp designs, temporary paper, reject or accept colors, meet requisitions, etc., etc., the conditions and stress of the moment, is not so clearly understood in Philately or elsewhere. Or, the political and departmental position just prior, let us say, September 1861.

### #64o THE NEAR PINK (SO-CALLED)

I have explained some of the causes which produced this shade. It is one of the "fugitive pink stamps." The ultra-violet (or purplish) tinge "evaporated" over the long years.

A fact brought out during research may clear this up for my readers. My conclusion: That #64o, the Near Pink stamps, formerly were THE Real Pink #64. That in all cases, these anemic shades (and the reader should not misconstrue Rose Pink for Near Pink) on close and careful scrutiny, certain portions of the design still showed telltale tiny areas, the last vestiges of the Real Pink purplish-tinge; this is the key factor, which at an earlier date was the original color-shade of this stamp.

In the evaporation process which altered #64o to its weak anemic appearance, as if powerful light rays had drawn away, evenly, all of the stamps original pristine purple-pink color, leaving a bizarre, outline of the original intaglio cutting—"footprints" that the magnetic rays could not capture or destroy. This is hard to convey to the average person in mere words. #64o has been through an ordeal; it has changed from a full-line engraved stamp to the appearance of an outlined etching. The color of the heavier areas has been sapped.

That is the difference between #64o and #64a, the latter, a Rose Pink has not been through this ordeal, and if perchance it had, nothing would have happened because the rose in this stamp has a lasting basic quality. A low-priced stamp because they are plentifully common. And this Rose Pink may be filling your album space for the scarce #64 Real Pink.

### DISCOVERY IN RESEARCH

Another discovery was brought out during this careful study.

All of these pink stamps are early 1861 printings from newly engraved plates. The Mock-Pink stamps were especially helpful due to deeper complete clarity in all aspects of the engraved lines. In the heavier lines of color it was noted accumulation of powdered chalk or other excess particles (residue). Evidencing the direc-

tion of the movement of the press operation and what is more important, this shows these early pink stamps were produced on a slow-powered press.

As to this discovery, it appears to this writer: these stamps were printed on a press operated by manual labor, a slow method, accounting for the sharp clear impressions noticeable on all three of the scarcer pink stamps. Other later printings, including the Rose Pink were turned out on steam-powered presses; for the need was very great to rush stamps to all parts of the country. Clarity in design is not as sharp in later printings. And as proofs, essays, etc. are usually printed by the slower method and all are excellent examples for purpose of full clear design, my opinion may be correct.

To fortify this statement, as to hand-power or steam-power motivation, we find, among later 1861 printings, maginal plate markings denoting the word "STEAM", as a stamp plate to be used on a steam-powered press.

Such markings of the plate on any of the early pink stamp plates have not been found and are unknown.

Because of the great need to supply postoffices, I presume both kinds of powered presses were used at the same time during the earlier months of printing. Postmark dates appear to show this concurrence for August-September 1861, September-August 1861 if we watch dates on any of the values. And such stamps with clear postmarking reach a high priced figure.

### VARIETIES ON THE PINK STAMPS

Some of these minor varieties were discovered during this research, unknown and unlisted heretofore:

- (1) On #64—Pair, Chicago Supplementary Mail.
- (2) On #64+—SILK fibres in the paper. Unlisted.
- (3) On #64+—Smooth calendered paper.
- (4) On #64+—"THREB" for Three.

This Threb pseudo-plate variety is well known on the later war period stamps. The knowledge we here gain gives us information that one of the early plates with the variety had long and continuous use.

The variety is a deeper entry of the transfer roll, entered deeper than the other individual stamp units.

### BOGUS PINK ON COVER

Finally and not the least of all: There has appeared in the past, the true pink, although bogus "stamps" on cover.

Examination showed, certain individuals of very meagre stamp knowledge mutilated an even rarer item to produce the forgery.

This was done with U. S. #64P, CARDBOARD PROOFS, varieties in themselves, because no more remain. The catalogue only lists #64P on india paper. Now unknown on cardboard.

Collectors well versed in Proofs know that all the great collections of these were made abroad where leading and famous collectors appreciated U. S. Proofs and Essays. In the breaking-up of some of these proof collections #64P on cardboard reached the bogus cover makers.

Of course, as proofs, even on such covers, they are beautifully striking, all engraved lines sharp and clear.

Thinned-down, perforated with ¼th of the bogus postmark covering the stamp.

At the end of this article I append an elementary listing chart of the different color shades among all 3c 1861-1868 stamps; of some importance to this Mock-Pink article.

There is a need, if some student would come forward and give the hobby the results of such research (while supplies of dated covers are still available) on the exact year date and length of use for each of these shades among this 3c Civil War group of stamps.

### ELEMENTARY COLOR-SHADES CHART

U. S. #56—3c (1861) Brown-RED, Premiere Gravure, not related to this article.

U. S. (#64P)—3c (1861) Proof, Pink on India.

U. S. (#64P)—3c (1861) Proof, Pink on Cardboard (Mutilated). Not catalogued as known on cardboard or by Essay-Proof Specialists. With postmark. RARE.

U. S. (#64)—3c 1861, the Real Pink on the early August paper, so-called.

U. S. (#64+)—3c 1861, the MOCK-PINK on same paper or calendered paper. Also SILK PAPER.

U. S. (#64o)—3c 1861, the NEAR PINK on the same early August paper. The FUGITIVE shade specimen.

U. S. (#64a)—3c 1861, the Rose Pink on the same early paper; the New England pink or troublesome specimen.

U. S. #65—3c 1861, the so-called September and later printings: Rose, Bright Rose, Dull Rose, Rose Red on the thicker paper.

U. S. #65—3c Brown Red, Pale Brown Red, Dark Brown Red. later printings.

U. S. #65—3c Dull, Musty, Washed-out inferior shades—a bottom-of-the-barrel product; due to lack of proper dyes, in the war period.

U. S. #74—3c Scarlet. Not regularly issued.

U. S. #79, (82), 83, 85, 85C, 88, 94 and sub-shades; the war was over and stamp shades returned to Rose shades but never again to the classic pink of the first 1861 printings.

U. S. #66—3c Lake. Not regularly issued.

U. S. #104—3c Brown Red Re-Issue of 1875 but from the early plate.

These technical struggles of the stamp contractors for proper ink dye pigments are also noted among Civil War Revenue stamps.

Nesbitt, the envelope contractor, used Red and PINK colors for the 3c and 6c envelopes, concurrent with the postage stamps, during the war years, but after 1864 these colors were changed to Brown and Purple.

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# Foreign New Issues

J. AVERY WELLS, Editor

Box 30, Jackson Heights, Long Island, New York



**ALGERIA—Semi-Postal**—A 15fr+5fr deep emerald green carries its surtax for Social Aid for the Foreign Legion. The picture is one of those rugged adventurers who are supposed to compose the famous Legion, and in the distance a watch-tower and palm-trees.



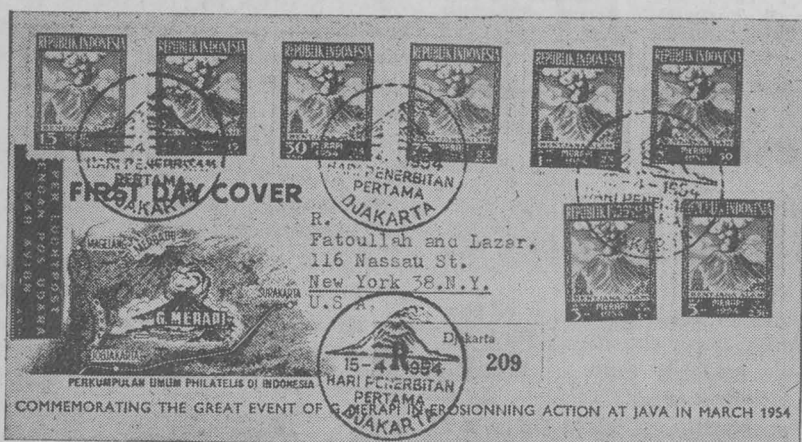
**COLOMBIA — Commemorative Postage**—A small 5c dark brown, green and violet brown, carries the dates "1550-1950" marking the 4th Centenary of the Franciscans in Colombia. The design of two crosses and two arms crossed within a wreath, represents St. Frances receiving the Stigmata.



**Local Air Post**—A medium-size horizontal pictorial is a 5c pale lilac, and is inscribed "CORREO EXTRA-RAPIDO". The picture is of a huge condor wearing the Arms of Colombia as a breast-plate as he flies inland from the Caribbean. It is to be used for local Air Post and will speed domestic mail in this land of great mountains.



**ECUADOR — Postage & Air Post**—Two Postage and five Air Post stamps somewhat belatedly mark the 5th Centenary of Queen Isabella. The Postage are upright with an appealing young portrait of the Queen against a tapestry backdrop and the values are 30c black on gray, 50c olive on straw. The five Air Post in horizontal format carry a like portrait of the Queen, but the background is the facade of an old Church with its nearby oratory. The values are 60c dark green, 90c magenta, 1p black on tinted green, 2p black on green, 5p on brown. The stamps are small, perf 8½.



**INDONESIA — Semi-Postals**—We have Volcanos in action again, this time from Djakarta (It used to be Batavia). There are eight stamps and evidently the surtax is for the sufferers at Merapi. The values are 15s+10s blue green, 30s+15s purple, 50s+25s red, 75s+25s ultramarine, 1r+25s carmine, 2r+50s black, 3r+1r, 5r+2.50r. The stamps are crudely printed, just a big steaming volcano coming forth from a lava mountain. Date of issue was April 15, 1954, according to the postmark.

**ICELAND**—We are illustrating the Hekla in action, "5 AU-RAR" on 35a carmine rose described last week.



**IRAN — AVICENNA, IBN SINA, 980-1037**—Famous Arabian physician was born at Bukhara, according to Columbia Encyclopedia, and evidently his life was lived many years in Hamadan which is just south of Teheran. The stamps are Semi-Postals and there is an imposing new Tomb which we shall likely pay for. Upon the 50d+25d green is a view of Hamadan. The 1r+½r brown give us the portrait of a great man. The 2½r+1¼r deep blue seems to be the conical tower which is also a part of the new Tomb. The 5r+2½r is the Old Tomb. Upon the



10r+5r olive is the new Tomb of Avicenna.



**ITALY**—A 25L deep green, issued April 24, marked a trial transportation of mail by Helicopter from Milan to Turin. The trial took place during the 32nd Milan Fair and the design is the Milan Fair Challenge Trophy for vertical flight.



**NICARAGUA—UN Postage**—Issued on April 30th as per schedule there have come a neat series of five medium-sized square stamps, all of circular frame within the square and all in shades of green. Designs are variations on the UN insignia, World Map, Nicaragua Arms & Flags. The values are 3c, 4c, 5c, 15c, 1cor.

**UN Air Post**—There are seven Air Post stamps, and these

(Continued on Page 165)

## BIG U.S. CATALOG



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555/57	.08	C80/88	1.80	C150	.09
553/59	.32	C89/93	4.70	C151/55	2.00
C1/7	5.35	C99/102	1.48	C156	.20
C9-10-11	4.80	C103/05	1.80	C157/62	1.25
C27/31	.60	C106/09	2.25	C163/67	1.05
C32/8	1.25	C110	.07	C168/72	1.25
C39	.06	C111/113	2.30	C173/76	.72
C48/54	.90	C114/16	1.05	C177/81	2.50
C55/61	.90	C117/21	1.50	C182/84	.22
C62/65	1.10	C122/26	2.25	C185/88	.83
C66/67	1.80	C127/30	1.00	C198/99	.85
C68/71	1.65	C131/35	2.25	C200/01	.16
C72	.06	C136/39	1.10	C202/05	.50
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MEKEEL'S WEEKLY





FINANCE COMMITTEE

*American Philatelic Society, Inc.*

ADOLPH STEEG, CHAIRMAN

1048 Genesee Street, Buffalo 11, N. Y.

April 29, 1954

Mr. Stanley B. Ashbrook,  
33 N. Ft. Thomas Ave.,  
Ft. Thomas, Ky.

Dear Stan:

Thanks very much for your kind co-operation in giving me your opinion on that strip of three 1c 1851 Type IIIA stamps and your offer to give me any information required. I note that you have adopted a stringent rule to charge where an opinion of authentication on a cover is requested, but in the case of the strip submitted you was not making a charge because I was not aware of the rule you recently put in effect, however, that you want me to know that the rule does not apply to me personally. Does this imply that if in the future I should submit any further items to you that have come to me for an A.P.S. certificate that there will be no charge.

As I had stated in my previous letter I believed it would be an imposition to ask you to pass on such items without some remuneration but not knowing what your fixed charges are, do not know if the token fee would be satisfactory.

Your reference to the large cash funds of the A.P.S. and its very substantial income is a subject that I know backwards and forwards. I know that many members feel as you do about it, but when you analyze the financial statement you will see that most of the large cash funds are tied up in Trust Funds (1) The Insurance Fund for indemnification of losses thru the Sales Department (2) The Life Membership Fund which not until recently was touchable but now is being amortized to carry the Life Membership and (3) The Permanent Fund which our old friend Gus Wilhelm tied up so permanently that its name is not a nomenomer. This Fund at the Milwaukee Convention was pegged at \$30,000.00 and nobody has yet come up with a good answer what it should be used for. However, the interest on these Funds go to the General Fund, which, with the income from dues and entrance fees are the only available fund to run the Society. Costs have gone up so much during the past five years, the cost of printing the A.P. has doubled, that I have been at times at my wits ends to make ends meet in spite of the raise in dues from \$3.00 to \$4.00 which should have increased to \$5.00. It cost \$1.35 a member to run the Central Office and the net cost of the A.P. is over \$2.00 a member so there is little left to carry on the other functions of the Society.

I often wished that the Society had a larger income to the General Fund so that it could subsidize many worthwhile causes but with its limited income cannot see where such is possible.

Hope I have not bored you with this detailed narration but thought you may be interested to know.

With my kindest regards,

Cordially yours, *Adolph*

May 31, 1954.

Mr. Adolph Steeg,  
1048 Genesee St.,  
Buffalo 11, N.Y.

Dear Adolph:

When yours of April 29th arrived, I was extremely busy on a rush job and I had to lay your letter aside for a later date.

Again re - the examination of items. As a special favor to you I will be glad to assist you on any items so we will forget the subject of fees, but I request that you treat this as strictly confidential.

Thanks so much for the data on A.P.S. income, etc. I was totally uninformed and I am glad to have the facts.

With my best wishes -

Cordially yours,



Paris, May 10th. 1954.

Dear Mr. Ashbrook.

About foreign mails rates to Europe and another countries via or to G. Britain:

1° the first postal treaty went into effect in February 1849.

a) The paid rate was 24 ct. But did it was possible to send after Feb. 1849 a letter to England with the U.S. share (5¢) - only paid by stamps, leaving 16¢ + 3¢ to be paid at the arrival?

b) between 1849 and 1857 it was a 21 ¢. rate for letters to Europe via England if forwarded by American packet. Did this rate was a part of the precedent 1848 postal treaty or did it was another new postal treaty?

2° In your work One cent 51.57 you give tables of foreign rates (56 E to 56 M) - paid by U.K. mails. (P.O. Directory of 1852) - Did it was a new treaty went to effect in 1852? Or was it always the first 1849 treaty?

---

Theoretically it is possible to find letters to Europe having the 21 ct. rate paid by 25¢ 1847 stamps. Do they are known?

It is the same with the different possible 1852 rates paid by 1851 stamps. But I do not know any examples of them, nor in private collections nor by sales catalogs. Do you know some examples of them?

You are right when writing the early foreign mail letters are a very interesting study. But it is impossible to catch any letter!!!

Since many years I am collecting american letters, I got only some examples with 10

~~free~~-treatis letters inland No. S. rate paid by 5¢. New York or 1847's stamps.

b/shore to ship rate letters with 1847 and 1851 stamps .... and nothing else

but the common 24¢. to England or 15¢ to France by 1851's. The only examples I know are paid stampless.

It is the same with the + 5 cents from California/Oregon rate. Paid by 1851 stamps it is also a myth!!

Sincerely yours.

Marcel Levy

---

May 31, 1954.

Mr. Marcel Levy,  
8 Rue Lagarde,  
Paris, France.

Dear Mr. Levy:

Please pardon this tardy reply to yours of May 10th. I was tied up with some very important rush work and I was compelled to lay aside all correspondence which was not urgent.

Regarding your queries. The U. S.-British Treaty went into effect on Feb. 15th, 1849. Additional articles went into effect on July 1st, 1849. These later articles pertained to carrying into effect the original treaty. No, it was not possible to pay 5¢ on a letter to Great Britain but on mail to various countries beyond G.B. and transmitted thru G.B. it was possible to pay 5¢ or 21¢ - the former by British Packets, the latter by American Packets. For example, a letter to G.B. had to be fully paid or entirely unpaid. A pay of 5¢ would have been "insufficiently paid" and thus rated as entirely unpaid.

Re - your query 1849-1857 - the 21¢ rate. Yes, this rate was a part of the U.S.-G.B. Treaty. It applied to mail carried to Great Britain by an American Packet and addressed to countries beyond G.B. For example, a letter to Holland - Belgium - with U.S. postage paid in the U.S. to the British frontier. We see such letters marked "Paid only to England" - that is, 5¢ U. S. internal plus 16¢ sea - paying only to the British frontier, not beyond. The U.S.-British Treaty was in effect from Feb. 15, 1849 to Dec. 31, 1867 inclusive. There were from time to time additional articles but there was no treaty during the above period.

Re - the 21¢ paid by 1847 stamps. Off hand I do not recall such a cover. I think such mail was paid in cash rather than overpaying 4¢ by stamps. If I have ever seen a 21¢ rate paid by 1847 stamps I do not recall it. Payment by stamps was not compulsory while the 1847 stamps were current, hence it is doubtful if many people threw away 4¢ just for the sake of paying by postage stamps.

I don't know whether I understood an additional query. Was it to the effect, - are covers known with the 21¢ rate paid by 1851-1855 stamps. The answer is yes, but they are not common. Covers from California with the 5¢ '56 or 5¢ 1857 are extremely scarce, for that matter, the 5¢ '56 used to California is also a very elusive item.

I am wondering if I have answered all your queries satisfactory? If not please advise me.

With my kindest regards - Cordially yours,  
(31-55)

Paris, June 8th. 1954

Dear Mr. Ashbrook.

By the same mail, I write to B<sup>r</sup>. Pollard to pay you \$ 48.00 balance due for your special service.

---

Many thanks for your kind letters about the early U. S. foreign mails. In fact any foreign mail letter fully paid by 1851 stamps is very rare but the 24 ct. to Great Britain, and later the 15c. to France. and the letters with the + 5 supplement from California/Oregon are rarer. I know many large <sup>U.S.</sup> collections in Europe and the earliest examples I know are nearly all of around 1860/1863 years. And the sales catalogs since many years are also very poor. I think a list of the earliest examples you have recorded, years 1851, 1852, etc. ... should be very interesting.

---

In 1851, Harrowswitz Co. of New York ran two steamers (s/s Harrowswitz and s/s. Graciosa) - for a mail line to Saint. Thomas island. The documents I get (from the French Line), give this service as being on contract with U. S. Administration. Was this line chartered as postal route? How much was the postal rate? ~~and~~ Have you recorded any letter sent by this way and not marked "ship"?

In 1856 another Cy, West Indies/Venezuela Steamship Co.

was chartered by the States for regular mail  
strips from N.Y. to San Thomas (and also to  
Puerto Rico and La Guayra) - And old document  
gives me 25 cents as U.S. rate to St. Thomas.  
But how much to Puerto Rico and to Venezuela?  
Have you recorded some letters sent by this  
route and fully paid by U.S. stamps?

Sincerely yours.

Marcel Lévy.

---



June 14, 1954.

Mr. Marcel Levy,  
8 Rue Lagarde,  
Paris, France.

Dear Mr. Levy:

Yours of the 8th received. You are quite correct that covers to foreign countries with postage stamps in the late forties and early fifties are scarce - not so scarce in the middle fifties and more common by the late eighteen fifties. I suppose the great bulk of correspondence was mail paid by cash (stampless). While the prepayment of postage by postage stamps on domestic mail became compulsory on Jan. 1, 1856, this did not apply to foreign mail. If you will glance back thru my Service Issues you will find I emphasized on several occasions the desirability of covers to foreign countries with 1847 stamps. This also applies to covers with the 5¢ New York. Of course, the letter only paid the domestic postage but nevertheless the 5¢ New York stamps went to England, France and Austria. Any other foreign destinations are exceedingly rare.

Covers from California and Oregon to foreign countries prior to 1860 are decidedly rare, and in the early fifties practically all such mail was in stampless form - either paid or unpaid. I have never attempted to keep a record of the earliest uses I have seen of covers with stamps alone.

Re - mail to St. Thomas in 1851. There was no mail contract with the Steamship Line that you mentioned but I suppose the Line did carry mail privately as "Ship Letters." On such mail, at that period the only postage payable was the inland to port of departure - Mail could be sent in 1851 to St. Thomas by British Service, from New York or Boston Via Southampton, the rate being 55¢ per 1/2 oz. This was the West Indies rate and included Guadaloupe, Hayti, Martinique, Porto Rico, St. Croix, etc., etc. I suppose the postage was only to the frontier and not to destination (internal included). I believe the above answers your query if I have ever seen any covers by the Line mentioned and not marked "Ship."

Re - Mail in 1856-1857 - Via the West Indies & Venezuela Steamship Co., I have no record that the U.S. P.O.D. ever made a contract with the Company to convey mail. If they did carry mail, it must have been non-contract and treated as "Ship Letters" with the only U. S. postage paid, that of the U.S. inland or domestic, viz., to Port of departure. The 1857 P.L. & R. quoted the following rates to St. Thomas:

"By U.S. Packet to Kingston Jamaica ..... 18¢ per 1/2 oz.  
By Havana ..... 34¢ per 1/2 oz."

I do not recall ever seeing a cover with either of the above rates.

I trust I have answered your queries satisfactorily but if not please advise.  
With my kindest regards - Cordially yours,

# MORRISON CAFETERIA COMPANY

INCORPORATED

Birmingham, Alabama.

Thursday, June 3rd. 1954.

Mr. Stanley B. Ashbrook,  
33 No Ft Thomas Ave.,  
Fort Thomas, Ky.

Dear Stan,

This cover just came from Ez altho it was knocked down to me last Wednesday week ago. He has just picked it up at Mercury. I am mailing it to you at once and hoping it is O.K. Ez's comment was just "This is quite a nice cover."

As I wrote you please send it back to Ez if it is bad. But hoping it is good I wish you to endorse it and return it to me registered for its price to me \$115.50. I will then send you my check for the postage incurred and \$5 for the endorsement. Also, dont you think this cover should be folded as originally until mounted on a page. I see no reason to mail it back to me spread out like it is. I only keep it in the form it came to me in case you send it back.

Assuming it good, dont you think it a very rare thing? I have never seen a cover with the Japan cancel on it that was good.

Thank you from Dr Chew for the confirmation of what I had told him about the 1¢ 1875 proof. He was not disappointed for I had prepared him for your verdict. I also appreciate it.

In your letter you make one remark that puzzles me and I think you may have me mixed up with someone else. You say for me to watch out for the next issue of "Service" and reference to my Bermuda cover, a fact I appreciate no end. Then you add this puzzler-

"Also lot #311 in the Fox 1¢ sale. Watch for that also."

The 1¢ Fox sales of April and May show lots 311 as negligible off cover items.

Sincerely,



June 5, 1954.

Mr. Emmerson C. Krug,  
3008 - 13th Ave., South,  
Birmingham, Ala.

Dear Mr. :

Herewith the 2¢ 1869 cover which came late this afternoon, too late to get it back in the mail. I am pleased to report that it is okay in every way, and on the inside I detailed a complete story regarding it.

In my opinion, I think it should be left just the way it is - open, so that a person can see the complete rate and markings which would not be possible if folded. Yes Em, I do think it is a rare cover, no doubt about that. It is a "combination rate" - as I pointed out on the back. I have seen such combinations from China and Japan Viz S.F. to Britain and France, but this is the first that I recall to Prussia. It does not seem that anyone has monkeyed with it in any way. In the summer and fall of 1869 there apparently were large supplies of the 2¢ and 10¢ 1869 at Hiogo. Yes, covers are known that are good with the Hiogo marking. It is the off cover stamps that have the fake Hiogo.

I suppose by this time you have my June 1st Service Issue and a full explanation re - Lot #311 in the Fox 1¢ sale. I believe that vertical is a very rare pair. I remember Bill West paid Ward something like \$400.00 for a h.pair 4R1L - 5R1L. Do you remember the perf pair of 4-14 - from the Brown sale (Ex-Chase) that Ward tried to sell you? Didn't I advise you not to buy it? It had some defect and I thought Ward was trying to hold you up? That is the way I seem to remember it? I note you thought Lot 311 in the Fox 1¢ '51 sale didn't amount to much. Neinken was looking out the window and so was Ezra - Somebody made a marvelous buy. I didn't think it was even worth while to bid on it, as I thought it would go too high. Jacobs must have been in attendance and overlooked it. I think Morris Forgang is now the owner. It is not often there is such a bargain in a New York auction.

How did you like the write-up I gave your Bermuda cover?

I had a letter from Jere Barr today. He is only interested in covers.

Regards.

Yours etc.,

# MORRISON CAFETERIA COMPANY

INCORPORATED

Birmingham, Alabama.  
Friday, May 28, 1954.

Mr. Stanley B. Ashbrook,  
33 No Ft Thomas Ave.,  
Fort Thomas, Ky.

Dear Stan,

I just had a letter from Ez that he had bought for me the cover at Mercury Stamp Co. that I told you about, the cover from Japan with the 13- 2¢ 1869s on it for \$110.00. I have never seen the cover but just the photograph. Ezra did ~~however~~. He will not go into town, he says, until the Fox sale next Tuesday and unless Mueller sends it by mail he will not pick it up and mail it to me until he does go in to town. But as soon as I get it and before I pay off I will send it to you for authentication, you may be sure. Then if its bad you can send it to Ez for me and if good photograph it if you wish and return it to me with an invoice for the work on your part.

Marvin Acton, whom you know, bought an old time general collection this past week. Just a low priced affair. In it was this 1¢ stamp. The seller thought it a type I, but of course I told Marvin it was not, that I thought it a proof. He bought on the basis of this being a proof, since he himself does not even pretend to know the stamp. I think you will agree it is a proof. But how do you account for the cancellation which looks however to be genuine? Marvin asked me and I told him I would ask you if I am not correct in my analysis that it is a proof.

I asked him did he wish me to register it and he said not, that if a proof it was not worth the cost. So you need not register it on return.

Sincerely,





From Japan Via The U.S. To Prussia In 1869  
Block of Ten - A pair - A single 2¢ 1869 - Single  
Tied By "HIOGO - JAPAN". The Rate Was As Follows  
From Hiogo Japan, By American Steamship To San  
Francisco - 10¢ per  $\frac{1}{2}$  oz - From The U.S. To  
Prussia Via New York And PRUSSIAN CLOSED  
MAIL Via England - 15¢ per  $\frac{1}{2}$  oz - Total  
Rate 25¢ - Thus An Overpay of 1¢. This Use  
Was Undoubtedly 1869, Had The Use Been 1870  
The Combined Rate Would Have Been 20¢ As The  
U.S. Rate To PRUSSIA In November 1870 Was 10¢  
per  $\frac{1}{2}$  oz. Siegen Is A Town of Prussian Westphalia  
on The Sieg River In My Opinion This Cover Is  
Genuine In All Respects *Allen B. Bourne*  
June 4 1954



TELEPHONE  
PLAZA 3-6481

APPRAISALS FOR SALE,  
PROBATE & INSURANCE

DIRECTORS  
H. R. HARMER B. D. HARMER  
F. T. BUCK MARGARET MAHONEY

H. R. HARMER, Inc.  
INTERNATIONAL STAMP AUCTIONEERS

32 EAST 57TH STREET  
NEW YORK 22, N.Y.

ALSO AT 41 NEW BOND STREET, LONDON, W. I.  
AND 25 CASTLEREAGH STREET, SYDNEY, AUSTRALIA  
ESTABLISHED OVER 50 YEARS

CABLES  
HARMERSALE, NEW YORK

LEADING AUCTIONEERS OF  
RARE POSTAGE STAMPS

AUCTIONEERS OF THE  
"PRESIDENT ROOSEVELT" COLLECTION

AIR MAIL

Mr. Stanley B. Ashbrook  
33 N. Ft. Thomas Avenue  
Ft. Thomas, Kentucky

2nd  
June  
1954

Dear Mr. Ashbrook:

We are enclosing herewith a copy of United States 1851 1c on which we would like to get your opinion.

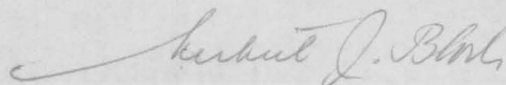
It is evidently 6R from Plate I and we would like your opinion as to whether it is Plate I early or Plate I late.

Your very early attention to this would be appreciated as we require the stamp back urgently. Naturally if you will be good enough to submit your bill at the time of returning the stamp, our check will be sent immediately.

With thanks in advance for your cooperation.

Sincerely yours,

H. R. HARMER, INC.



Herbert J. Bloch

HJB:E

Enclosure - Stamp

Sent- Stamp Back Return Mail  
AIR-SPECIAL DELIVERY - It was  
6R1E A Type IV - cut into  
at Bottom - No Fee - No letter

ALL STAMPS ON OUR PREMISES INSURED AGAINST ALL RISKS . . . . EMPLOYEES BONDED

No photo

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AUCTIONEERS OF THE  
"PRESIDENT ROOSEVELT" COLLECTION

Mr. Stanley B. Ashbrook  
33 N. Ft. Thomas Avenue  
Ft. Thomas, Kentucky

8th  
June  
1954

Dear Stan:

This acknowledges with thanks the return of the item on which we requested your advice.

I note that you have made no charge for this but would certainly request that in future you do so, as under the present set-up, we are a little loathe to bother you with items, whereas if you do make us an appropriate charge (which in many cases, will be passed on to the vendor anyway) we would feel less uncomfortable in requesting your advice.

With very best wishes.

Sincerely yours,

H. R. HARMER, INC.

*Bernard.*

Director

BDH:E

TRADE MARK NO 12

C. S.

H. H. Wilkinson  
Cashier

New Orleans Canal & Banking Co.

10<sup>00</sup>

New Orleans La

1876  
Col Henry Kohling  
Monday 26 Oct  
New Orleans

MADE IN U.S.A.

C.S.

H. H. Wilkinson  
Cashier

New Orleans Canal & Banking Co.

1000

New Orleans La

1876

Col Henry Schilling  
Memberg 26 Oct

Nov 17 New

F8

35



Camp near Monterey, Mexico  
October 2<sup>nd</sup> 1845.

Sir/

I have received your letter relative to the check payable to Mr. Kimrey. I have since drawn a duplicate, with an endorsement, requesting that, in case it is paid, the original will be considered as null and void.

In order to obtain specie from those who hold it in this country, I have been obliged, in most instances, to draw the checks in duplicate. I presume that, even in case one of these checks is paid, the other becomes void as a matter of course, without any express instructions to that effect. I am not well versed in Merchantile or Banking transactions, but suppose, and was assured, that such was the case. You will please act accordingly. If it give you any additional trouble, I regret it; but we have had to adopt all proper expedients to get along here.

Very Respectfully,  
Yours, Sir,  
Yours Cos. Servt.

Henry Whiting  
A. G. M. Co.

H. H. Wilkinson

Cashier

New Orleans Canal & Banking Company  
New Orleans

L. a.



Camp near Montreal, Quebec  
October 2<sup>d</sup> 1841.

Sir

I have received your letter relative to the check payable to Mr. Kimmy. I have since drawn a duplicate, with an endorsement, requesting that, in case it is paid, the original will be considered as null and void.

In order to obtain specie from those who hold it in this Country, I have been obliged, in most instances, to draw the checks in duplicate. I presume that, now in case one of these checks is paid, the other becomes void as a matter of course, without any express instructions to that effect. I am not well versed in Merchantile or Banking transactions, but suppose, and was assured, that such was the case. You will please act accordingly. If it gives you any additional trouble, I regret it; but we have had to adopt all proper expedients to get along here.

Very Respectfully,  
Yours, Sir,  
Yours Est. Servt.

Henry Whiting  
Aq. M. Genl.

H. H. Wilkinson

Cashier

New Orleans Canal & Banking Company  
New Orleans

L<sup>as</sup>





# JEFFERSON STAMP CO., INC.

COL. L. J. HEYMAN. A. U. S. RETIRED  
A. P. S.-S. P. A. ETC.

## POSTAGE STAMPS FOR COLLECTORS

438 SO. 5TH STREET

WABASH 9939

LOUISVILLE 2, KENTUCKY

June 7, 1954

Stanley Ashbrook  
P.O. Box 31  
Fott Thomas, Ky

Dear Stanley,

We have heard that you would be able to travel again soon and wondered if you could possibly be our guest speaker at the Philatelic Club of Louisville on July 8th at 6:30 P.M.? Same arrangements as before; all expenses paid, gladly. Please let us know.

Also, I am enclosing a 1¢ 1857., which appears to be #6. Am I right or wrong on this? I enclose return postage and registration. With best regards to you and your family in which my wife joins,

Sincerely yours,

Laurence  
