

U.S. 1847-1900  
MAIL, CANCELS, AND POSTAL MARKINGS

CLYDE JENNINGS

AS RECEIVED BY  
THE EXHIBITION PHOTOCOPY COMMITTEE  
OF THE  
U.S. PHILATELIC CLASSICS SOCIETY, INC.  
3 APRIL 1991

With the first government issued adhesive stamps in 1847 came the first authorized cancel method, a pen & ink "manuscript" type cancel, as shown on title page. From then until 1900 was a period of prolific cancels which were as varied as an ink blob to a locomotive complete with smoke and track, and as interesting as a honeycomb to the North & South shaking hands after the war - - - all shown here.

Cancels range in color from black through yellow, 12 major shades, of which yellow is scarcest, of which eight are included herein.

Postal markings for every type of service, function, or condition were produced, and just about all of them are represented here.

Attention is called to the condition of the stamps/covers, plus clarity of the strikes, as well as percentage of subject included on the stamps, generally a minimum of at least 95%, a key criterion in this exhibit. None of the covers have been restored.

A complete collection of this type is of course impossible, let alone an exhibit, however, it is believed that a representative showing of every type and class of cancels is included.

Thanks to the innovative method of "slitting" these 128 pages actually contain 167 covers. Note is also made that, though the exhibit does contain a good representative showing of cancels on the five cent and up values, so-called fancy cancels were applied primarily on first class mail which contained mainly one, two, and three cent values. Exception: the New York foreign mail cancels are seen far less frequently on the low values than on higher ones simply because of higher foreign rates than domestic.

The Waterburys, the gems of fancy cancels, are represented by no less than 73 different examples, most of the better ones of which only 3 to 5 are known. Other sources of cancels are omitted except where germane and/or contributory.

Some of the highlights herein are:

	Frame	Page
N.Y.F.M. cancel on 1869 15 cent value	2	8
Stoneham, Mass, Skull & Crossbones on cover	2	9
Nashotah, Wis, year date story	2	13
Guy's Mills, Pa, stenciled cancel, possibly unique	3	7
Boston, Mass, "Eagle & Thunderbolt" machine cancel, one of 4 known	3	8
Jarrett & Palmer, "Fast Mail 84 Hours", only two reported	3	12
Slave Mail	4	7
Research shown on two "N.Y. Steamship" cancels	4	4
Two Hebrew cancels, "Lord", and Chanukah Menorah	5	14
KKK cancels: Sword, Klan Hood, Skull & Crossbones	5	2
Waterbury "Running Chicken", finest known off cover copy	6	3
" " "Fish", full strike	6	4
" " "Nesting duck"	6	6
Brattleboro, Vt, "Man Chasing Fox from Chicken House", PFC	6	15
Two earliest "Fancy Cancels", on covers, St. Johnsbury, Vt, "Scarab"	7	7
and Binghamton, N.Y., "Herringbone"	7	8
"Eye Cure U" precancel; and Pool Table	7	9
Diamond Rubber Co. logo canceller on cover	7	10
"USED & DONE FOR" on 1851 three cent	7	10
"PAID 3" in shield with stars, possibly unique	7	10
Negative head profile on cover, W. Fairlee, Vt.	8	2
Two hand drawn cancels, Tioga Centre, N.Y., with PFC's	8	7
Cover with "Split Union"	8	8
Union Soldier's Cap, on cover, with PFC		
Three magnificent 4 margin 5 cent 1847's,		



## U.S. 1847-1900 MAIL, CANCELS, and POSTAL MARKINGS

A showing of some of the more unusual and outstanding examples. The original concept of cancels was to prevent re-use of adhesive stamps and the first officially authorized type of obliteration was pen and ink, often referred to as "manuscript".



1847 issue

First U.S. government adhesive postage stamp,  
with manuscript cancel

As postmasters' imaginations became piqued, many innovative forms of defacing stamps evolved, a number of which are shown here.

# COLORS

Commonest color inks employed were red and blue, but others were also used including many shades. At least one each of the major recognized colors is shown including eight yellow the scarcest of all.



Turquoise



Magenta



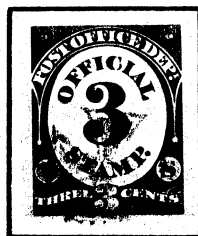
Blue



Olive



Violet



Pink



Ultramarine



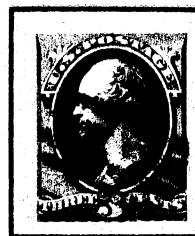
Orange



Green



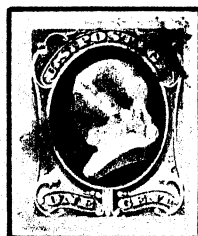
Red



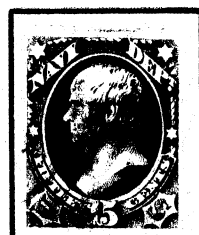
Brown



Purple



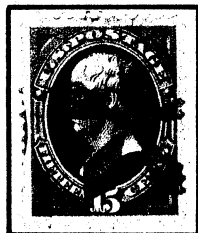
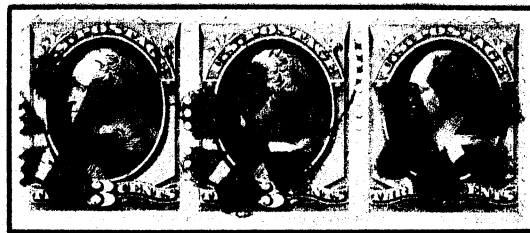
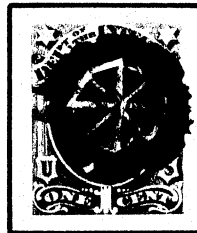
----- Yellow -----



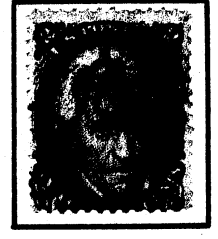
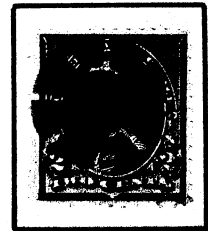
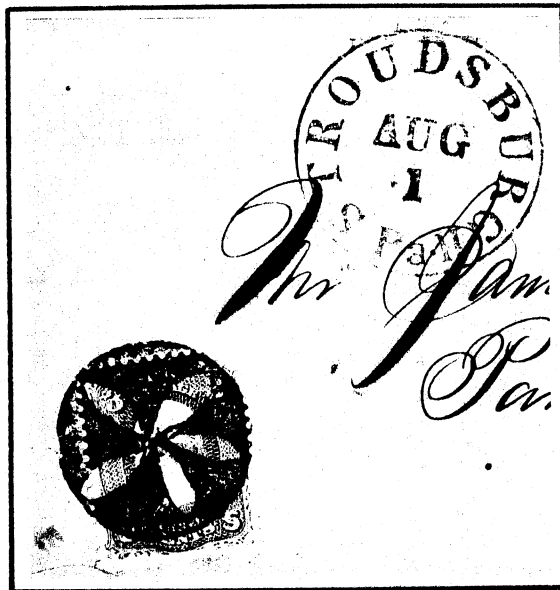
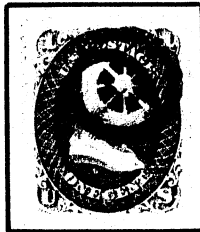
----- Yellow -----

# GEOMETRICS

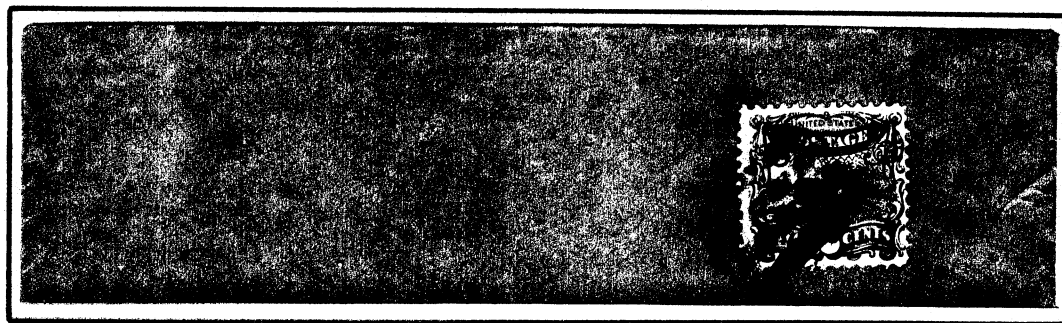
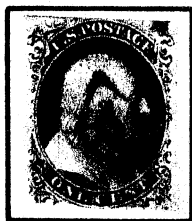
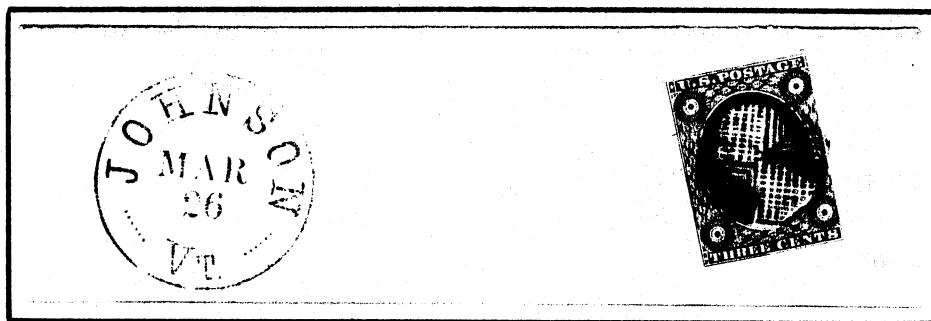
Created from cork, other woods, or metal.



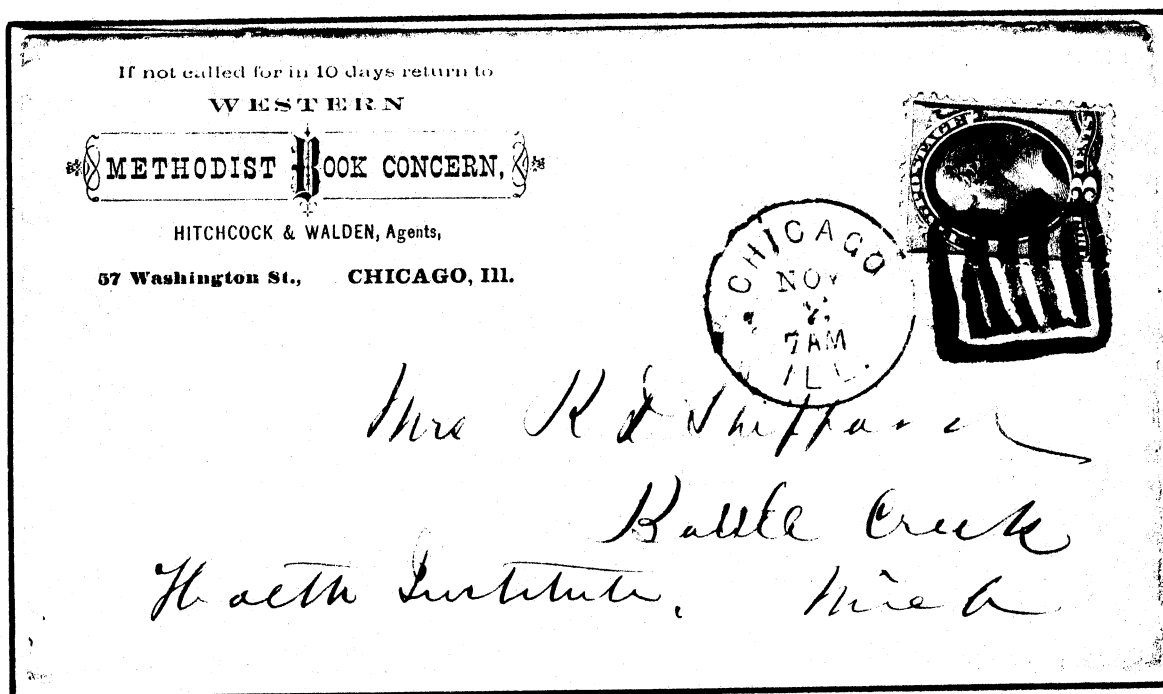
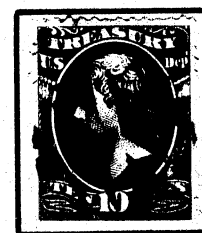
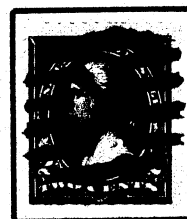
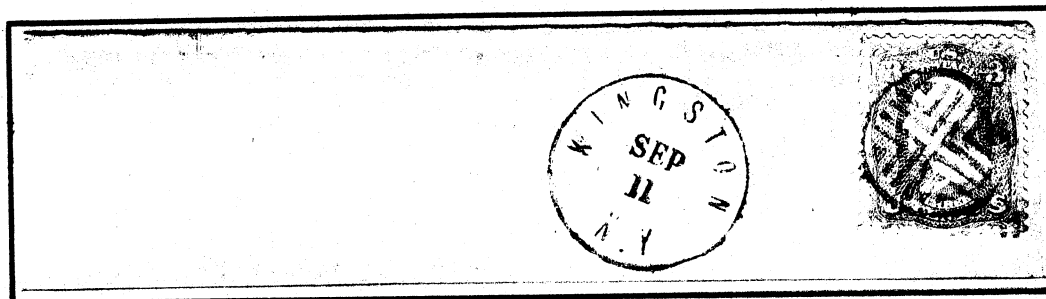
# GEOMETRICS



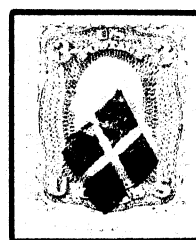
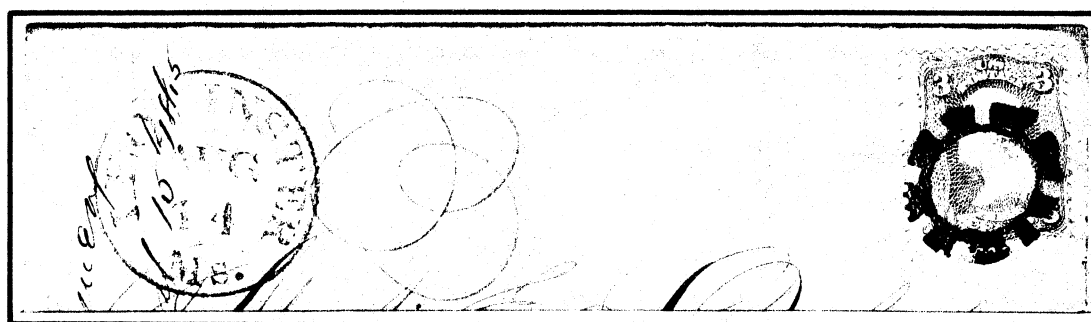
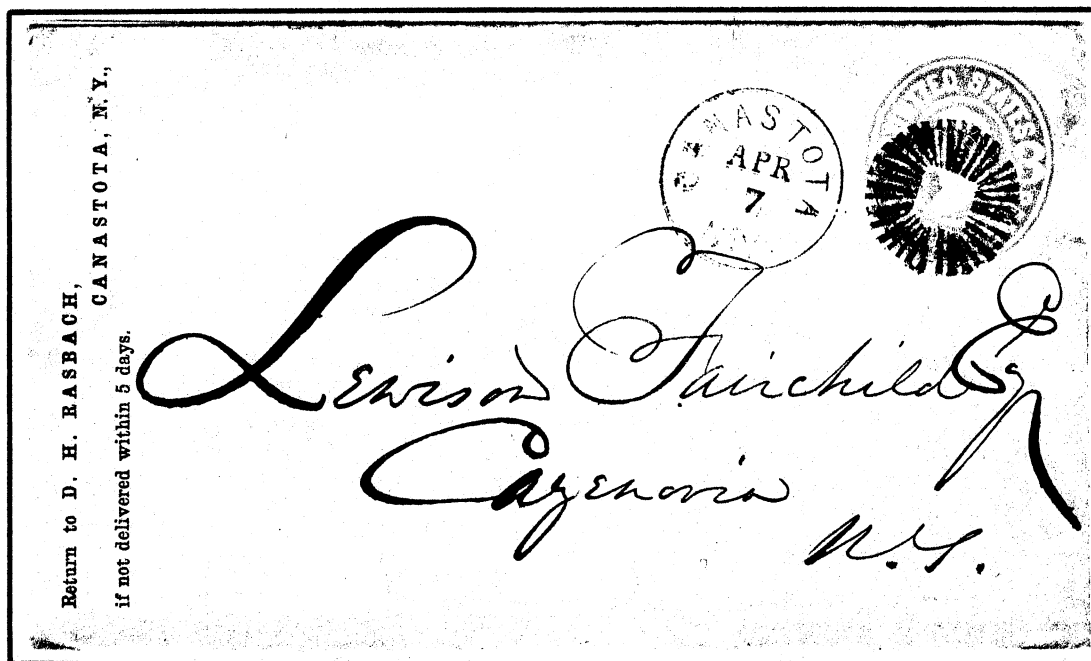
# GEOMETRICS



# GEOMETRICS

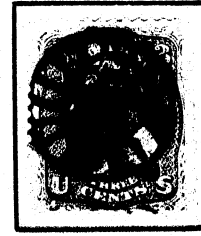
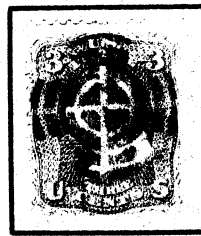
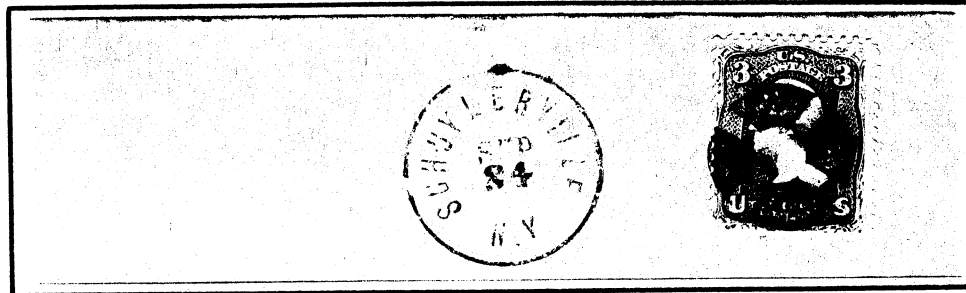
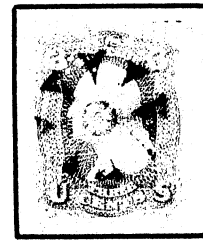
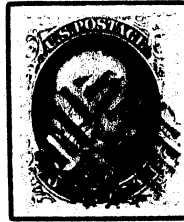
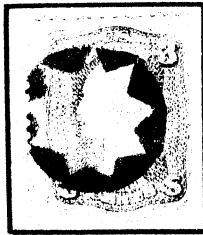


# GEOMETRICS





# GEOMETRICS



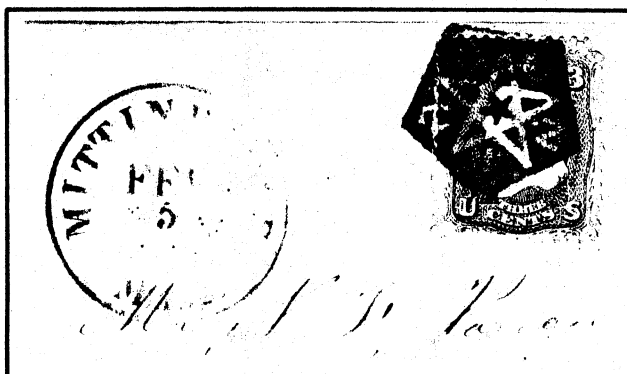
## CARETS

Circle of triangles

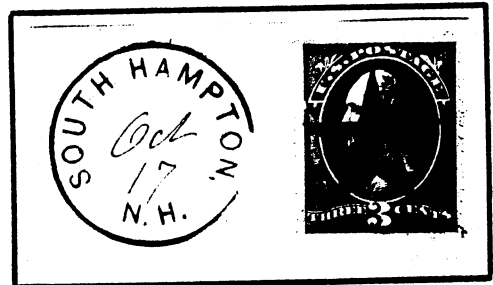
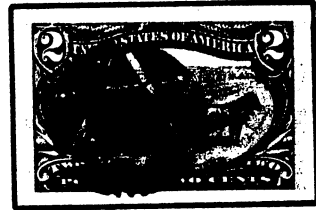


# STARS

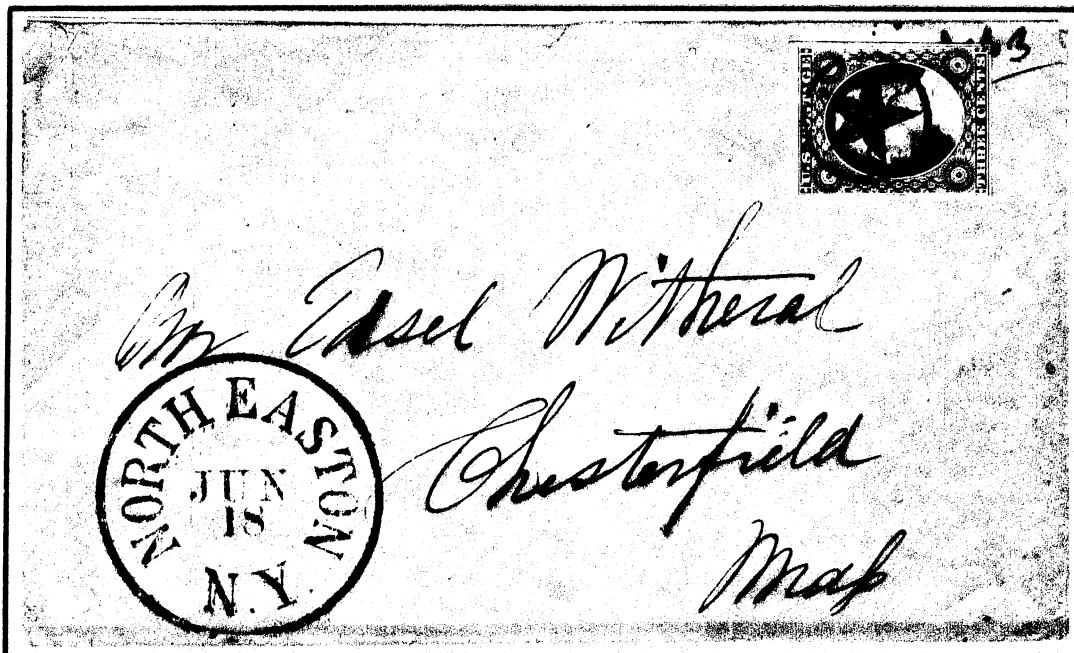
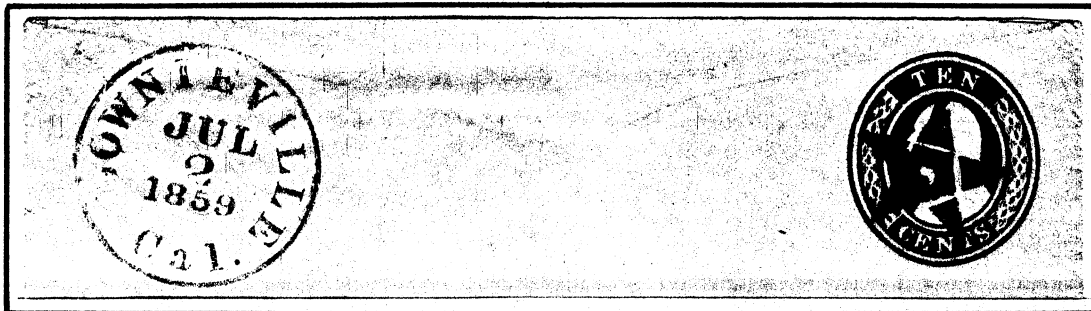
Also a basic geometric form, and undoubtedly the most prolifically produced of all cancellers, in a myriad of formats.



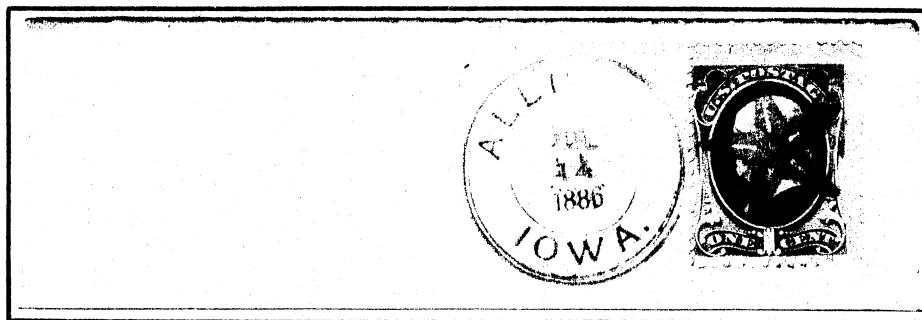
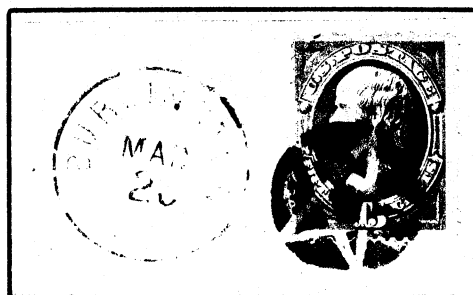
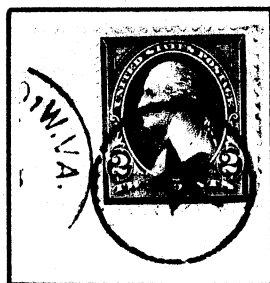
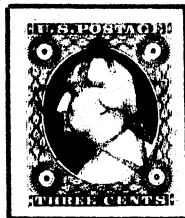
# STARS



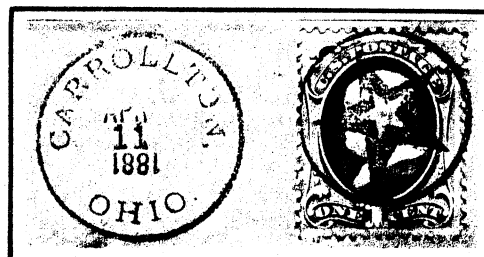
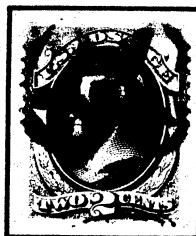
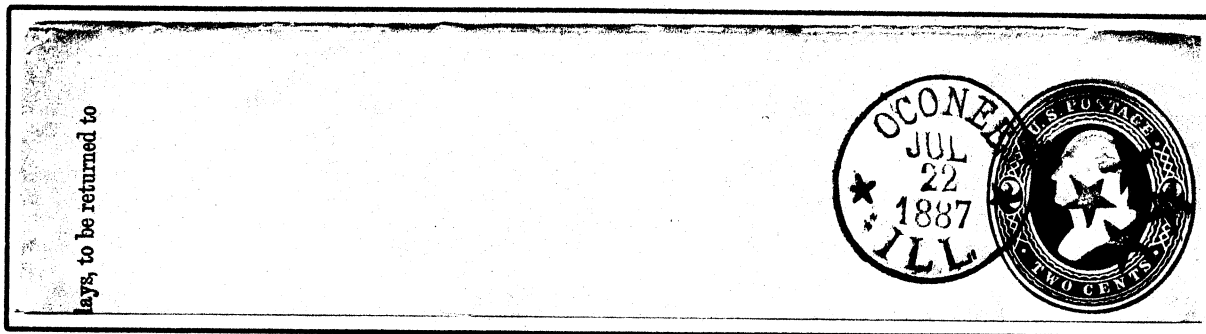
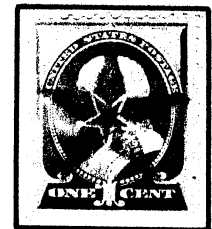
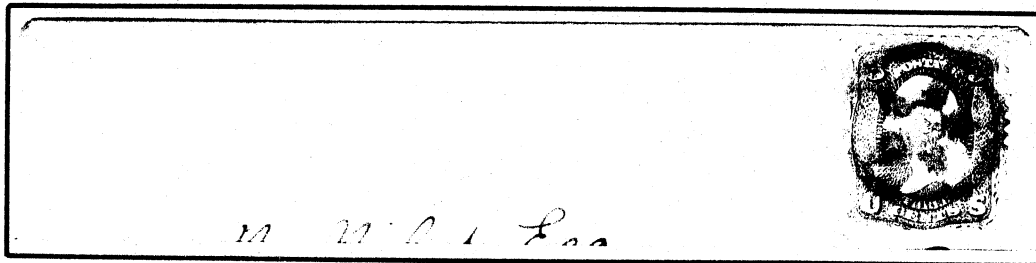
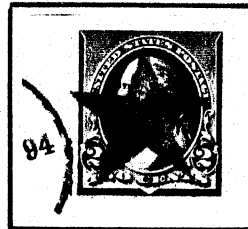
STARS



# STARS

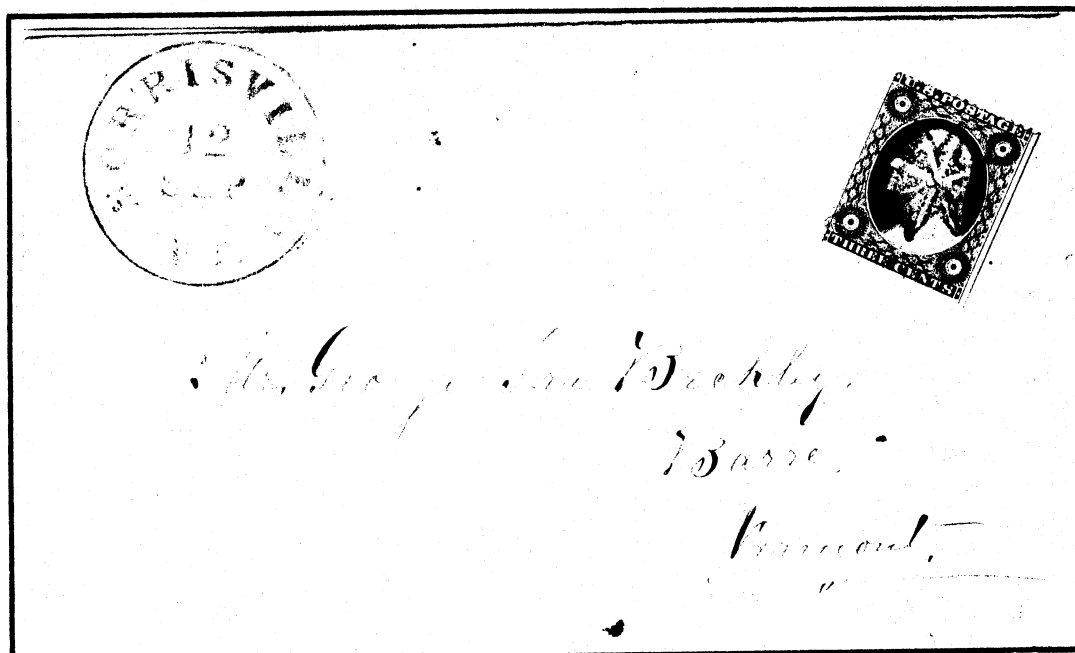
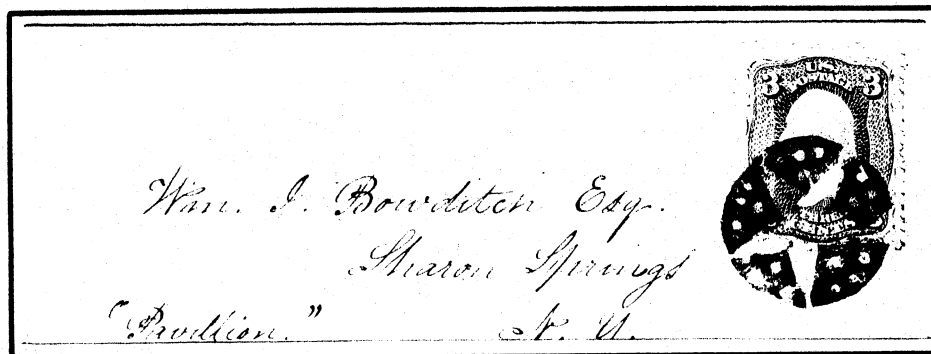
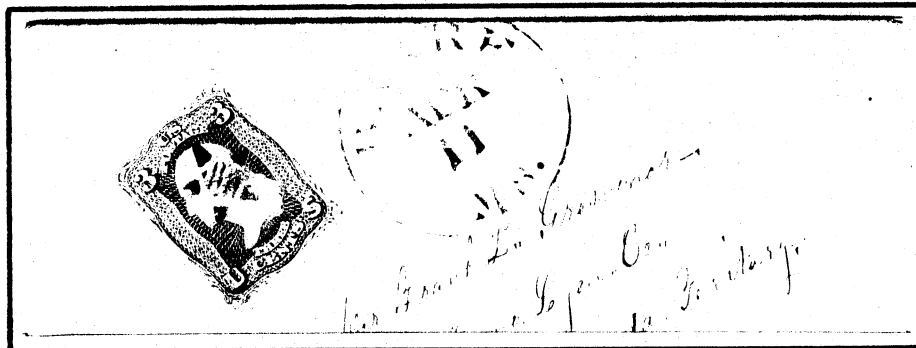
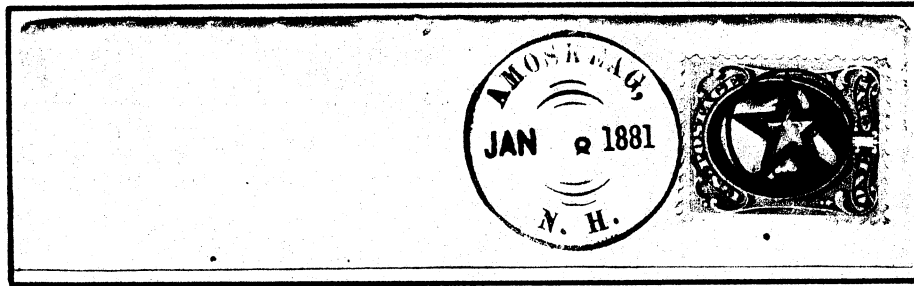


# STARS



Red, and black

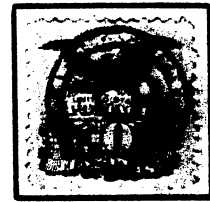
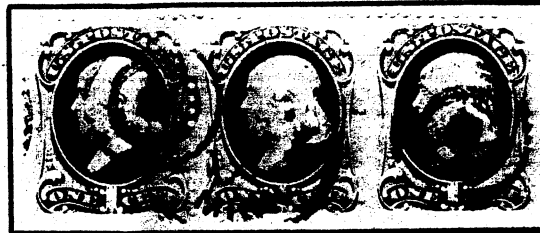
STARS



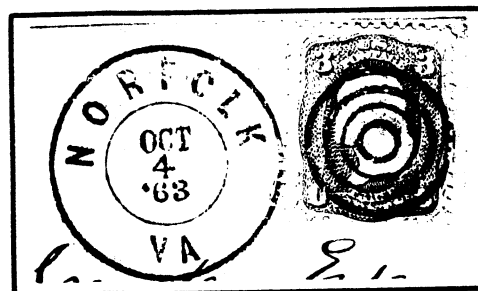
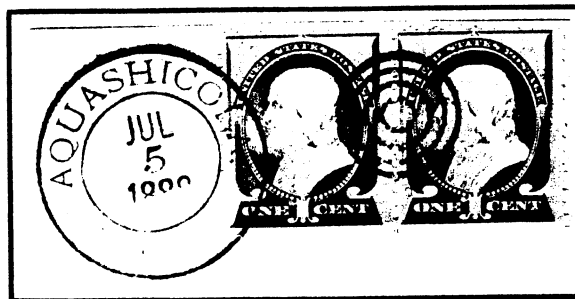


# TARGETS, or BULLS' EYES

Another common, fairly frequently seen, format - these examples are all particularly well struck "on-the-nose".



(also with  
broken line star)

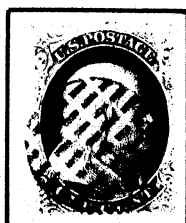


# GRIDS

Seen with varying numbers of bars, in different shapes, open and closed, and in many colors and sizes.



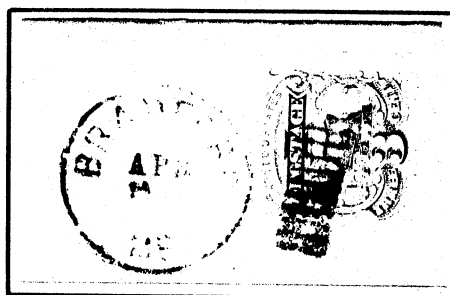
Round



Broken lines



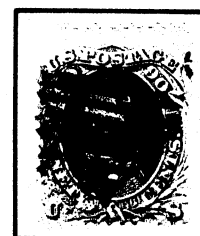
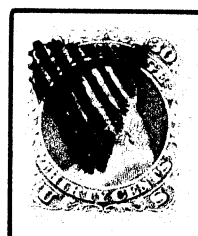
Dotted



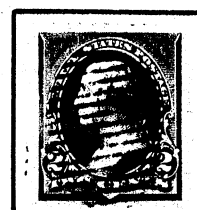
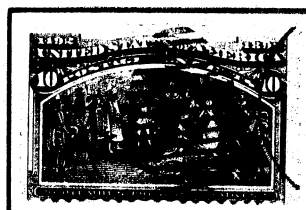
Ladder



Pentagonal

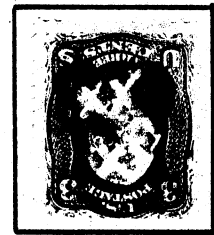
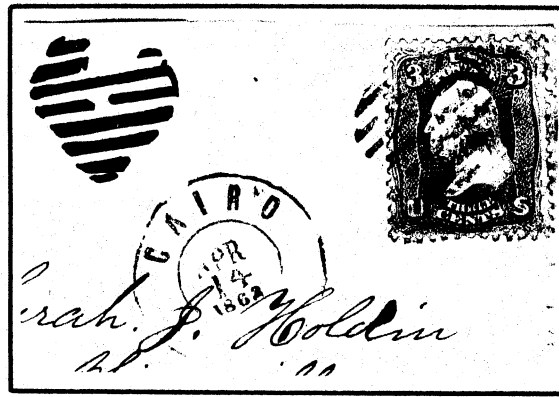
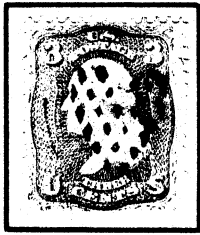


Triangular

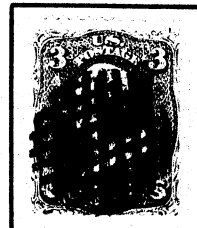
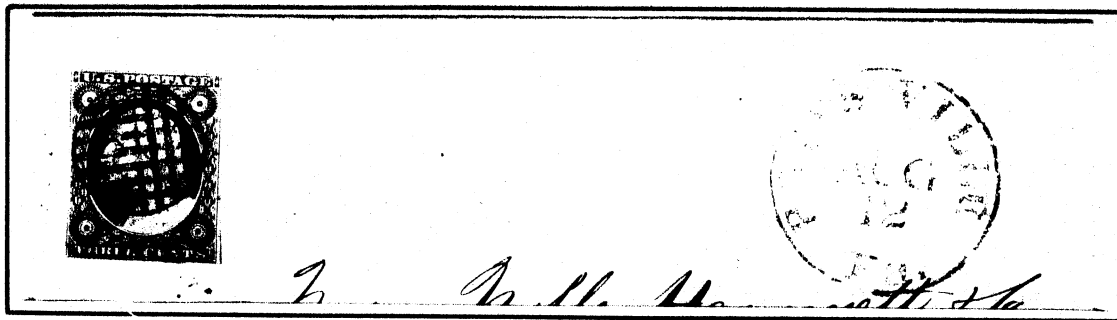


Oval

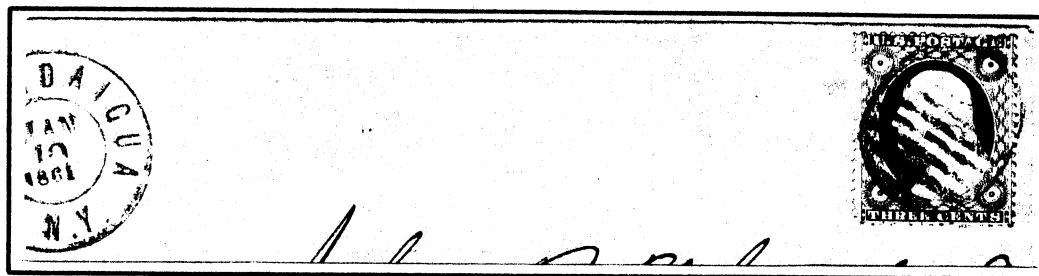
# GRIDS



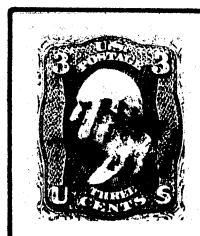
Heart



Crosshatch



Elliptical



Square

Barrel

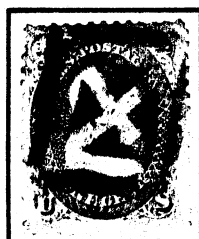
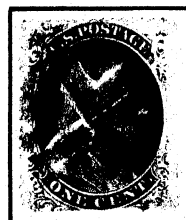
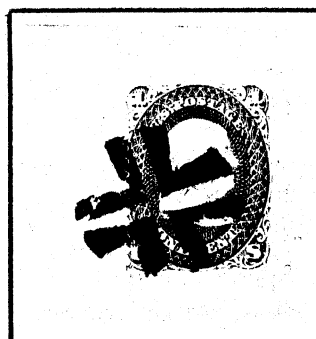
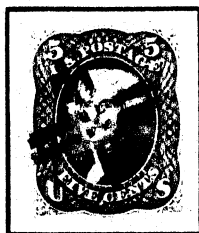
Rectangular

# CROSSROADS

Not always just a simple "X"

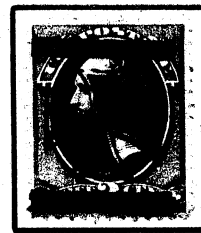


Note partial row of diagonal perforations

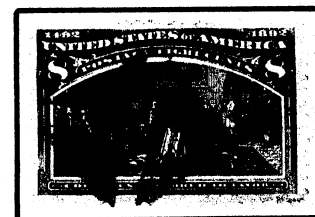
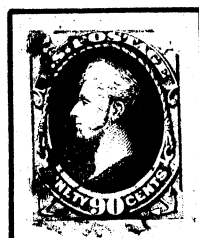
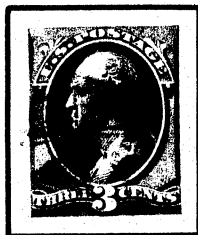
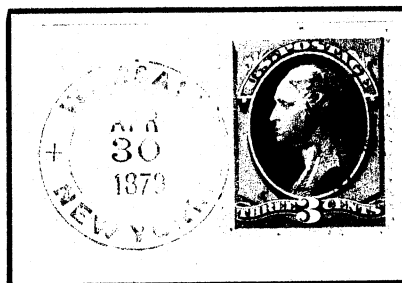
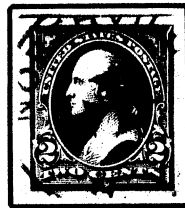


# MALTESE CROSSES

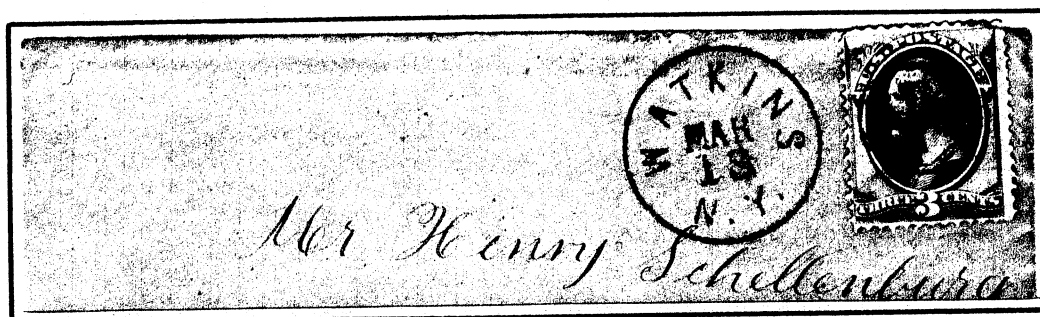
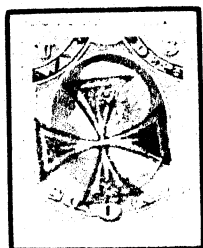
Simple to design, these show up in many sizes, forms, and colors.



"JACK'S REEF, N.Y."  
"1883"

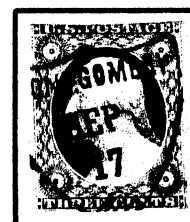
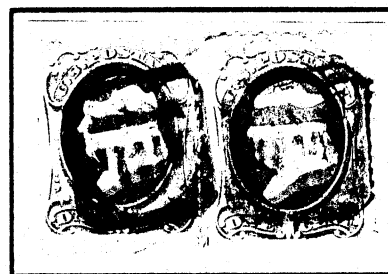
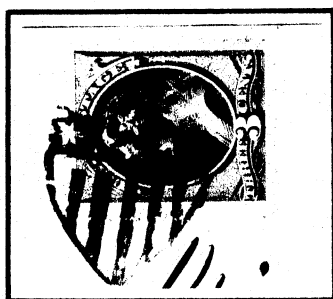
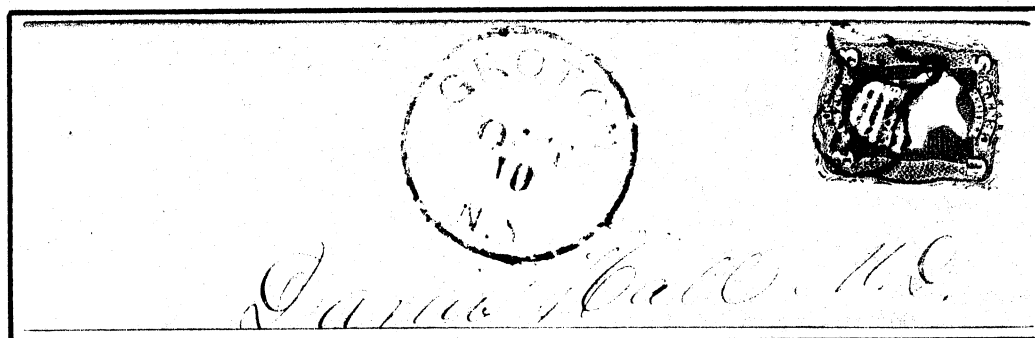
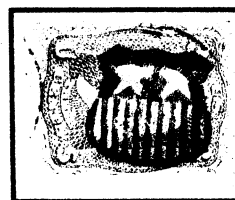
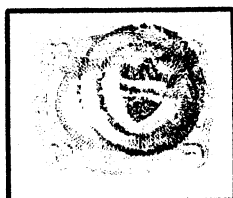


# MALTESE CROSSES



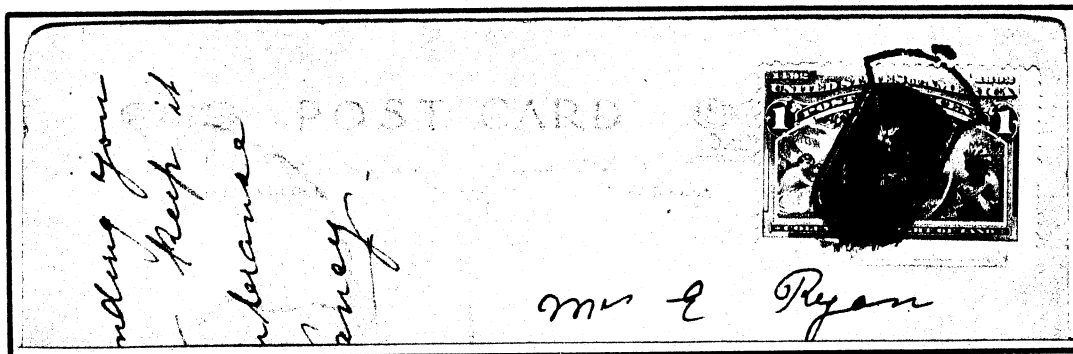
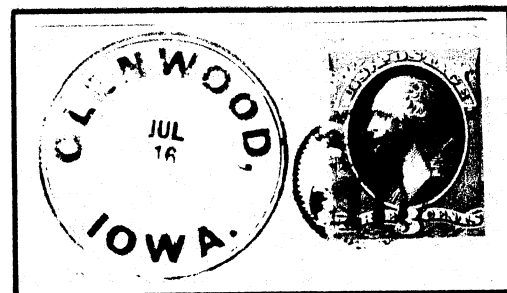
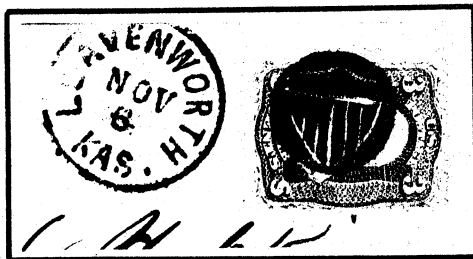
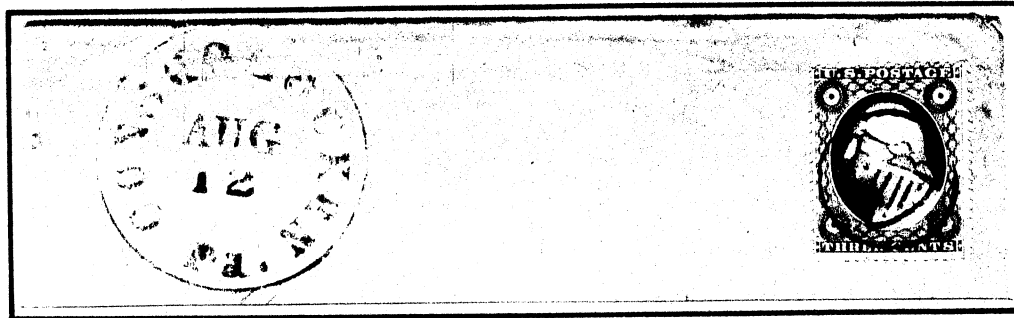
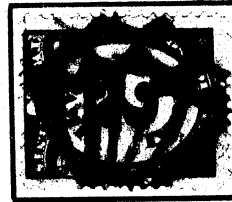
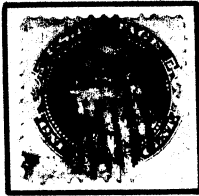
# SHIELDS

Known in many colors, shapes, and designs including some with names, multiple stars, bars, dates, and rays.





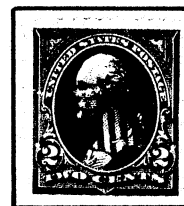
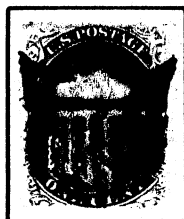
# SHIELDS



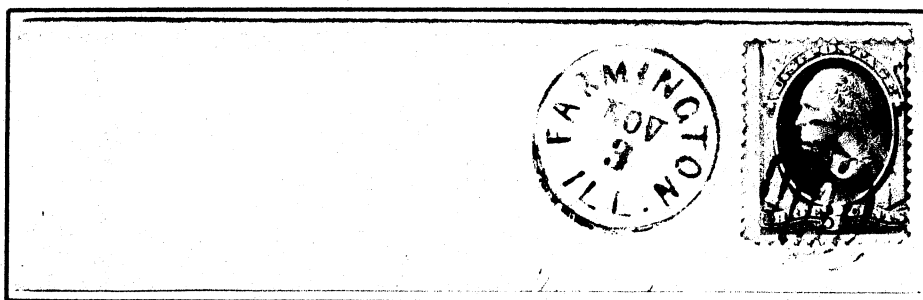
# SHIELDS



"U S" (Cheyenne, Dakota Ter., now Wyoming)



In a chain

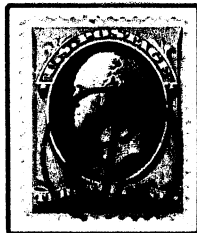
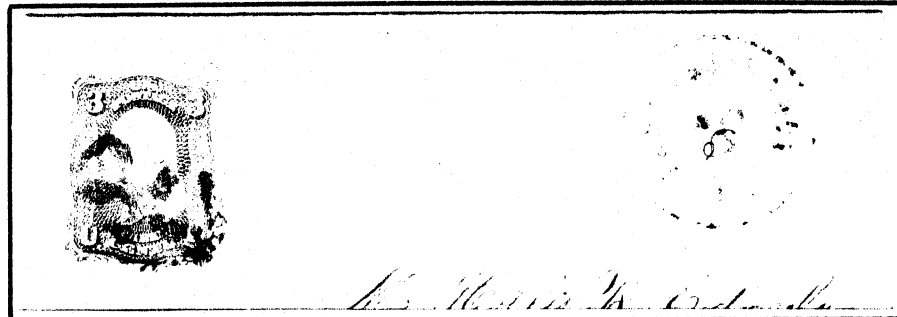


Negative "U S" (in reverse)

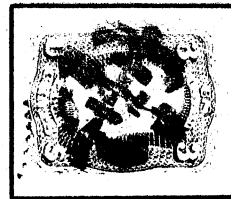


## ANCHORS

A popular subject, raising the possibility some postmasters may have followed the sea at one time in their lives.



Boxed

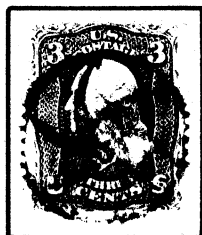


Double



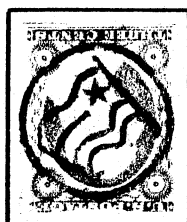
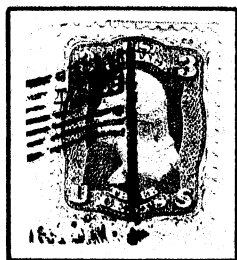
## PINWHEELS

The pinwheel was the favorite of many postmasters who used it in a large number of varying formats, sizes, and colors.



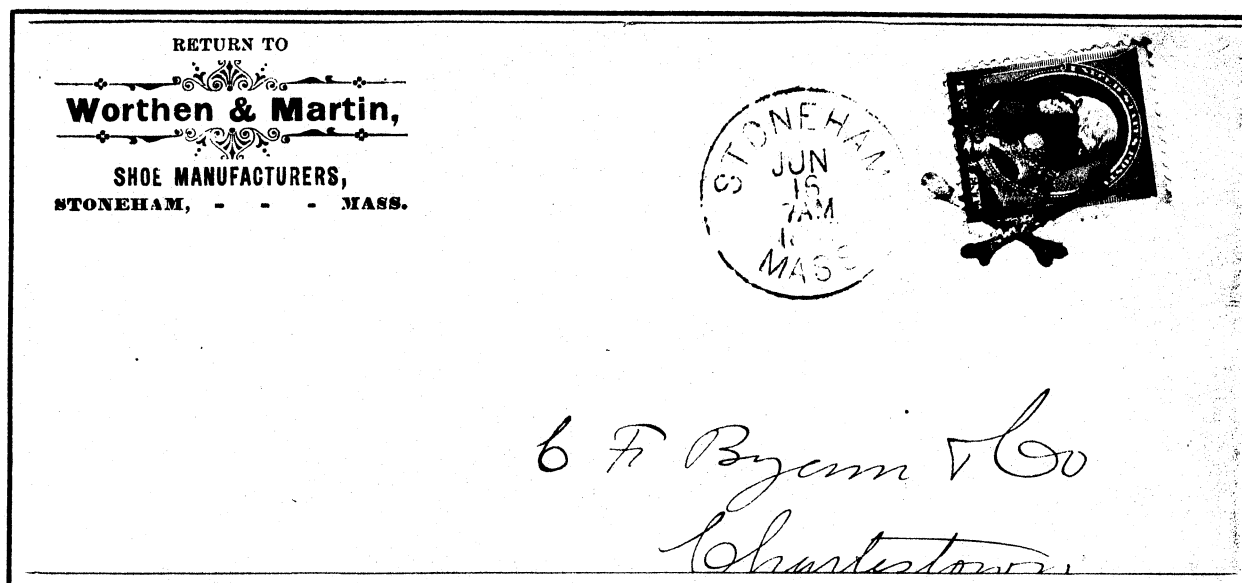
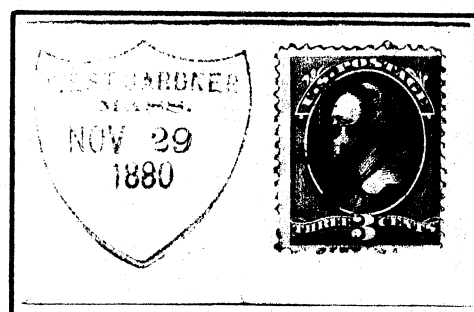
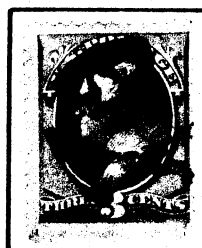
## FLAGS

Many felt that a visual show of patriotism was most appropriate.



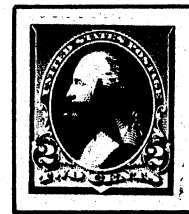
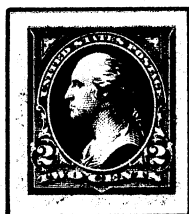
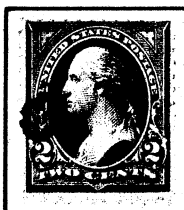
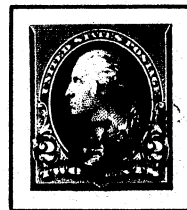
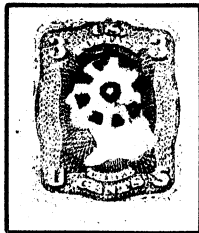
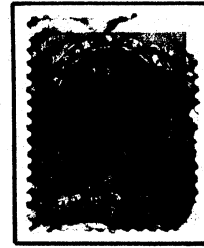
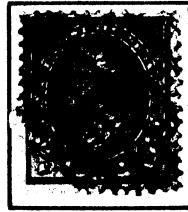
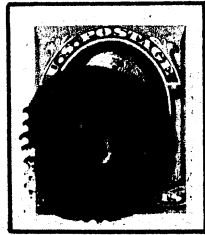
## SKULL & CROSSBONES

A gruesome subject, true, but one which often found great favor.

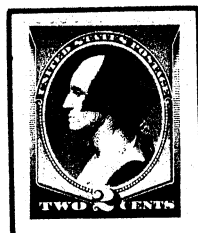
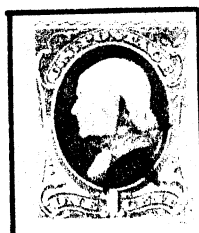
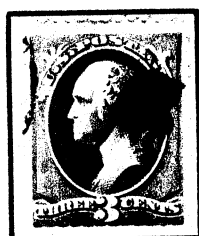
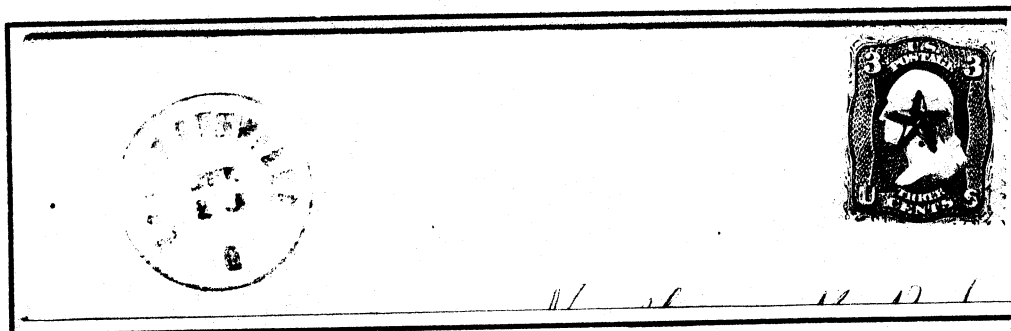
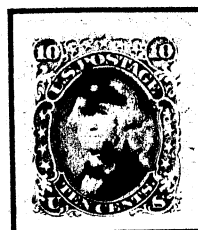
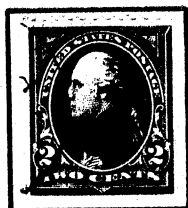
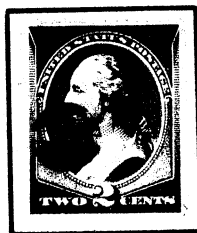
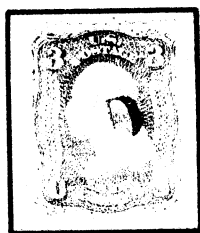
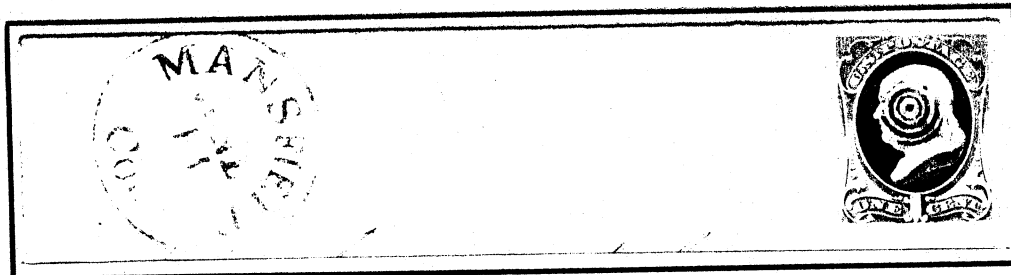


# TEENIE WEENIES

Cancels were intended to prevent re-use of stamps, and many achieved this by overkill as see top row examples. However, some few postmasters had an esthetic sense of neatness.

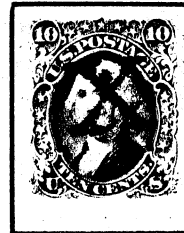


# TEENIE WEENIES



## NUMERALS

Discontinued postal rate markers were sometimes pressed into service by postmasters.



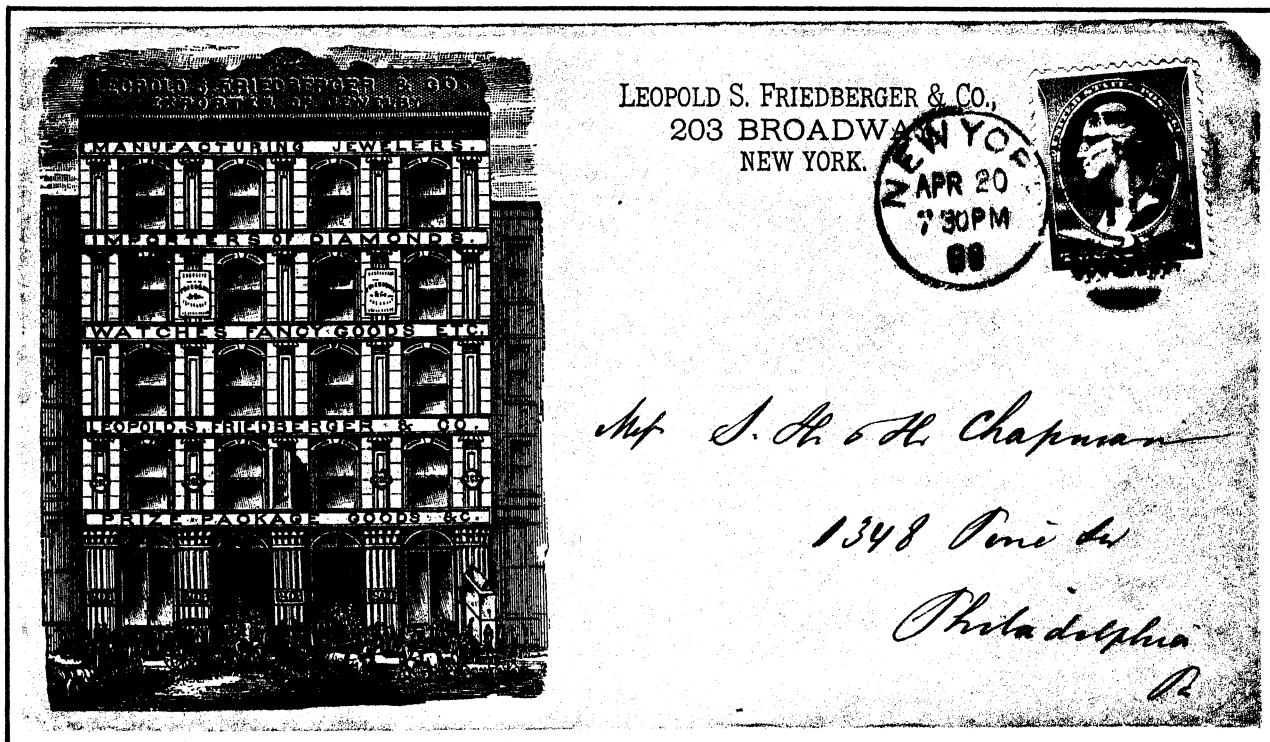
## NUMBERS

Figures such as these designated in some cases branch offices and in others individual clerks for accountability purposes



"Fish Tail" numbers  
(Washington, D.C.)

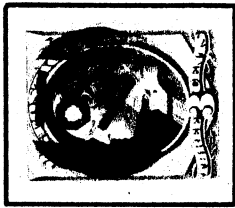
(Cincinnati,  
Ohio)





# YEAR DATES

A timely concept, and some had special connotations.



1870



1885 in a cross

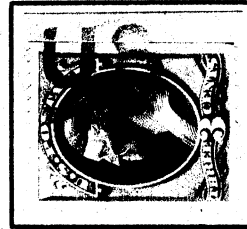


1897

These commemorated the Centennial year of 1876.



76



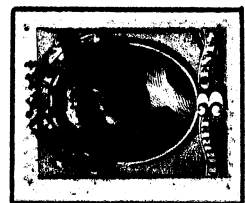
U S 76



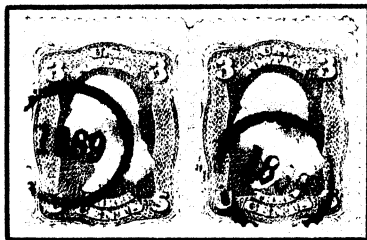
In Liberty Bell



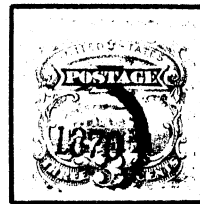
In a shield



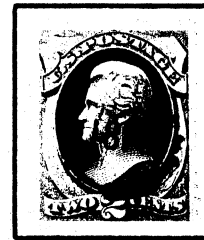
In an apple



1869



1870



1871



1872

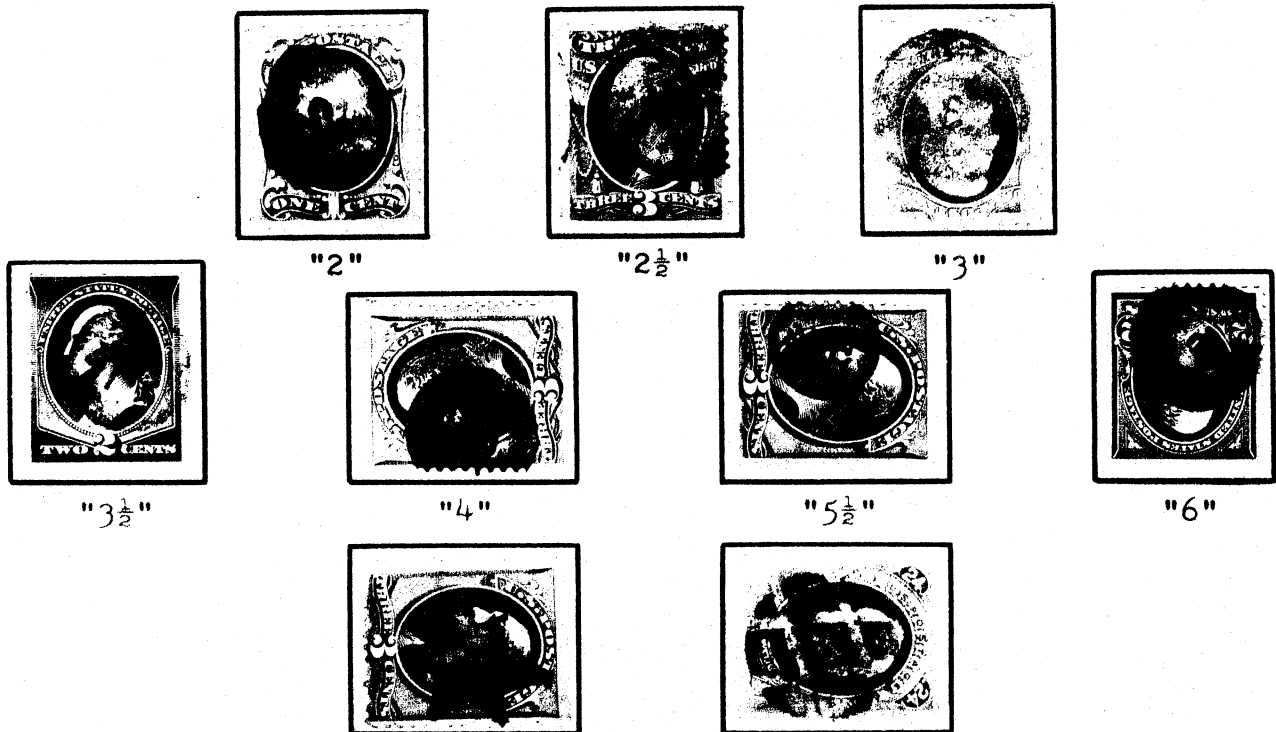


1873

In 1869 the Nashotah, Wis, postmaster carved a year date cancel-  
ler, repeated the process through 1873. However, in 1871 he only  
altered the "0" from the previous year to make a "1", albeit a  
slightly curved one.

## BOTTLE STOPPERS

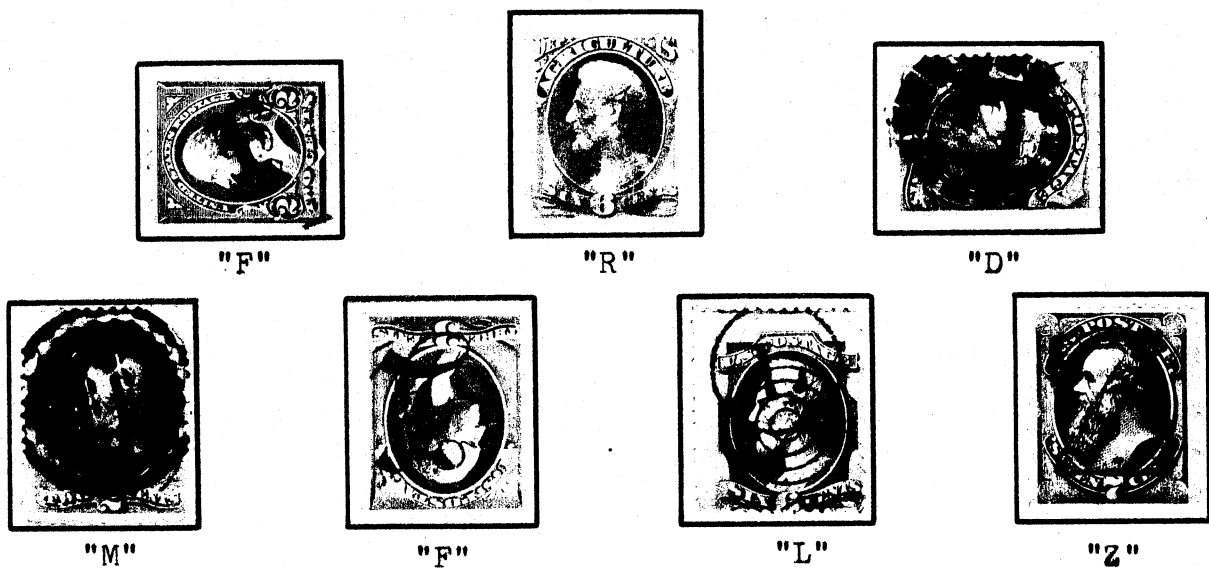
Rubber stoppers for bottles made handy cancellers. Sizes are as indicated, but all are in mirror, or reversed, image.



These normally round size 3's have been cut into a 6-point star and a crisscross design

## LETTERS

All letters of the alphabet are known to exist postally used, and these are some of the more outstanding.



# MULTIPLE LETTERS

Combinations of letters denoting individuals, messages, locations, organizations, plus other subjects.



"G. O. P."  
(Grand Old Party?)



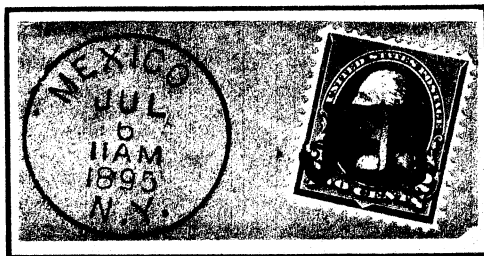
Negative "OK"  
(in a keystone)



"L. B."  
(Leonard Buckland, P.M.,  
W. Hartford, Conn)



"ST" (Stage)  
(Lakeport, Calif.)



"J E B"  
(P.M.'s initials)



Negative "P O D"  
(Post Office Dept)



"LOV & X's"  
(Love & kisses)



"DON'T USM"  
(Don't use 'em -  
the stamps - again)



"C D"  
(City Delivery)



"P O"  
(Post Office)



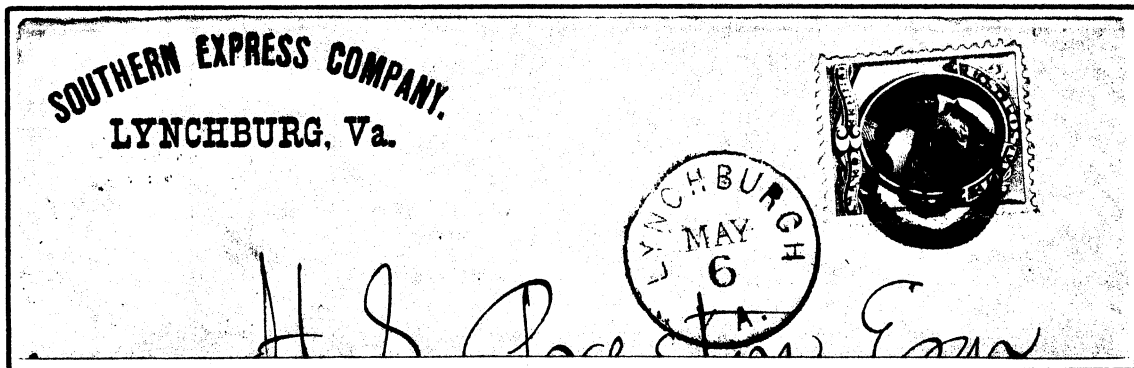
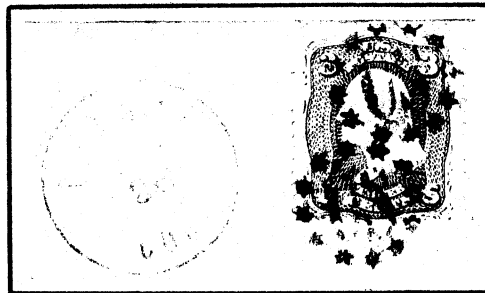
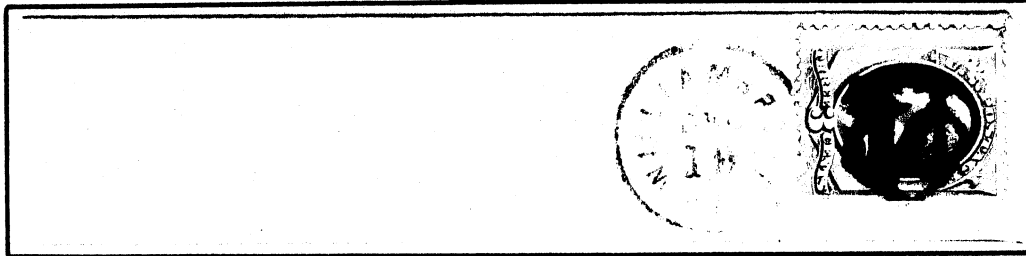
"J. D. V."  
(J.D. Vail, P.M.)



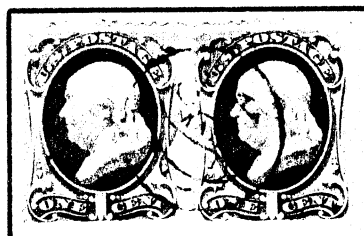
"LOV"  
(Love)

"U. S."

Many postmasters remembered their country with a variety of forms of the first letters of "United States",



- - - - and a further refinement was a stylized "U S MAIL".

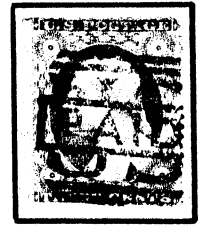
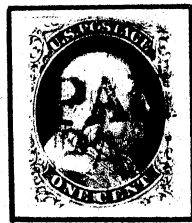


# "PAID"

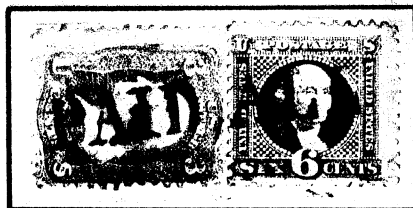
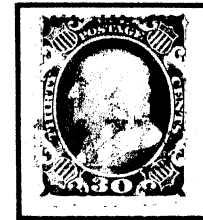
An apt format to show postage fees paid.



(negative)



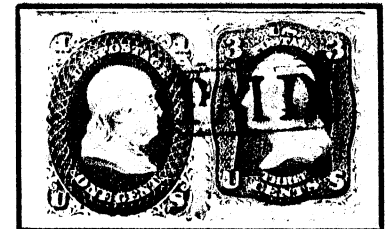
"U S PAID"



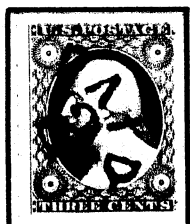
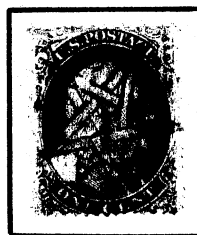
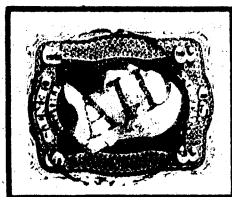
"PAID ALL"



In a flag



In an octagon



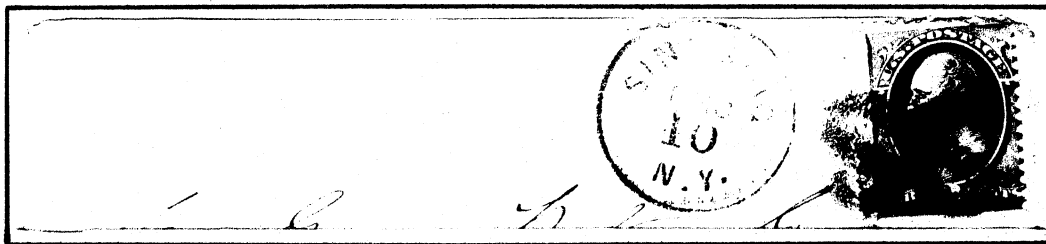
--- "PAID 3" ---

LETTER(S) DENOTING CITY of ORIGIN

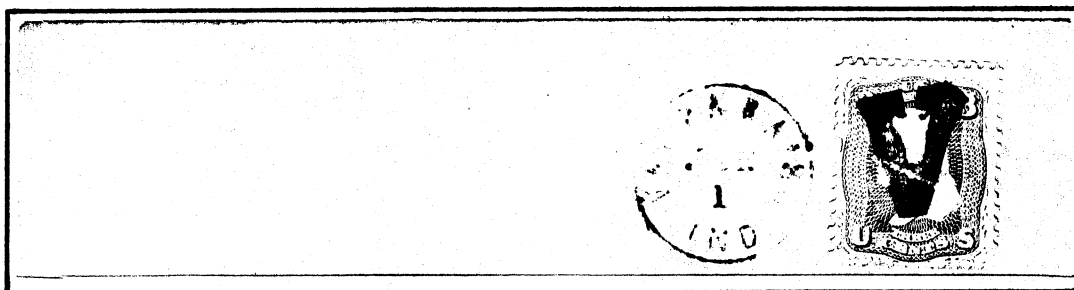
Some postmasters chose to pinpoint their cities by the use of indigenous letters as cancellers.



"K" (Kokomo, Ind.)



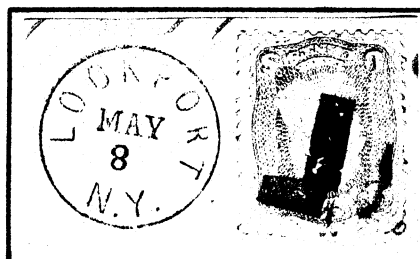
"S S" (Sing Sing, N.Y.)



"V" (Valparaiso, Ind.)



(Rockville,  
Conn.)



"L" (in reverse)  
(Lockport, N.Y.)

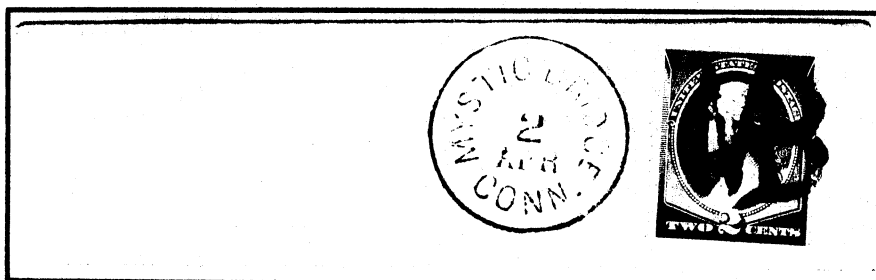


(Ridgefield,  
Conn.)

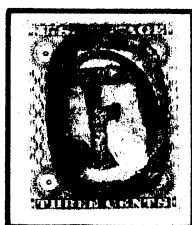
LETTER(S) DENOTING CITY of ORIGIN



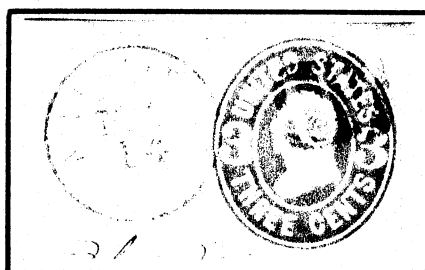
"T"  
(Titusville, Pa.)



"M B"  
(Mystic Bridge, Conn.)



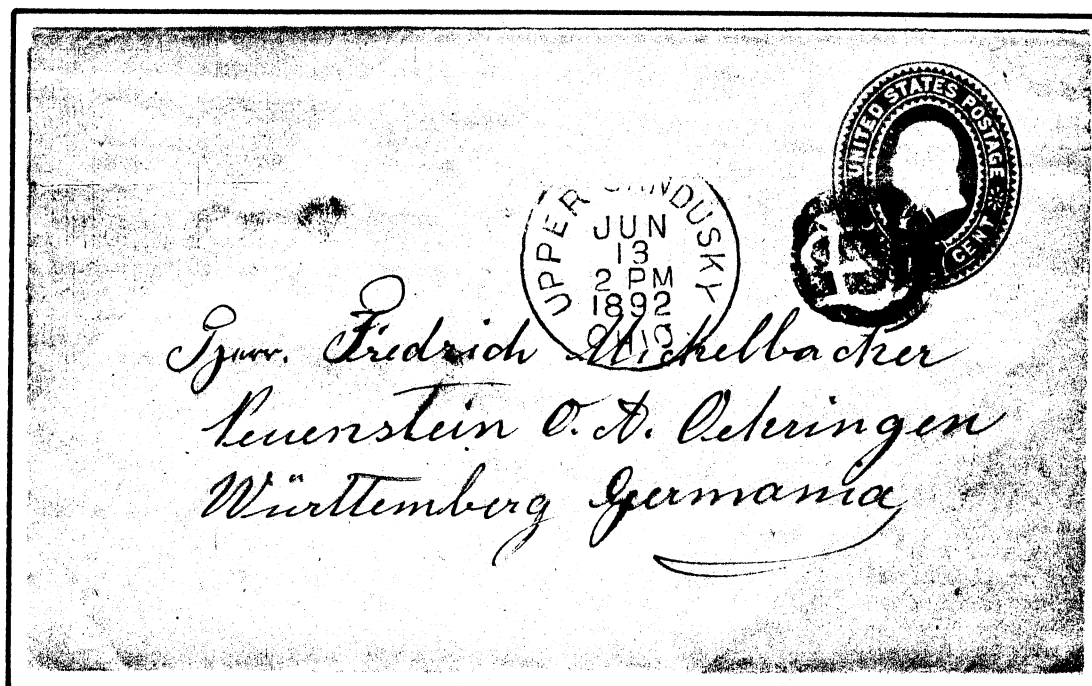
"O F" (Oxford  
Furnace, N.J.)



Negative "U V"  
(University of Virginia)

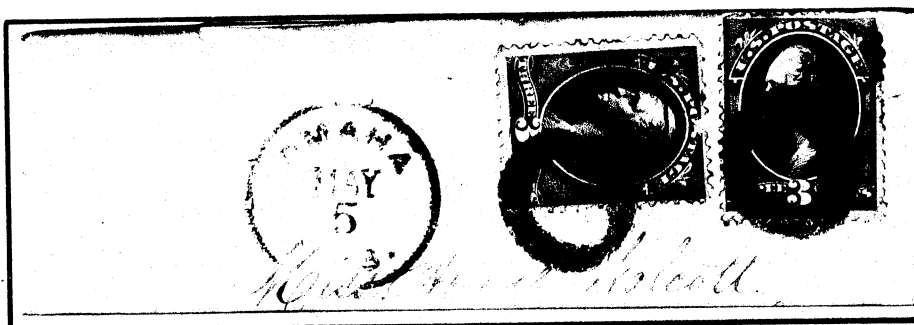


"G"  
(Galesburg, Ill.)

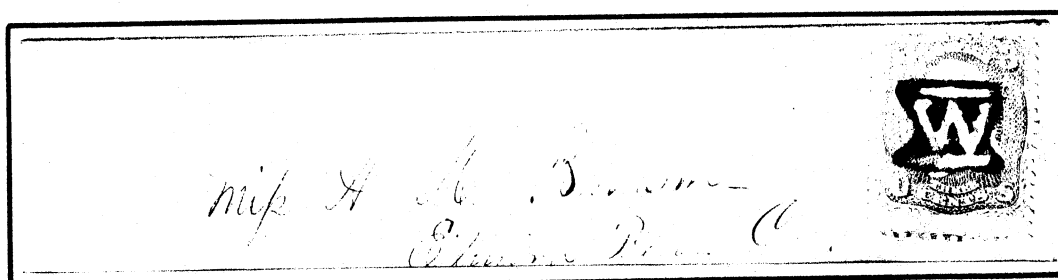


Entwined "U S"  
(Upper Sandusky, Ohio)

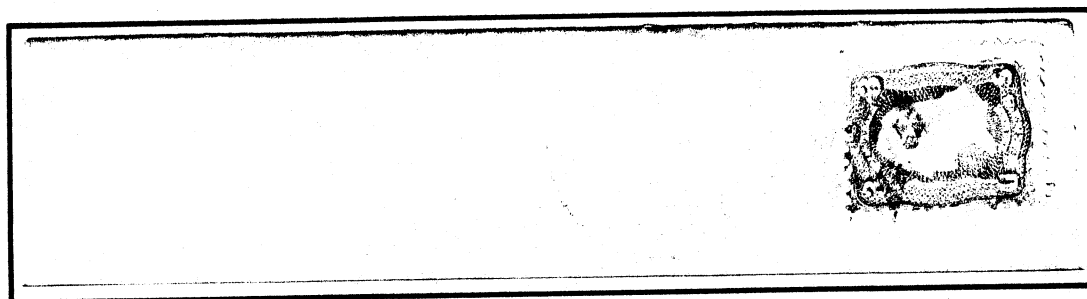
LETTER(S) DENOTING CITY OF ORIGIN



"O" (Omaha, Neb.)



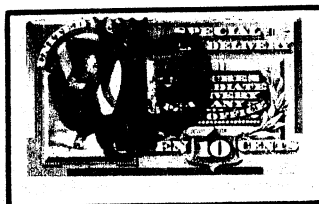
"W" in anvil (Winchester, Conn.)



Segmented "W" (Westfield, Mass.)



Negative "VT"  
(Chester, Vt.)



"W E, N J"  
(West End, N.J.)



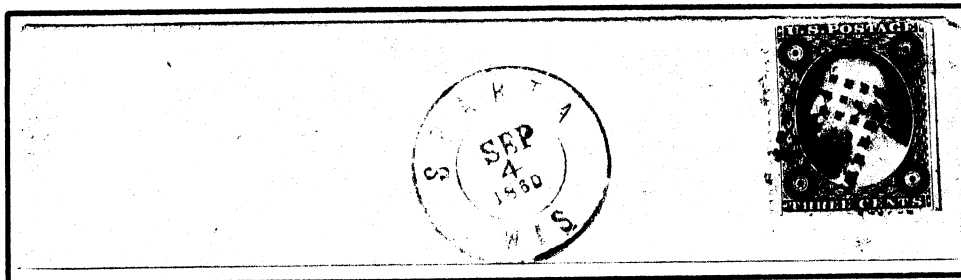
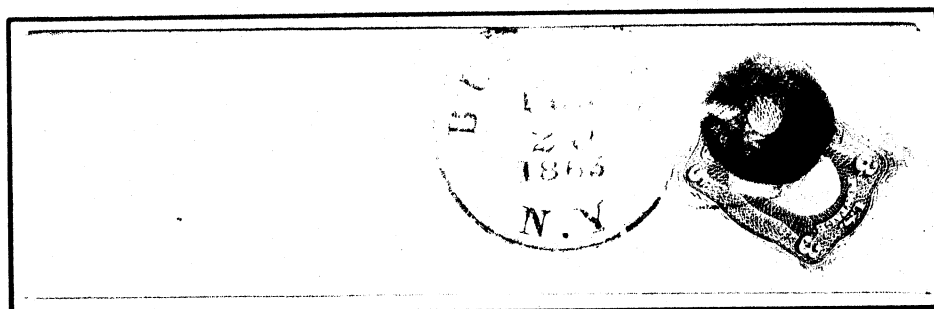
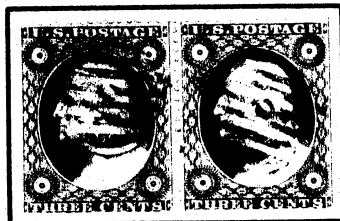
"H P"  
(High Point, N.C.)





## PATENT PUNCH CANCELLERS

To thwart those who would clean the cancel from a stamp to re-use it, cancelling devices were developed and patented which punched holes in the face of stamps so the ink would soak in quite thoroughly, making cleaning more difficult.



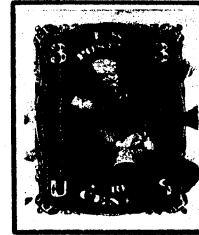
# EXPERIMENTAL CANCELS

Geometric



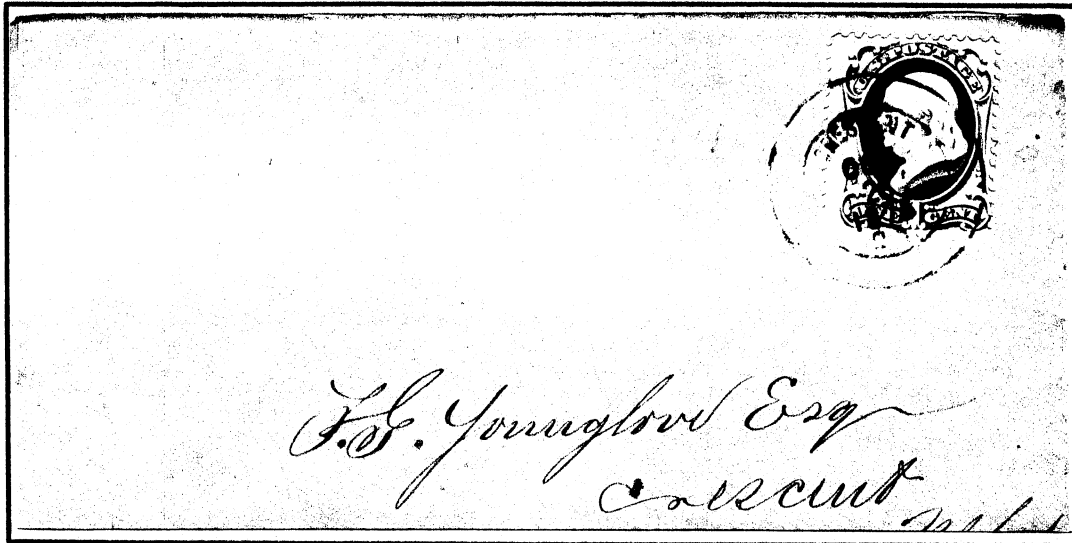
Light blue print  
on India paper

Pinwheel



Black print on  
white wove paper

Trial Color Proofs



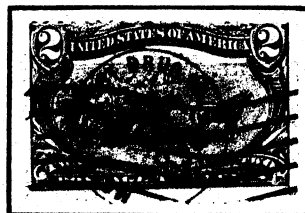
"CRESCENT/OCT/26/1875/N.Y."  
(all in center of double circle postmark)

## PRIVATE REVENUE HANDSTAMPS

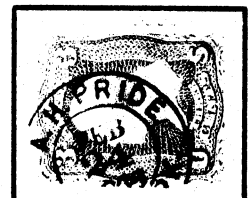
Postmasters were not always the only ones to cancel regular postage stamps. Sometimes these stamps doubled in the absence of Revenue stamps and were cancelled by lawyers, court clerks & others.



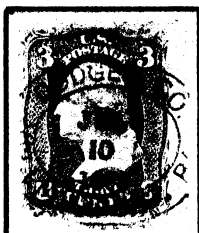
"S. MICHELERA"



"MOFFITT - WEST DRUG CO."



"A.H. PRIDE"



"DODGE & CO."



"SWETT QUIMBY STOVE WORKS"



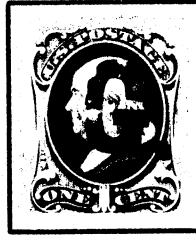
"COUNTY NATIONAL BANK"

## PRECANCELS

Where huge volumes of mail were deposited by single mailers stamps were cancelled in advance to save handling time.



Weston,  
Mass.



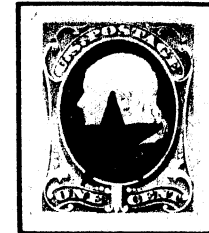
Glastenbury,  
Conn.



Bridgeport,  
Conn.

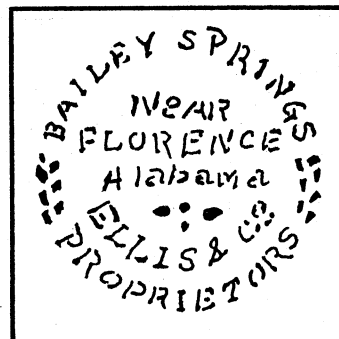


New York,  
N.Y.



Used in Glen Allen, Va., by Cussons, May & Co., Druggists' Printers. Black is commonest, red is next, while green and the small black star are infrequently seen.

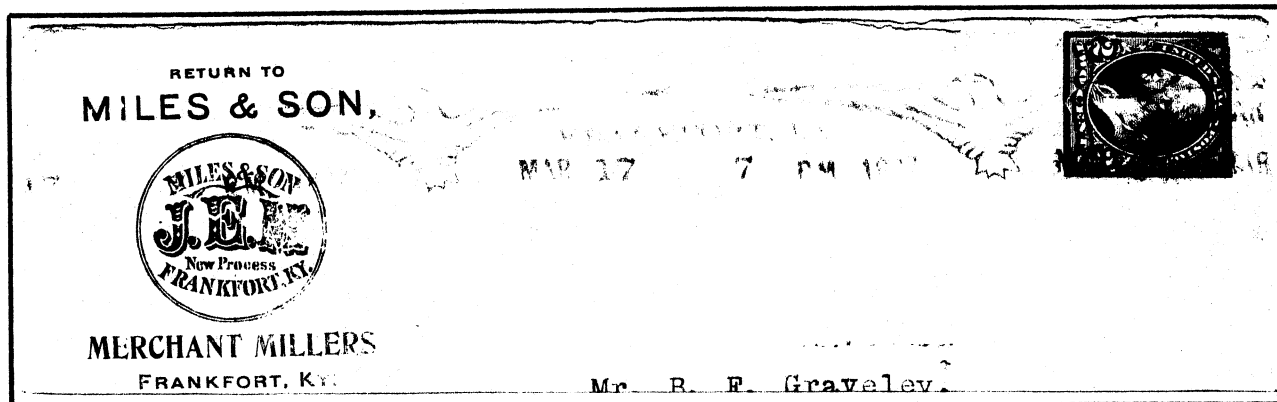
## STENCIL CANCELS



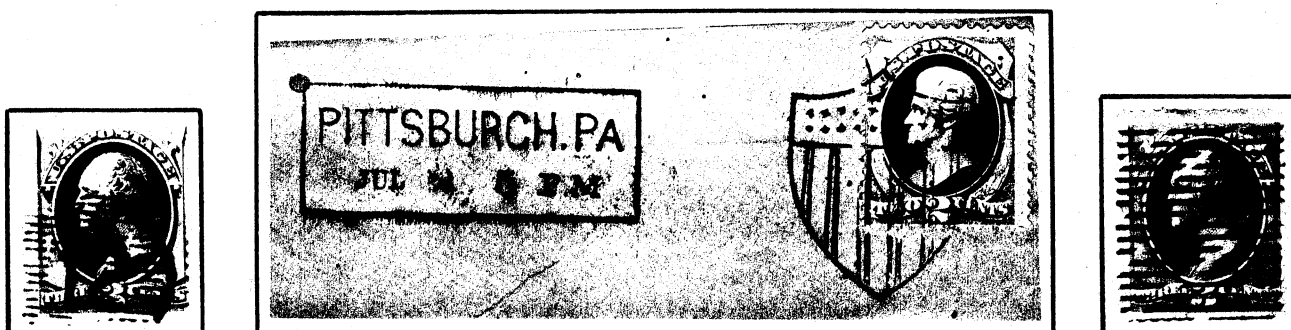
At left: "Bailey Springs, near Florence, Alabama, Ellis & Co. Proprietors". A spa on Shoals Creek, circa 1845-60, still in existence in 1964 as an aquatic club. At right: "Guy's Mills, Pa." (May be unique).

# EARLY MACHINE CANCELS

Early rapid machine cancels, introduced in Boston in the 1880-1890 period, were unusual for that time.



Eagle, Milam & Holmes Co.

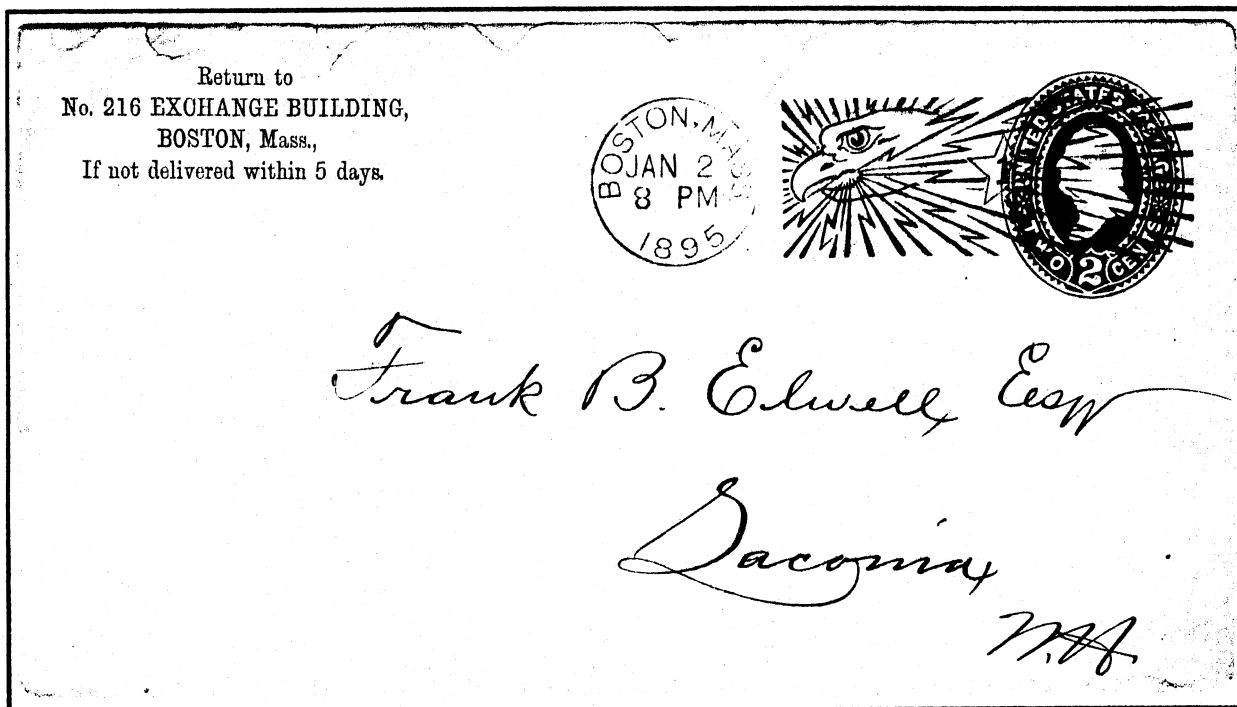


Tilton patent  
N.Y. City, Buffalo

Shield  
Goff & Hursey Co.

Geometric  
Leavitt Machine Co.  
Boston, Mass.

In use only one day, four covers reported



Eagle and Thunderbolt  
American Postal Machines Co.

## EARLY MACHINE CANCELS

Extraneous mark in straight line cancel due to faulty equipment.



Circle is the head of a loose screw in the cancelling machine

## ALTERED CANCELLER

Rate marker "5" canceller, similar to one shown, cut down to produce a "C", to indicate use at Cecilton, Md., postoffice.

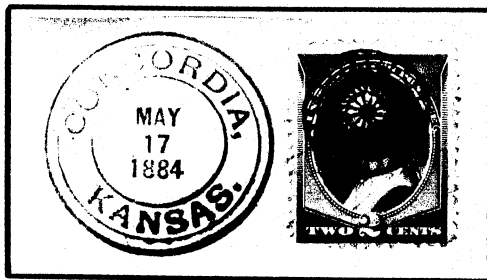


To indicate a "5 cent" rate

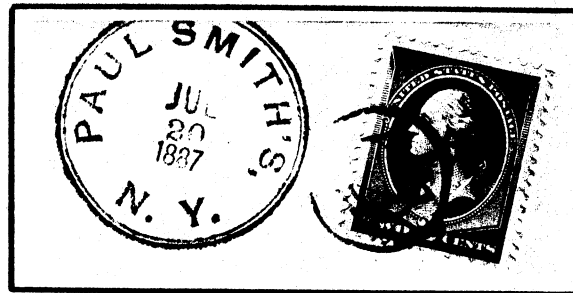


# COMMERCIALLY PRODUCED CANCELLERS

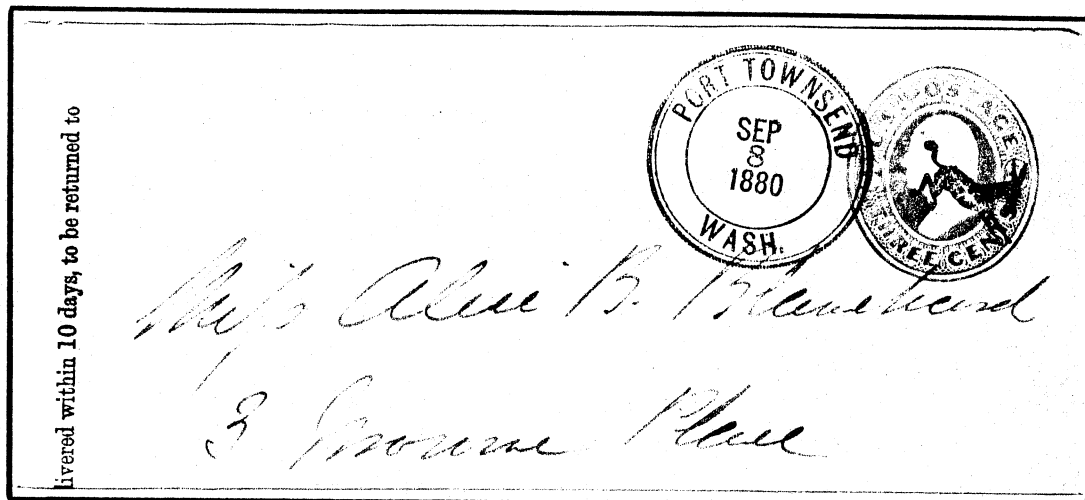
Duplex cancellers (city, date, state, plus a "killer") were available in a number of designs to postmasters whose annual volume of business did not warrant the government's furnishing them to the office.



Wheel of Fortune



"P O D" (Post Office Dept.)



The "Kickin' Mule"

## DOLLARS & CENTS

Cleverly conceived cancelling symbols, but not necessarily indicative of postage rates, or amounts received from mailers.

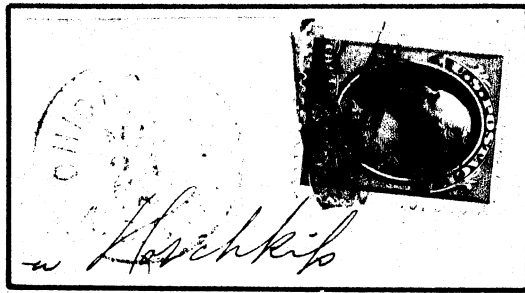


(British Post Due)

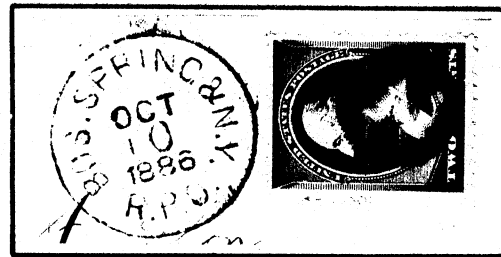


# RAILROAD

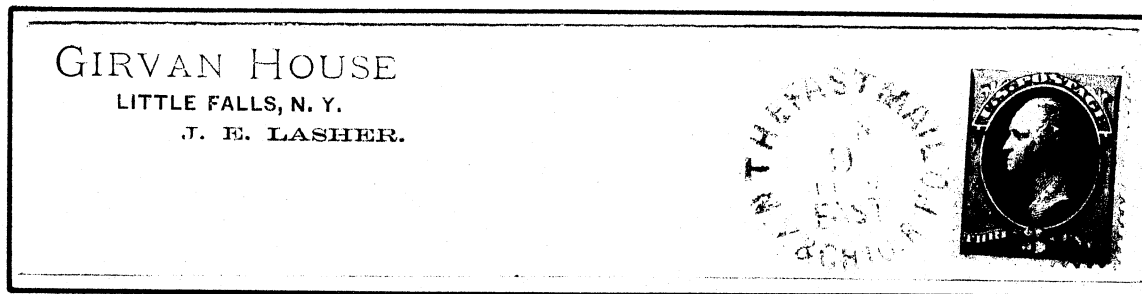
Mail travel by rail can be identified by the markings.



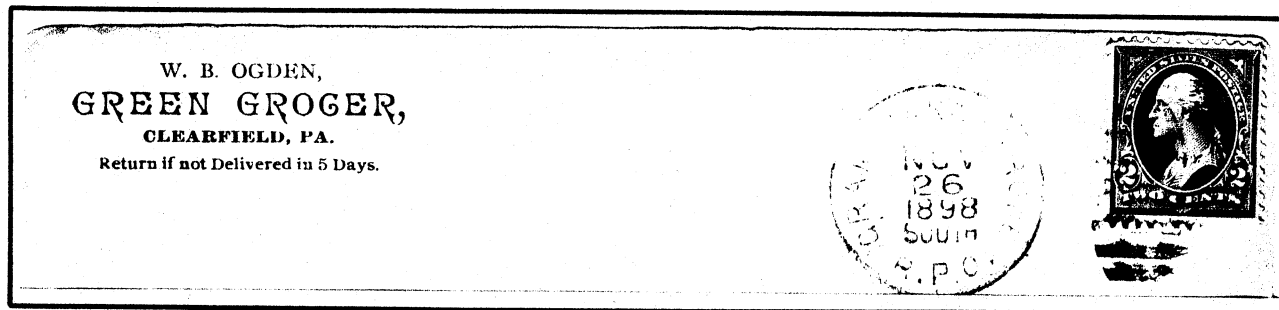
Reverse "N" for Northbound



Negative "W" for Westbound



"EAST" by "THE FAST MAIL"



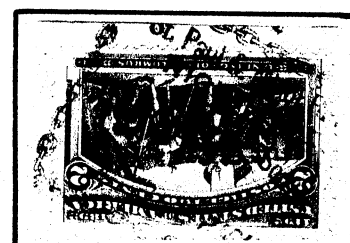
"SOUTH" for Southbound



Louisville &  
Nashville R.R.

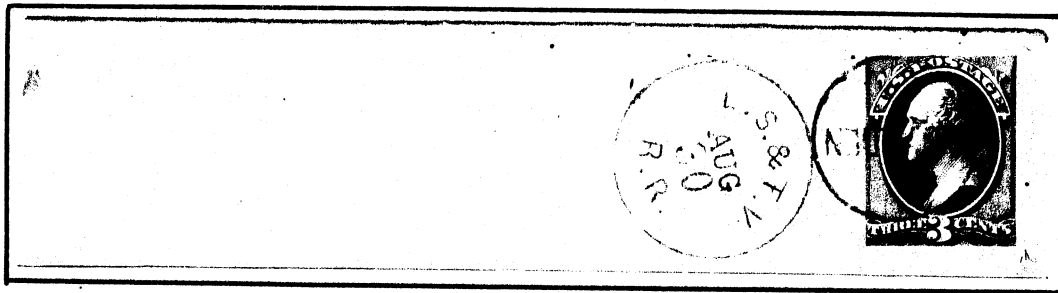


POTOMAC  
POSTAL CARS

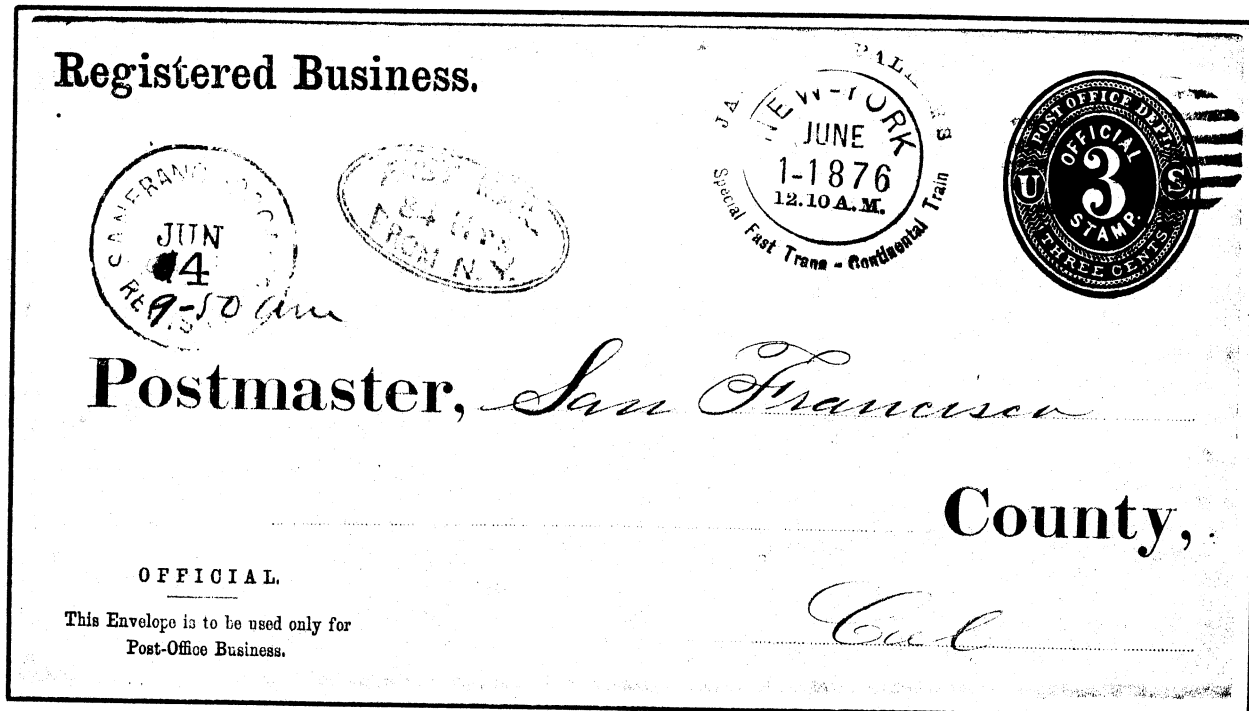


St. Paul & Minot  
R.R. Night Line

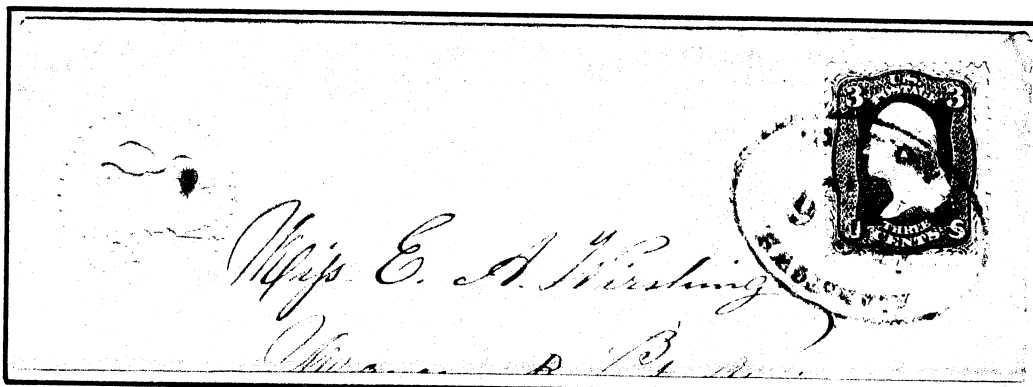
# RAILROAD



"L. S. & T. V. R. R." (Lake Shore & Tuscaranas Valley Railroad). Killer, "S. S. ALDEN", is route agent's name stamp.



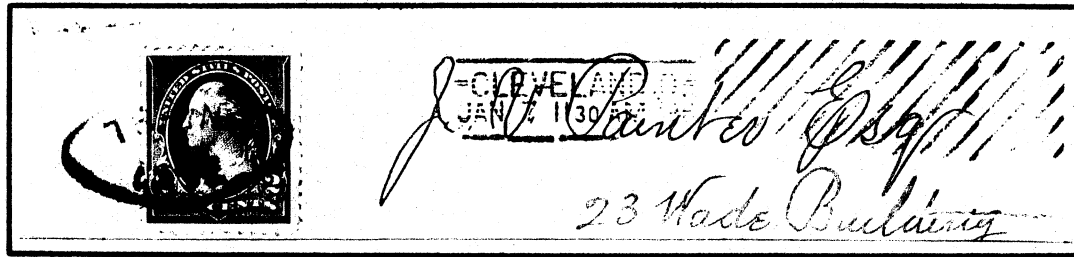
Myer machine cancel, one of only 6-7 reported, "JARRETT & PALMER'S Special Fast Trans - Continental Train, June 1, 1876, 12:10 A.M.", used this trip only. Run was from New York to San Francisco, via Philadelphia to pick up an operatic group from Centennial Exposition. "FAST MAIL, 84 Hrs, FROM N.Y." is one of but two known.



"ADAMSTOWN B. & O. R. R." (Maryland). A route agent marking "cancelled on the cars". Note: stamp is seldom seen brown shade.



# RAILROAD



"TRAIN LATE"



N. Y. MIDLAND  
RAILROAD WINTERTOWN



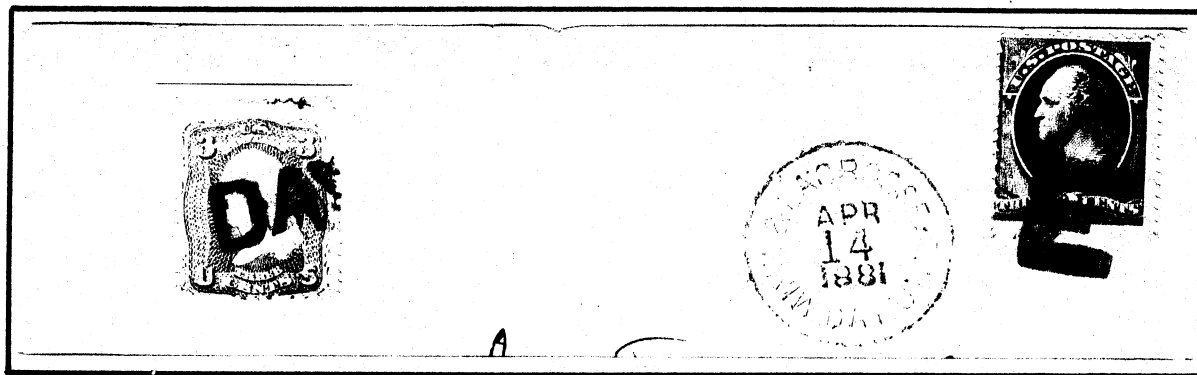
UNION PACIFIC



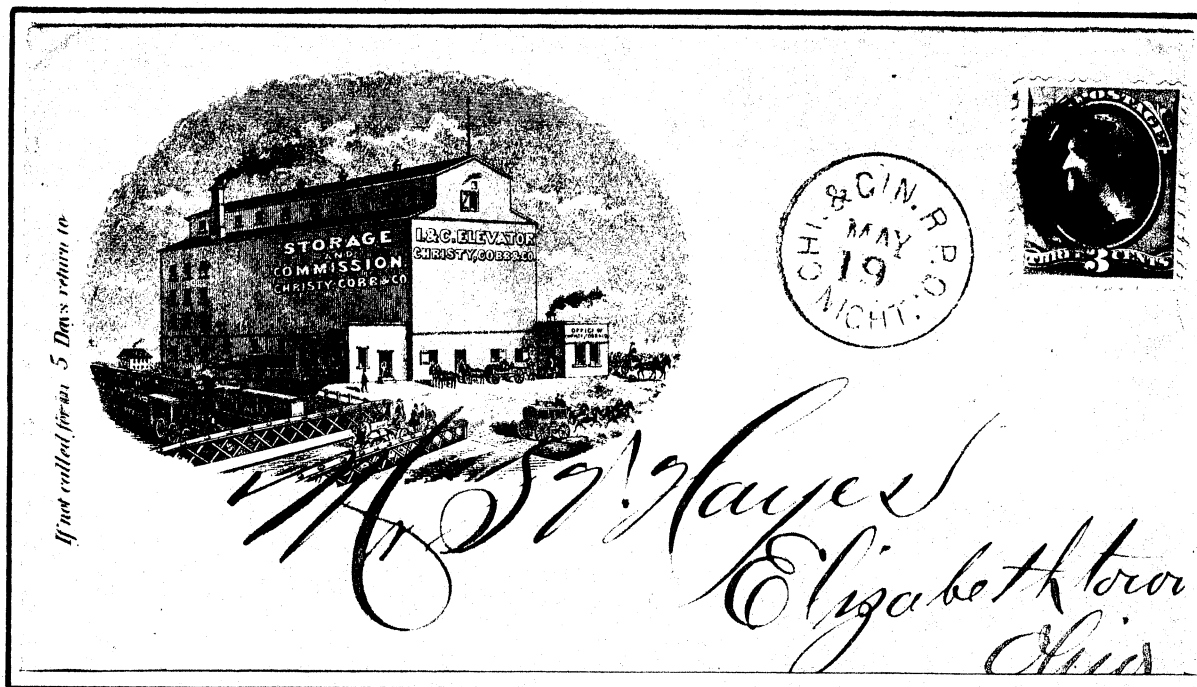
Train 16 West



MONTREAL  
R. ROAD



"DAY"



"NIGHT"

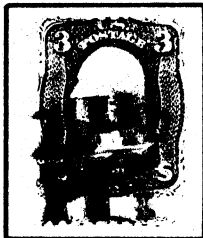
# RAILROAD



Railroad station cancels, showing the warp and weave of the cloth used on these station masters' ticket cancellers.



Originated in Reading, Pa., "Dispatched" from Philadelphia



"2:40 P M"



"N & W" (Norwich & Worcester R.R.)



"5 P.M."

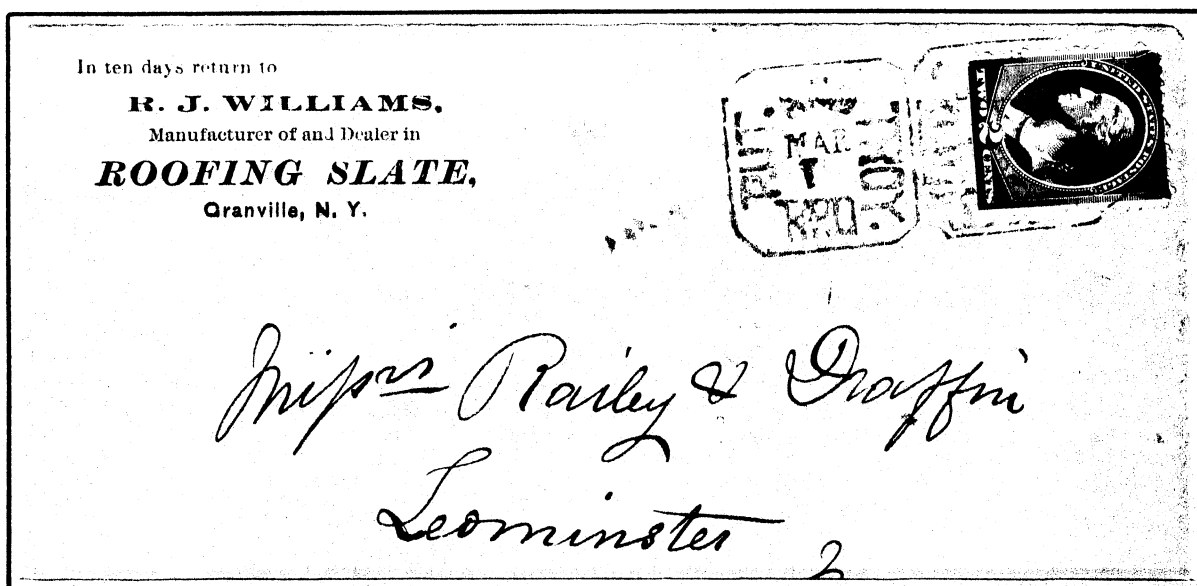


"11 A M"

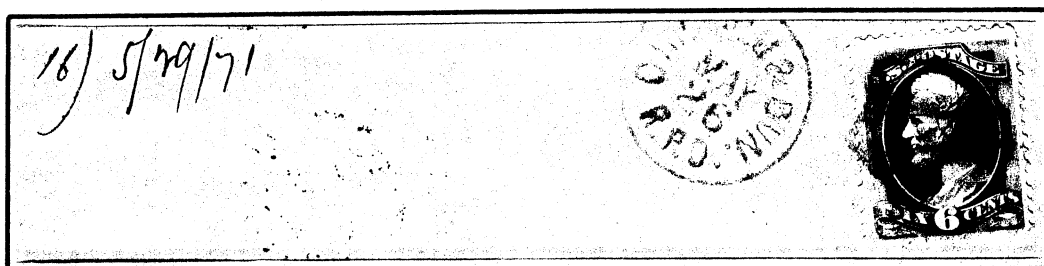
RAILROAD



"RAIL ROAD WAY"



"RUT(LAND) AND TROY R.P.O."



"CHICAGO & DUN(LITH) R.P.O.", to Canada



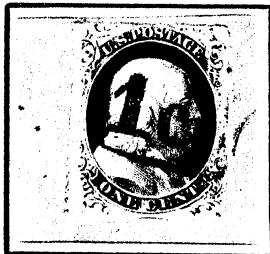
"CHI. & T. HAUTE, AGT."



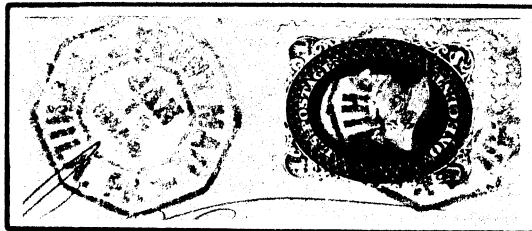
"PATTERSON CREEK, B & O R.R."

## CARRIERS

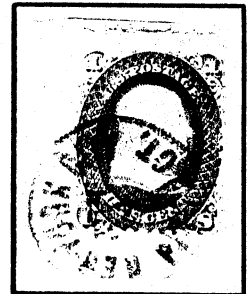
Indicates delivery of mail by U.S. government carrier from post-office to the addressee who paid the fee. A practice recognized by an Act of March 3, 1825, and continued until July 1, 1863, when free delivery to all became routine.



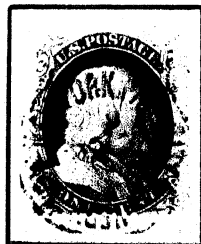
St. Louis  
boxed "1c"



Philadelphia "PENNY MAIL"



New York



New York



Boston



Chicago

## REGISTERED

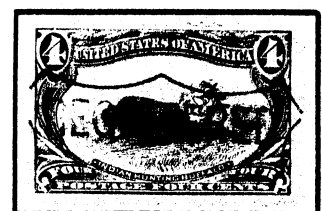
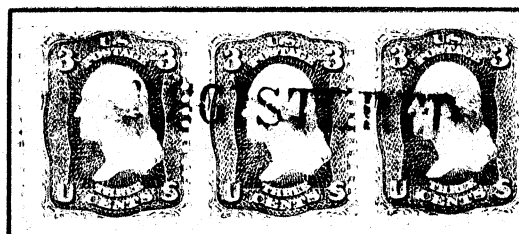
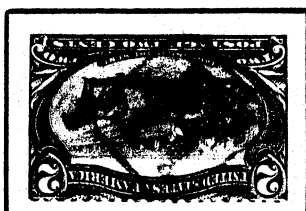
Official "Registration" mail, begun in the U.S. on July 1, 1855 was often indicated by use of only the letter "R", but not always



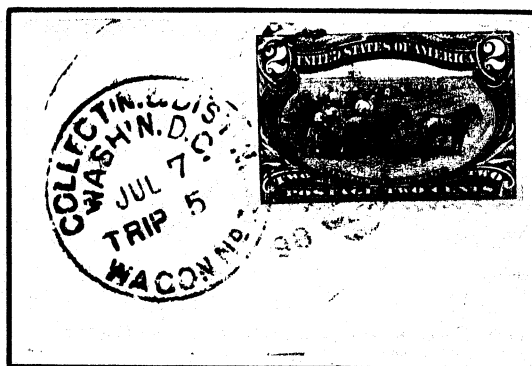
(Re-issue)



(not often seen)

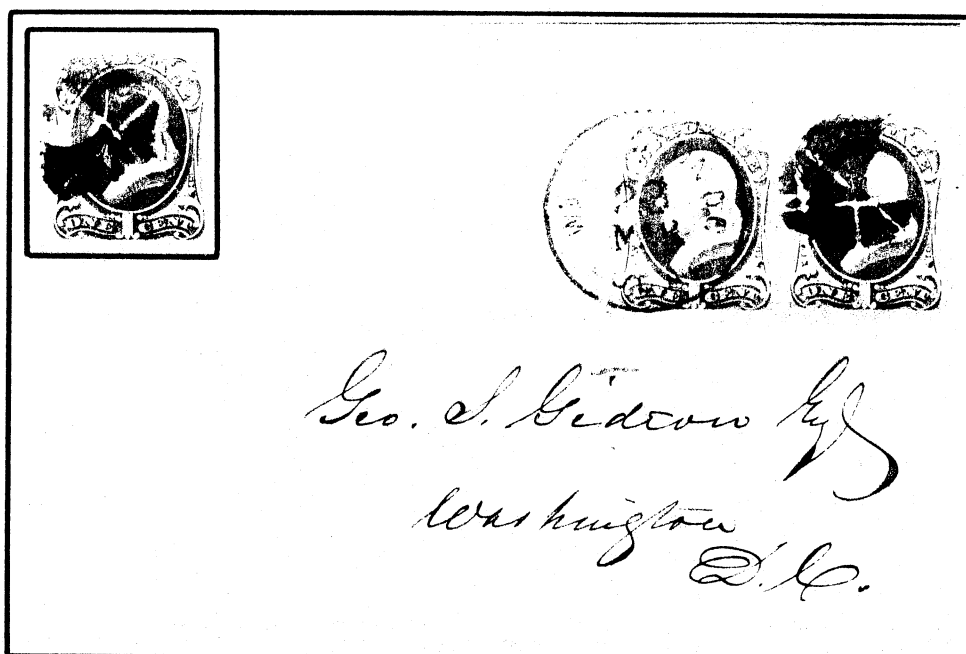


LOCAL PICK UP and DELIVERY in WASHINGTON, D.C.



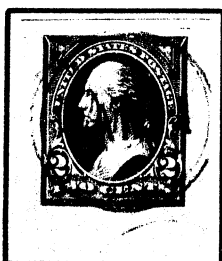
"WAGON NO.(?), TRIP 5"

Used on mail collected and distributed by wagon, a system also used in Buffalo and New York City, and a forerunner of street car mail.



Type cancel used on mail posted for delivery in the city about 1874. Earlier, "Local" was not included, and by 1875 the cork "killer" had become a propellor type. In 1878 the ink was changed to purple, and in 1880 the "Local" was dropped.

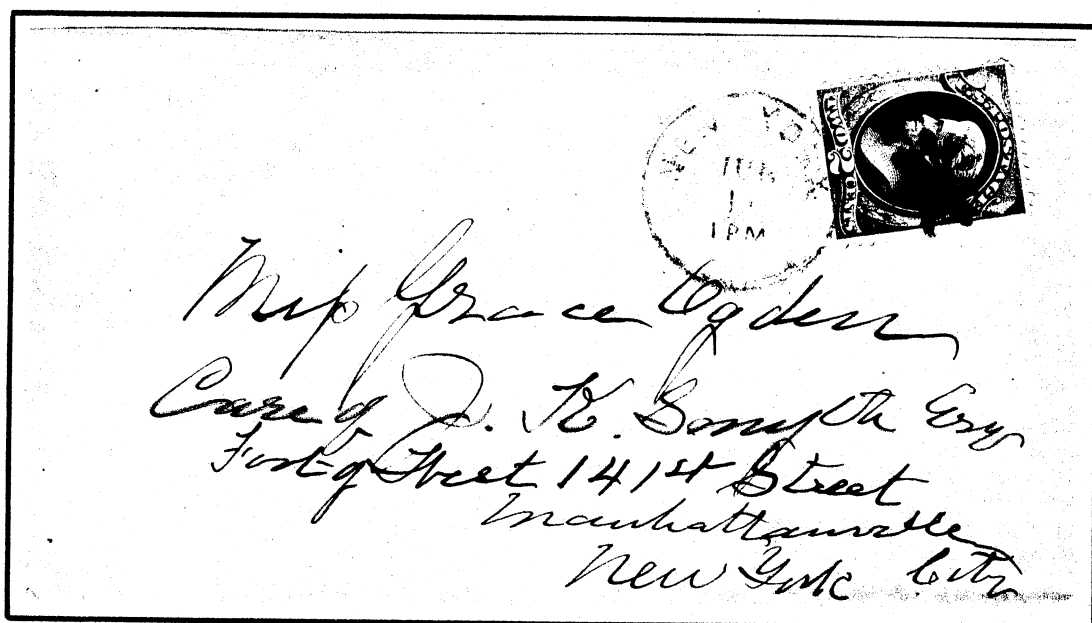
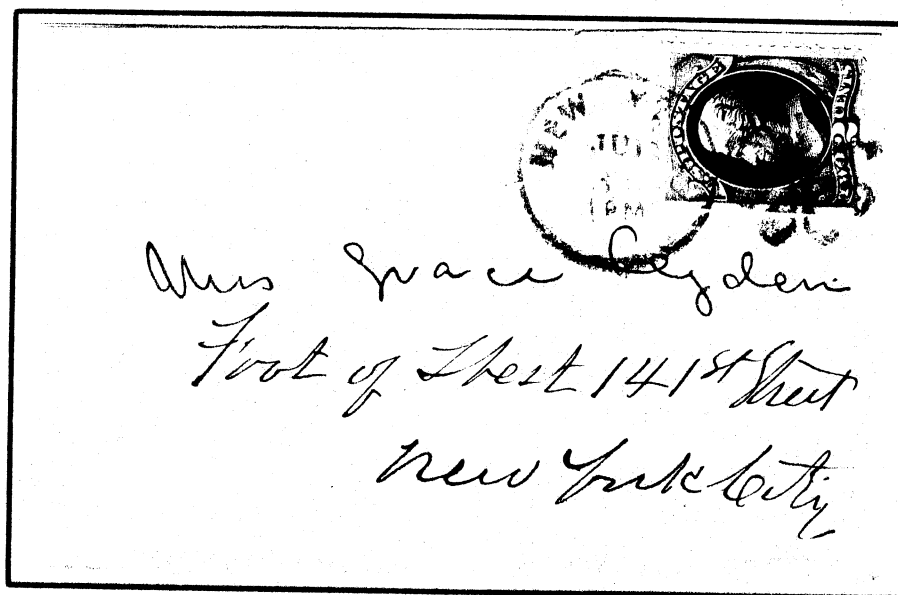
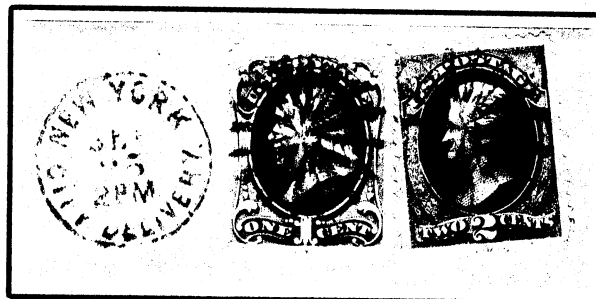
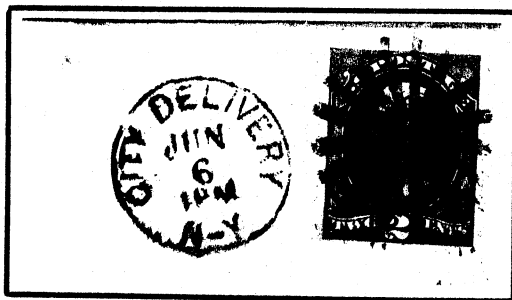
COLLECTION & DISTRIBUTION of MAIL by STREET CAR in BALTIMORE, MD.



"CAR. 1" (discovery copy) very early provisional in use only a few days. "CAR 2" likely Arlington & So. Baltimore route.

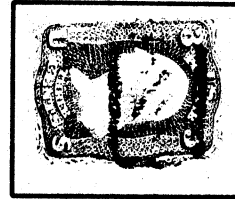
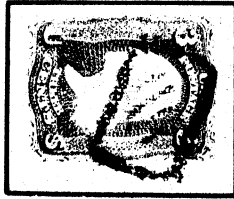
LOCAL PICK UP and DELIVERY in NEW YORK CITY

Smaller versions of some of the foreign mail type cancels were applied to mail posted in the city for delivery therein.



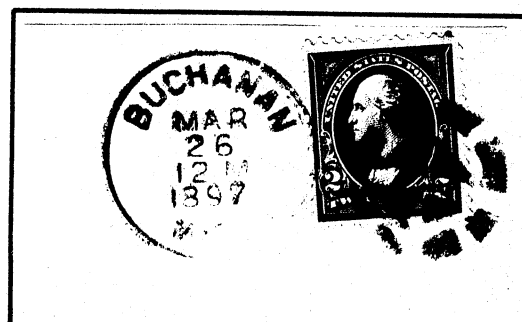
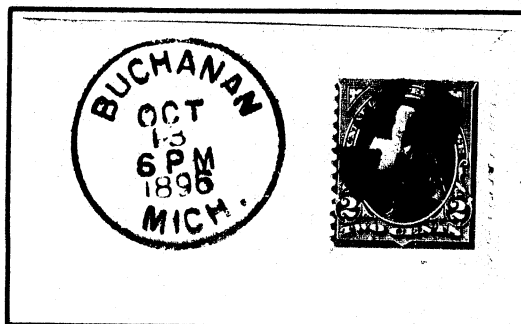
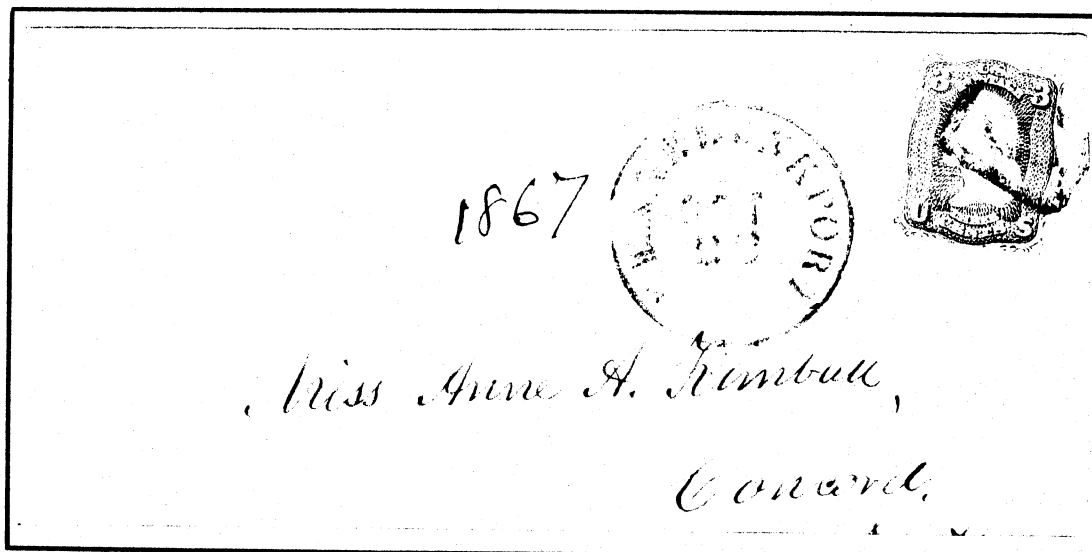
## ATTRITION

Wood and cork from which cancellers of the mid to late 1800's were carved tended to wear poorly, sometimes even breaking.



Candle flame

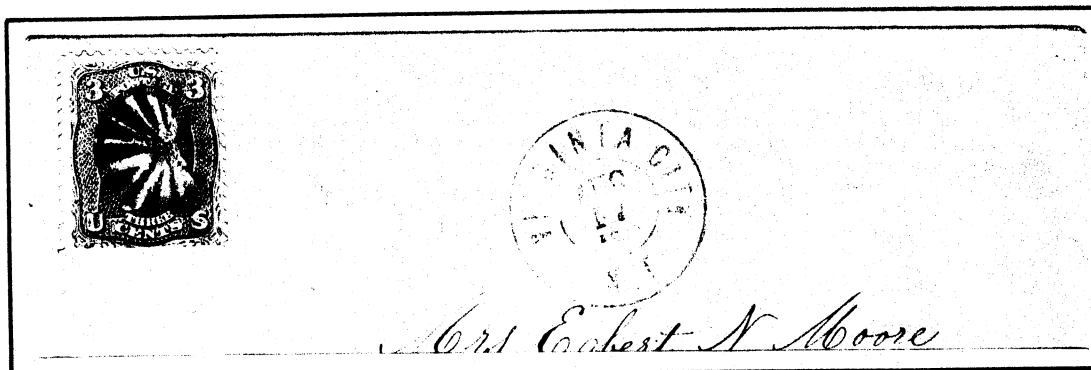
At center above is example of canceller when almost new. At sides are varying degrees of wear from continued daily use, while cover shows canceller almost completely worn out.



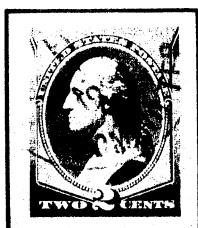
Apparently between October, 1896, and March, 1897, the cross roads canceller at left wore out. So, likely from his ubiquitous broom handle, the postmaster carved a new one, albeit a bit more ornate this time.

## TERRITORIALS

Before joining the Union and becoming a state, many geographic locations functioned as Territories, and their cancels so indicated.



Nevada Territory  
(Joined Union October 31, 1864)



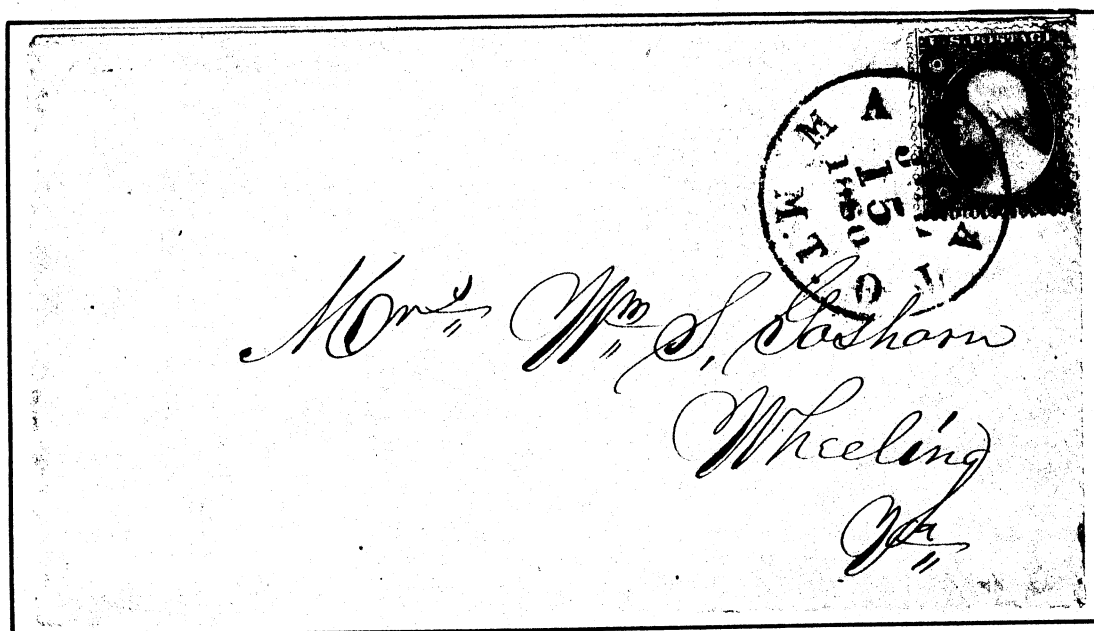
Wyoming  
Territory



Arizona Territory



Indian  
Territory

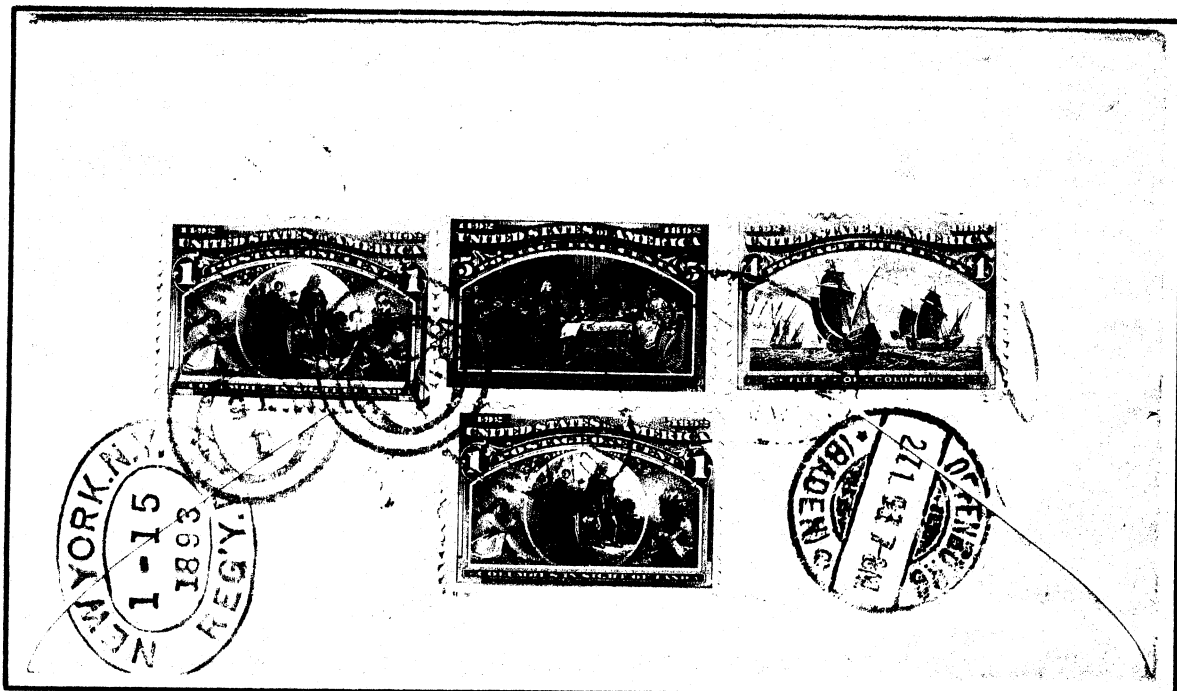
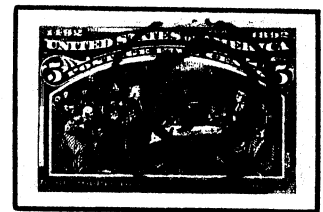


Minnesota Territory  
(Still in use after joining Union May 11, 1858)  
(Wheeling is now in West Virginia)



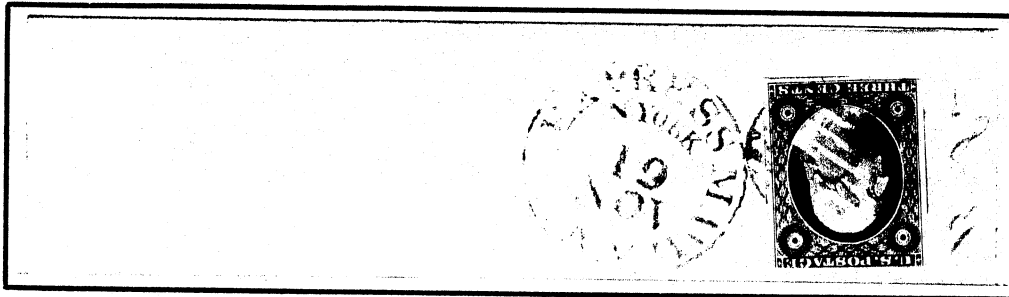
## REGISTRY TRANSIT MARKINGS

These were applied by Registry sections as a control marking on the back of mail coming in to New York City. Part of postage was sometimes used on envelope backs as a security sealer in lieu of wax and received these control markings.

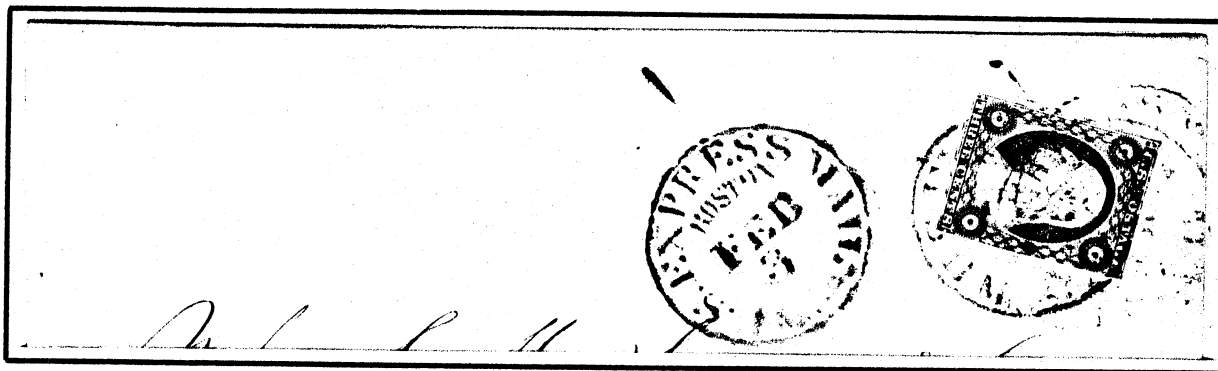


## U. S. EXPRESS MAIL

Applied to mail carried by special stage coach service between New York and Boston, the country's busiest business corridor. Boxes were designated for deposit of this mostly business oriented mail for which no surcharge was required as these stages also carried freight and passengers.



From New York to Boston  
(not common in red)



From Boston to New York

## WELLS, FARGO & CO. EXPRESS

This firm conducted stage, express, and freight business in the western part of the U.S. and applied its own cancels.



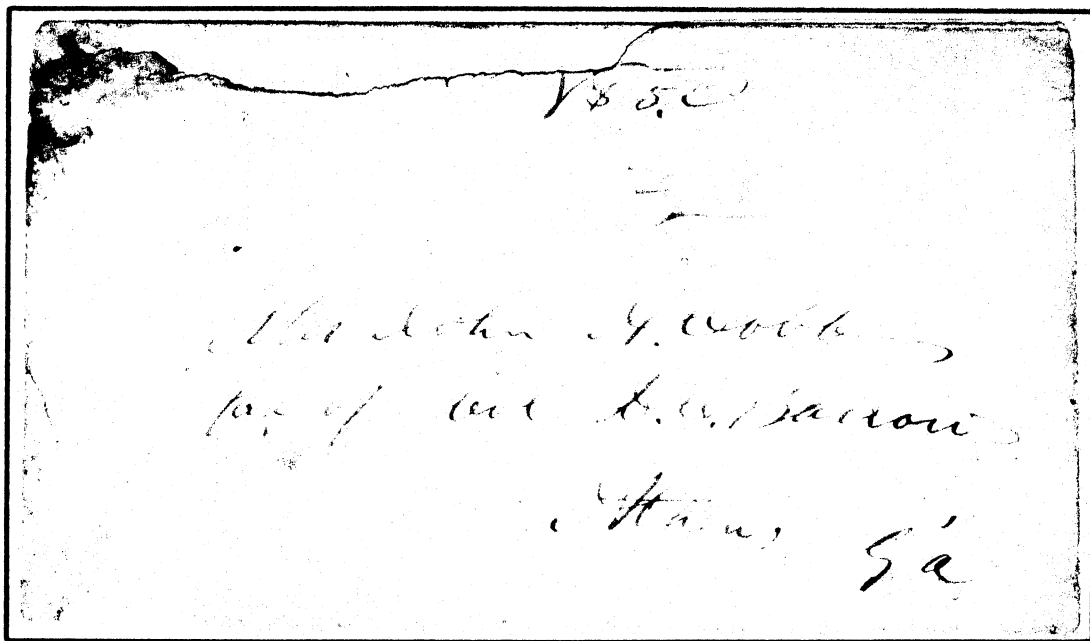
San Francisco



Used from Victoria, British Columbia  
(superimposed over photo)

## EXPRESS MAIL

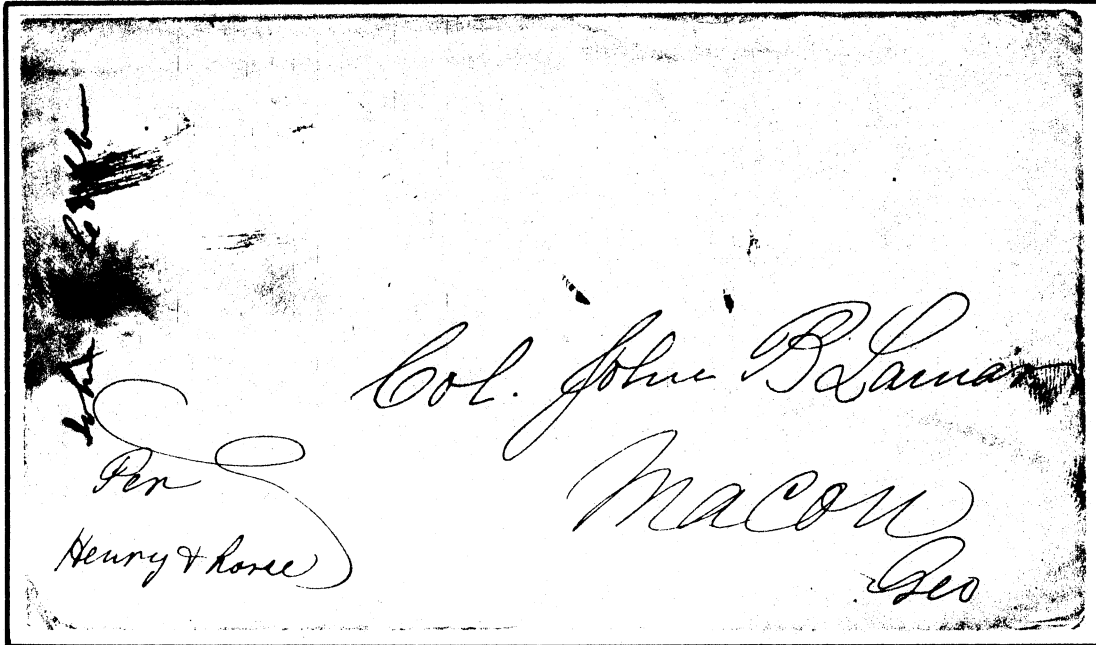
Late in the Civil War the Confederate postal system began to disintegrate, becoming progressively less reliable. Consequently the private Express Carriers thrived, though they could handle only "Money Letters" which, though they might not contain money, could have a value declared and thus circumvent the postal system which prohibited their carrying any First Class mail. The 1861 Express Carrier rates were as low as .25, however by 1865 had reached in some cases as high as \$10.



Marked "Express" this envelope  
had a declared value "V \$5.00"

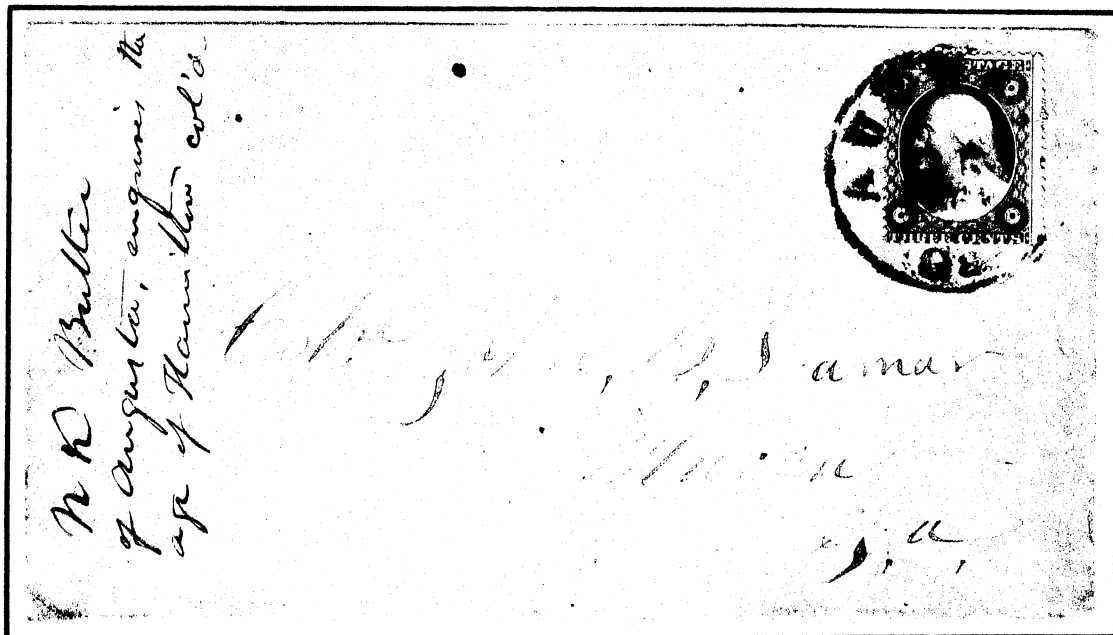
# SLAVE MAIL

Mail carried by a slave from one plantation to another.



From John A. Cobb to his uncle, Col. John B. Lamar. Carried by a slave named Henry ("Per Henry & horse"), "horse" included to attest to the fact the slave was not escaping with a stolen animal.

# INDEPENDENT STATEHOOD



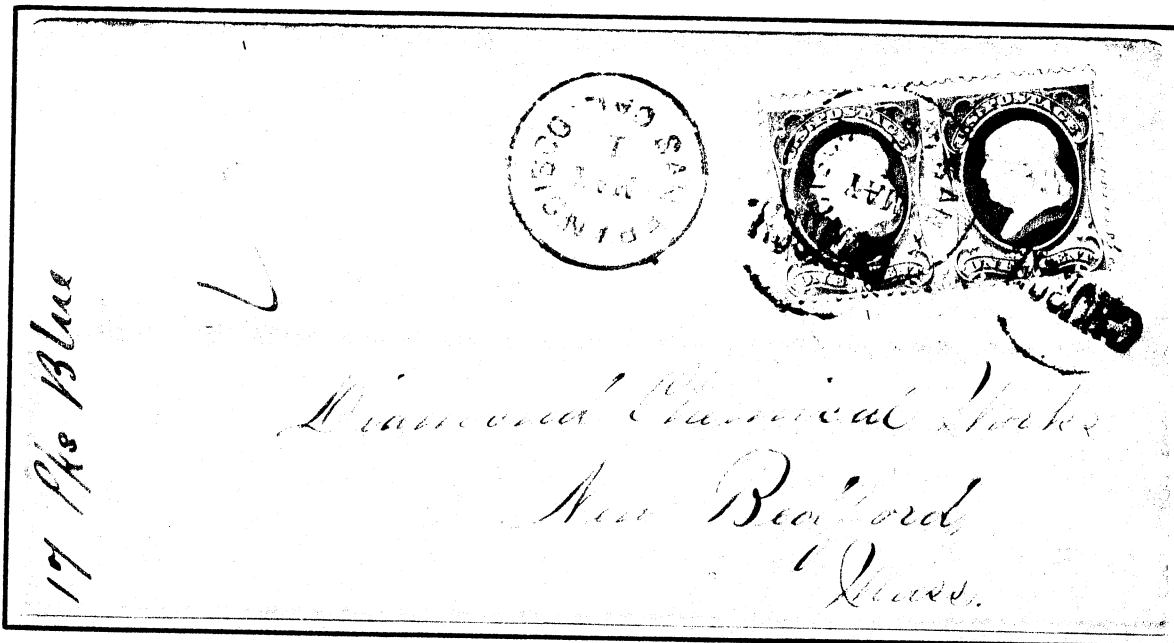
Georgia seceded from the Union January 19, 1861. The new Confederate government was formed February 4, 1861, with Georgia as one of the original 7 states. This was mailed January 25, 1861, during the mere 16 days of Georgia's independent statehood.

# UNOFFICIAL MARKINGS

Applied by business firms/government offices, but often confused with official mail service markings which follow this category.



Postulation: overweight set of documents received this marking at Patent Office. No postal marking on stamp indicates possible hand delivery by D.C. attorney so as to accept his fee from inventor.



## "CHURCH"

Common practice was to sell by group subscription at a discount, the postage being lower if sent in one box. Annotation indicates 17 packages of blue chemical ordered by a church group, as noted at left.



"ATTENTION"



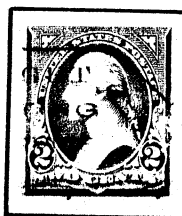
"CASH"



"IN ARREARS"



"RECEIVED"



## "NIGHT SORTING SERVICE"

Probably used by an outside firm doing night time mail sorting so it will be ready for processing when the work day begins.

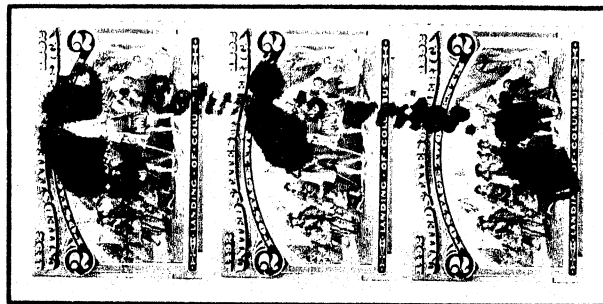
## MAIL SERVICE MARKINGS

Used to indicate a condition, description, situation, or problem pertinent to the handling and servicing of mail.



"OLD STAMPS NOT RECOGNIZED"

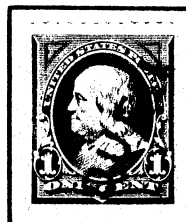
Issues prior to 1861 demonetized and no longer valid for postage with advent of Civil War



"Return to writer"

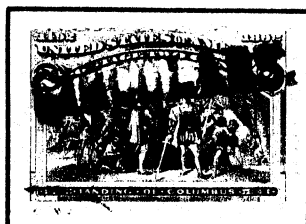


"POST OFFICE BUSINESS FREE"

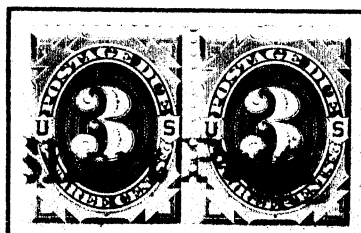


Provisional Postage Due

Used in Detroit, Michigan, for 7 days only.



"CIRCULARS"

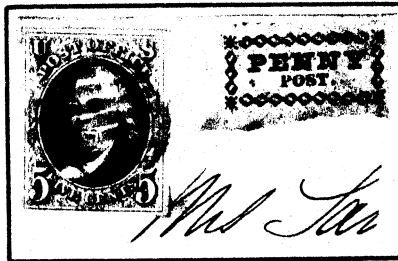


"Short Paid"

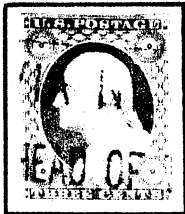


"CANCELLED"

# MAIL SERVICE MARKINGS



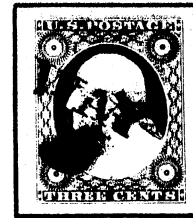
7 bar grid, first official cancelling device  
(Boston Penny Post Local)



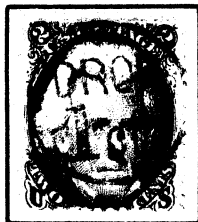
"VIA NICARAGUA  
AHEAD OF THE MAILS"



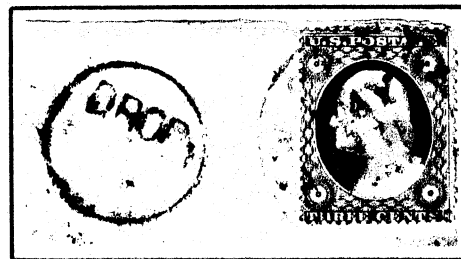
"T" in circle  
(foreign postage due)



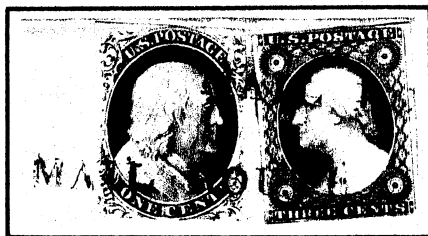
"WAY 6"



"DROP 1 ct"



"DROP"

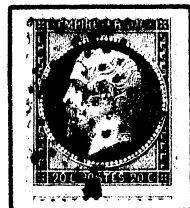


"MAIL ROUTE"

Coastal mail New Orleans to Charleston  
and Savannah, circa 1849-51



"U.S. SENATE  
POST OFFICE"



Etoile Muette (French: "Mute Star")

Used in Paris, 1852-1907, on outgoing mail. Possible letter  
received uncanceled, so applied to "kill" the U.S. stamp.

# MAIL SERVICE MARKINGS



"INSUFFICIENT  
PAID"



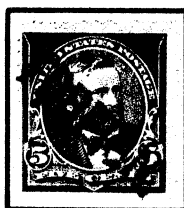
"HELD FOR POSTAGE"



"UNCLAIMED"



"FORWARDED"



"FOREIGN"



"FREE"



"THIRD CLASS"



"4th CLASS MATTER"



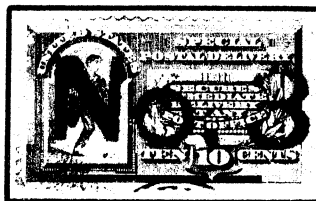
Two slugs, no date  
4th Class Mail



Pointing hand  
(Return to sender)



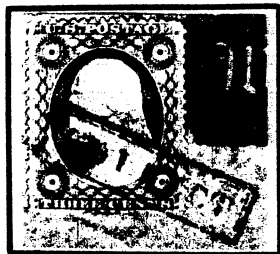
"REC'D. in  
BOSTON, MASS."



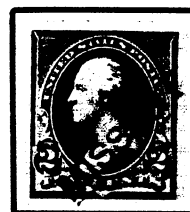
At time this stamp was current, Special Delivery letters required a receipt signature. When unable to deliver, notice was left for recipient to pick up as fee covered one delivery only. Balance of this cancel probably read, ("Returned to office by carrier) No. 3" and a date. This identified the carrier so he could be confronted should the recipient complain about non-delivery.



# MAIL SERVICE MARKINGS



"COLLECT"



"MISSENT"



Anchor in diamond of dots  
French ship marking



"AMERICA UBER BREMEN FRANCO"  
Prepaid mail from US via Bremen



General Banks Division, Field Post Office of Union general



"BAJA, 30 ENE 99"

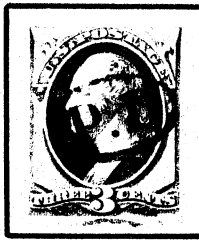
Old Spanish canceler saw limited use in Puerto Rico during American occupation; "ENE" abbreviation for "ENERO" (January).



"EMERGENCY STAMP"

Early usage by Railway Mail Service when regular canceler missing due to wreck, flood, lost, strayed, stolen, or absent clerk.

# MAIL SERVICE MARKINGS



"P. D" (2nd period missing)  
 "PAID TO DESTINATION". U.P.U. marking per French Treaty Port  
 such as Bordeaux, later Hamburg when Germany adopted treaty.



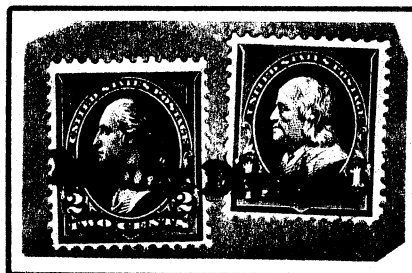
From Boston, Mass, generally seen on two  
 cent value since used as a local rate cancel.



Detroit parcel post clerk identification number, believed to  
 exist through number 6. Generally seen on values above three  
 cents, commonest on six and ten. Same type marking known from  
 Chicago and Philadelphia. Occasioned by the presence of large  
 mail order firms in area. (Philadelphia being National Bella  
 Hesse, a seed merchant).



"NEW YORK  
 DIRECT TRANSIT"



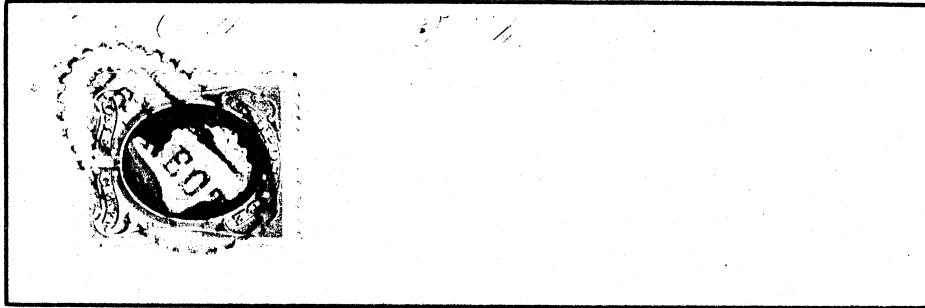
"INQUIRY DIVISION"



"USED"

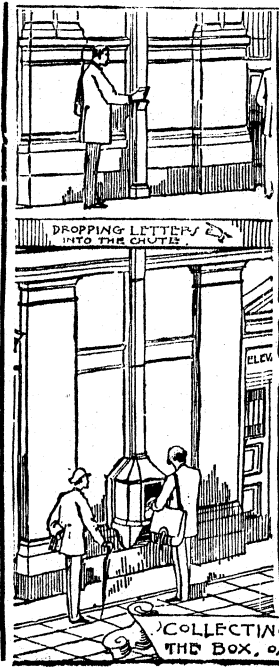
## MAIL SERVICE MARKINGS

"CORRECT"



Rubber stamp used by R.P.O. clerks in 1970's. A route slip accompanied each Registry mail bag showing contents. When bag passed from one clerk's tour on to the next, receiving clerk opened bag, verified contents and, if as stated, stamped with his "CORRECT" marker. Seldom seen on postal items, but when applied usually due to oversight or carelessness.

## The Mail Chute



Over 100 in use in leading hotels and

**OFFICE BUILDINGS**

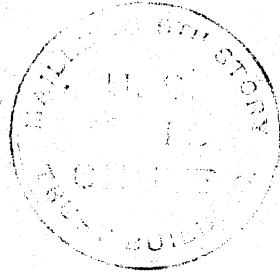

— IN —

BOSTON, NEW YORK, PHILADELPHIA, CHICAGO, ALBANY, UTICA, ROCHESTER, DETROIT, MINNEAPOLIS, ST. LOUIS, LOUISVILLE, PORTLAND, BUFFALO, CINCINNATI, ST. PAUL, WASHINGTON, DENVER, BALTIMORE, AND MANY OTHER CITIES,

In connection with the  
**U. S. POST OFFICE**  
Collection Service.

If not in your building, write us for conditions on which supplied.

COLLECTING LETTERS FROM THE BOX, ON STREET FLOOR

Cleveland Stone Company

Wilshire Bldg.

Cleveland

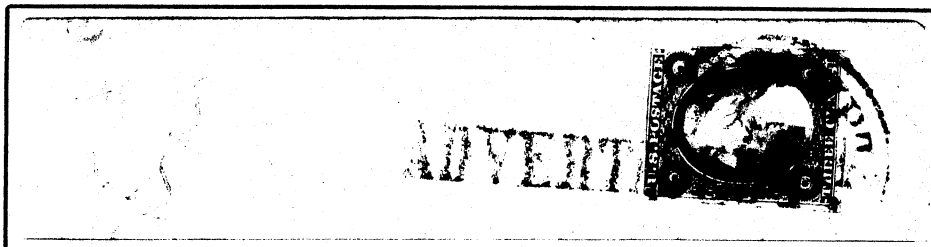
Ohio

**THE U. S. MAIL CHUTE**

The CUTLER MFG CO., ROCHESTER, N. Y.

PATENTED. SOLE MAKERS.

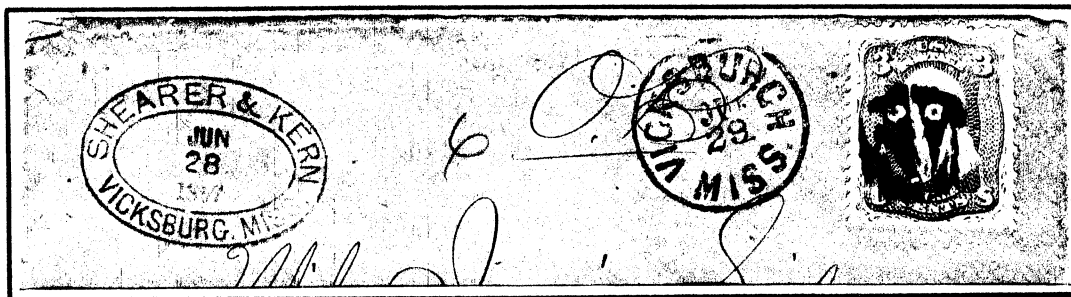
"ADVERTISED"



Mail sent to a post office was held for a period of time for addressee to pick up. When this period passed a local ad was run for addressee. If still uncalled for, letter was sent to Dead Letter Office if no outside return address present.

# WHIMSICAL

With the frustrations attendant to a postmaster's job, there must have been times when a sense of humor did help.



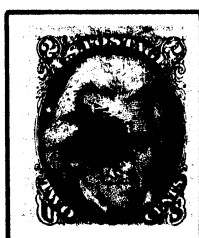
Spook



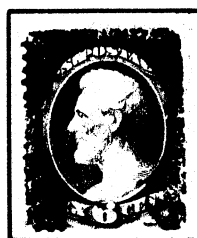
"We're Number 1"!



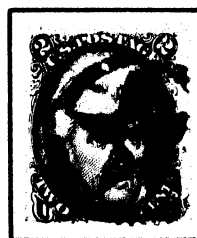
Commode seat  
(Pot(!)tstown, Pa)



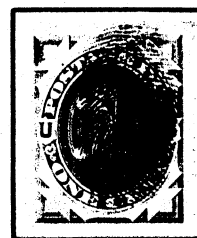
Black eye!



Framed



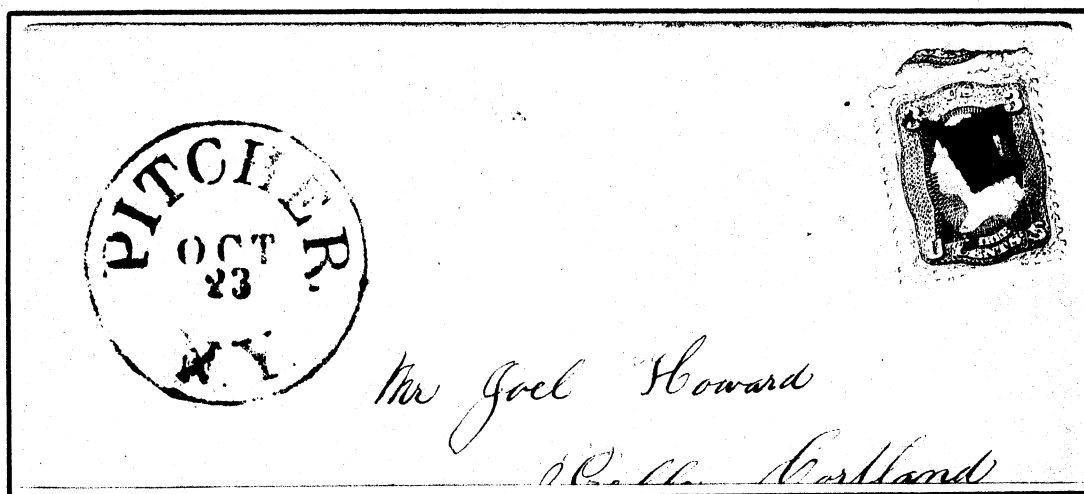
Peek-a-boo



Thumb print



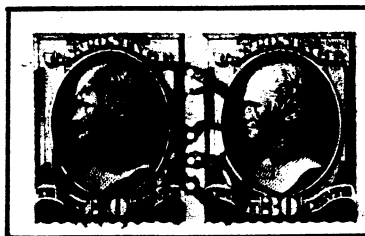
Monocle!



Watering can, from Pitcher, N.Y.

## NEW YORK FOREIGN MAIL

Applied to mail originating in New York City during period 1870-76 destined for abroad, except for Canada, and processed through the Port of N.Y. Over 156 distinctive designs were used, most all in intricate geometrics. All values of the large Bank Note issues of the 1870's are known thus cancelled, and one of each is shown.

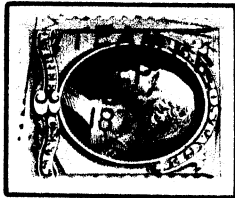


# SHIP

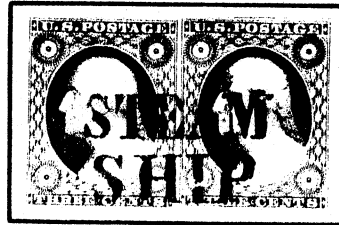
Markings which by their nature clearly indicate water travel.



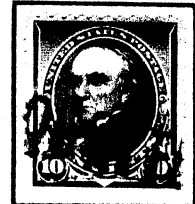
"Ripley, Purser" indicates revenue use on a document while aboard ship.



"STEAMER"



"STEAM SHIP"



"PAQUE BOT"



Mail from Japan

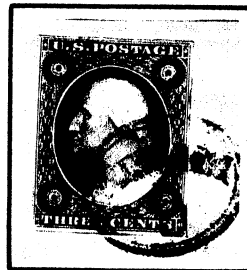
"SHIP"



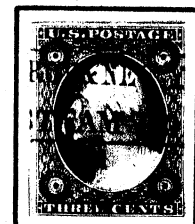
Not from Japan



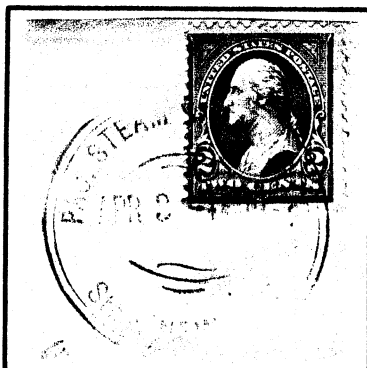
"2 cts."  
(Troy & N.Y.)



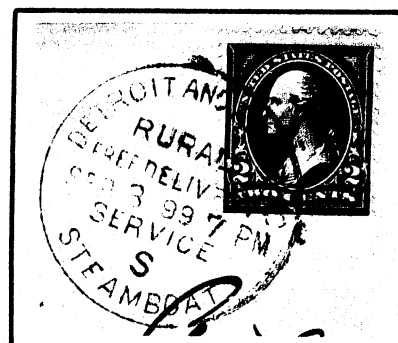
"STEAM 5" (Mobile, Ala.)



"TROY & NEW YORK  
STEAM BOAT"



"PAC. STEAM WHALING CO.  
Stmr. NEWPORT"

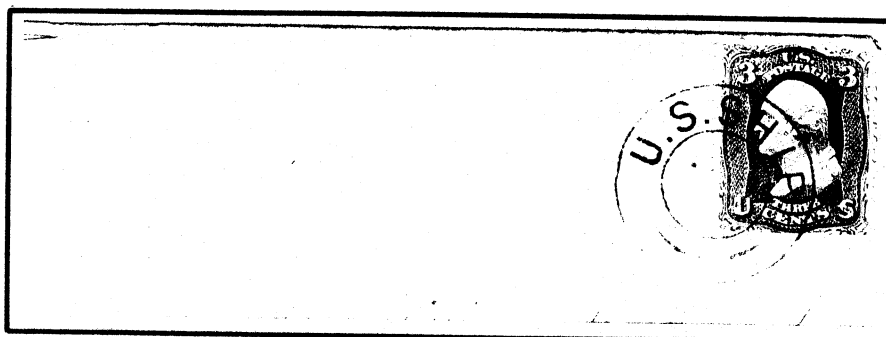


"DETROIT AND ALGONAC"  
("S" for South sailing)

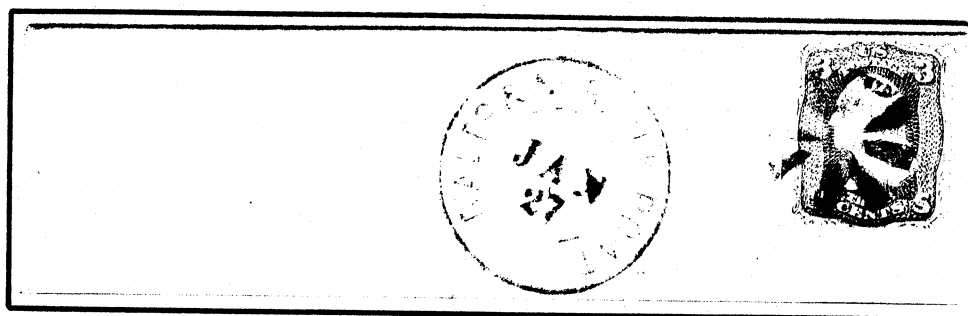
SHIP



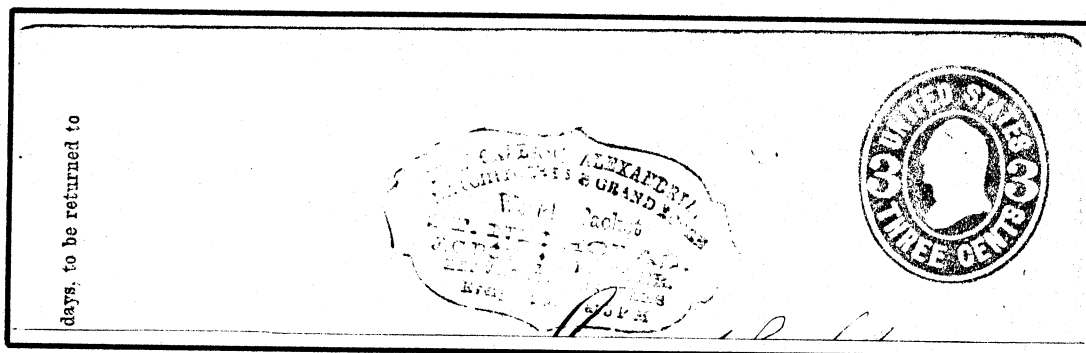
Baltimore Foreign Mail (used less than 3 months)



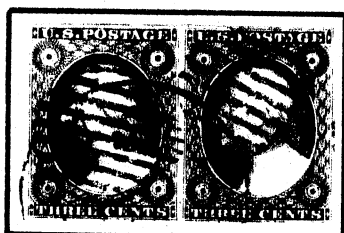
U. S. SHIP



Baltimore & Norfolk Boat



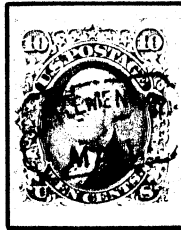
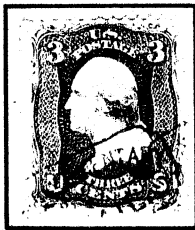
Weekly Packet "ST. NICHOLAS"



Ocean Mail (small 6-bar open grid; uncommon in red)

## SUPPLEMENTARY MAIL MARKING

A marking used in New York to evidence late mailings (up to about one hour before sailing time) on foreign bound letters deposited on wharves or at certain General Post Offices.



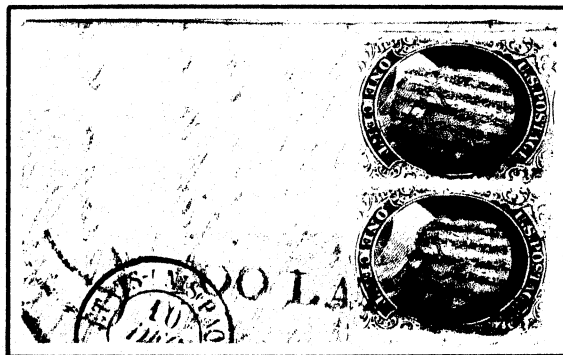
The normal postage rate was doubled for this service, so the three cent value is seldom seen thus cancelled.

### Missed the Boat

These marks indicate the sailing date was missed, so letters were put aboard the next available outward bound ship.



"ARRIVED LATE"



"TOO LATE"

Letter originated in New Orleans (per cancel on back) bound for Europe, evidenced by French receiving mark "Etats-Unis", and routed to New York for a specific ship's sailing date.



### "NEW YORK STEAMSHIP"

The United States and Brazil Steamship Co. was the regularly scheduled contract carrier to and from Brazil via St. Thomas and stamps of the U S were applied in St. Thomas on mail destined for N.Y. and cancelled there on date the ship docked.



The letter bearing this stamp was carried by the Merrimack and arrived in 1869 or 1871. (Arrival date in 1870 was June 20th). The contract rate was 10 cents per half ounce.



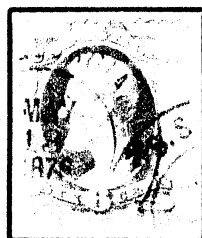
During the period 1870-71 none of the above contract carrier's ships docked in N.Y. on March 31, because arrivals every month were on the 19th, 20th, or 21st. (The year could not have been 1869 inasmuch as this 10 cent value was issued April 1, 1869). Therefore arrival was by non-contract carrier, and could well have even been one of the Pacific Mail Steamship Line vessels coming into N.Y. out of Vera Cruz, Mexico.

### POSTED ABOARD SHIPS

Many passenger lines, with crew personnel assigned postal duties, accepted and cancelled mail posted on board to be routed on at the next port of call.



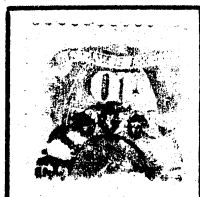
"U.S. GERMAN SEA P.O."



"S.S. GEORGIA" "STEAMER KATAHDIN"

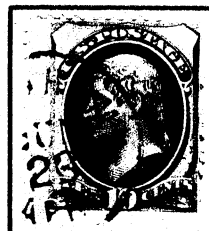
POSTED ABROAD or in U. S. PROTECTORATES

The U.S. had postal agencies at many locations around the world at which mail back to the States could be deposited.



Hiogo

Japan



Yokohama

Canada



Windsor Mills,  
Quebec

England



Southampton  
Packet Letter

Guam



Agana



Alaska



Cavite, Philippine Islands



Hong Kong



Singapore



Manzanillo, Cuba



Santiago, Cuba

China



China



Shanghai



Mil. Sta. No. 1  
Manila, Phil. Islands

Hawaii



Maui



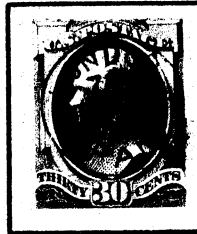
Oahu

## FOREIGN TRANSIT & RECEIVING MARKS

Mail leaving the U.S. for foreign countries was struck with a "Receiving Mark" upon arriving in the next country, which may or may not have been the ultimate destination of the letter.



Paris



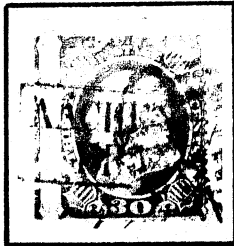
London



Hamburg



Le Havre



Aachen



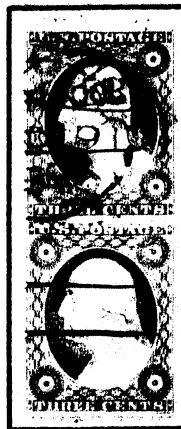
Zurich



Paris



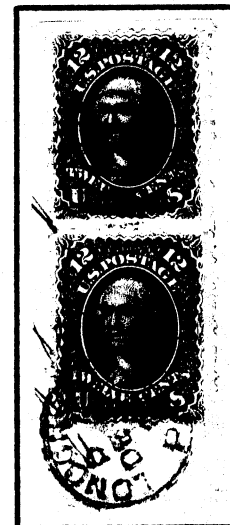
Isle of Man



Liverpool



Charing Cross



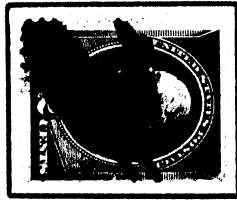
London



This receiving mark, applied at Christiania, Norway, and often called the "Swiss Bridge" cancel, was apparently placed right on the stamp in order to "kill" it since the original purple cancel is barely visible.

# ANIMALS

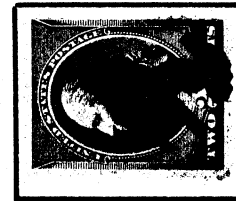
The world of nature presented a deady source for the more talented postmasters to carve their own versions of many of the world's recognizable animals - - - -



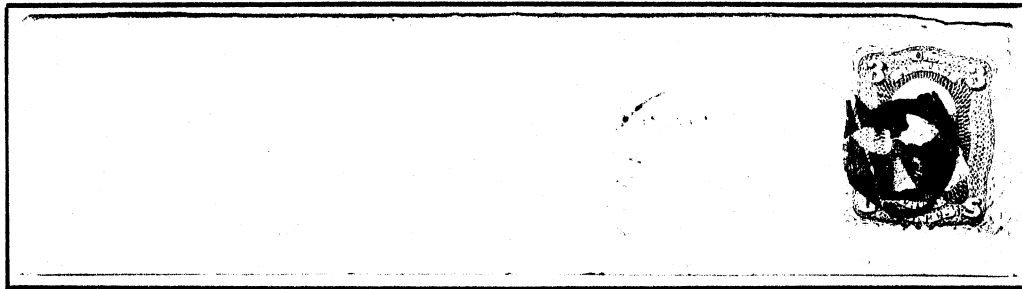
Rabbit



Running fox



Mule



Cat



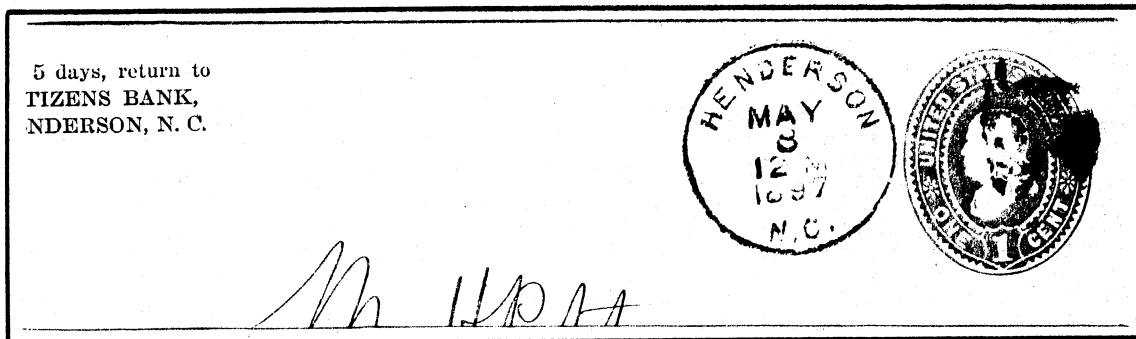
Dog



Dog's head



Jackass



Horse head



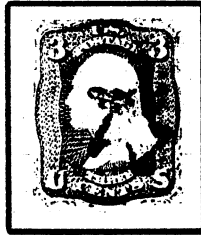
Mongoose



Leaping stags



# ANIMALS



Deer head



Hog's head



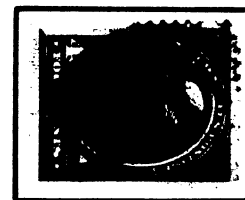
Horse heads



Running stag



Moose head



Elephant



Pig



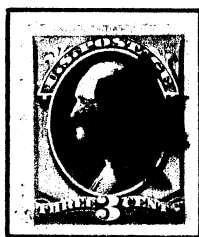
Kickin' mule



Dinosaur

# BIRDS

- - - - and its flying creatures - - - -



Black bird



Blue bird



Red bird



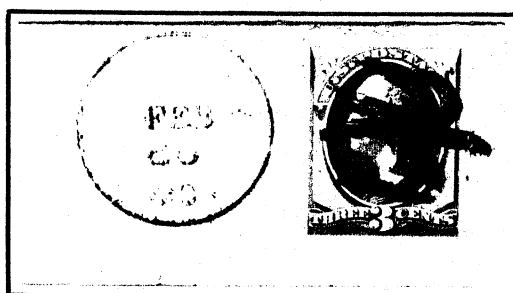
Eagle



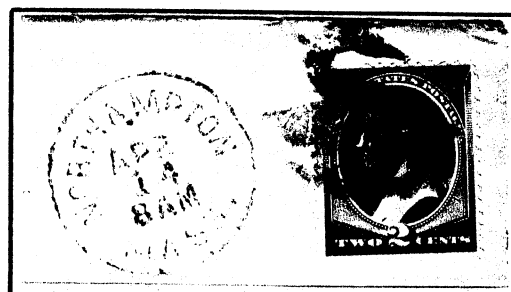
Bird in flight



Screaming eagle



Swallow



Swan



Eagle



Bird in nest



Duck's head



Setting hens



Hen

# INSECTS

- - - - as well as smaller flying forms - - - -



Butterflies



Moth



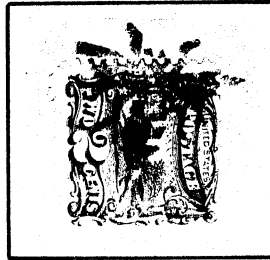
Dragonflies



Moth



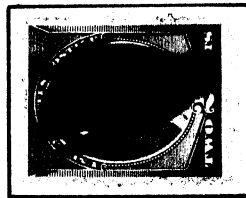
- - - - Bumblebees - - - -



"Shoo fly"

# SEA CREATURES

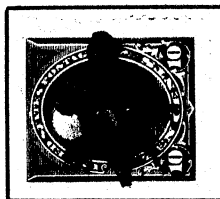
- - - - including, also, inhabitants of the deep - - - -



Whale



Seal



Turtles



Octopus



Sea shell



Sea spider



Sea shell

## FLORA

- - - - while not forgetting the plant life that abounds - - - -



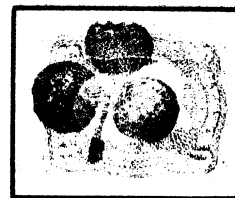
Rose



Negative long stem flower



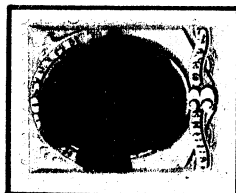
Tulip



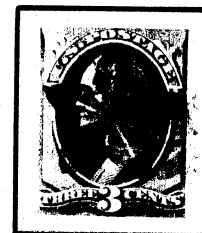
Three leaf clovers



Flower petals



Mushrooms



Flower petals



Shamrocks

## TREES

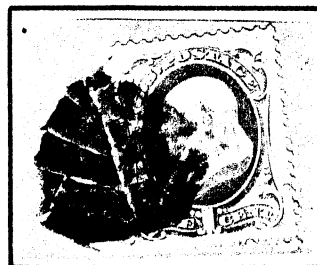
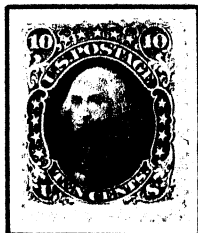
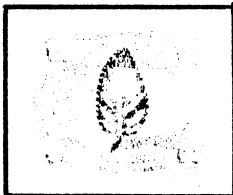
- - - - some of which attain the size of trees - - - -





## LEAVES

- - - - and, of course, trees and plants do have leaves - - - -

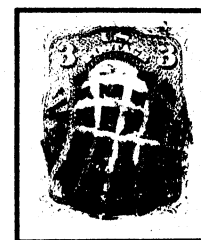


## WORLD GLOBES

- - - - which is true all over the world.



With longitudinal lines



# RELIGIONS

Some of the different faiths came in for a share of recognition.

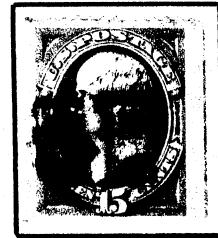
## Christian



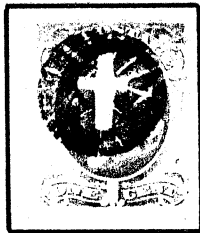
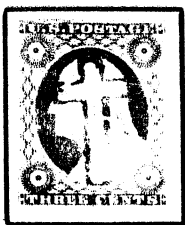
Open Bible



Preacher in pulpit



Open Bible



Crosses

## Jewish



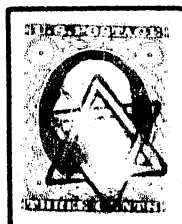
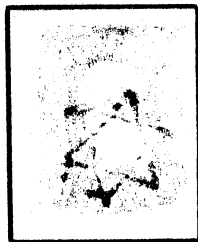
The word "Lord" in Hebrew



8 prong Chanukah menorah  
(candelabrum)



Aleph  
(Hebrew letter "A")



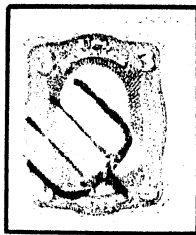
6 point Star of David

# POTPOURRI

Any imaginable object was fair game for becoming a canceller.



Tomahawks



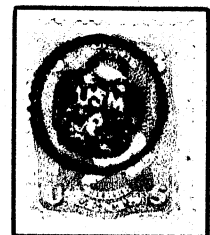
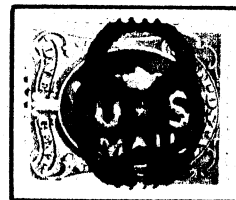
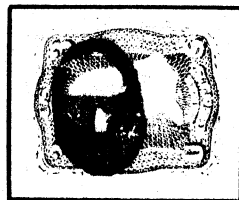
Pitchfork



Spike



Screw head



Padlocks



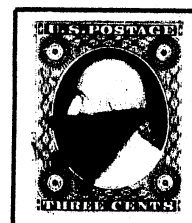
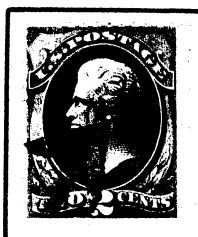
Axe



Crossed arrows



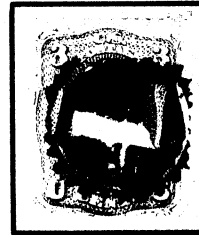
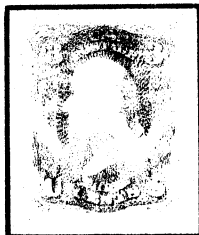
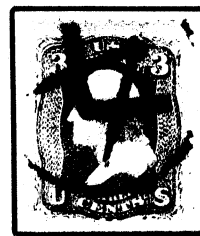
Axe



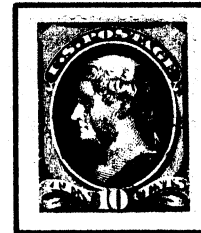
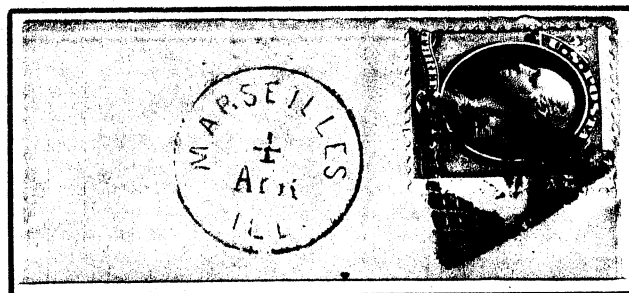
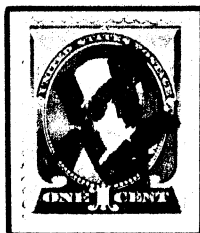
Arrowheads

# MASONICS

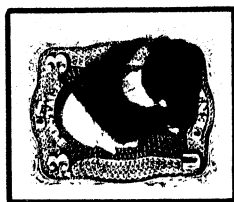
The many symbols of Masonry used as inspirations for cancels would indicate a number of postmasters were Masons.



- - - - Negative - - - -



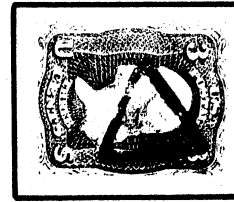
Seeing eye



Fez



Keystone



Trowel



In keystone  
with crescent



Negative trowel

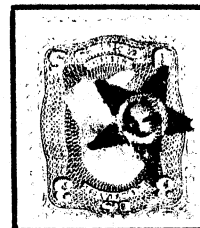


Each letter  
a secret code

# MASONICS



Seeing eye



"G"



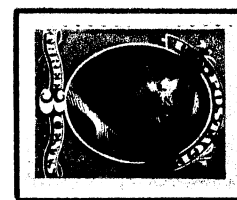
Diamond  
in cogwheel



Gavel



Knight Templar  
(cross omitted)



- - - - Trowels - - - -

## Crosses



In circle of  
geometrics



In a wreath



In a  
diamond

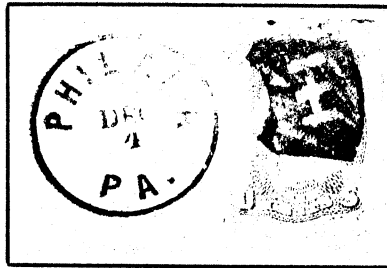
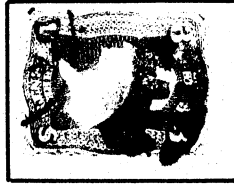


In keystones

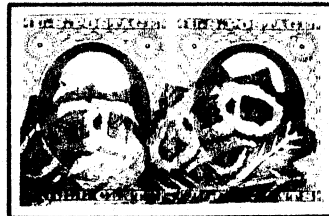
## FRATERNAL

Masons, however, were not the only group to attract members, as evidenced here, so other affiliations were duly honored.

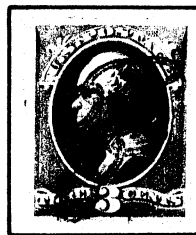
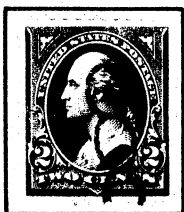
### Mummers



### False teeth



### Odd Fellows



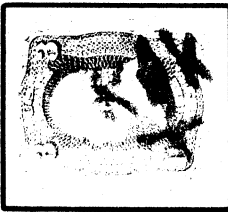
### Friendship links

# KU KLUX KLAN

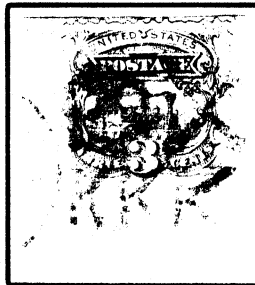
Immediately after the Civil War feelings were still sharply divided among many, and some postmasters shared these sentiments.



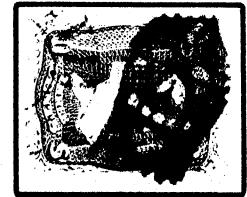
"K K K"



Sword and "K K"



"K K K", skull & crossbones



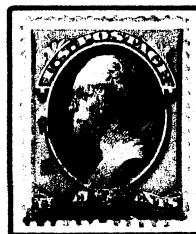
Klan hood



"K K K"



Fiery cross



"K K K" with skull & crossbones

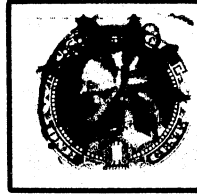
A clerk in the Columbus, Ga., office fashioned this K. K. K. device and on April 7, 1875, cancelled letters that passed through his hands. The postmaster confiscated the device and discharged the clerk.

## The WATERBURY CANCELLATIONS

The best known most innovative group of cancels was carved from cork by John W. Hill, postmaster at Waterbury, Conn. Popularly referred to as "Waterburys", many were used only a few days before they broke and were discarded.



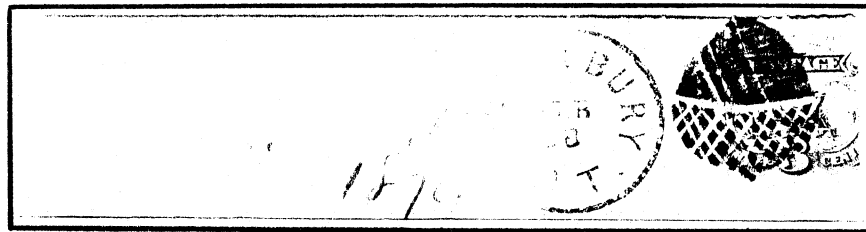
Buttonless shoe



Rosette,  
8 segments



Chrysanthemum



Acorn



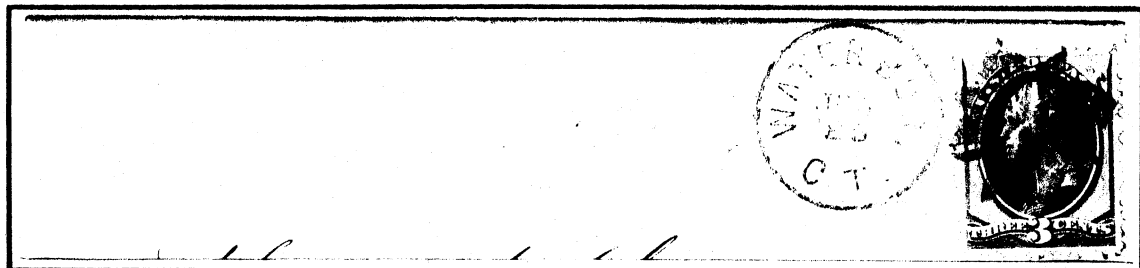
Woman in bonnet



Running chicken



Beer mug



Holly sprig



Man with hat



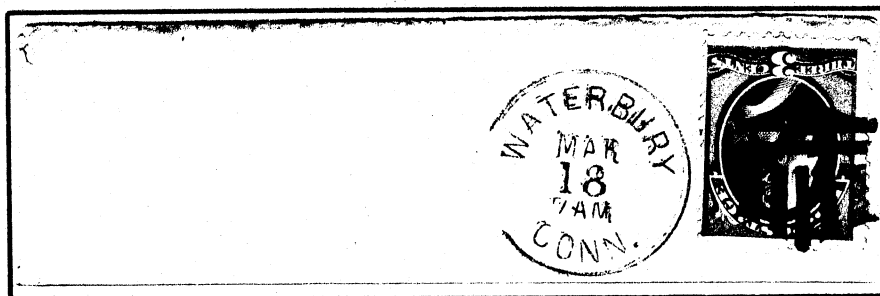
Five hearts around a star  
(earliest design by Hill)



Pumpkin



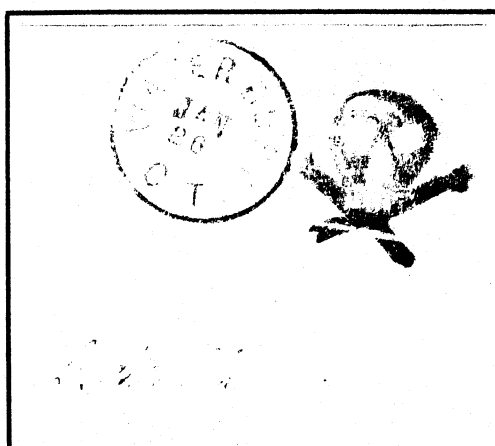
# The WATERBURY CANCELLATIONS



Five bar shield



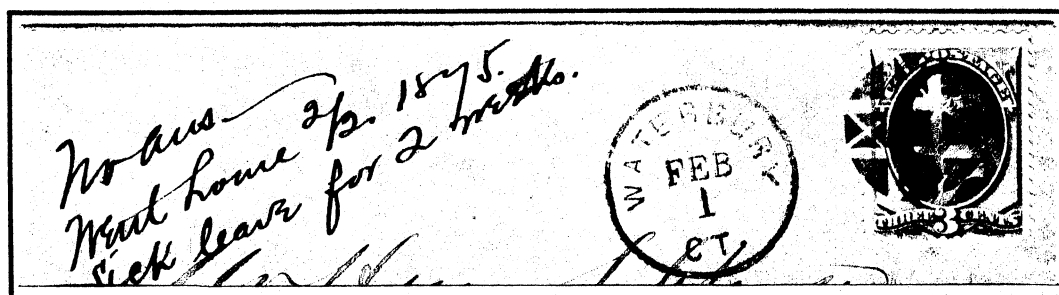
Beer barrel



Skull with crossbones



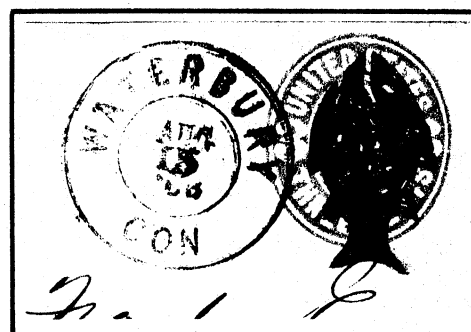
Baseball game



Garden paths



"W" for Waterbury  
(struck twice)



Fish

# The WATERBURY CANCELLATIONS



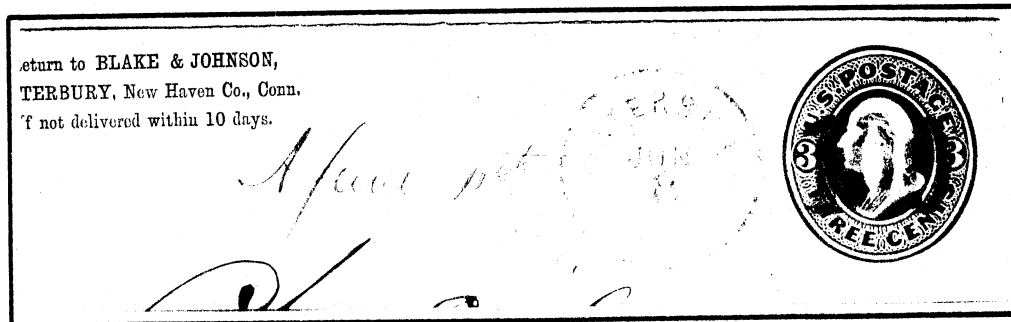
Man with derby



Bridgeport fireman



Man smoking pipe



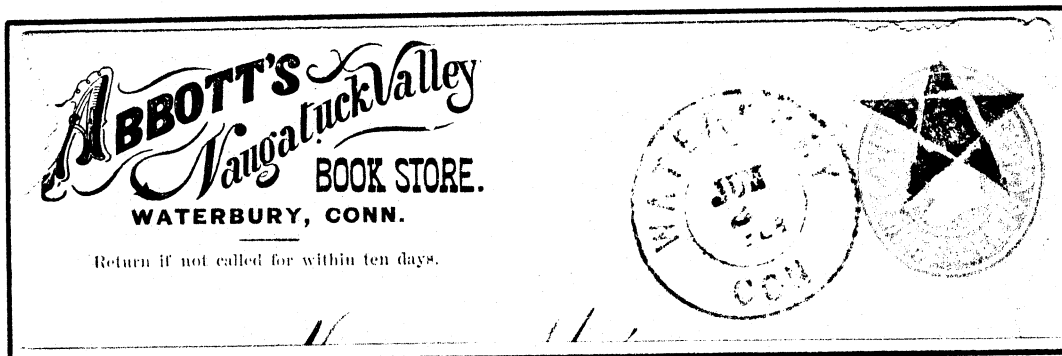
"100", Centennial cancel



Maple leaf



Mortar & pestle



5 point star



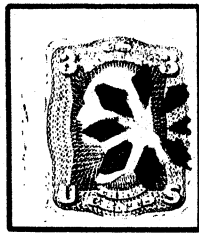
Large bee



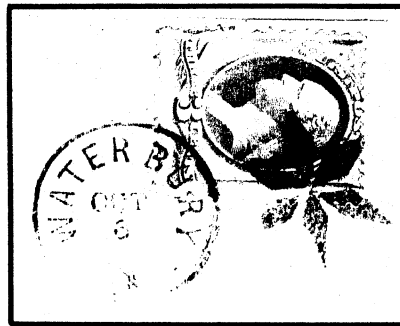
Three leaf shamrocks



The WATERBURY CANCELLATIONS



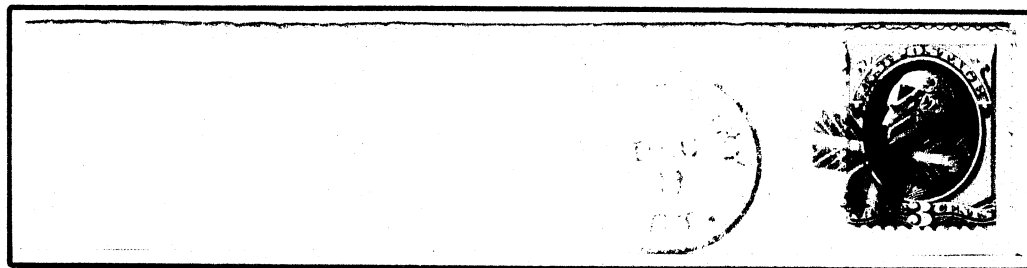
8 segments



Rosette, 6 segments



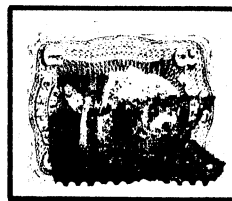
8 segments



Crossroads with diagonal white lines



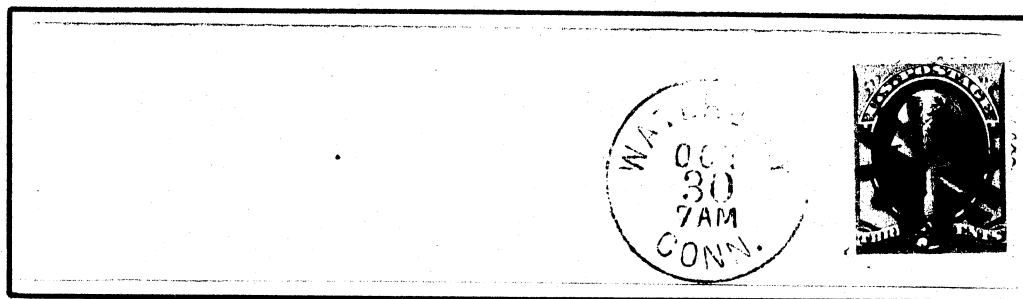
Nesting duck



Dog's head



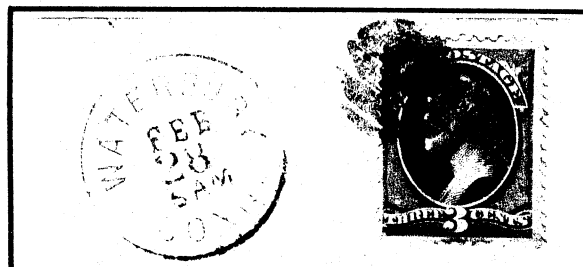
Man wearing a hat



Arrowheads and diamonds



Heart with arrow  
pointing down to right

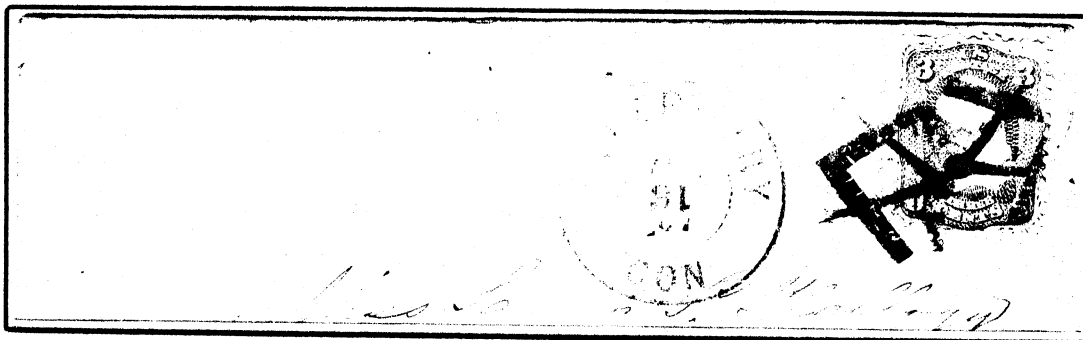


Stylized leaf

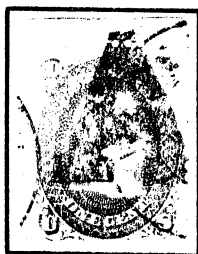


Heart with arrow  
pointing down to left

The WATERBURY CANCELLATIONS



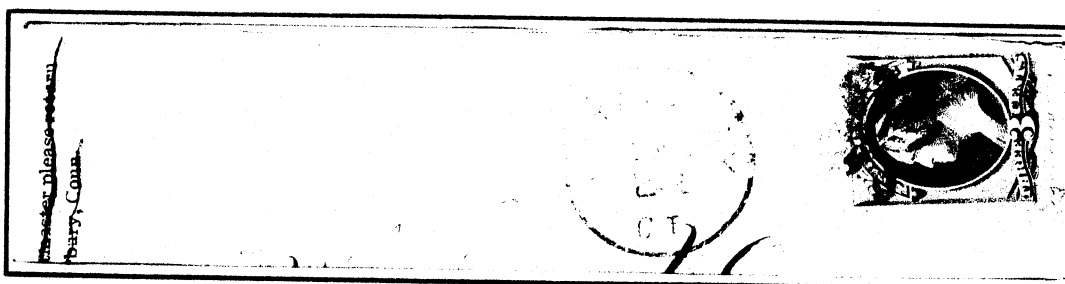
Masonic compass & T-square



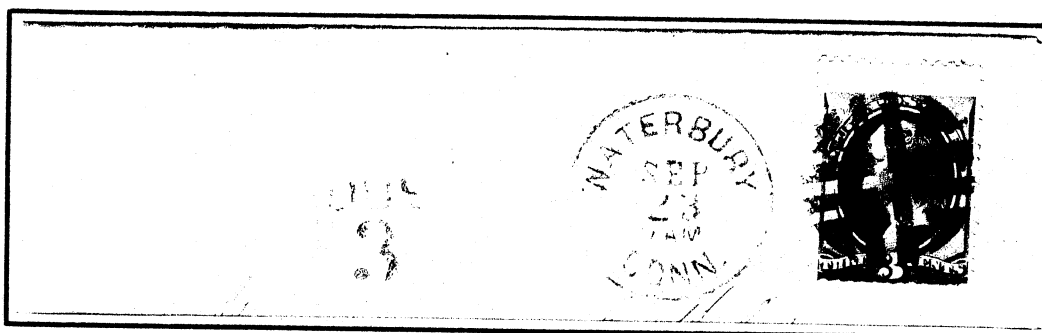
"A"



"G"



Holly sprig (note December 24 date)



Crossroads, double segments



Zebra head

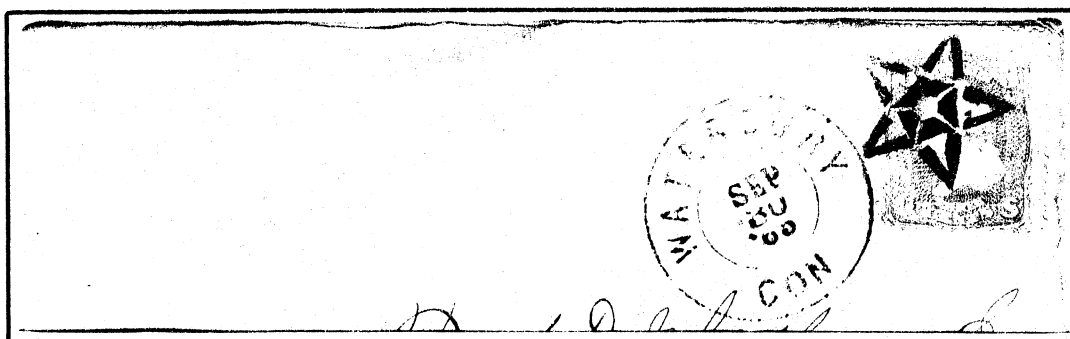


3 leaf shamrock

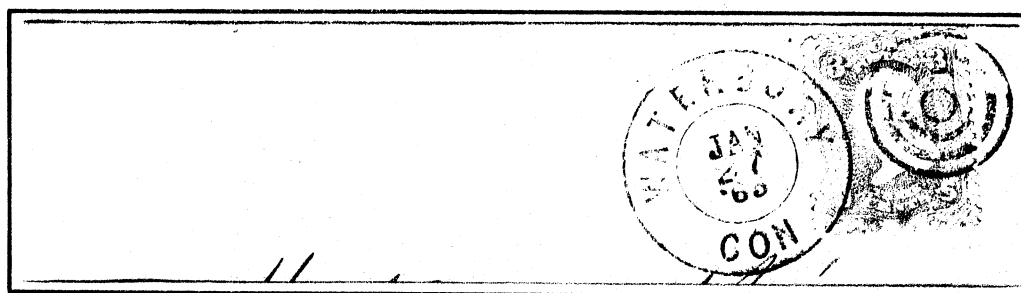


Elm leaf

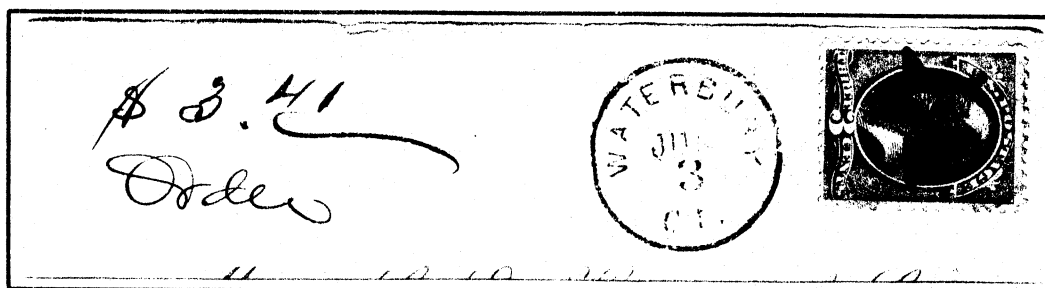
The WATERBURY CANCELLATIONS



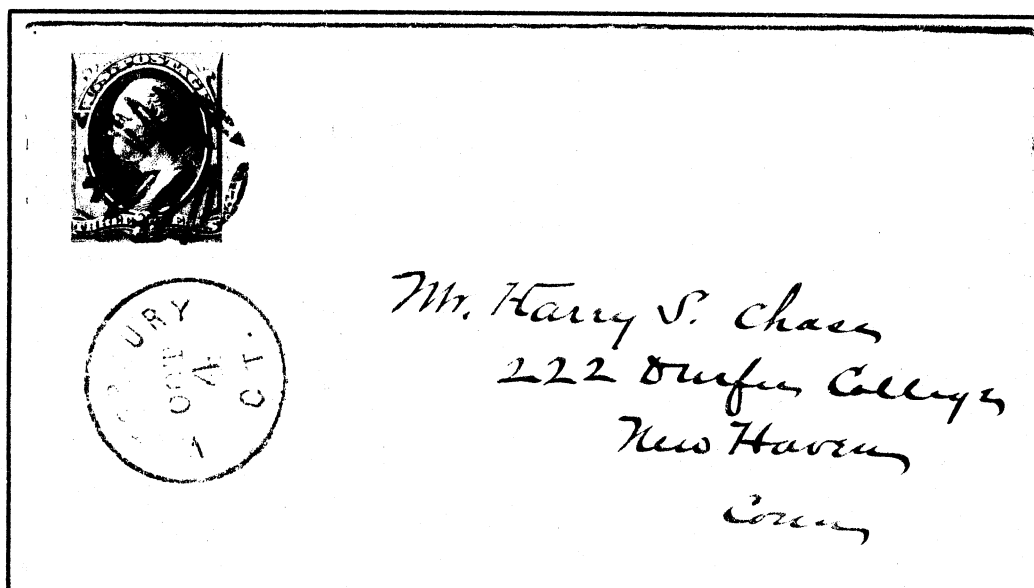
Outline star (not listed)



4 ring target (not listed)

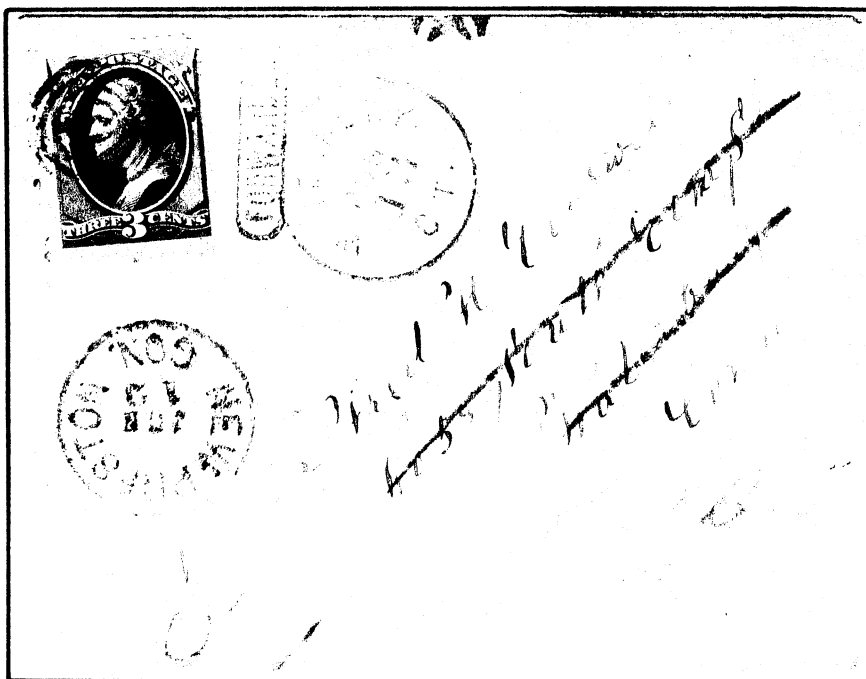


Solid star (not listed)



Ten petal leaf

# The WATERBURY CANCELLATIONS



"FORWARDED"



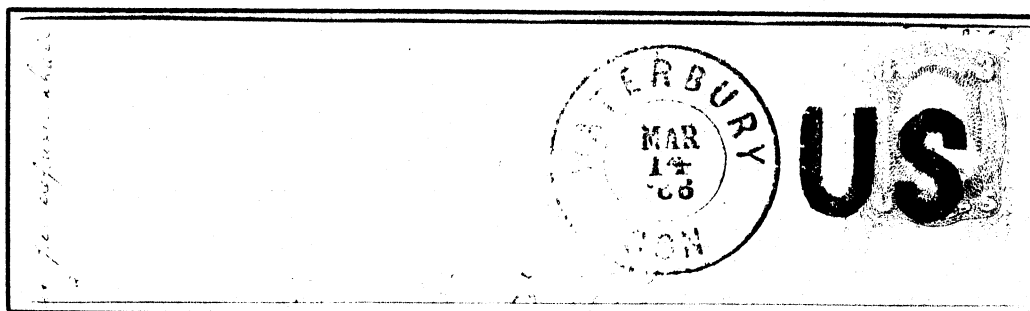
Padlock



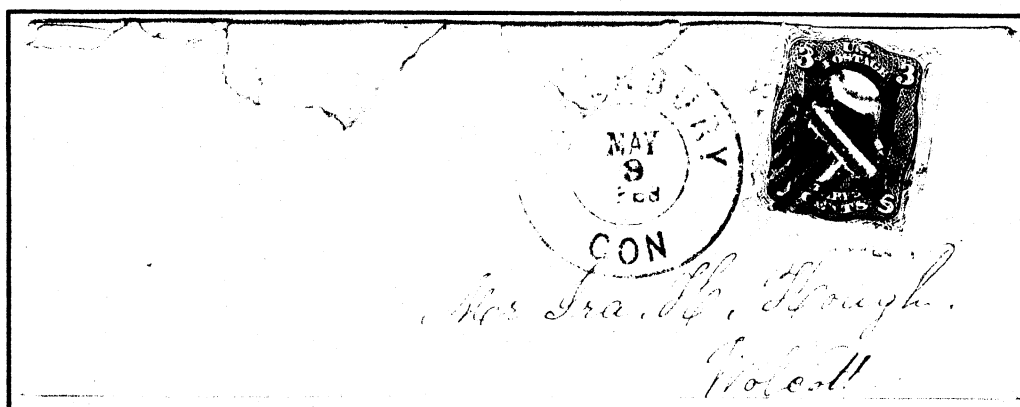
Eagle & shield



Double heart

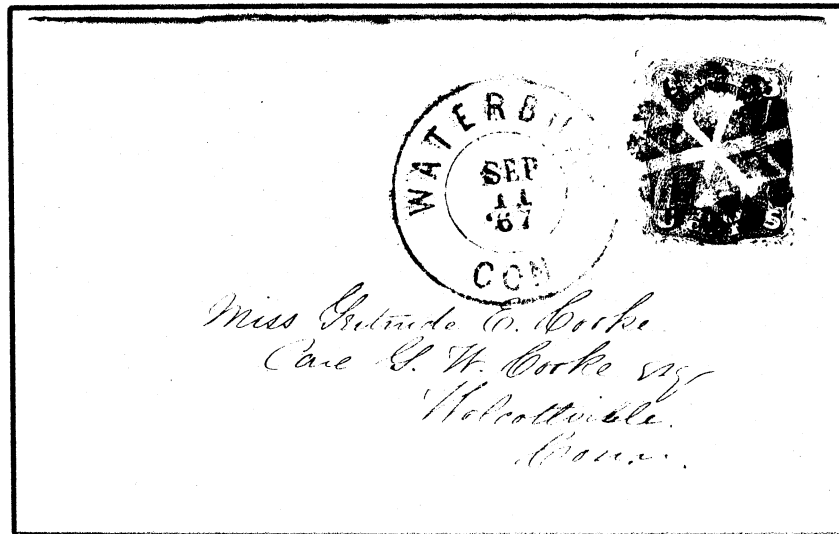


"U S"



Shield, 8 bars, open top

# The WATERBURY CANCELLATIONS



Circle of hearts enclosing six-pointed rosette



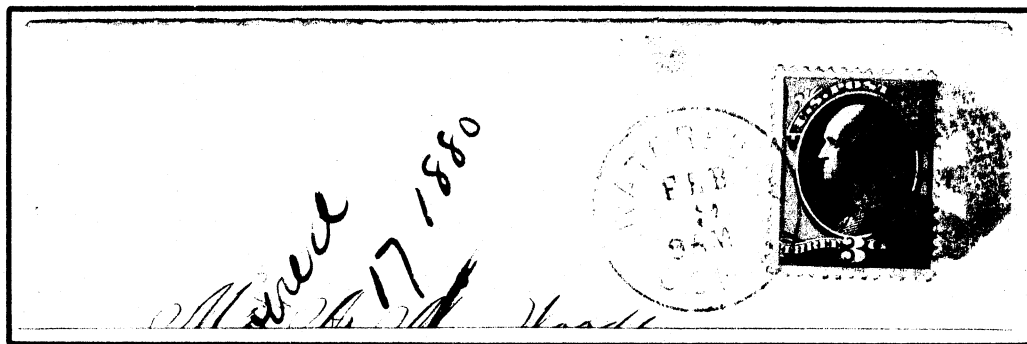
Oval grill



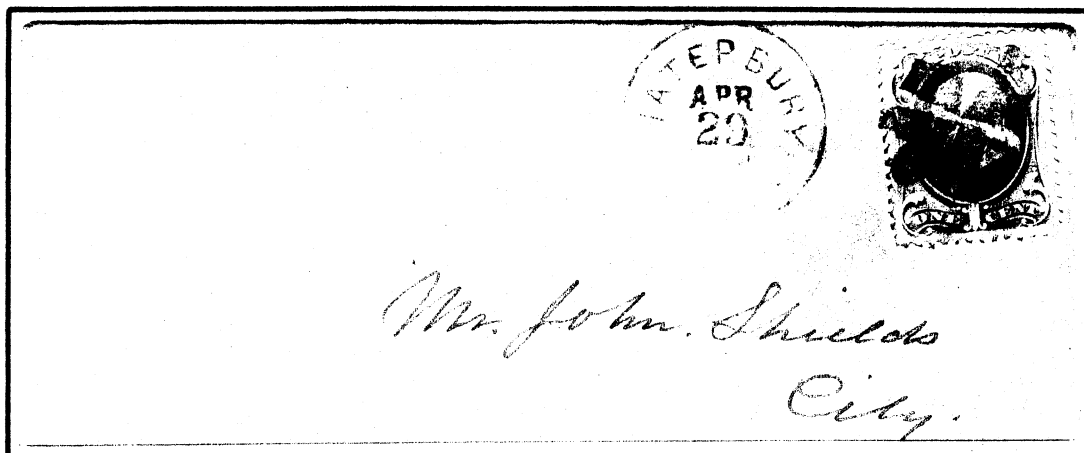
Leaf



Shield, 6 enclosed bars

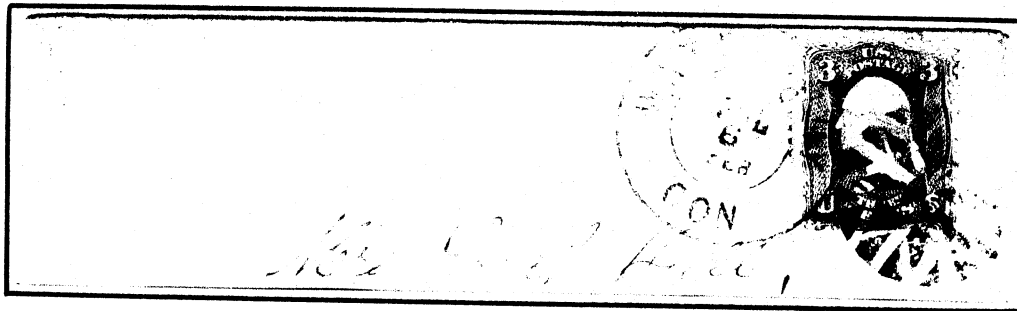


Negative "A" in octagon

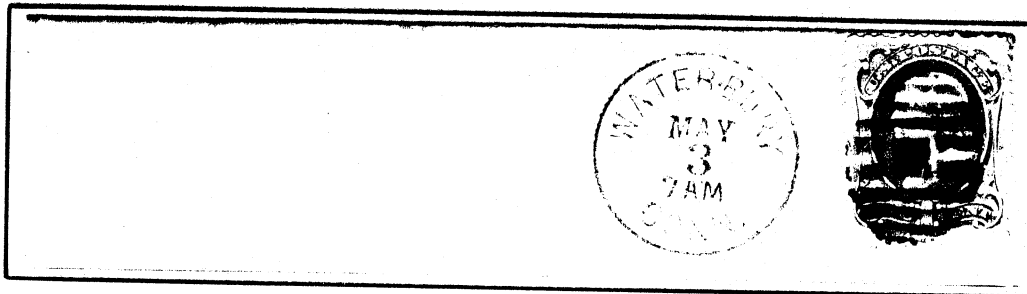


4 hearts pointing inward (local rate)

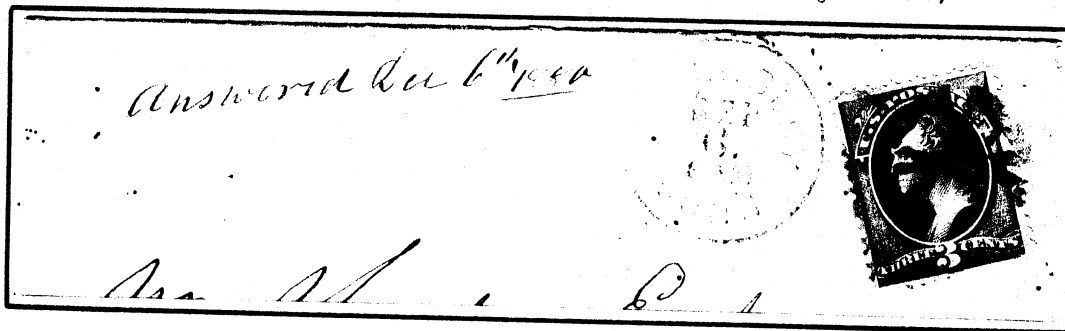
The WATERBURY CANCELLATIONS



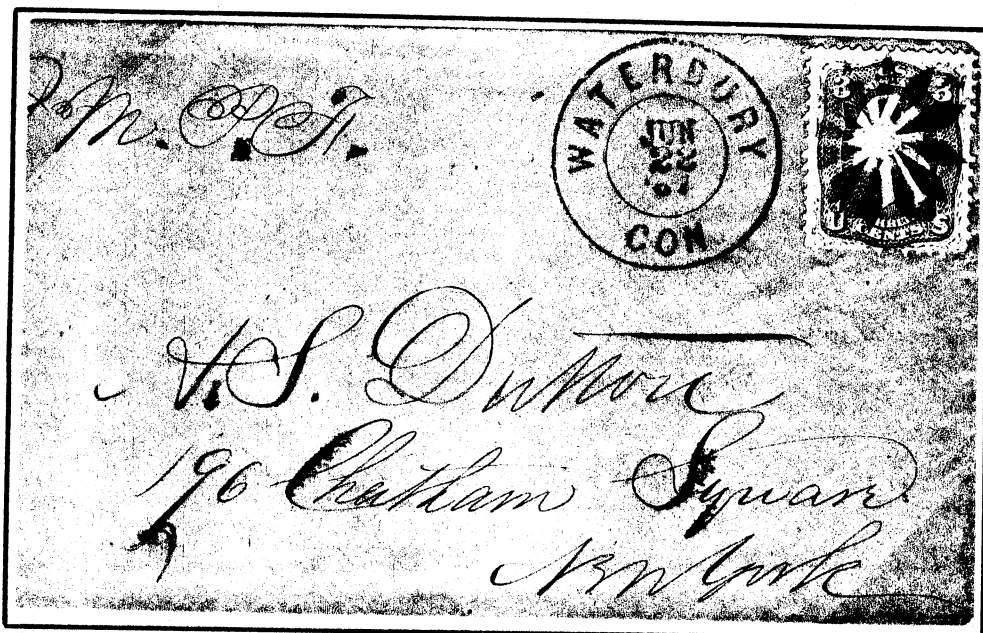
Eight segments enclosed in circle of 16 triangles



Oval grid, type I  
(a purchased canceller, not carved by Hill)



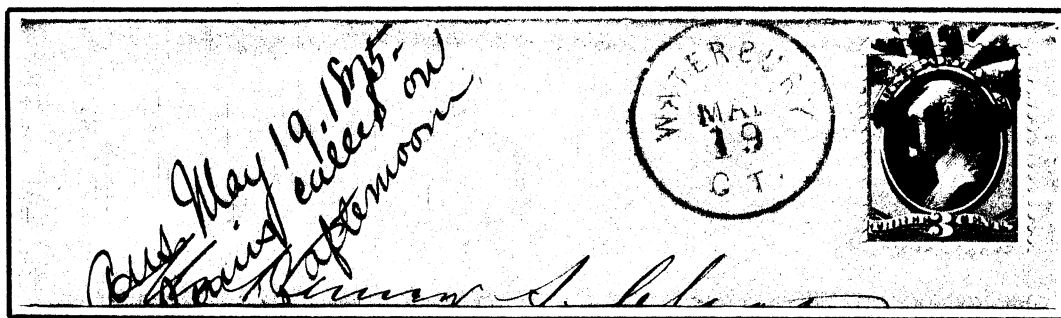
Four open triangles



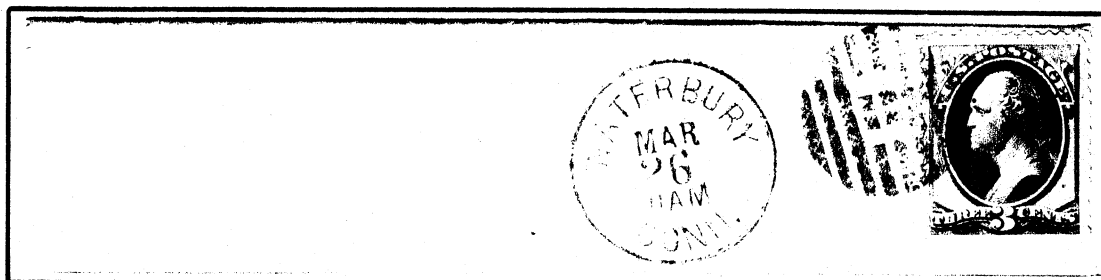
Rosette, 12 segments



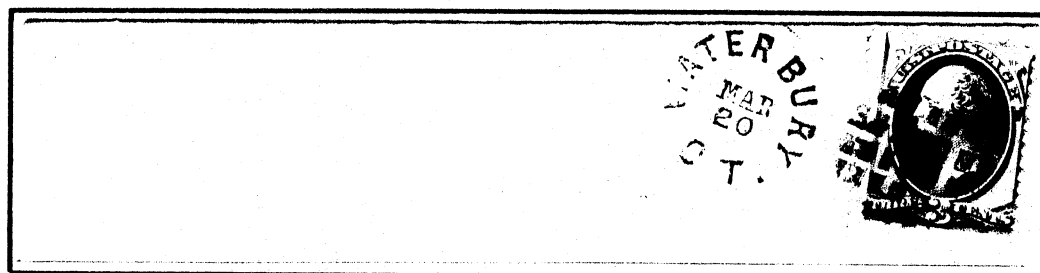
The WATERBURY CANCELLATIONS



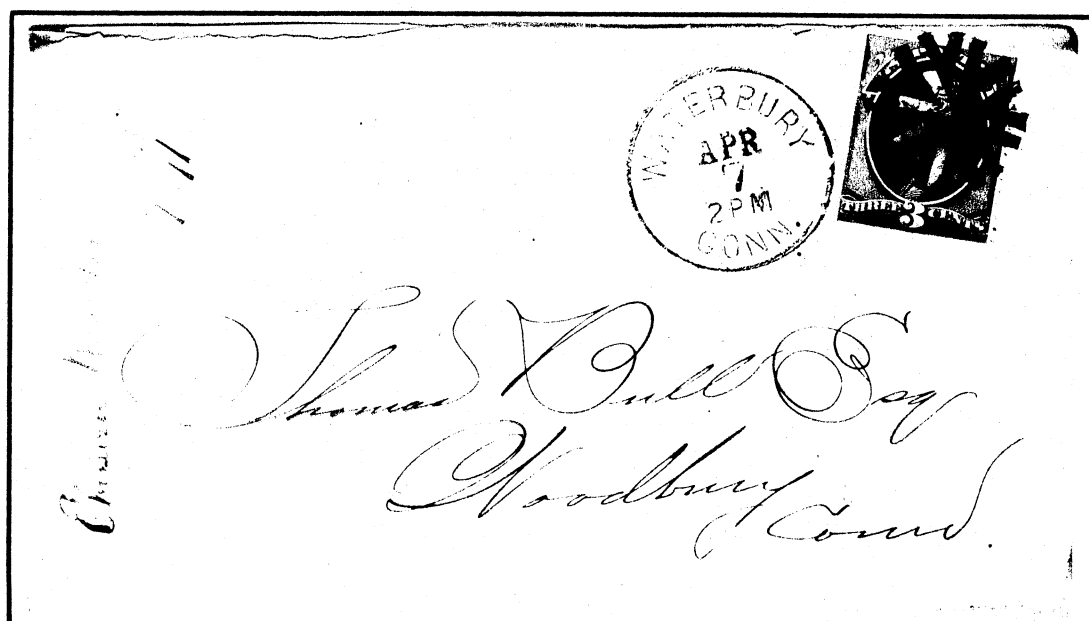
Circular grid, type 5



Circular grid, type 9



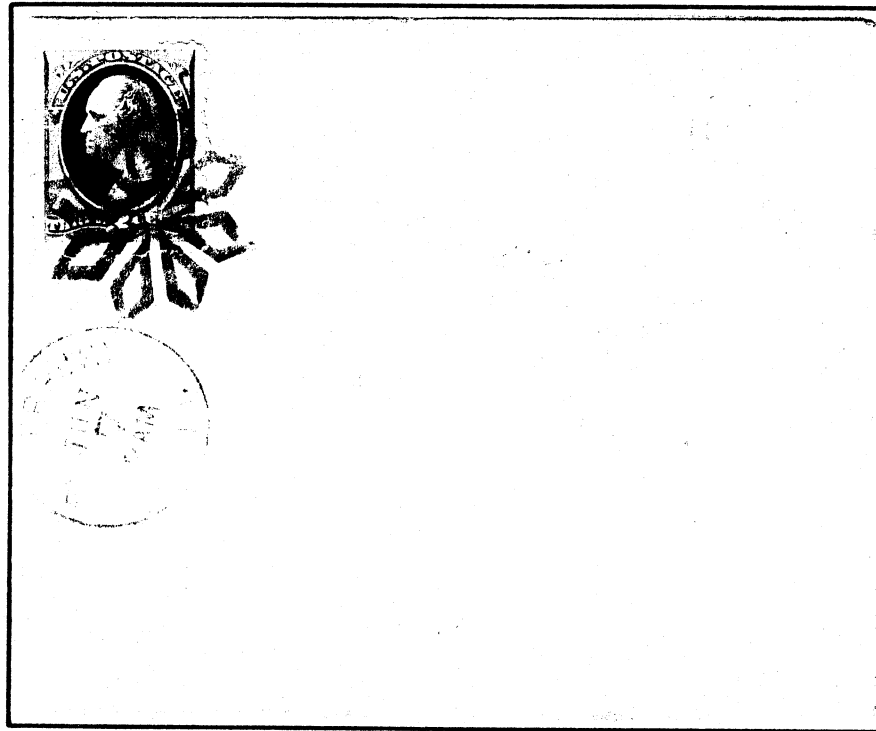
Oval grid, type 6



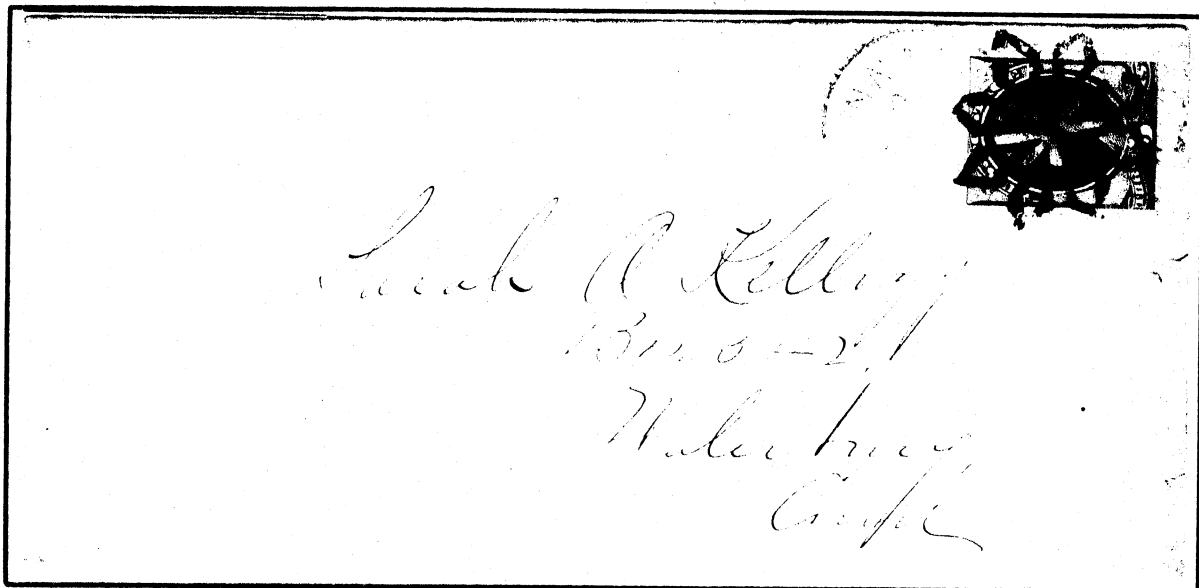
Arrowheads, eight segments

The WATERBURY CANCELLATIONS

Rosette, 8 hollow segments



Outgoing



Incoming

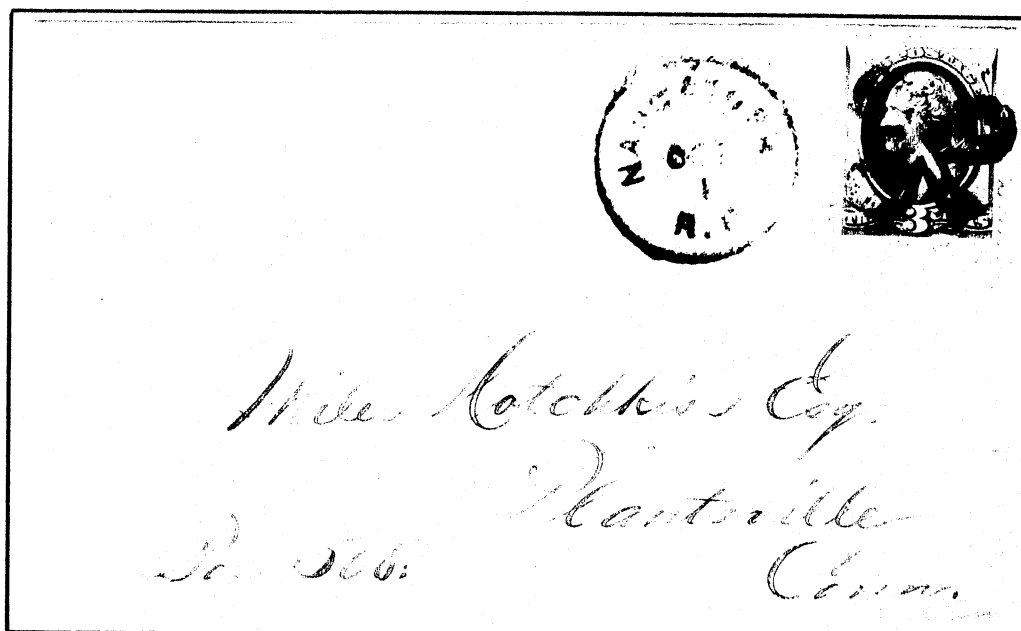
Used at the receiving post office as a killer since "Annapolis" cancel did not adequately obliterate the stamp.

The WATERBURY CANCELLATIONS

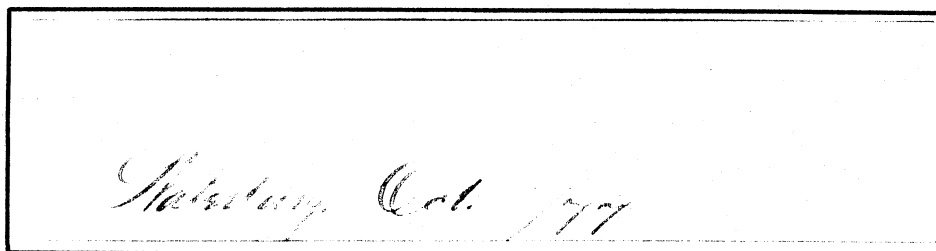
A "Copy Cat"



Waterbury 3 leaf shamrock



"NAUGATUCK R.R." with a 3 leaf shamrock

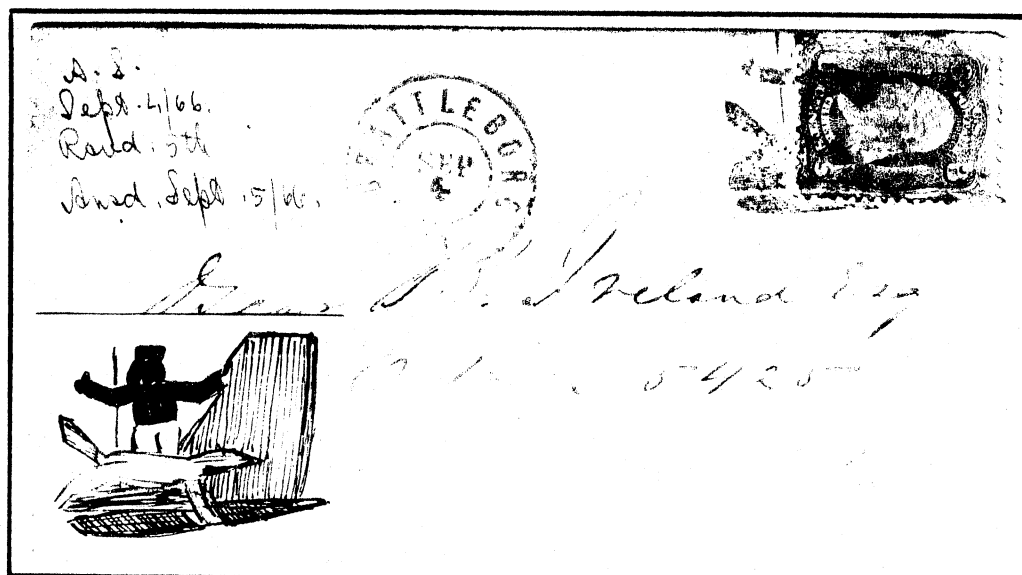


(enclosure from above)

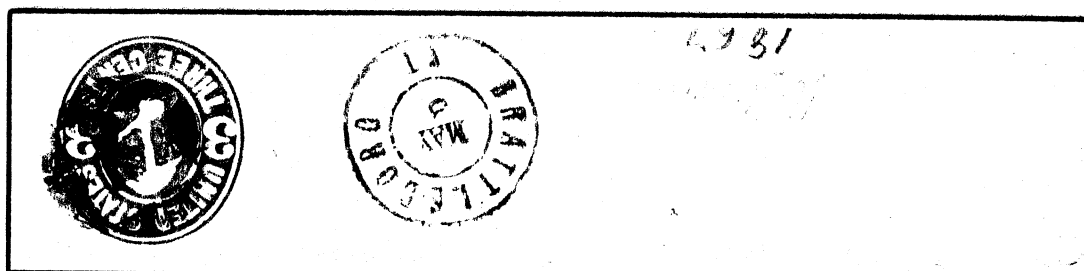
Date on letter indicates written in Waterbury. Postulation: letter mailed in special box at railroad station, cancelled on train by a Route Agent who had seen a similar type from Waterbury, so carved and used his own version.

## The BRATTLEBORO CANCELLATIONS

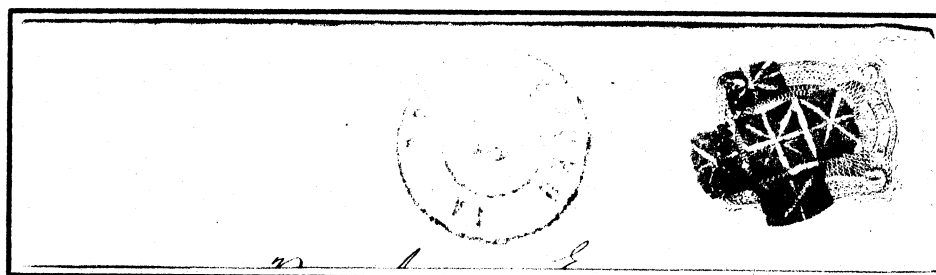
Though not as celebrated as cancels from Waterbury, Conn, some from Brattleboro, Vt, are well known and spectacular in their own right.



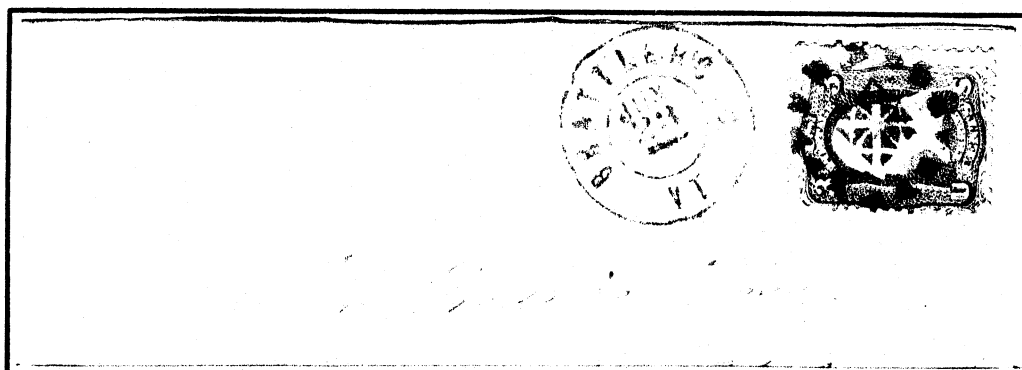
Man chasing fox from hen house



Masonic (negative compass & T-square)



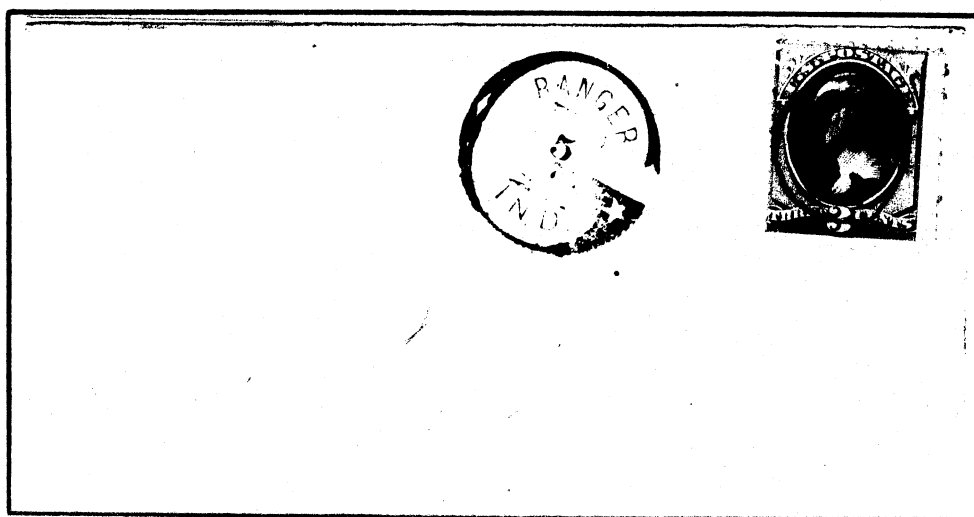
Fancy cross



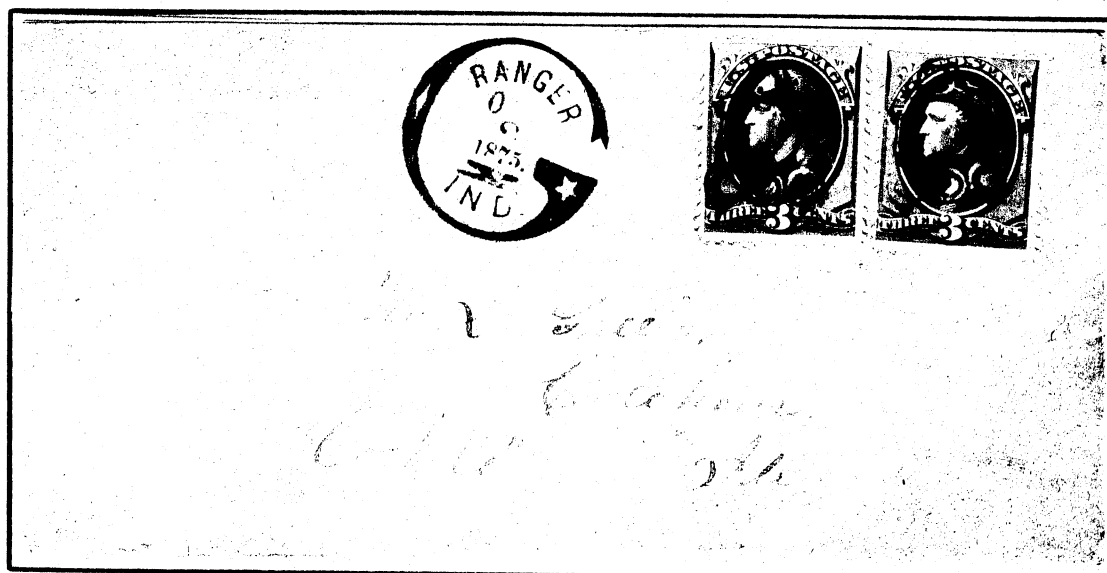
Ornate geometric

# The GRANGER CANCELLATIONS

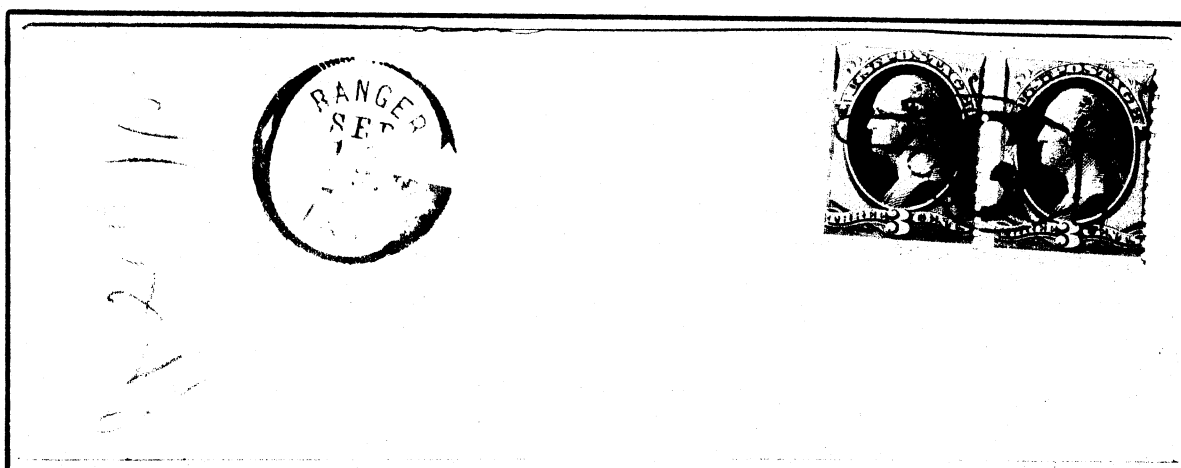
Another imaginative postmaster did his thing in Granger, Indiana



Fancy "G" in circle



Indian symbols



Pointing hand with "G"

# PARTY LOVERS

The "fun" people were remembered (even if the postmaster himself did not happen to be an imbiber - - - or maybe he was!).



"GIN" barrel



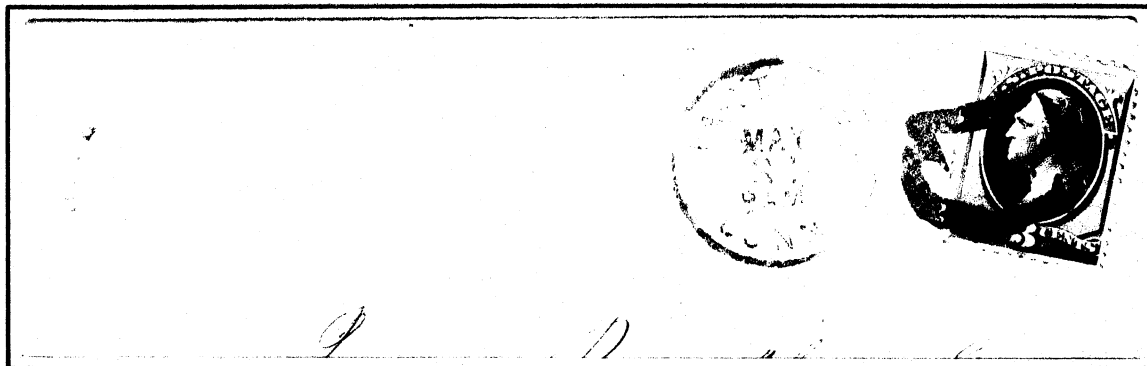
Beer mug



"GIN" barrel



Beer barrels



Mug



Bottle



Coffee pot



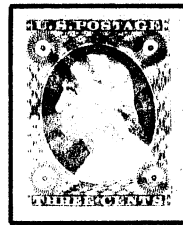
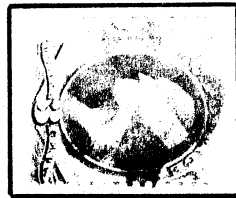
"RUM"

## GAMES

To while away time checkers, cards, and chess were undoubtedly popular pastimes, consequently the customs were acknowledged.



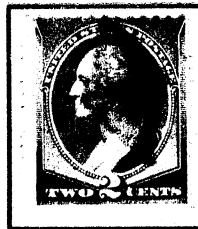
Chessman



The 4 card suits



Hearts



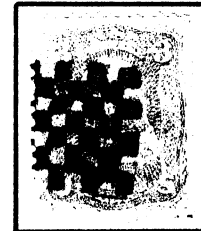
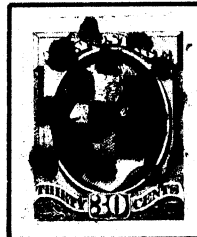
Diamonds



Spades

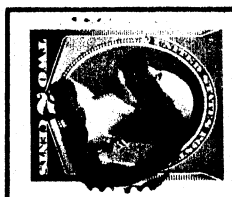


Clubs



Chess and checkerboards

- - - - while, for some, there was always horse shoes to play.



(double strike)

## BODIES

While some postmasters and clerks concentrated on nature, as shown earlier, others gave their attention to the body, and its parts - - - -



Walking man



Tar baby



Gingerbread man



Gingerbread man



Dancing lady



The Jester

## HEADS

- - - - such as many versions of crania - - - -



Laughing man



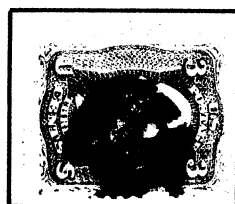
Woman's head



Washington bust



Woman's head



Man with crooked nose



Liberty head



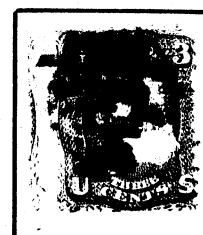
Man in hat



Roman gladiator



Union soldier



Man in derby hat



# HEADS



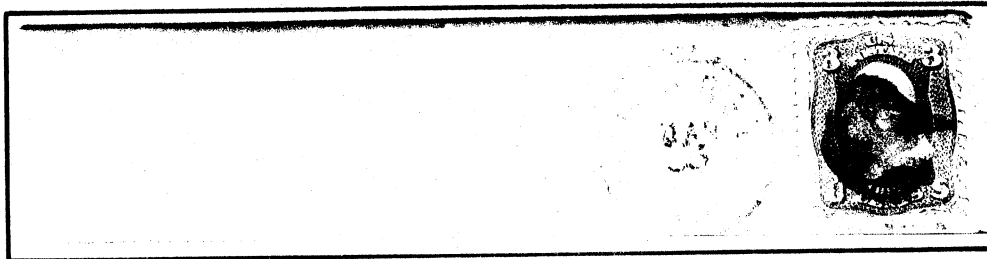
Neanderthal man



Queen Nefertitti



Comic face



Clown face



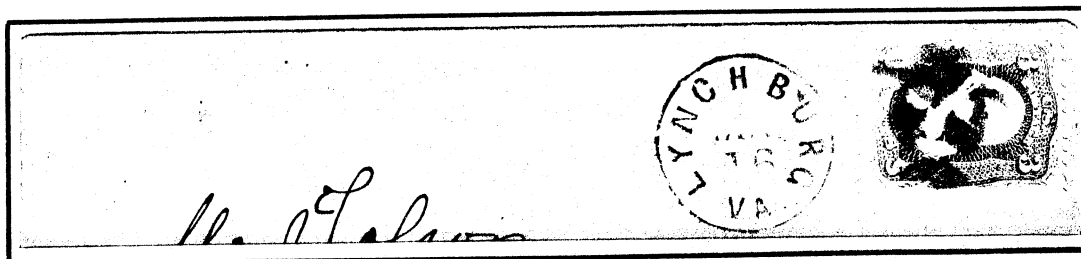
Liberty head



Framed bust



Comic head



Man in derby hat



Liberty head



Man with beard



Indian in headdress

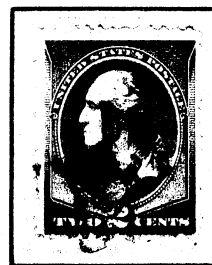
# HEADS

- - - - including, of course, mask and comic versions - - - -



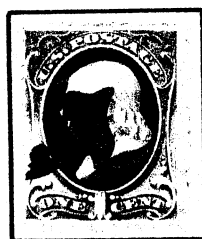
# HANDS and FEET

- - - - while some may have been said to have had  
a fetish for the pedal extremities - - - -



# CLOTHING

- - - - for which there was footwear, and other apparel - - - -



Pair of lady's high button shoes



Bow tie (negative)



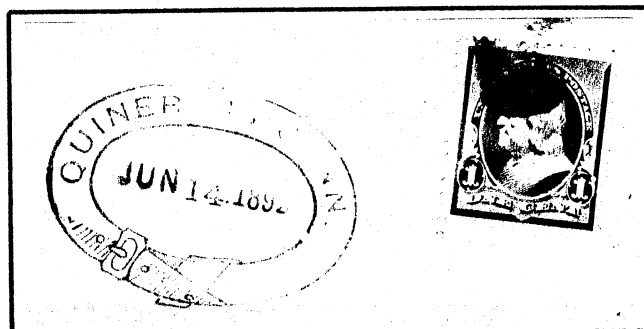
Bow tie



Bow knot



Top hat  
(negative)



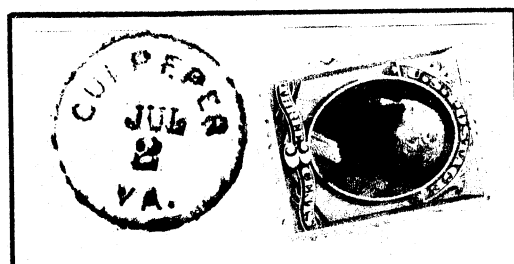
Belt buckle



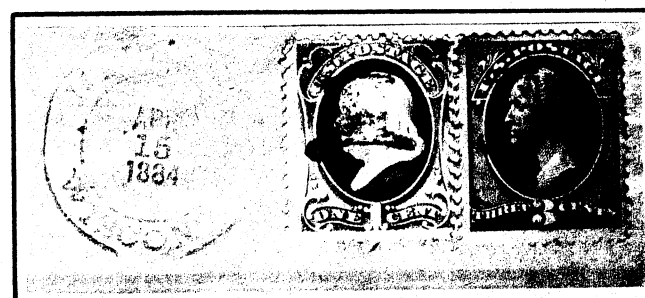
Mexican  
sombrero



Mens' high heel boots



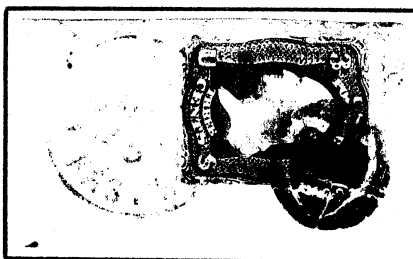
Coachman's hat



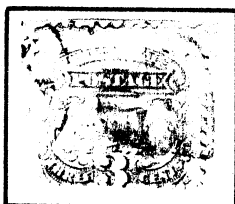
Stovepipe hats

# HEARTS

- - - - to protect the body which did need to have a heart.



Heart-within-a-heart



Solid, double, outlined, and framed



Broken heart



Circles of hearts



Bleeding heart

If not called for in Ten Days, return to  
**J. H. B. RENFRO,**  
 COUNTY CLERK,  
 ELIZABETHTOWN, - ILLINOIS.

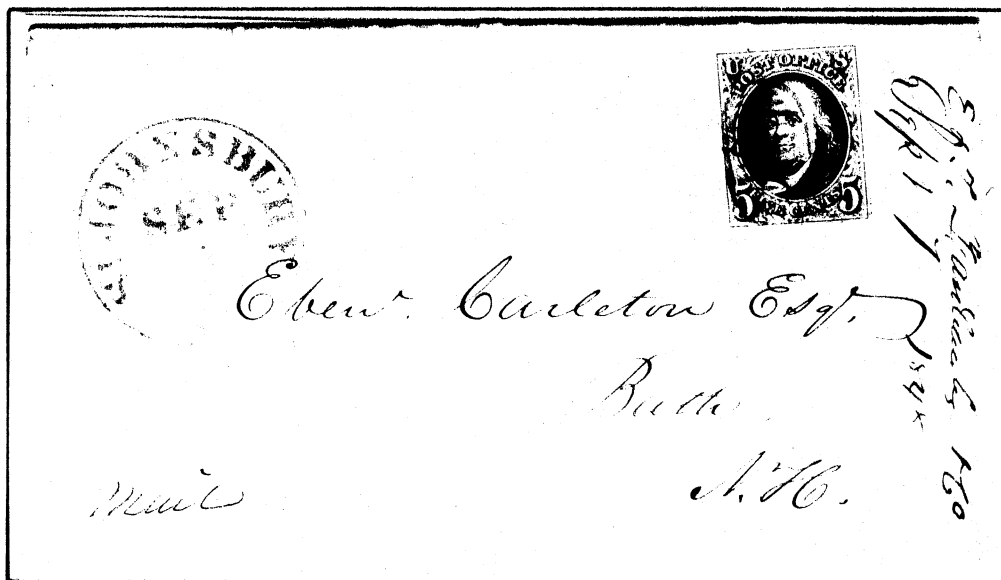


*Hon Geo H. Harlow  
 Secy of State  
 Springfield  
 Ills*

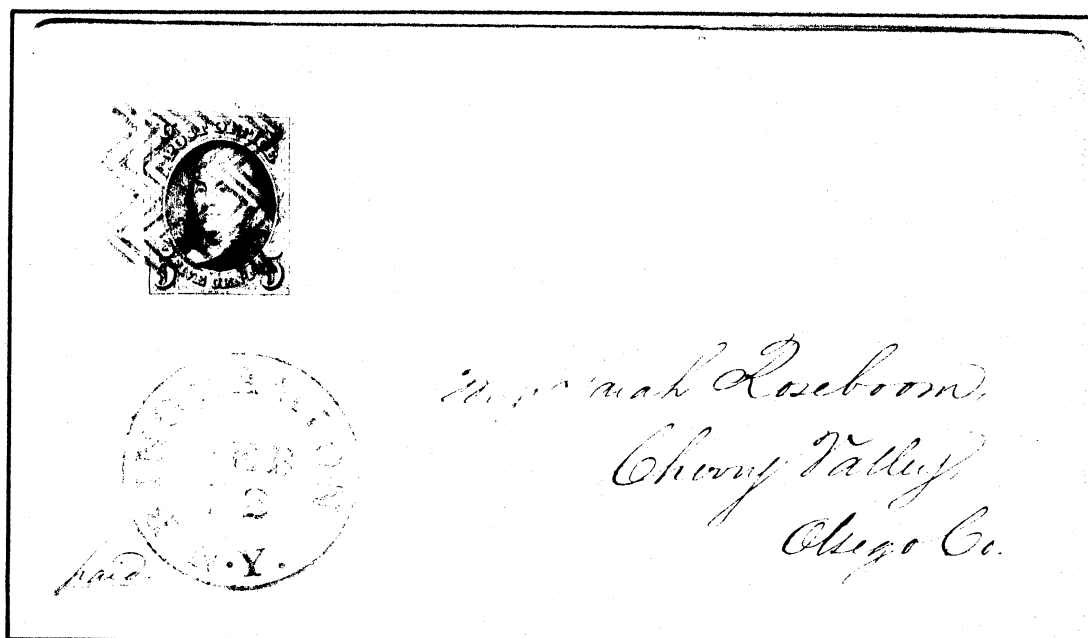
Bleeding heart

UNUSUAL

These are two well known, not often seen, cancels on the first regular issue, forerunners of what later came to be referred to among the more unusual markings as "Fancy Cancels".

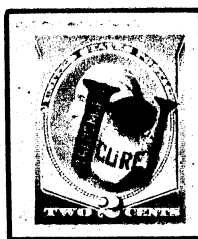


Scarab  
St. Johnsbury, Vt.

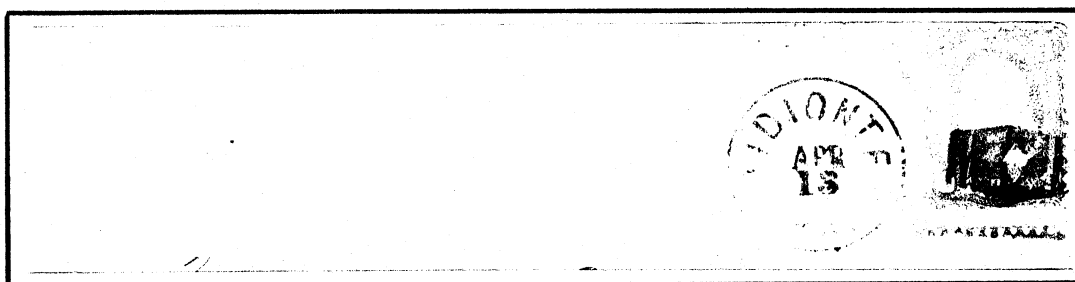


Herringbone  
Binghamton, N.Y.

UNUSUAL



Eye, "CURE", "U" ("I CURE YOU")  
and "TRADEMARK" in left arm of "U".  
Precancel used for multiple mailings by  
a pharmaceutical firm in Harshaville, Pa.  
makers of Armstrong's Diphtheria & Quinsy Drops.



Oil barrel



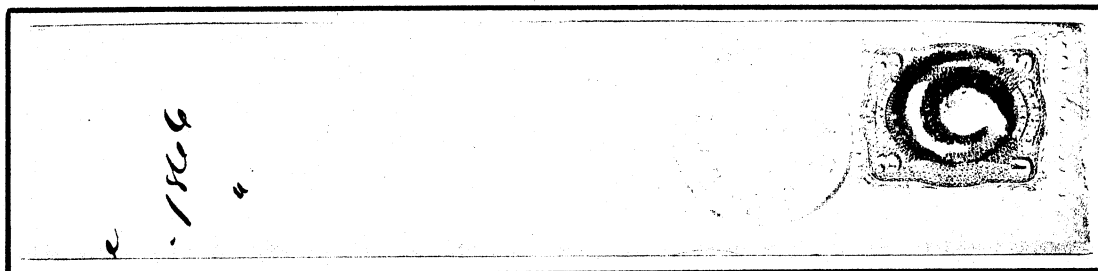
"LEAP YEAR, 1876"



Pool table



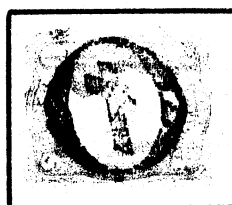
Broken heart



Spiral



Tortoise's shell

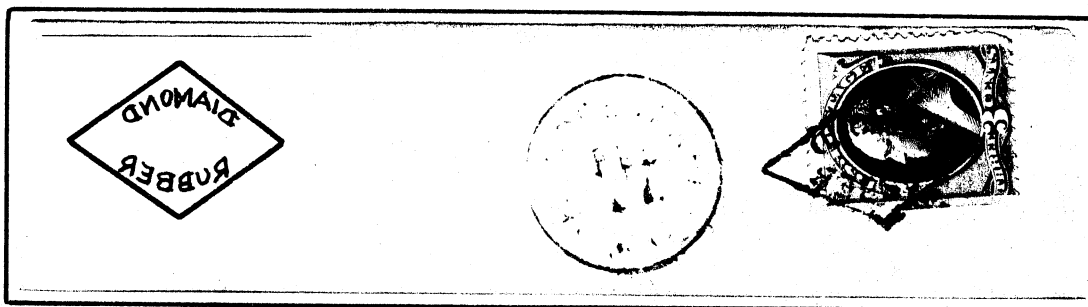


Rock of Ages

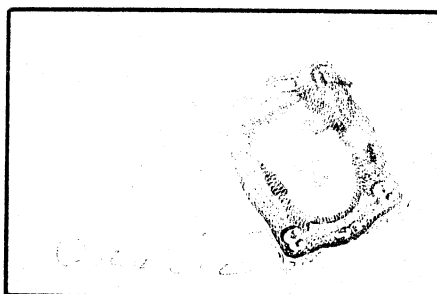


"3 C"(ents)

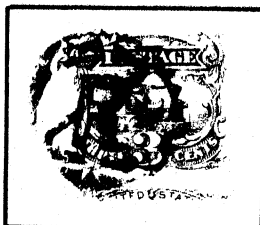
# UNUSUAL



Postmaster at McIndoes Falls, Vt., removed a trademark plaque from sole of a Diamond Rubber Co. boot, attached to canceler, and used as a "killer", this impression is in reverse image.



Believed to be bust of  
General John Charles Fremont



Monogram of postmaster C. L. Fritz

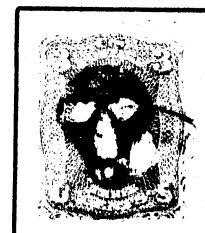
"C" is outside border  
"L" is to right of "R"  
"F" is inside the "R"  
"R" is easily seen  
"I" runs top to bottom, breaks "Z"  
"T" uses vertical "I", has cross at top  
"Z" shows clearly



Bald head man

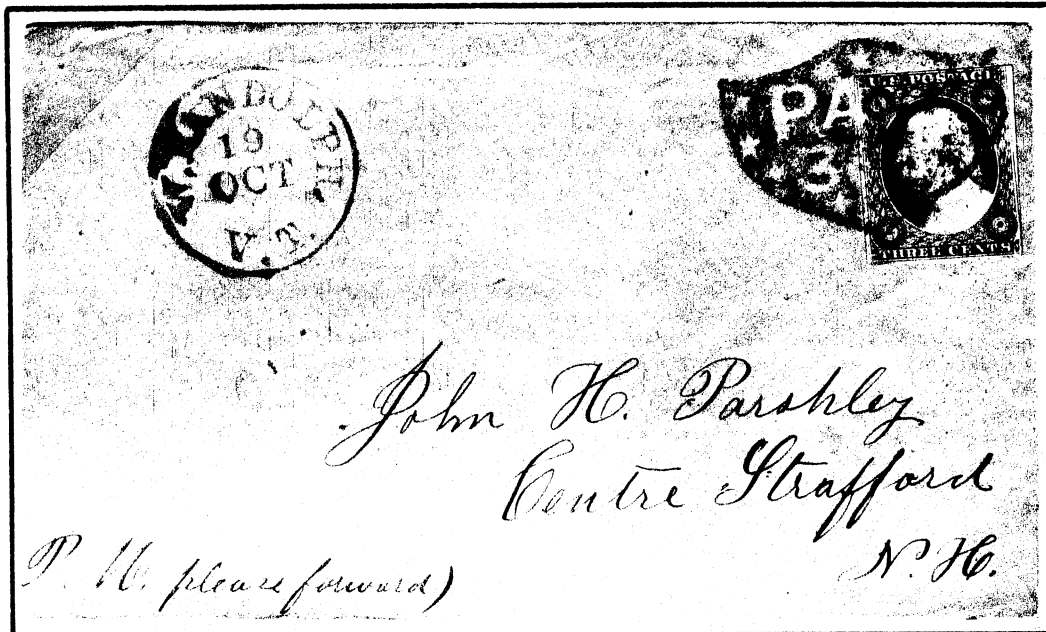


Man with beard

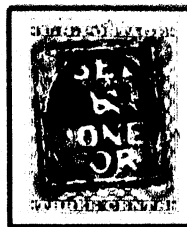


Skull

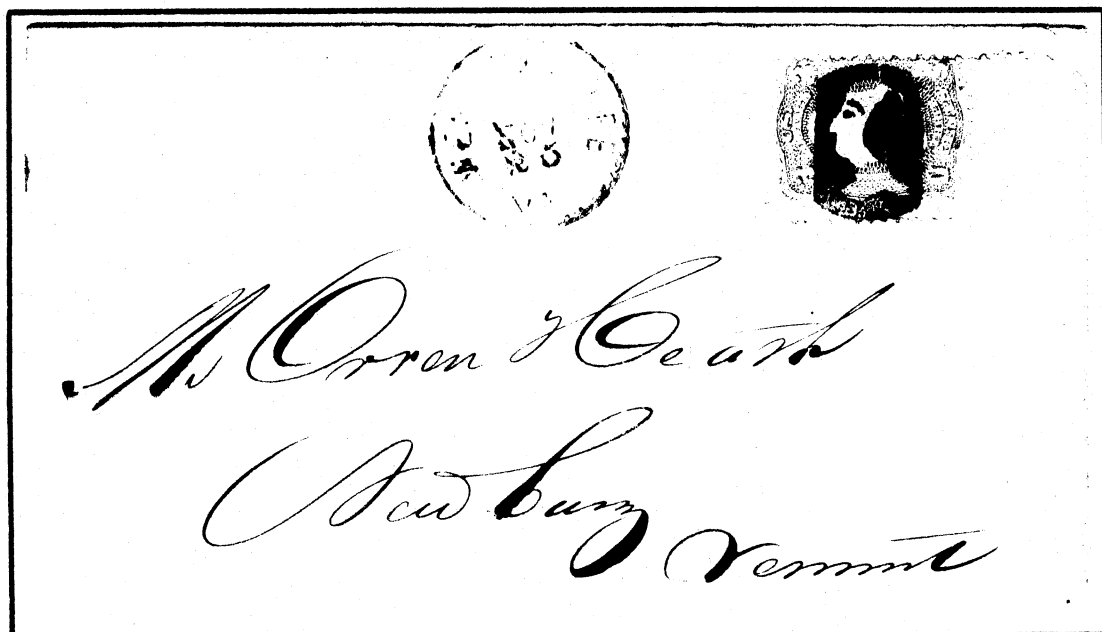
UNUSUAL



"PAID 3" (negative) in fancy shield with stars  
(possibly unique)



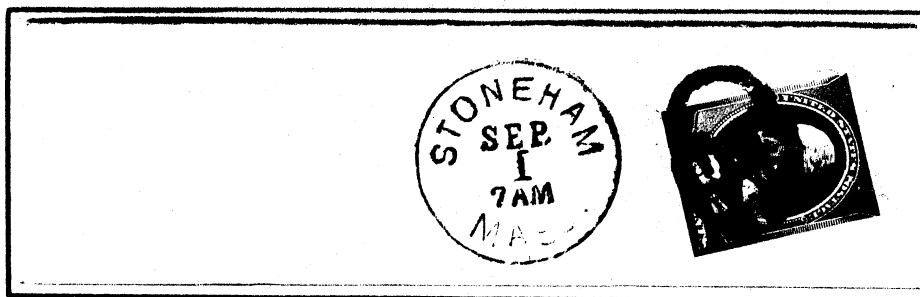
"USED & DONE FOR"  
(reportedly only 6-8 known)



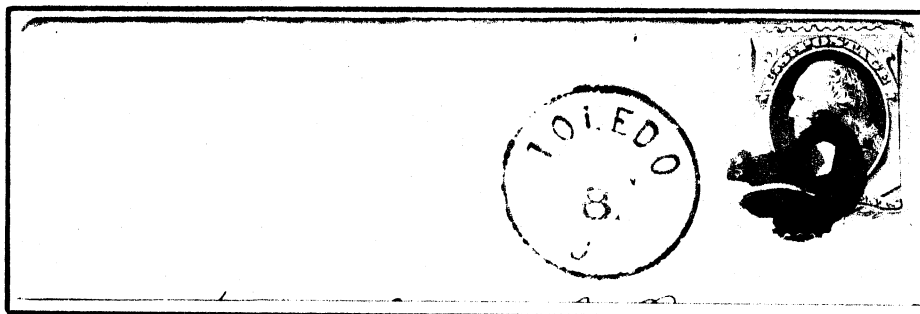
Negative head and face



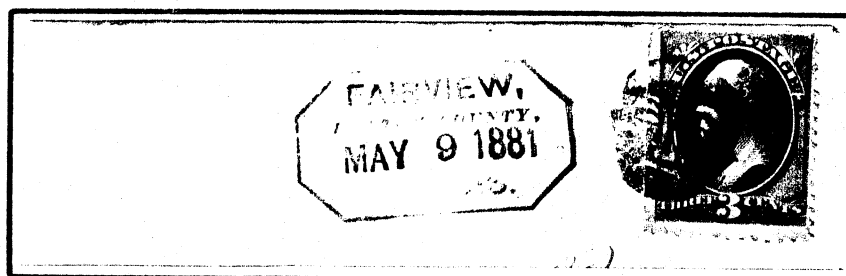
UNUSUAL



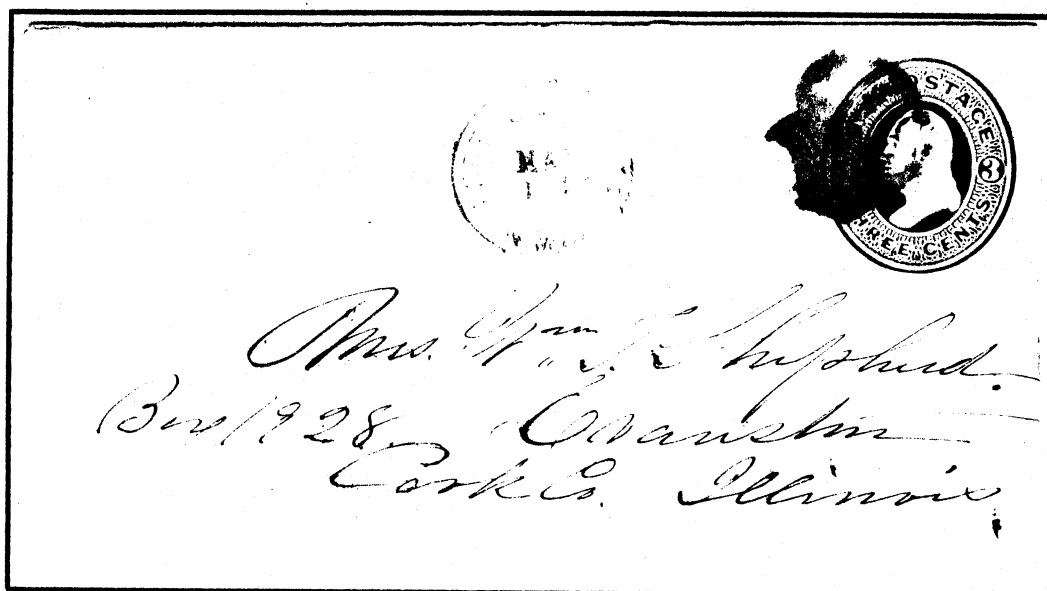
Padlock, with "U S MAIL"



Head (human?) (animal?)

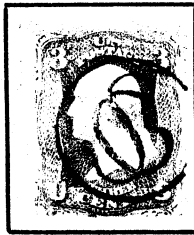


Man's face, full front view



Man's profile

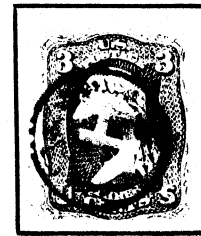
UNUSUAL



Two snakes interlaced  
("C S" for Confederate States?)



Grid of red dots



Coin



This crude drawing of a fish, a Christian symbol of the early centuries (1-50 or 100 A.D.), was used as a password or to indicate places where believers could meet and worship.



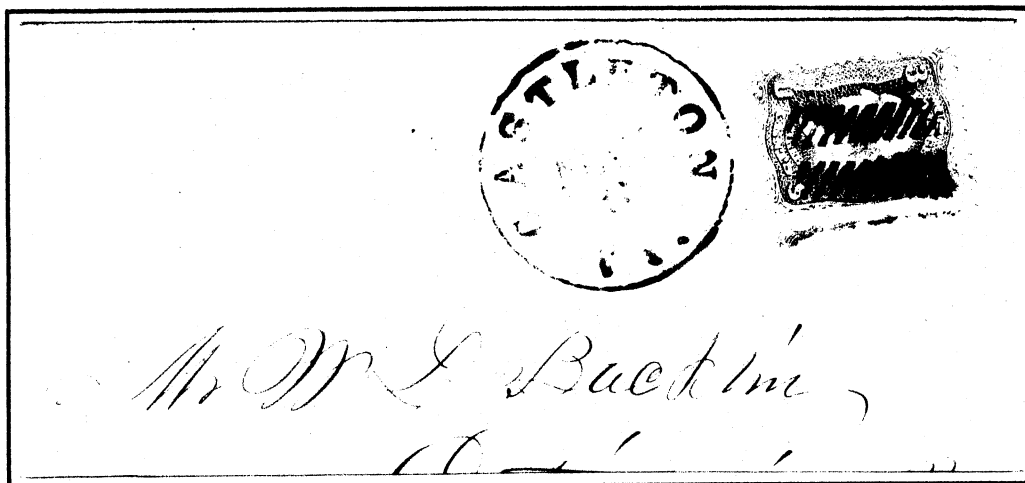
"GLEN" (in reverse)  
Signet ring canceller of EMK  
Glen, P.M., Macedon, N.Y.



Fraternal design

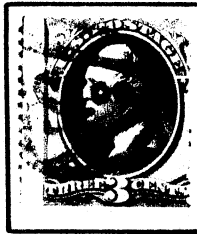


Pentagon and  
decahedron  
(figure with 10 plane surfaces)



Rope (double strike)

UNUSUAL



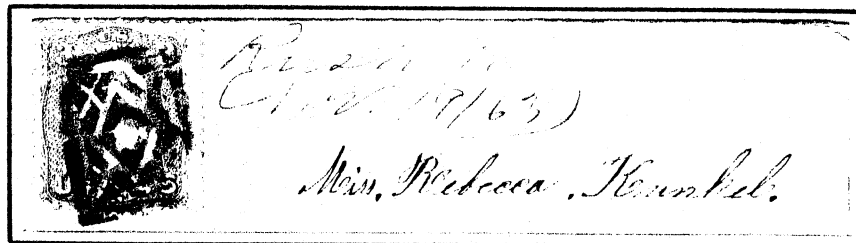
"SLOO"

(not S00 Line Railroad)

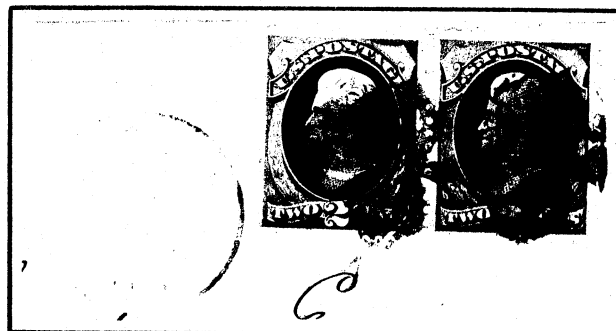
Postal clerk's name in Cairo, Ill, during 1877-79 period



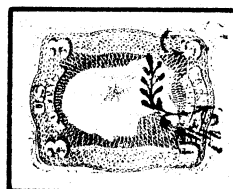
hearts (double strikes)



Sometimes called "The Persian Rug"



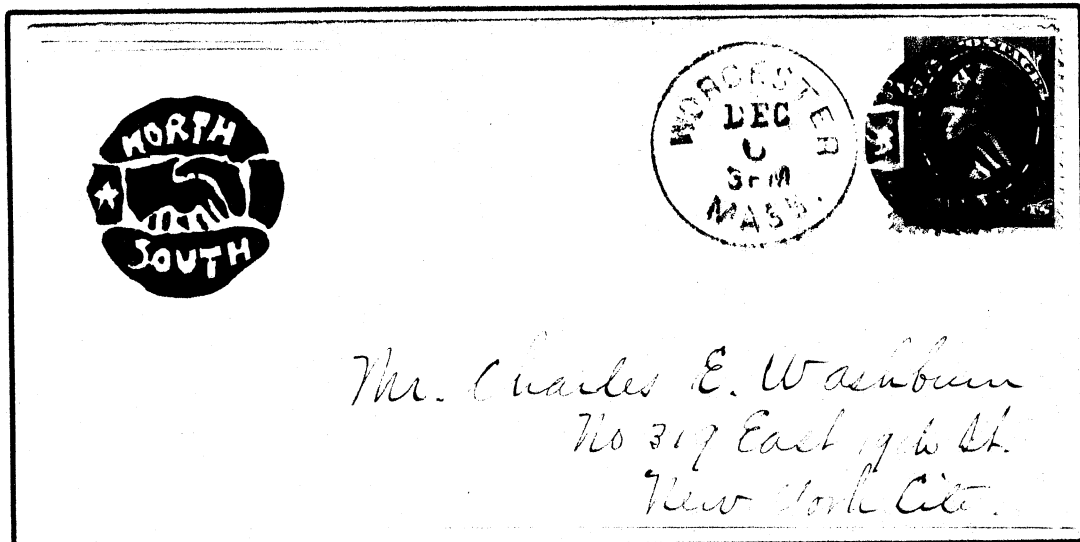
Three leaf clover duplex, double strikes



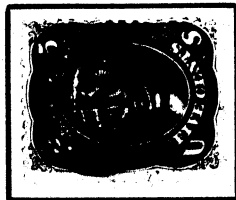
Ornamental mortised handstamp

Metal arabesque type marker, from commercial source, used primarily during stampless period, so this is fairly late usage. Originally used to personalize linens, clothing, books, etc., a set screw held the desired marking in place.

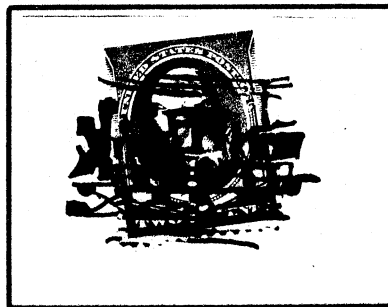
UNUSUAL



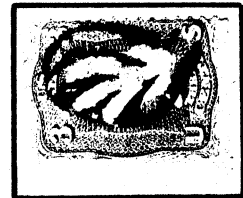
North and South shaking hands



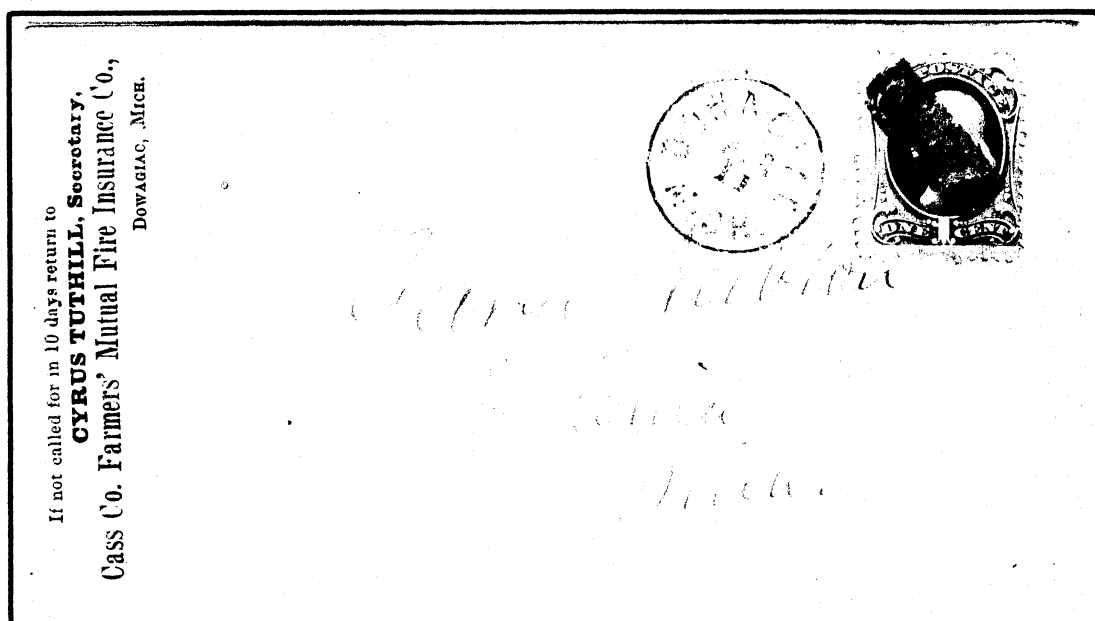
Eagle & shield



Locomotive and tender  
(cancel partially reproduced)

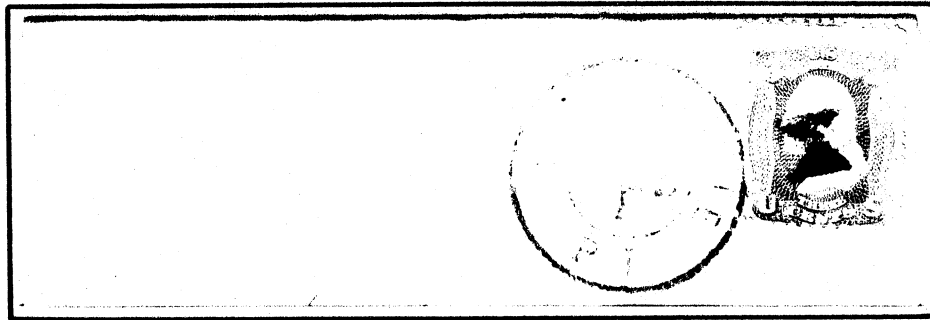


Eagle's claw

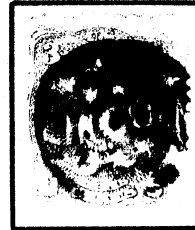


Possible "Log" cancel from Michigan lumbering country

UNUSUAL



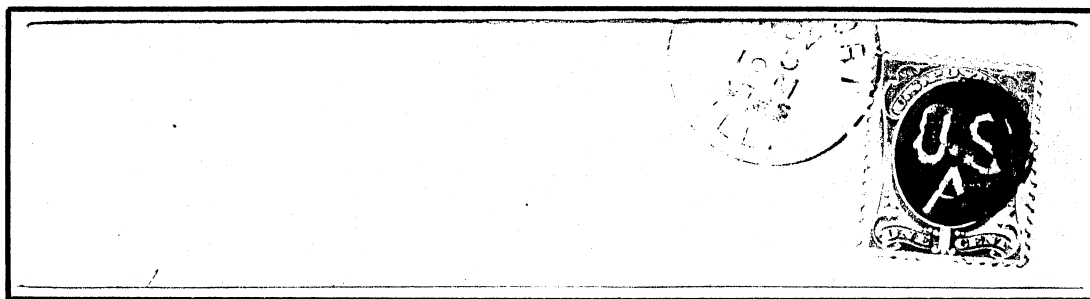
Anvil



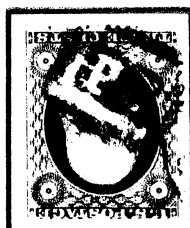
"U S A" and (Abe) "LINCOLN" in field of stars  
(both by same carver at Albany, N.Y., post office)



Feathered arrow



"U S A"



"P O" in box



Man in moon

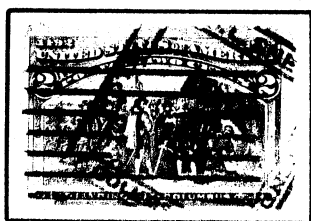


Stylized butterfly

UNUSUAL



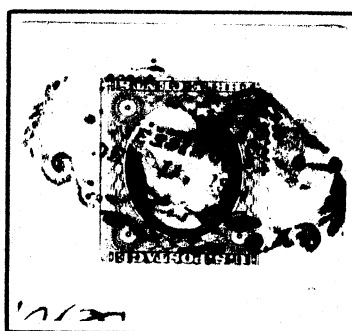
Mortar and pestle



"HOLL" cancel



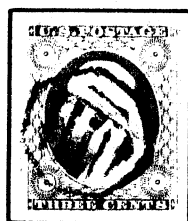
Statue



Eagle and arrows  
"Kingsessing, Pa."



Sprocket, stars  
in circle



Shield in septagon



"3 cts" included  
in cancel



Mail pouch



Lyres, large & small



Fleur de lis

UNUSUAL



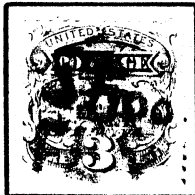
Sun face



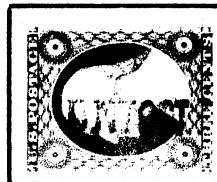
Apple



Heart in  
6 point star



"SHOO FLY"



"UNION" (patriotic)

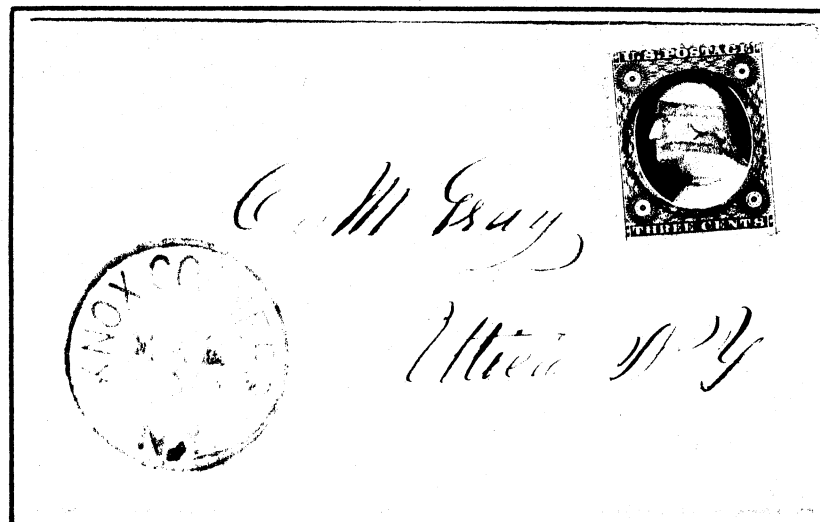


Schoolmarm



U S soldier in full equipment

The III cent coin was current at the time.



UNUSUAL



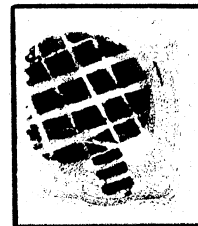
Waffle



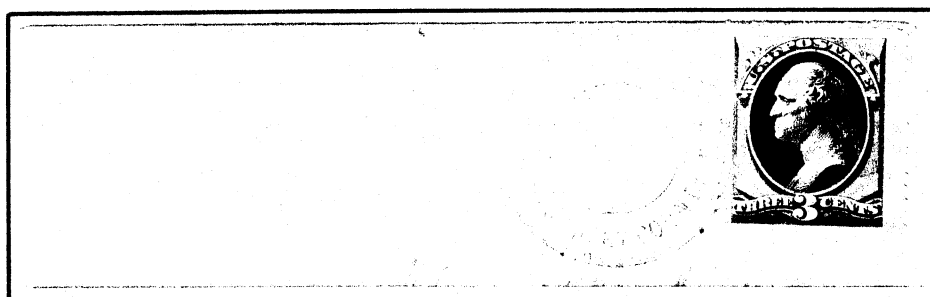
Mask  
(heart shape)



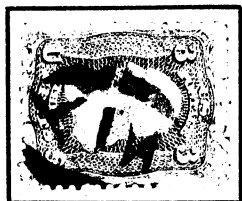
Double  
(double strike)



Fan  
(segmented)



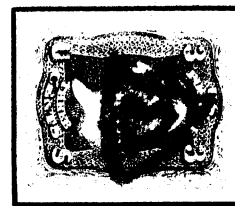
Bi-color grid plus city, date, county, state stamp



"NIX"  
(reverse image)



Star in a star  
in a shield



Heart  
in a shield

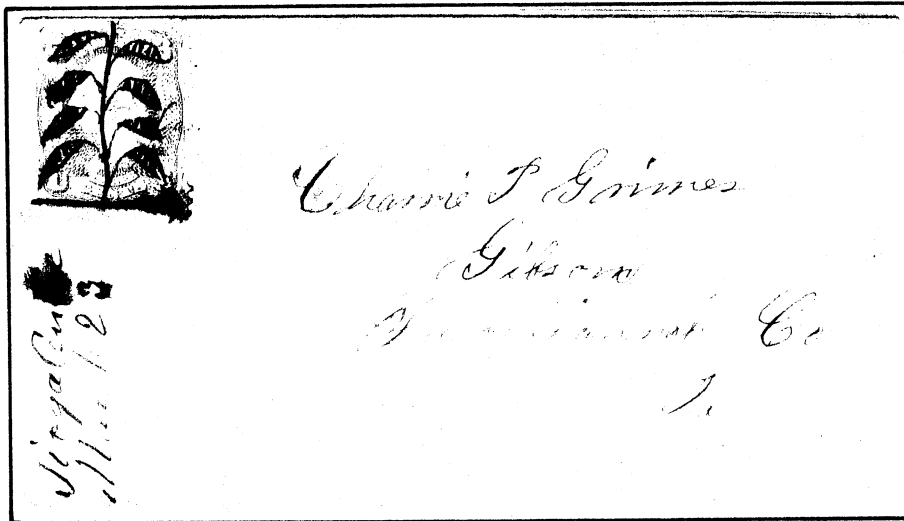


"M" in axe head

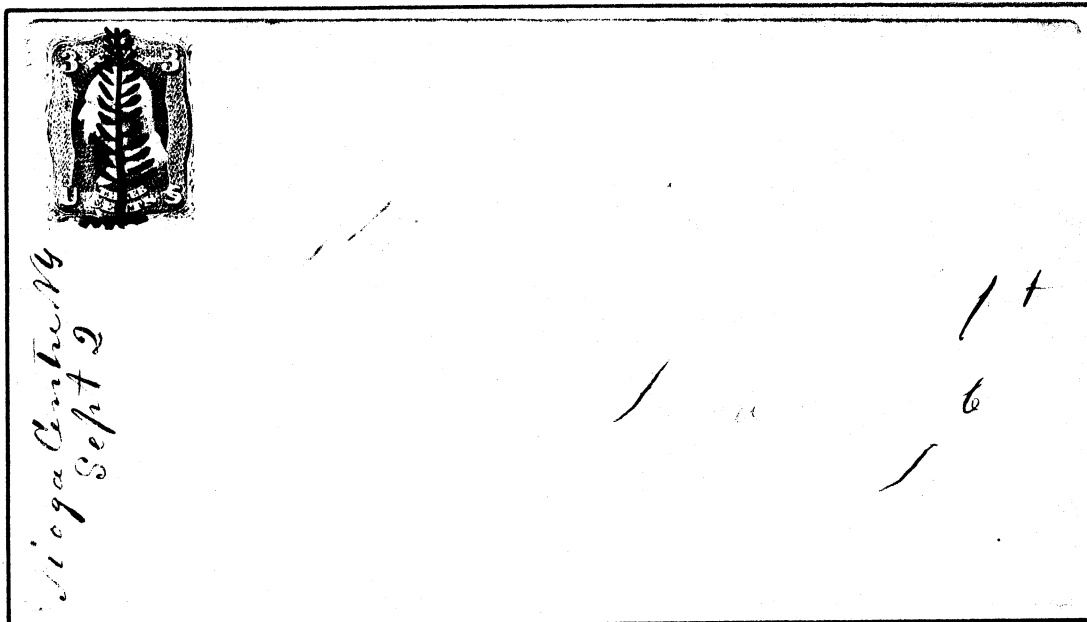


# UNUSUAL

In the mid-1860's, Tioga Centre, N.Y., was obviously a tiny community, the outgoing mail volume so small its postmaster had ample time to hand draw his cancels.



Plant



Tree

UNUSUAL



Crescent  
and globe



Sailing ship



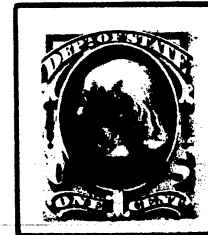
Crescent  
and star



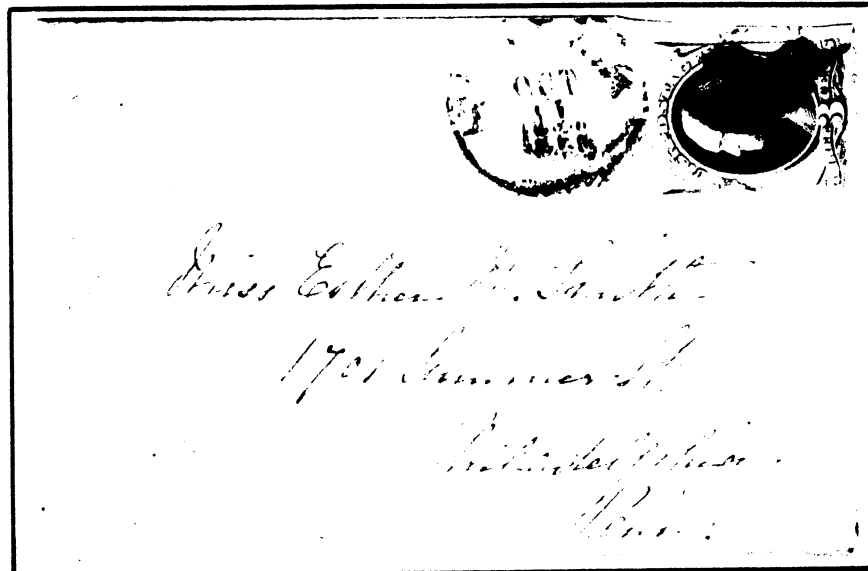
easy to obtain  
(uncommon on high value)



"34" in star  
(34th Mass. Volunteers)



Triangle (struck twice)  
(Dead Letter Office use)



Boxing glove



Rocking  
chair



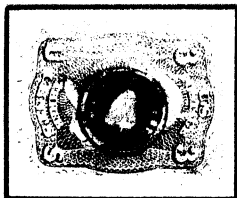
Sunbursts



Cowboy on  
bucking bronco



UNUSUAL



"HAIL COLUMBIA"



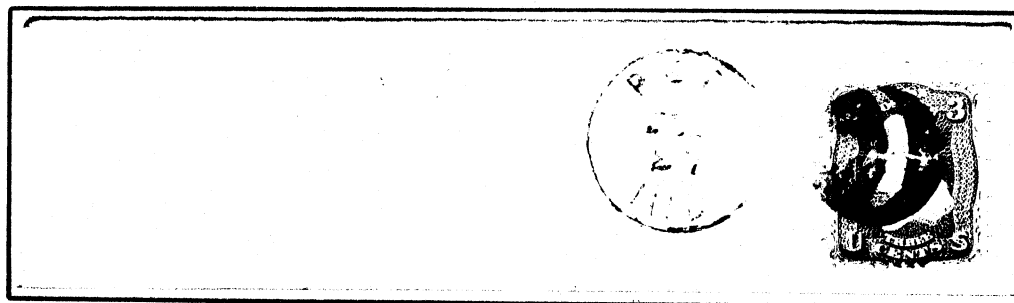
Thimble



Devil with pitchfork



11 11 11



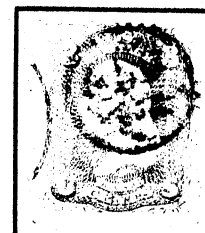
Bow and arrow (negative)



Man-in-the-moon  
with star



Blacksmith



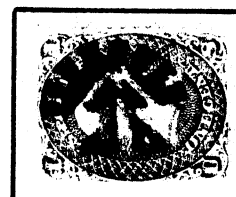
Thistle  
in circle



Gladiator with sword  
and shield upraised



Irish harp  
(green)



Witch  
(Salem, Mass.)

UNUSUAL



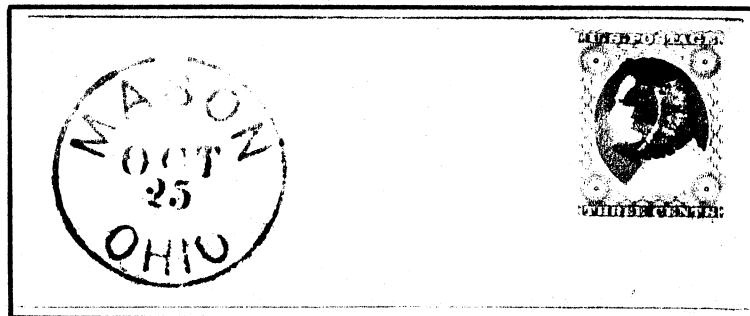
Pipe (negative)



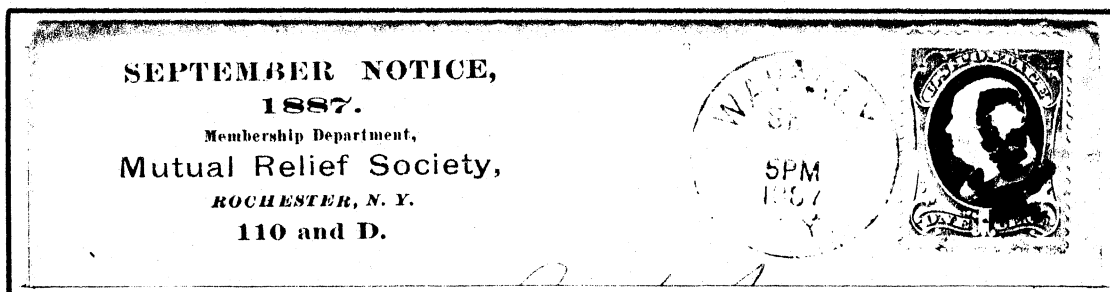
City street map



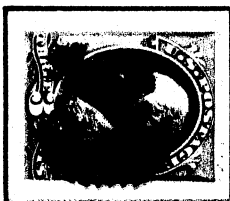
Rocking horse



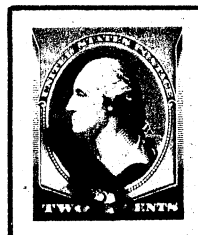
Man in the moon



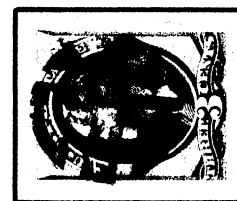
Skull and crossbones



Rower in boat

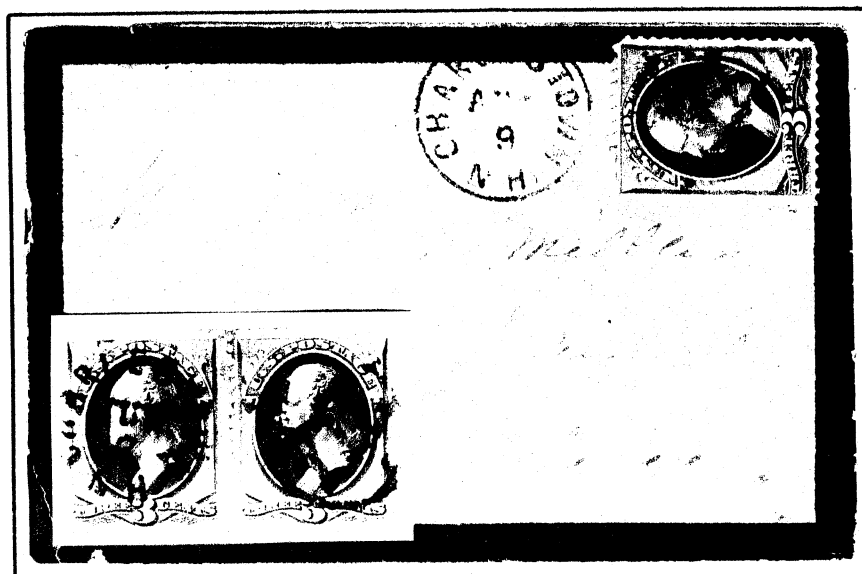


Cannon

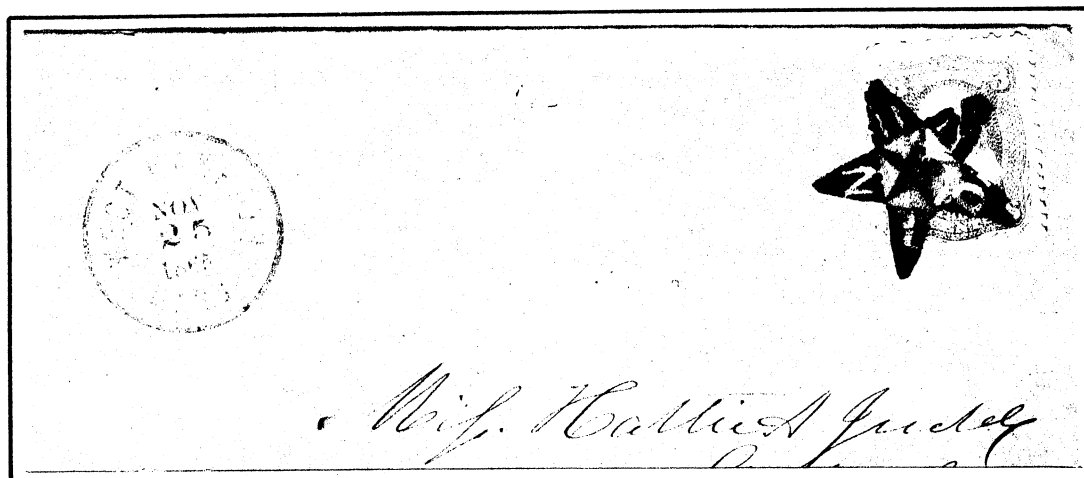


Stylized eagle/shield

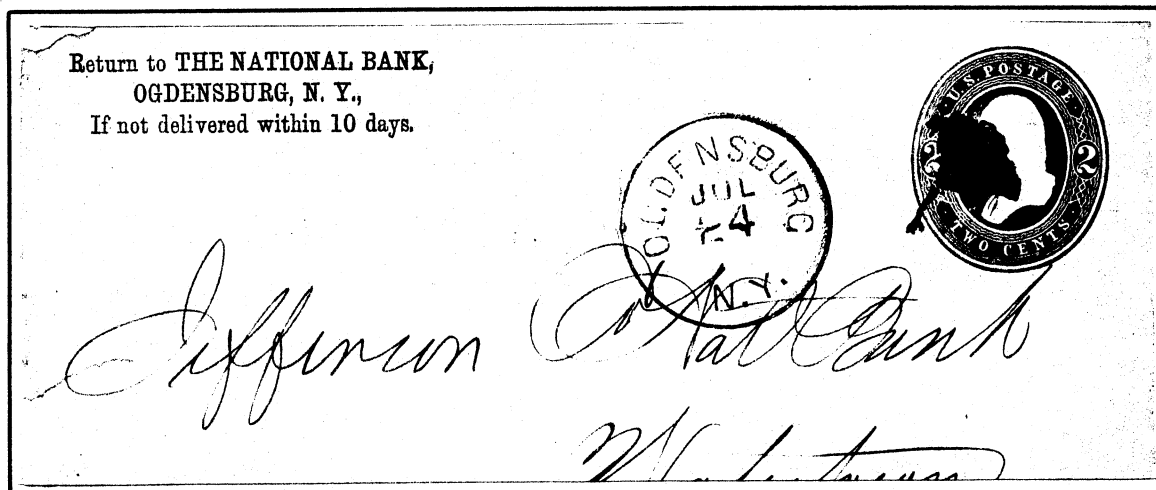
UNUSUAL



Masonic compass & square in circle  
(Post office at Charlestown, N.H., used both red & blue inks)

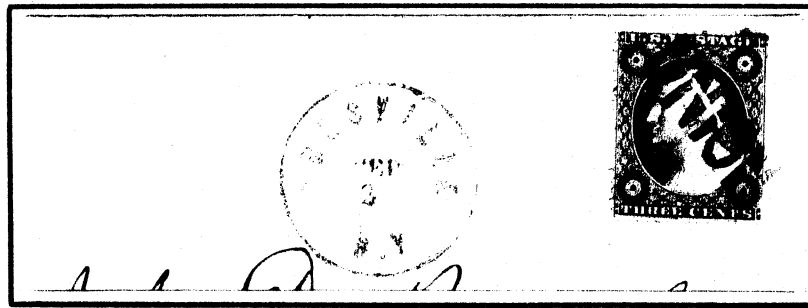


Star-in-pentagon-in-star with "UNION" around

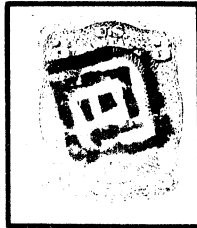


Feather duster

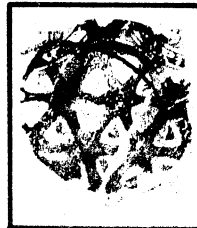
UNUSUAL



A split "UNION"



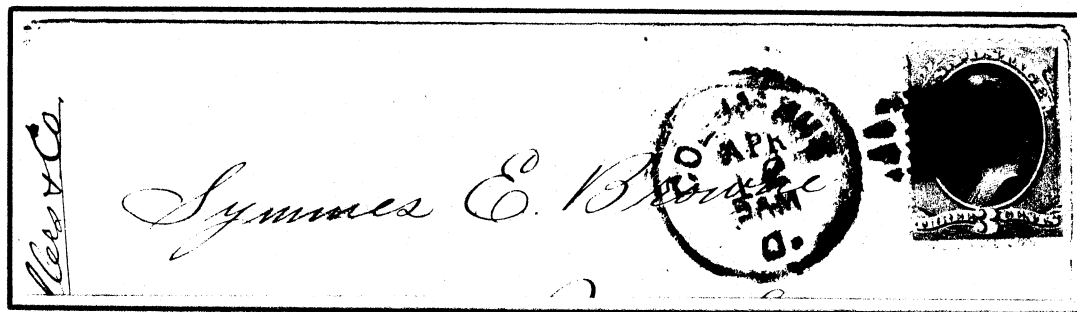
Labyrinth



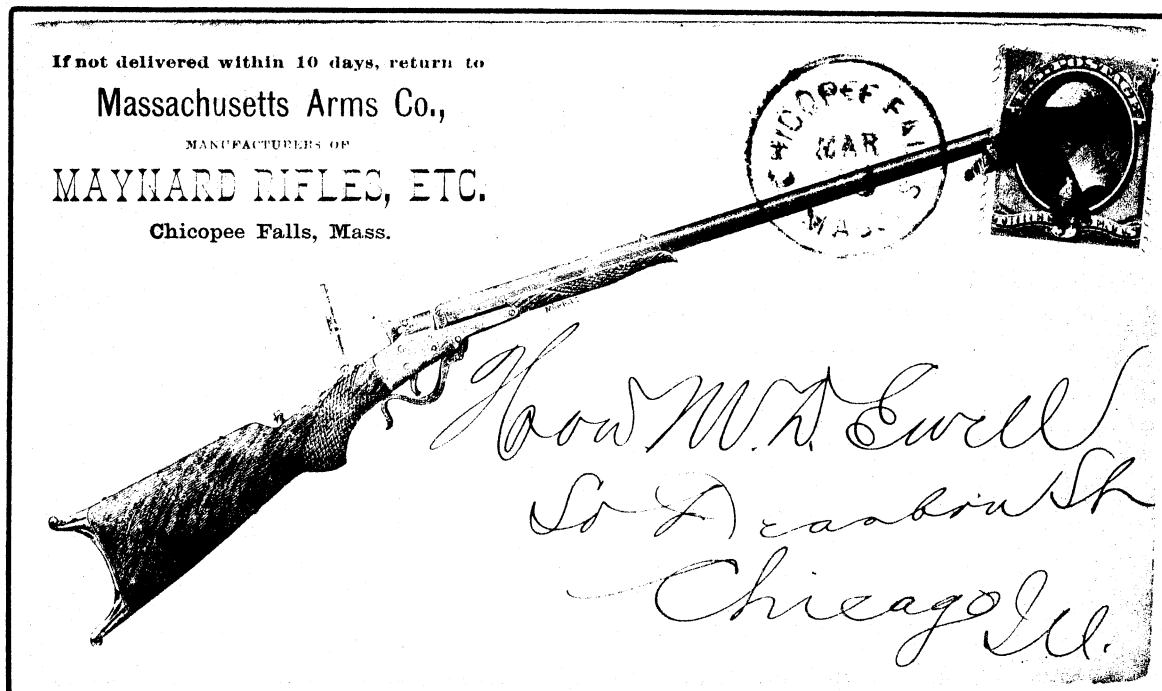
Honeycomb



Horse collar



Bear's paw



Hammer

UNUSUAL



Aladdin's lamp



Man with beard



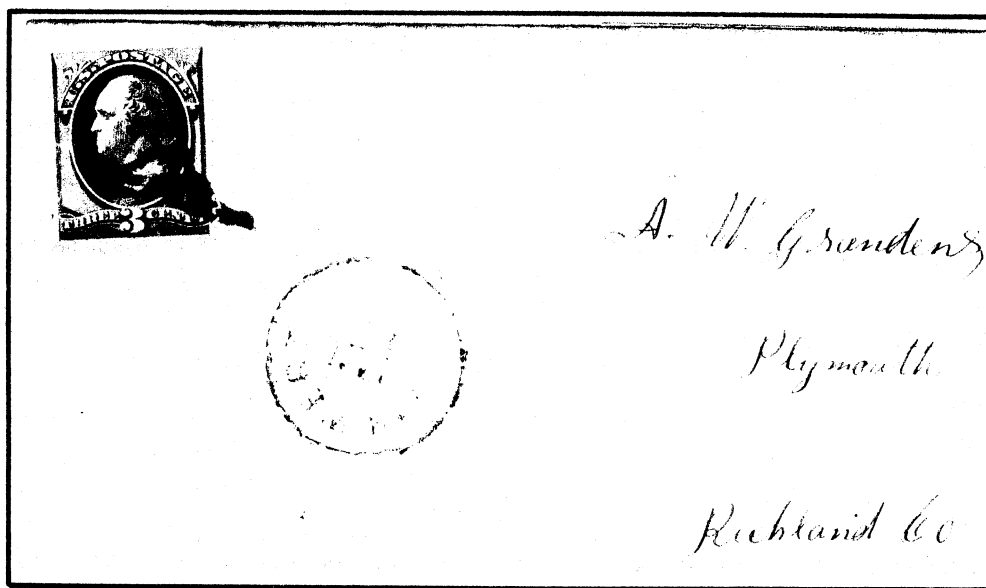
"TIME"



Time flies (?)



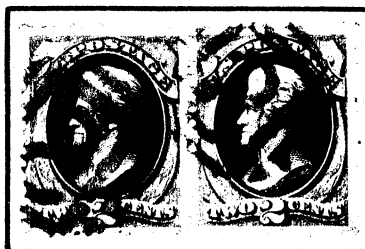
"TIME"



Union soldier's cap



Liberty  
Bell

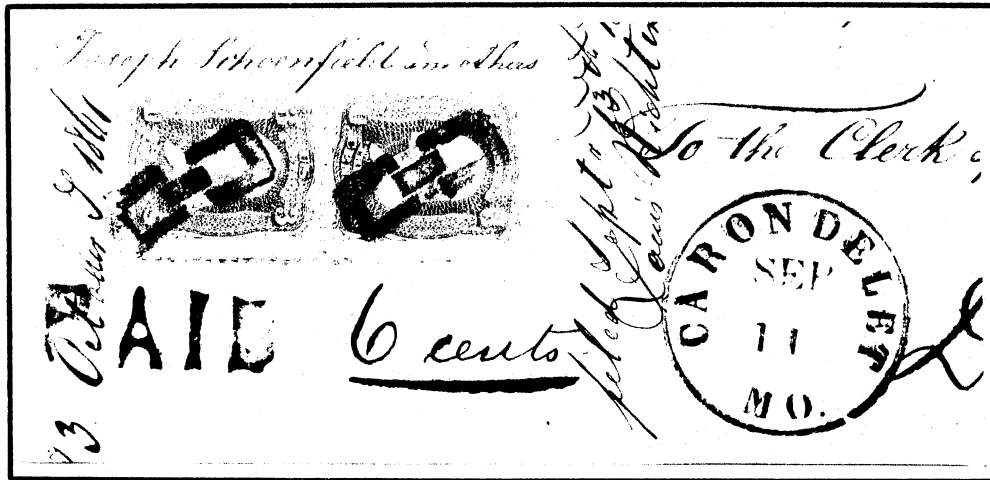


Boxed "S"  
(in reverse)

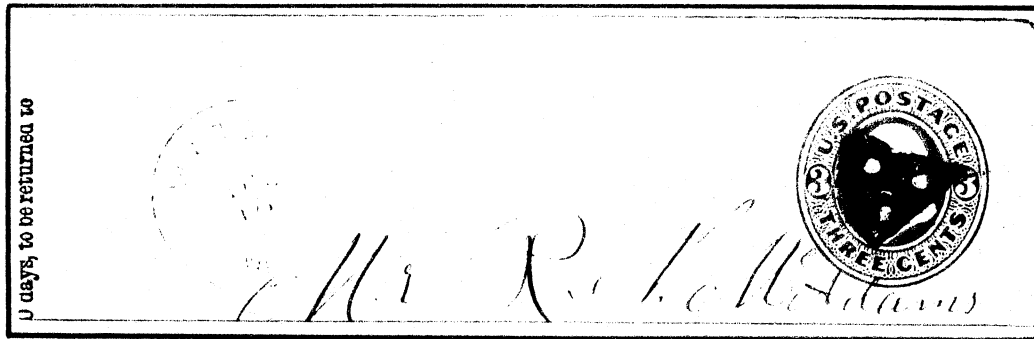


Liberty  
Bell

## UNUSUAL



## Chain Links



Triangular mask



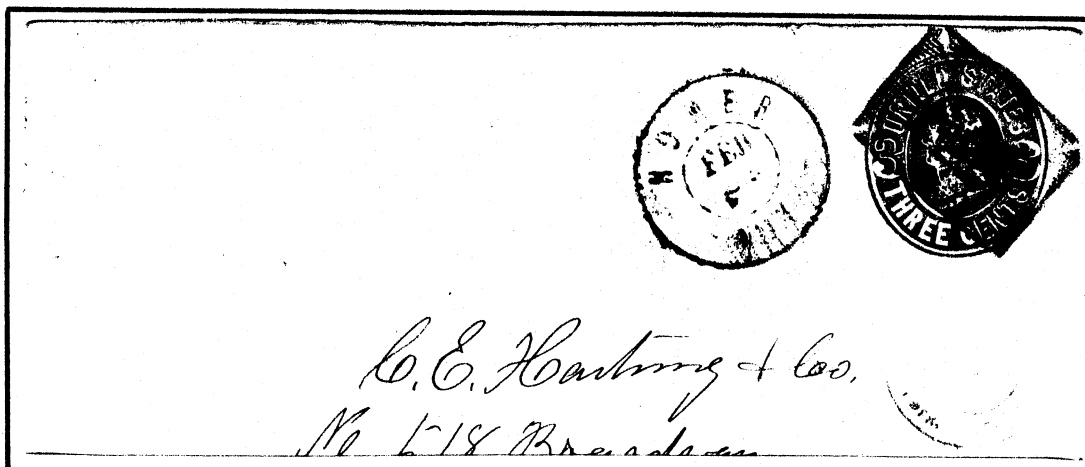
Top hat



3 dimensional box



Hearts with arrow



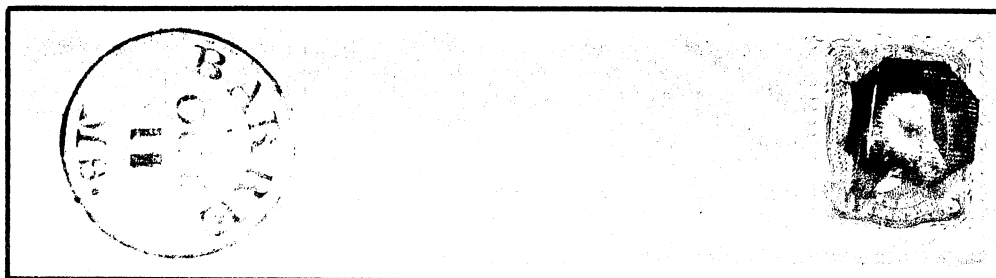
Picture frame



UNUSUAL



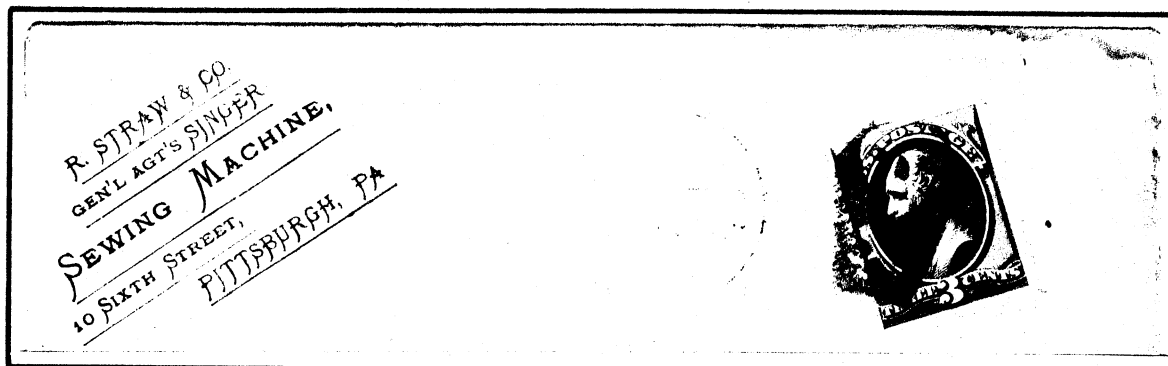
"My heart" (Meinhart, Asst. P.M.)



Octagon



Haines Falls, N.Y., advertises the Catskill Mountains

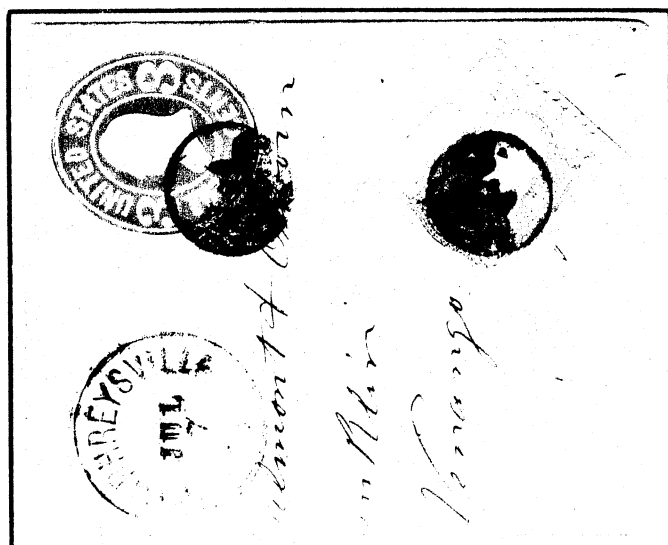


Skull & crossbones in casket



"CAL" cancel indicates California, likely San Francisco. Probably one Oriental to another, a return address since same on the cover may have been in English and not understood by recipient.

UNUSUAL



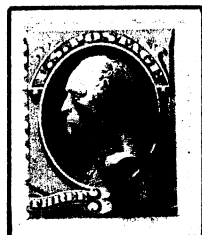
Man in the moon  
(retroscopic: 2 faces, one negative, other positive)



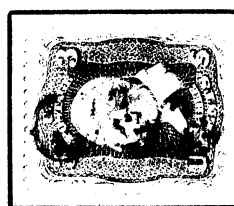
Eagles with shields



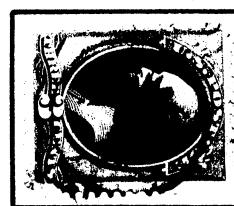
"3"  
(woodcut)



Clasped hands  
holding cross



"7" over "12"  
Quaker date stamp



Charter Oak  
Hartford, Conn.



Indians  
in head dress

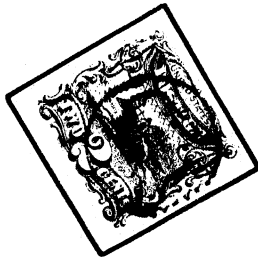


"XIII"  
Roman numeral



Scare crow  
with "P O"

UNUSUAL



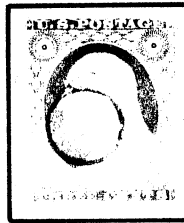
Man's head



"MALTA MAIL" (negative)



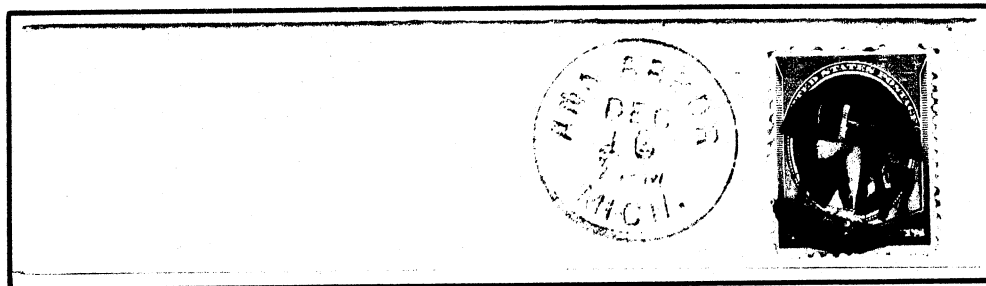
Pumpkin



Engagement ring



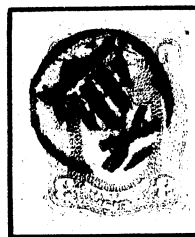
Pipe



"I AM H N" (Harry Nickels, postal clerk)



"USED"



Shield, with  
crossed cannons



Ladder



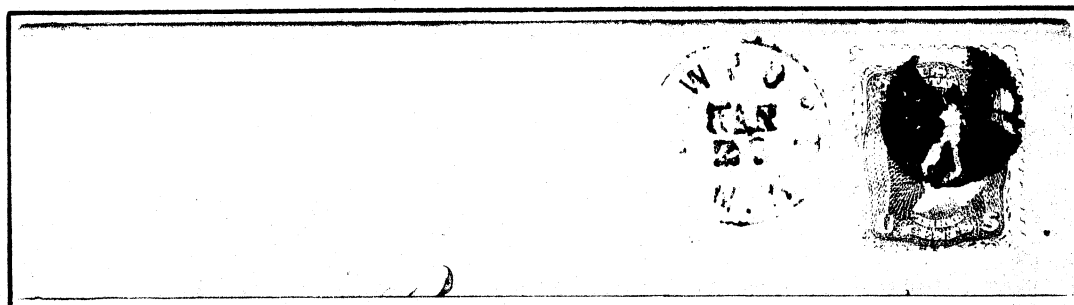
Probably a Swedish receiving mark on a letter from the U.S., with additional franking to pay full rate. Stamp not cancelled, so an observant clerk did his duty.

# SPRING INSECTS

So-called because they "May Bee" as described  
or may not be - - a strong imagination helps!



Dinosaur



Winged flyer



Sea horse



Gingerbread man



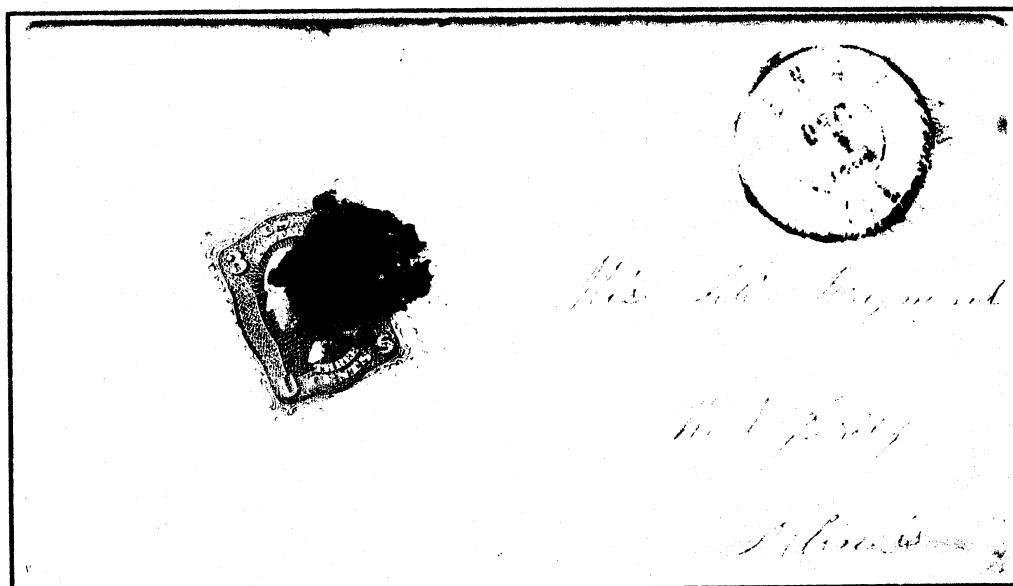
Crab



Sea gull



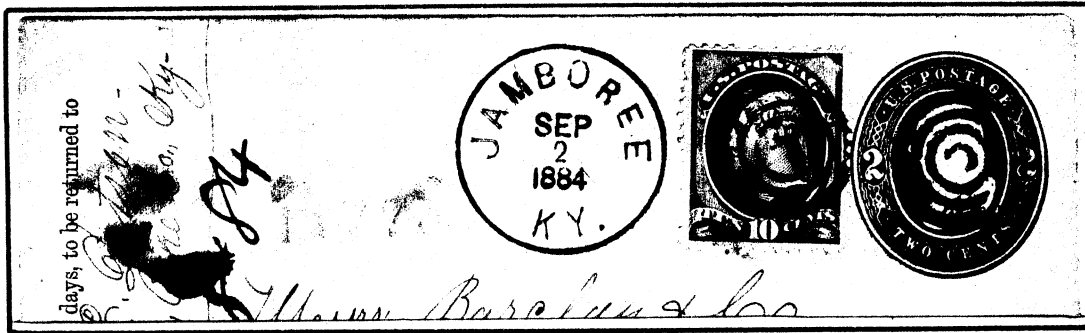
Polar bear



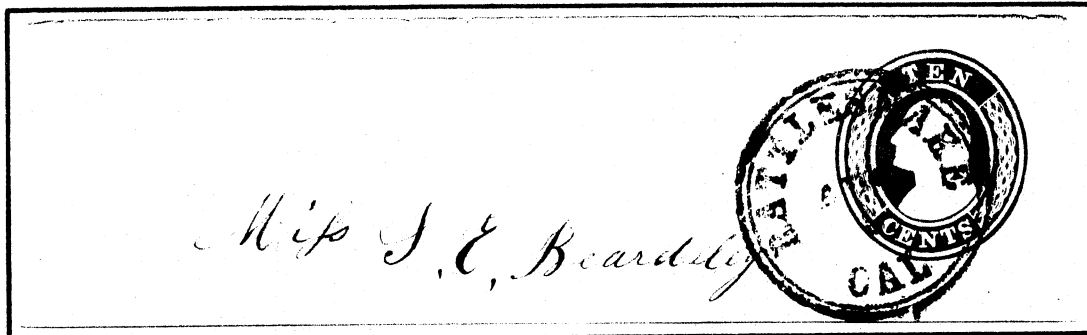
Log cabin with chimney  
(from Lincoln country: Henry, Ill.)

# UNUSUAL PLACE NAMES

Not all post offices were burdened with common every day names.



JAMBOREE, KY.



RATTLESNAKE, CAL.



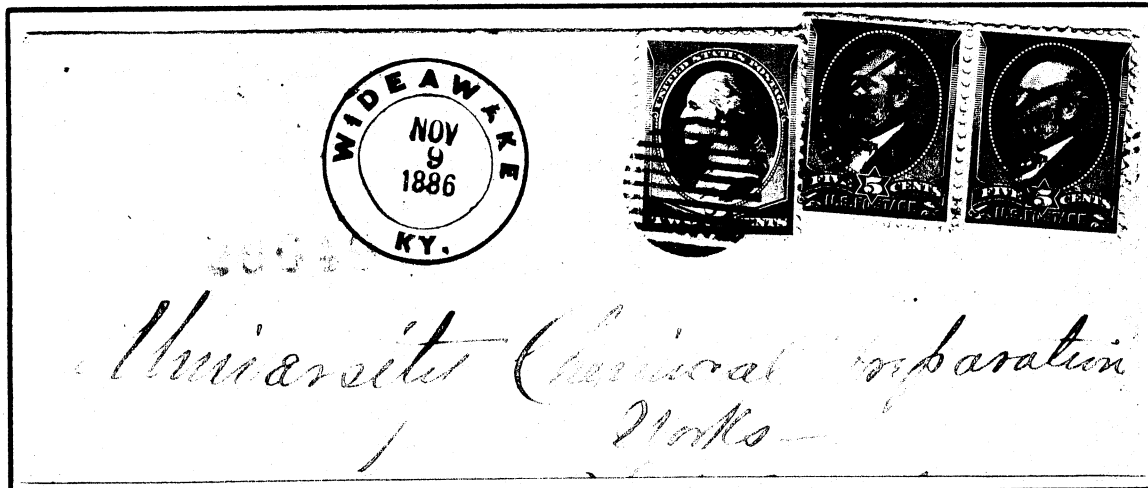
RASHER IRON  
WORKS, N.Y.



ALLIGATOR, FLA.

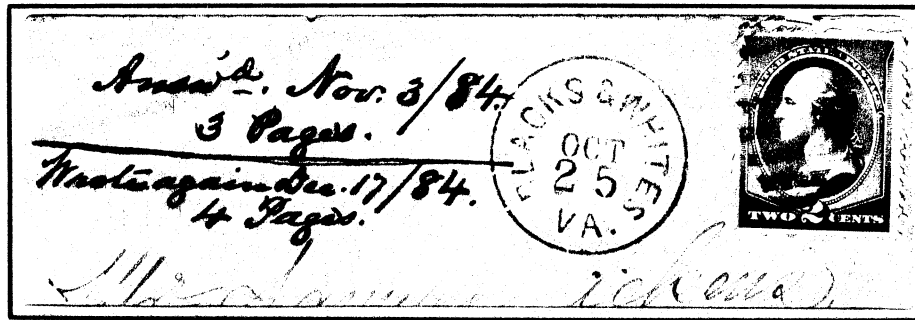


LOVELOCKS,  
NEVADA

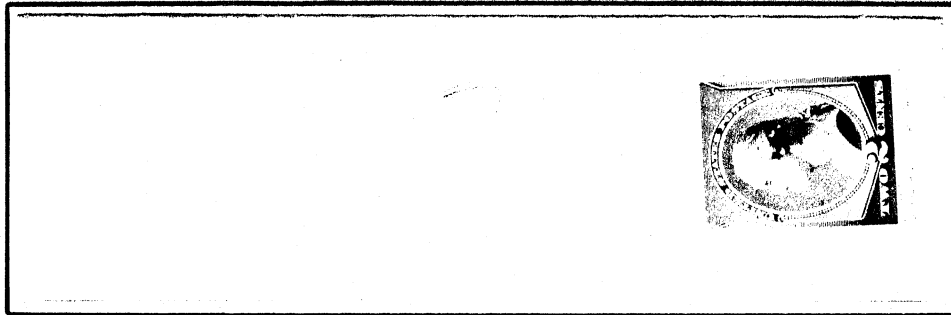


WIDE AWAKE, KY.

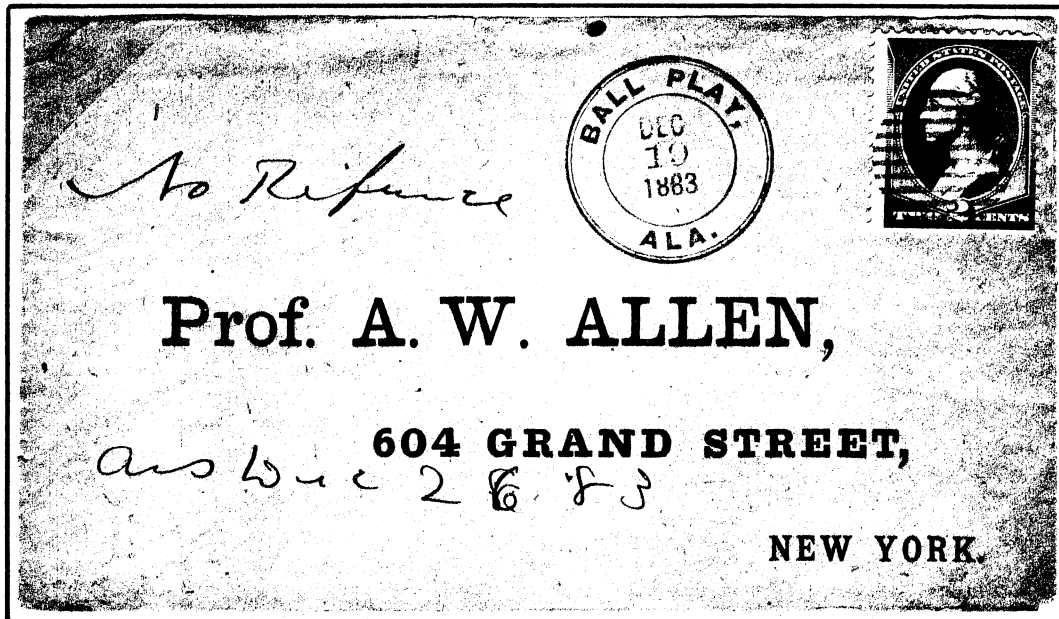
UNUSUAL PLACE NAMES



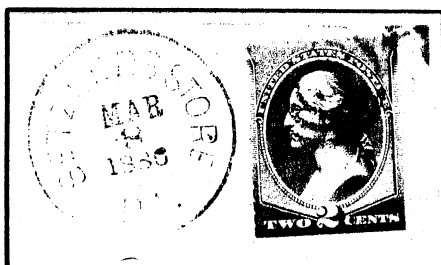
BLACKS & WHITES, VA.



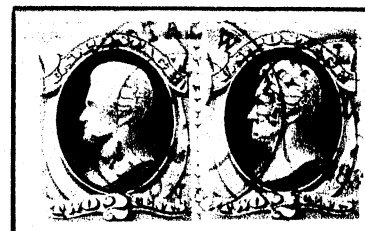
YOU BET, CAL.



BALL PLAY, ALA.

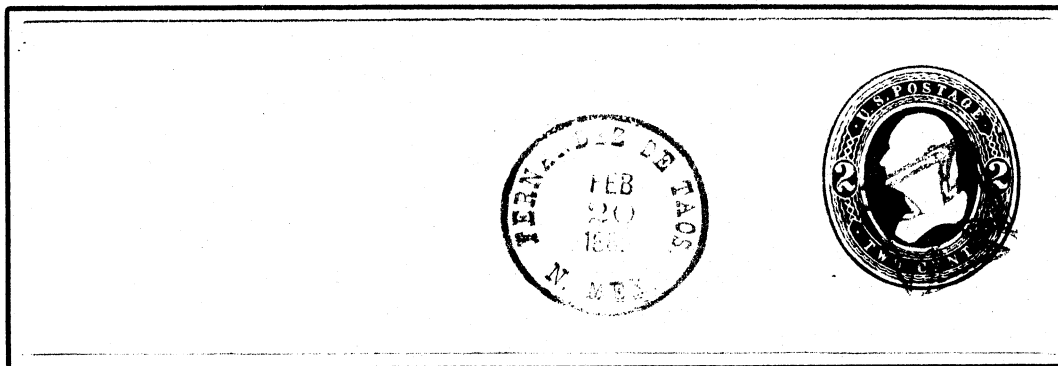


SETZLERS STORE, PA.

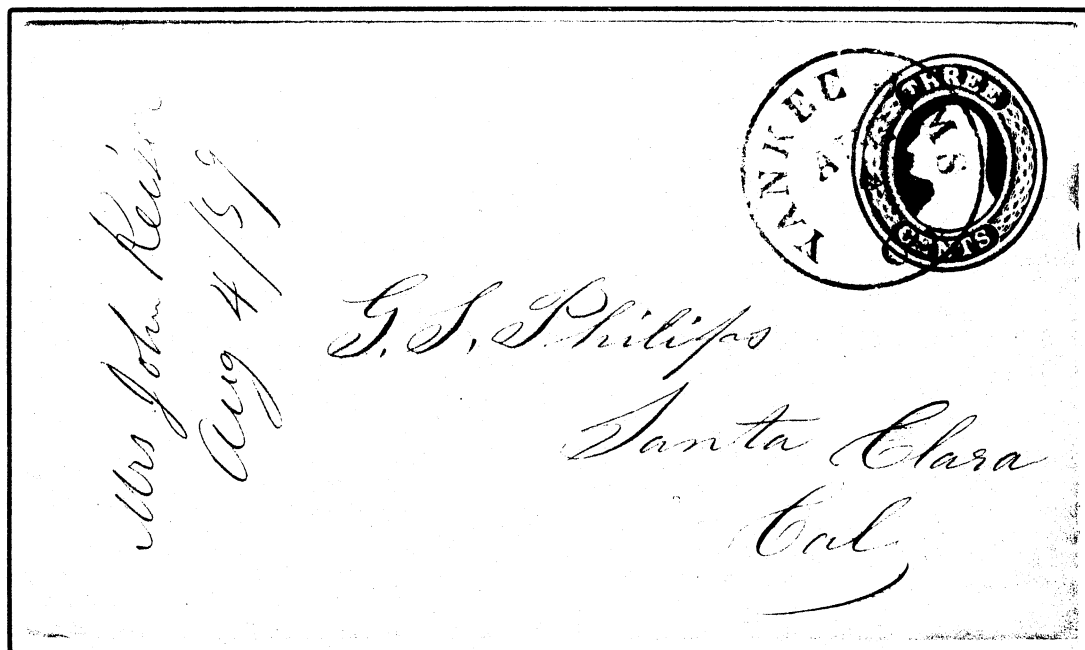


TOTAL WRECK, ARIZONA

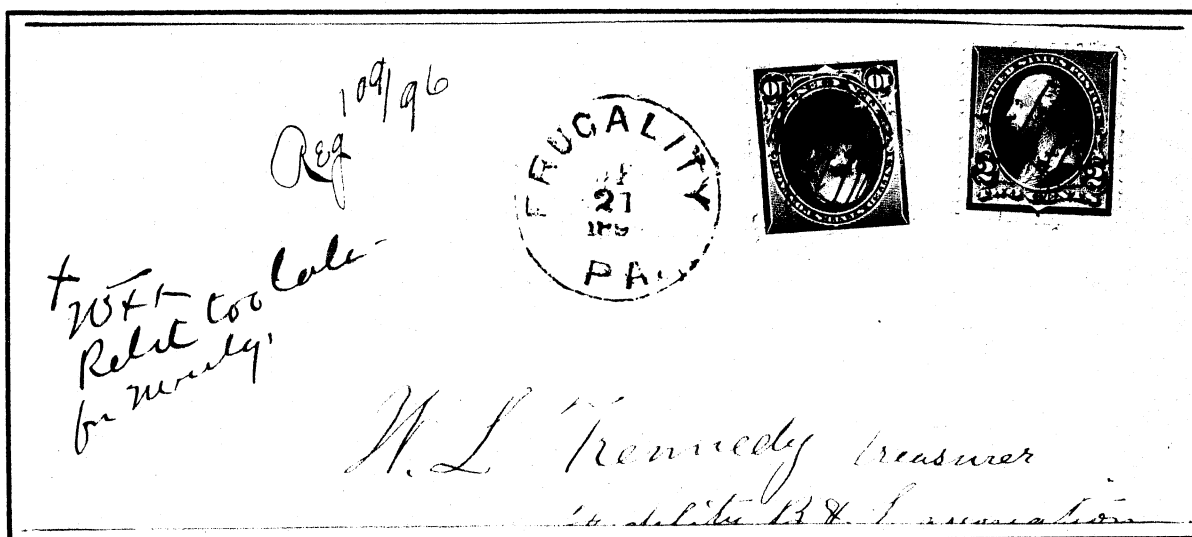
UNUSUAL PLACE NAMES



FERNANDEZ DE TAOS, N. MEX.  
(Territorial, joined Union Jan. 6, 1912)



YANKEE JIMS, CAL.



FRUGALITY, PA.

# FAKE CANCELS

Unusual cancels command premium prices, which beckons the faker. These stamps are genuine, cancels no good.



Running chicken

Waterbury, Conn.



"A.J.", skull & crossbones  
Andrew Johnson's tombstone



Clown

Waterbury, Conn.  
"Clones"



Irishman

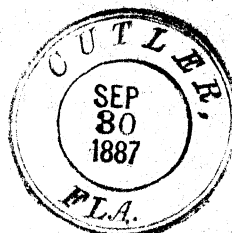
Purported to be from Waterbury, Conn., but known as "copy cat" cancels as neither has ever been reported from there.

FLORIDA HORTICULTURAL CO.,

CUTLER, DADE CO., FLORIDA.

Bare Fruits Palms, Ornamental Plants and Trees

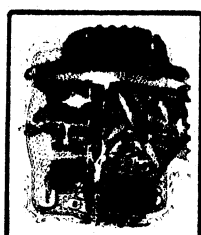
MARTIN BENSON, Manager.



Liberty head



Indian in  
head dress



Man in derby



Devil with  
pitchfork



Cow's head



Running pig



Skull and  
crossbones



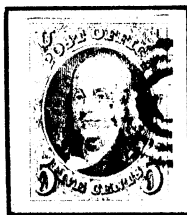
Cow



Fish



# FAKES & FORGERIES



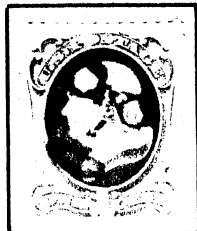
Purple target  
(type not used until  
many years later)



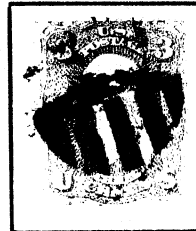
Red grid  
(Jean de Sperati's only forgery  
of a U.S. regular issue)



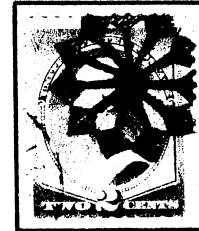
Starburst



Comic face



Shield



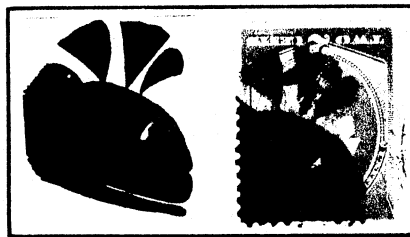
Sprocket



Cardboard proof thinned down & perforated;  
starburst cancel also fake



"U.S. MAIL"



Whale (?)



Star of David



Shield



Fake precancel  
("G" for Glastonsbury, Conn)



Three leaf clover