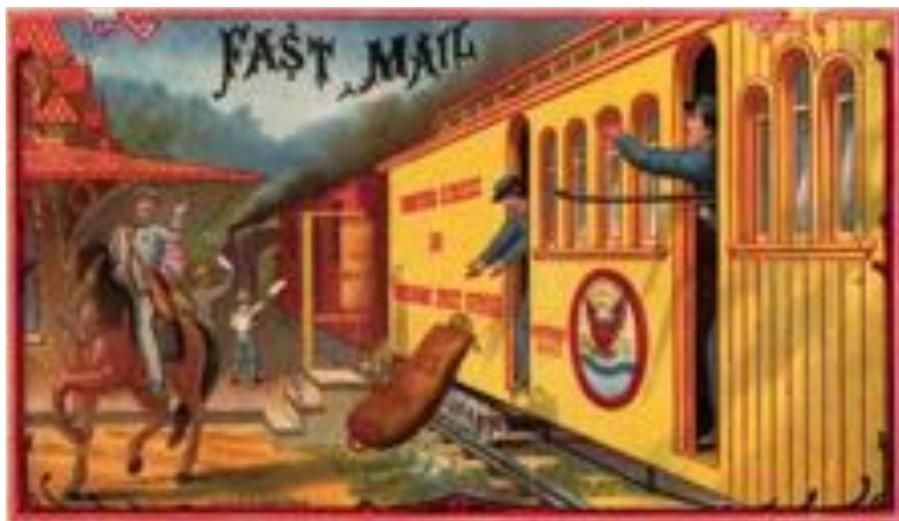


Postal History Journal



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Advertised Postmarks on U.S. Stampless



Soviet Famine 1921

1919 U.S. Peace Commission



Antigua to Maine 1774

Bomber Mail



South Pacific 1944



Ticonderoga P.O. Mural

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Advertised Postmarks on U.S. Stampless Covers

by James W. Milgram, M.D.

The advertising in newspapers of undeliverable mail - part of dead letter management - has been a part of the United States postal service from the beginning.¹ The protocol derived from fiscal and legal responsibility. Until mandatory prepayment of postage in 1855, the Post Office Department was interested in recouping the expense of carrying the mail from the addressee. And, once a letter was consigned to its service, the government was responsible for its contents.² From the first U.S. postal law, the Act of February 20, 1792:

Section 18 ... the deputy postmasters shall, respectively, publish at the expiration of every three months, in one of the newspapers published at, or nearest, the place of his residence, for three successive weeks, a list of all the letters then remaining in their respective offices; and, at the expiration of the next three months, shall send such of the said letters as then remain on hand, as dead letters, to the general post office, where the same shall be opened and inspected; and if any valuable papers, or matter of consequence, shall be found therein, it shall be the duty of the postmaster general, to cause a descriptive list thereof to be inserted in one of the newspapers, published at the place most convenient to where the owner may be supposed to reside, if within the United States,; and such letter and the contents shall be preserved,; **to be delivered to the person to whom the same shall be addressed, upon payment of the postage and the expense of publication.**

The law and regulation for advertising undeliverable mail evolved as follows:

1794, Law section 18: advertising could be oftener at the direction of the PMG; instead of newspaper publication it could be by broadside list. A punctuation change (in red above), made the last clause (in red) clearer that the cost of advertising was meant to be passed on to the addressee. Section 23 allows for “the reasonable charges of the deputy-postmasters for ... advertising the lists of letters, from time to time, remaining in their offices, accompanied with proper vouchers, shall be admitted by the Postmaster-General , and placed to their credit.” Instruction 17 explains a provision for manuscript broadside advertising :

Formerly the law required every postmaster to advertise the letters on hand at the close of a quarter in one of the newspapers published at or nearest the place of his residence. But in cases where printing presses were remote and the newspapers had little or no circulation in the neighbourhood of the post-office, the advertising occasioned an expence to the public, with little or no advantage to the people. In future when a newspaper is not printed at the place where a post-office is established, or near it, and unless such newspaper has a general circulation there, the better way will be (as the law now directs) to make out a complete number of manuscript lists of the letters on hand, and have them posted at such public places, in the town and neighbourhood, as shall appear best adapted for the information of the parties concerned.

Instruction 17 also calls for an experiment in monthly, rather than quarterly, advertising at: Boston, New York, Philadelphia, Baltimore, Alexandria, Fredericksburg, Richmond, Norfolk, Petersburg and Charleston.

Figure 1 illustrates the earliest known American advertised letter, mailed at New York on December 26, 1801 with fancy oval postmark and, on the reverse, “Advertised Jan 5th 1802.” This manuscript auxillary marking about advertisement was placed by the receiving postmaster at Berlin, Connecticut.

1808, Law section 16: no change. Instruction IX includes the option of the manuscript lists, but introduces a two-cent per letter limit on the expense for newspaper advertising:

If there is a newspaper published near the office, and the editor will insert the advertisement three times at the rate of two cents for each letter mentioned in the advertisement, they are then to be published in such newspaper.

Also, “the printer’s receipt must always specify the number of letters.” And the monthly advertising list adds Portland, Portsmouth, Salem, Providence, New Port, Hartford, New Haven, Annapolis, Albany, Washington City, Georgetown, New Orleans, Pittsburg, Augusta and Savannah.

Instruction XII, paragraph 19, specifically lists “advertising letters on hand” as a contingent expense for a postmaster.

1817, 1818, 1820, Law section 23: no change. Instructions IX and XII: no change.

1825, Law section 26: no change. Instruction IX now adds monthly advertising to every office where the net balance averages \$500 a quarter.

1828, Law section 26: no change. Instruction IX adds that “the newspaper having the most extensive circulation in the vicinity of the office must always have the preference, in publishing this notice.”

1832, Law section 26: no change. Instruction XVIII adds to the former IX that “more frequent advertisements are ordered, only in special cases, by the Department” and that “refused letters are not to be advertised.”

1835, Law section 35 adds: “advertisements of letters remaining in post offices may, under the direction of the Postmaster General, be made in more than one newspaper: Provided, that the whole cost of advertising shall not exceed four cents for each letter.”

1843, Law section 35: no change. Instructions, now chapter 33, add that a copy of a manuscript list of undeliverable letters must be sent to Washington and, indeed, since advertising “in newspapers not printed in the towns and villages where the post office are situated, is attended with considerable expense to the Department, without any corresponding benefit to the public,” postmasters in towns and villages without newspapers are to choose the manuscript option. Added to the 4-cent maximum is the admonition that advertising in more than one paper is only to be done at the direction of the PMG. Advertising is not to be done for drop and box letters or for free packages “known to contain printed documents, speeches, &c”



Figure 1: Earliest known advertised example from Berlin, Connecticut “Advertised Jan 5th 1802”.

1845, Law section 18: the price per letter advertised is not specified, just “not greater than that now fixed by law” and “in case or question or dispute as to the amount of the circulation of any papers, the editors of which may desire this advertising, it shall be the duty of the postmaster to receive evidence and decide upon the fact.” Instruction, now 29, enlarges upon the process of deciding which newspaper to carry the advertisements. The biggest change with Postal Reform was in the accounting by postmasters, which reveals that letters should be marked with the advertising fee. Instruction 45 specifies:

325. Every postmaster will charge himself, on the eighth line of his quarterly account, with the whole amount he has paid for advertising letters.

326. He will mark on each letter the cost of advertising, and it will be in addition to the original postage.

327. When he delivers any advertised letters, he receives the cost of advertising together with the postage, and for those he sends to the Department as dead letters, he takes credit for the postage and cost of advertising. In this way he cancels the charge and gives evidence that he has complied with the requisition of the law on the subject.

Figure 2:
Detail of
Quarterly Ac-
count form for
the post office
of Dunstable,
New Hamp-
shire, March
31, 1825. Line
19 was for
contingent
expenses, and
postmaster
John M. Hunt
has added in
manuscript
that the 46
cents is for
“Advertising
23 letters.”
(Editors’ col-
lection)

the General Post-Office from *January 1* to *March 31*, 1825 Cr.

	DOLLARS.	CTS.
7 By postage of letters overcharged and mis-sent this quarter,		77
8 By postage of dead letters sent to the General Post-Office do.	1	86
9 By postage of letters now remaining in this office,	1	84 1/2
10 Balance carried down,	52	18 1/2
Dollars, 56 81		
14 By commission on \$2 D. 15 C. Letter postage at 50 per cent.	10	15
By ditto on \$ D. 8 C. Letter postage at 25 per cent.		
By ditto on \$ D. 8 C. Letter postage at 80 per cent.		
13 By ditto on \$3 D. 52 C. Newspaper postage at 50 per cent.	1	91
16 By 49 free letters delivered out of this office this quarter, at two cents each,		98
17 By ship letters paid for this quarter, as by receipts herewith, at two cents each,		33
18 By cash paid the mail carrier for 85 way letters, at one cent each,		46
19 By contingent expenses, as by receipts herewith, <i>Advertising 23 letters.</i>		46
20 Balance due to the General Post-Office,	56	67 1/2
	\$ 56	00 1/2

John M. Hunt Post-Master.

From the beginning, by law, the cost of advertising an unclaimed letter was to be passed on to the addressee but, by allowing postmasters to record the cost as a contingent expense, the POD acknowledged that the fee was not always collected. An expression of the full transaction was not made clear until 1845 when the advertising fee was directed to appear in the form of markings on the letter. Evidence of advertised letters pre-1840 is scarce. With the exception of Cleveland, Ohio all postal markings are in manuscript and none show any indication of additional charges despite the possibility of a 2-cent fee.

A letter from W.F. Brown to his brother H.H. Brown in New Britain, Connecticut, postmarked in red “NEW-YORK 29 NOV 5 cts” (1847) includes a postscript:

Post Office at *Rays Hill* County of *Bedford* Pa

Dr. for the service of the Post Office Department, for the quarter ending *June 30* 1846

	Dollars.	Cents.
1. To postage of letters which remained in the office last quarter		
2. To postage of unpaid letters received from other offices this quarter		
3. To postage of way letters received at this office	11	60
4. To postage of letters undercharged from other offices		32
5. To postage of letters undercharged from other offices do.		
6. To postage of ship letters, at 6 cents each, originally received at this office for this delivery	3	15
7. To postage of paid letters sent from this office this quarter		
8. To postage on drop letters received this quarter, at 2 cents each		12
9. To this sum received on advertised letters		
12. To balance brought down, being the amount of postage collected on letters this quarter	15	17
13. To amount of postage on newspapers and pamphlets this quarter	14	52
14. Deduct postage of dead newspapers and pamphlets	6	54

Figure 3: Detail of Quarterly Return on new form as of July 1, 1845. On line 8, the postmaster of Bedford, Pennsylvania records 12 cents, the cost of advertising 6 letters, April 1 - June 30, 1846.

Letters

Remaining in the Post Office at East Liberty Logan Co. at the end of the quarter March 31st 1854

<i>Charles</i>	<i>Brown</i>	<i>Daniel</i>	<i>Melvin</i>
<i>Geo</i>	<i>Whitney</i>	<i>Wm</i>	<i>Mulvaney</i>
<i>Wm F</i>	<i>Brecht & Co</i>	<i>William</i>	<i>Wm</i>
<i>J. G.</i>	<i>Baldwin</i>	<i>James</i>	<i>Money</i>
<i>Smith</i>	<i>Brown</i>	<i>James</i>	<i>W Donalt</i>
<i>James</i>	<i>Brakelb</i>	<i>Mary</i>	<i>W Beth</i>
<i>George F.</i>	<i>Bryce</i>	<i>Alexander</i>	<i>W Donalt</i>
<i>John</i>	<i>Carte</i>	<i>Rowell</i>	<i>Page</i>
<i>John L.</i>	<i>Cookman</i>	<i>J. P.</i>	<i>Page</i>
<i>W.</i>	<i>Coane</i>	<i>John D.</i>	<i>Ree</i>
<i>Mathew</i>	<i>Dobie</i>	<i>Mary</i>	<i>Reynolds</i>
<i>John A.</i>	<i>Garis</i>	<i>John</i>	<i>Shick</i>
<i>Wm</i>	<i>Haines</i>		
<i>Wm G.</i>	<i>Hiles</i>		
<i>Wm</i>	<i>Joseph</i>	<i>Thomas F. McAden</i>	
<i>John</i>	<i>Wheeler</i>	<i>D. M.</i>	
<i>William</i>	<i>Harrison</i>		
<i>Wm</i>	<i>Linford</i>	<i>April 5th 1854</i>	
<i>Samuel</i>	<i>Lynch</i>		
<i>Wm</i>	<i>Morris &</i>		
<i>Samuel</i>	<i>Morris &</i>		
<i>Wm</i>	<i>Morrison</i>		

Figure 4: Postmaster Thomas F. McAden's manuscript list, "Letters Remaining in the Post Office at East Liberty Logan Co. [Pennsylvania] at the end of the quarter March 31st 1854." It lists single names, but two names have the number "2" written to the right, indicating that these individuals each had two undelivered letters. Courtesy Tom Ringebach.

Direct your Letters to me at 102 Barclay St. the store is 238 Washington St. but it is closed sometimes when the Penny Post brings me the Letters & I can always get my Letters at my Boarding place anytime. Tell Sarah of this. I have to pay 4 cents extra for advertised letters.

1851, Law Section 5: publication should only be in those newspapers issued weekly or oftener, with the largest circulation within the range of delivery of an office, at a charge of one cent for each letter advertised. Lists of letters are to be posted in the post office. Such lists are to be published once in every six weeks (see Figure 4). Publishing the list in German and other foreign language papers was to be decided by the PMG. Instruction 25 details, at length, the procedure for choosing the appropriate newspaper, and emphasizes that, now, advertising must appear in just one newspaper. The periodicity of the ads was as follows (which newspapers like *The Albany Argus* of April 5, 1851 reprinted):

<i>Gross Receipts of Office</i>	<i>To be Advertised</i>	<i>Cost per Letter</i>
Not over \$500 per quarter	Once in 6 weeks	1 cent
Not over \$1000 per quarter	Once each month	1 cent
Not over \$7500 per quarter	Twice each month	1 cent
Over \$7500 per quarter	Once each week	1 cent

During the stampless period before the requirement of prepaid postage by stamps on April 1, 1855, advertising of letters cost 2 cents (or 4 cents) from July 1, 1845 to July 1, 1851 and 1 cent afterwards (even into the 20th century). Stampless advertised covers can be found occasionally for the next fifteen years or even later on certain foreign letters, ship letters, and soldiers' letters during the Civil War, but 1855 has been the late date used for cataloging stampless postal markings. Many letters show indication of the fee, but only some "advertised" handstamps showed the fee. The Table that ends this article lists by individual towns, and alphabetically by state, all advertised handstamps used prior to mid-1855.²

Advertised Postmarks on U.S. Stampless Covers: Selected Covers

Figure 5 illustrates the earliest known advertised handstamp, a two line red "ADVERTISED / MAY 1" applied at Cleveland, Ohio in 1834. The letter, from Brockport, N.Y. with fancy straight line postmark, is clearly marked 1834 (also the known date for the Brockport rectangular postmark). The second and third earliest postmarks are also from Cleveland, two black straight line types.

Figure 5: Earliest known handstamped advertised marking, May 1, 1834, Cleveland, Ohio, on letter with postmark of April 23. Cleveland averaged net postages of over \$500 and so advertised once a month.



The blue boxed "Advertised / NOV 1" marking shown in Figure 6 was used during 1843 at Cleveland. The letter had its origin at Foxboro, Mass. and the 25 cents unpaid rate indicates a distance greater than 400 miles. All of the early Cleveland box type markings

bear a first of the month dating, and no indication of a fee charge. In the early 1850s advertising was indicated by a separate month and date handstamp at Cleveland.



Figure 6: Nov 1, 1843 advertised marking in blue rectangle, Cleveland, Ohio. Mailed Oct 24 from Foxboro, Massachusetts.

The cover in Figure 7 bears a blue New Haven, Ct. postmark to which a green “ADVERTISED (with date)” straight line was applied in Indianapolis (one of three types of markings recorded from early Indianapolis for advertising letters; the other two in red).

Figure 7: 1843 green straightline “ADVERTISED FEB 2(?)” from Indianapolis, Indiana. Mailed Jan 30 from Terre Haute, Indiana.



Figure 8 shows a drop letter at Philadelphia, postmarked with a 2 in circle. But it was also advertised for another 2 cents making four cents to be collected. A very similar use from Louisville, Kentucky shows manuscript “2 for drop usage and handstamped “ADV 2 cts” in blue from July 20, 1845 - a very early use of the two cents advertised rate being indicated on a cover.



Figure 8: Oct 29, 1845 drop letter Philadelphia, 2 in circle postmark; manuscript “2 /4” indicating 2-cent fee for advertising; circular Dead Letter Office marking Sep 23, 1846.

In Figure 9 a pair of 5-cent 1847 stamps carries from St. Louis to Cincinnati where the cover was advertised: a red straight line “ADV 2” indicates the fee. A local newspaper *The Daily Cincinnati Courier* shows “Ann Peck” on the list of advertised letters. The letter was unclaimed and sent to the Dead Letter Office where it received a May 20, 1850 handstamp.

Figure 9: 1849 from St. Louis, advertised “ADV 2” at Cincinnati, Ohio; circular Dead Letter Office marking. With listing among other advertised letters in a local paper. Courtesy Gordon Eubanks.



O'Conner Ellen	ny	P	
Patterson Maria	Phelan Mary	Paul Ruth	
Palmer Sarah E.	Peck Ann	Perry Susan G	
Pennington Fanny	Perry Julia Ester	Prior Elizabeth P	
Powell Roseanna	Pierce Harriet	Pollock Charlotte	
Pierce W M		Padden Thos Ma	

A late usage of a two-cent advertised handstamp is shown in Figure 10. The letter originated at Lubec Mills, Maine, March 4 and was sent by free frank to Boston where it was advertised “ADVERTISED 2 CTS.” in red, matching the red “BOSTON Mass MAR 14” (1851) postmark. This was prior to July 1, 1851 so the advertising fee was still two cents. It appears that no postage was collected although the advertised fee was not free. The contents of the letter announce an annual meeting of stockholders and apparently was sent as a favor by the postmaster, S. Fowler.



Figure 10: “ADVERTISED 2 CTS.” Boston 1851 - a late usage of the two cent advertising fee. Forwarded to New York March 14, red circular datestamp matching the advertised handstamp.

The cover in Figure 11 contains a circular “Regulations Relating to Postage” in which it states that communications to the Patent Office must be post paid. There is a Washington D.C. “Free” postmark dated March 2. However, the addressee did not pick up the letter and so it was advertised. Because New York advertised in several papers, it was entitled to charge four cents for advertised letters. This cover bears the “ADVERTISED 4 cts” handstamp used in New York. The letter subsequently was sent to the Dead Letter Office. A similar cover and letter sent in September, 1851 only bears a “ADV 1” marking from Cincinnati. It also went back to the D.L.O. with March 3, 1852 dating. Postal markings indicating a four-cent fee for advertising are very few in number.



Figure 11: Letter from U.S. Patent Office Mar 2, 1849 bearing red New York straightline “ADVERTISED 4 cts” that was then sent to Washington and filed at the Dead Letter Office, Dec 7.

Figure 12 illustrates another example of a four-cent advertised rate in the postmark: at Philadelphia the letter was advertised and charged, in blue, “ADVD 4 Cts”, a rather rare marking. Such markings are known from Louisville, New York, Philadelphia, and Troy. Manuscript rating at 4 cents has been seen from Cincinnati, Providence, and San Francisco as well.



Figure 12: 1846 example of the four-cent advertising fee with Philadelphia blue “ADVD 4 Cts”. Mailed from Hagerstown, Maryland Oct 19.

The stampless cover in Figure 13 from the period of the 3-cent 1851 stamps was sent paid in cash without a stamp from Paw Paw Grove, Illinois. At its destination in Meadville, Pennsylvania it was not picked up so the postmaster advertised it. He wrote “Adver 1 ct.” The cover also bears a grid of the type to cancel stamps, its use unclear. While the original letter exists, it is not year dated.



Figure 13: Example of manuscript markings during the early 1850s when use of stamps was optional. A one-cent fee is indicated.

Figure 14 shows a very rare straight line postmark from Sonoma, California in 1852 with manuscript markings from San Francisco indicating the letter had been advertised there, the addressee now in Baltimore saw the ad and asked to have the letter forwarded. The unpaid additional postage was added to the original unpaid 5 cents. A manuscript notation of receipt on the reverse indicated the letter had been sent from San Francisco.



Figure 14: 17 May, 1852 letter with Sonoma California straight line postmark, and 5 due. An additional 1 cent for advertising and 10 cents for forwarding from San Francisco Sep 1 added up to 16 cents due on receipt at Baltimore.

Figure 15 illustrates an example of the two-cent advertised rate, with a Utica, N.Y. blue “ADVERTISED 2^{CT}.” This 1850 letter started as a printed circular, but there is an attached letter, so the postage rate was five cents due.

Figure 15: Blue “ADVERTISED 2^{CT}.” on Nov 29, 1850 letter from Albany to Utica, N.Y.



The cover going into Chicago, Figure 16, does not bear an advertised handstamp. However, it is known from other similar covers that, for a short period in the 1840s and early 1850s, advertised letters were only marked on the day of advertising, here Dec 1, 1851.³ There are no other markings. Similar covers have been seen from St. Louis and Cleveland.



Figure 16: Letter from Bergen N.Y., Nov 25, advertised in Chicago with red date stamp Dec 1, early 1850s. Chicago marked some advertised letters with just a handstamped date, similar to the practice at Cleveland.

A free franked envelope, Figure 17, from Washington in 1855 was advertised at Chelsea, Massachusetts with “ADV/1” handstamp, along with a “JUL 1” dating handstamp. Other covers with this handstamp bear 3-cent 1851 stamps. Figure 18 illustrates a cover from Catskill, N.Y. to Deposit, N.Y. which bears a tiny “ADVERTISED, 1ct” in addition to the integral 3 PAID postmark from Catskill. There is also a pencil “ad” below the word Deposit in the address.

Figure 17: Free franked letter from Washington D.C. Jun 25, 1855 with Chelsea, Massachusetts handstamped marking indicating a due charge of one cent for advertising.



Figure 18: This cover shows a very unusual tiny ADVERTISED 1 ct handstamp from the small town of Deposit N.Y.. The year date would be 1851-1854 based on the Dec 28 3 paid postmark of Catskill N.Y.

Postage on the cover in Figure 19 from Fall River to New Bedford, Massachusetts was paid in cash during the period of optional prepayment and optional stamps. However, the addressee did not pick up the letter and it was advertised with a most unusual blue handstamp “ADVERT’S’D/1” in circle. At the same time a blue MAY was also added but no specific date is indicated, and there is nothing on the reverse.

Figure 19: An example of the unusual homemade markings which can be found, a blue circular ADVERT’S’D 1 with unusual spelling. The month handstamp, May, probably indicates the period when it was advertised at New Bedford. Mailed from Fall River May 3.



Table of All Known Advertising Handstamps Used prior to mid-1855

City & State	Description	Color, Size	Date	Image
Mobile, Ala.	Adv 2	red, s.l. 21x7	1846	Plate 1
Mobile, Ala.	ADV/1	black, circle 21	1850s	
Mobile, Ala.	ADVERTISED	black, s.l. 42x4.5	1850s	
Culloma, Cal.	Adv/2	blue, 2 s.l. 9x8	1850	Plate 1
Nevada City, Cal.	Adv'd	red, s.l. 50x5	1850	Plate 1
San Francisco, Cal.	Adv 1 ct.	black, s.l. 32x11	1853	Plate 2
Stockton, Cal.	ADVERTISED	black, blue, oval 40x19	1850s	Plate 2
Hartford, Conn.	ADVERTISED	red, s.l. 41x4.5	1850s	
Middletown, Conn.	Advertised	blue, s.l. 30x3	1850	
Middletown, Conn.	ADVERTISED (A inverted)	black, s.l. 53x4	1852	Plate 1
New Haven, Conn.	ADVERTISED	black, s.l. 48x5	1850	Plate 2
New Haven, Conn.	Date ADV	black, red, circle 32	1850s	Plate 2
Norwich, Conn.	ADVERTISED, date	black, s.l. 40x6	1850s	Plate 2
Wilmington, Del.	ADVERTISED 2	green, s.l. ?	1850	
Washington, D.C.	ADVERTISED 1 Ct.	black, s.l. 48x5.5	1854	Plate 3
Albany, Ga.	ADVERTISED	blue, s.l. 35x3.5	1850s	Plate 1
Chicago, Ill.	ADVERTISED date 1 Ct	black, oval 40x21	1854	Plate 1
Chicago, Ill.	ADVERTISED/1cent./date	black, c.d.s. 31	1850s	
Chicago, Ill.	CHICAGO ILL./			
	/ADVERTISED date	black, circle 32	1858	
Indianapolis, Ind.	ADVERTISED date	green, s.l. 58x3	1843	Figure 7
Indianapolis, Ind.	ADVERTISED date	red, s.l. 60x3	1846	Plate 1
Indianapolis, Ind	ADVERTISED date	red, s.l. 49x3	1848	Plate 1
Indianapolis, Ind	ADVERTISED	black, s.l. 49x4	1852	
Lafayette, Ind.	ADVERTISED	blue, s.l. 32x3	1853	
Lima, Ind.	ADV 2	black, s.l. 25x5	1847	
Bonaparte, Ia.	A	red, s.l. 5x5	1850	Plate 1
Des Moines, Ia.	ADVERTISED 1 CENT	black, circle 27	1850s	
Keokuk, Ia.	ADVERTISED	black, s.l. 42.5x 4	1850s	Plate 1
Louisville, Ky.	ADV. 4 Cts	blue, s.l. 30x5	?	Plate 1
Louisville, Ky.	ADV. 2 Cts	blue, s.l. 31x4.5,	1846-8	Plate 1
Louisville, Ky.	ADV. 2 CTS.	black, s.l. ?	1849	
Louisville, Ky.	A	blue , s.l. 13x13	1850s	
Louisville, Ky.	ADV. 1 C	blue, s.l. 31x4,	1850s	
Louisville, Ky.	ADVERTISED	blue, s.l. 42.5x5	1850s	
Baton Rouge, La.	ADVERTISED 2	black, s.l. 30x3	1847	
New Orleans, La.	ADV 2.	red, rectangle 39x11	1840s	Plate 2
New Orleans, La.	ADV. 1	red, bl., rect. 33x12	1850s	Plate 2
Opelousas, La.	ADV. and 2	black, s.l. 9x3	1847	
Augusta, Me.	Adv.2	blue s.l. 16x4.5	1849	Plate 1
Augusta, Me.	ADV and 2	black, arc	1850	
Bangor, Me.	ADVERTISED 2 (2, center)	red, circle 34	1845-7	Plate 1
Bangor, Me.	ADVERTISED 1 (1, center)	black, circle 28	1855	Plate 1
Waterville, Me.	ADV 1	black, circle 16	1853	
Boston, Ma.	ADVERTISED 2 CTS,	red, s.l. 45x4	1851	Figure 10
Cabotville, Ma.	ADVERTISED	blue, s.l. 33x4	1851	Plate 1
Cambridge, Ma.	ADVERTISED 1	blue, s.l. 36x3	?	Plate 1
Chelsea, Ma.	ADV 1	black, 2 s.l. 20x16	1854	Figure 17

Plate 1



Akron, Ohio



Albany, Georgia



Augusta, Maine



Binghamton, New York



Bangor, Maine



Bangor, Maine



Bonaparte, Iowa



Brooklyn, New York



Cabotville, Massachusetts



Cambridge, Massachusetts



Chicago, Illinois



Cincinnati, Ohio



Cleveland, Ohio



Culloma, California



Dayton, Ohio



Dover, New Hampshire



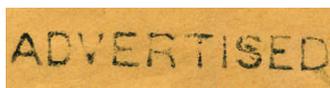
Cleveland, Ohio



Indianapolis, Indiana



Indianapolis, Indiana



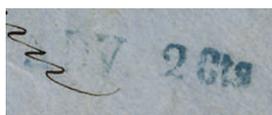
Keokuk, Iowa



Lockport, New York



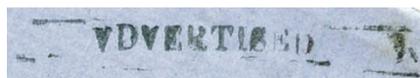
Lawrence, Massachusetts



Louisville, Kentucky



Lowell, Massachusetts



Middletown, Connecticut



Louisville, Kentucky



Mobile, Alabama



Nevada City, California

Lawrence, Ma.	ADV. 1	blue, s.l. 23.5x3.5	?	Plate 1
Lawrence, Ma.	ADV. 1	black, s.l. 22x4	1850s	
Lowell, Ma.	ADV 2	blue s.l. 17x3.5	?	
Lowell, Ma.	ADV. 1,	blue,s.l. 12x3.5,	1852	
Lowell, Ma.	ADV 1,	black, s.l. 19x4	1854	Plate 1
New Bedford, Ma.	ADVERT'S'D 1	blue, circle 22	1855	Figure 19
Northampton, Ma.	ADVER -T-D	red, s.l. 26.5x3.5	1840	Plate 3
Salem, Ma.	Advertised 2	red, s.l. 55x4.5	1840s	Plate 3
Salem, Ma.	ADVERTISED	black, s.l. 37x4	1860	
Westfield, Ma.	Adv 1 and adv 1	black, s.l.	1850s	
Worcester, Ma.	Adv. 1 Ct.	black, s.l. 23x4	1850s	Plate 3
Worcester, Ma.	Advertised 1 Cent	black, s.l. 67x5	1850s	Plate 3
Natchez, Miss.	1 A (probably separate)	black, s.l. 24x12	1850s	
St. Louis, Mo.	Advertised date	blue, s.l. 42x2	1841	Plate 2
St. Louis, Mo.	ADVERTISED date	red, blk, blue, s.l. 46x2.5	1841	Plate 2
St. Louis, Mo.	ADVERTISED/date	black, circle 31	1856	
Dover, N.H.	ADV. date	blue, s.l. 20x2	1844	Plate 1
Great Falls, N.H.	ADV 1	black, s.l. 16x3.5	1854	
Newark, N.J.	ms adv2, 2	red, s.l. 10x12	1850	Plate 2
Binghamton, N.Y.	ADV 2 cts	blue, s.l. ??	1840	
Binghamton, N.Y.	ADV., separate 2	black, s.l. ?	1849	
Binghamton, N.Y.	ADV date 1CT.	red, s.l. 49x5	1850s	Plate 1
Brooklyn, N.Y.	ADVERTISED 1 CENT	black, s.l. 60x6	1850s	Plate 1
Canandaigua, N.Y.	ADVERTISED	red, s.l. 42x6	1854	
Chitanango, N.Y.	ADVERTISED, ms 1	blue, s.l. 36x3	?	
Deposit, N.Y.	ADVERTISED, 1ct	black, s.l. 25x1.5	1850	Figure 18
Little Falls, N.Y.	ADVERTISED	blue, s.l. 21x1.5	?	
Lockport, N.Y.	ADVERTISED/ DATE	black, 2 s.l. 40x9	1850s	Plate 1
New York, N.Y.	ADVERTISED 4 cts.	red, s.l. 56x10	1849-50	Figure 11
New York, N.Y.	ADVERTISED, 2 CENTS	blue, s.l. 41x3	1849	
New York, N.Y.	ADVERTISED	red, s.l. 37x6	1851	Plate 2
New York, N.Y.	ADVERTISED	black, s.l.36x5	1851	
New York, N.Y.	ADVERTISED	black, s.l. 40x6	1853	
Niagara Falls, N.Y.	ADv., date	blue, 2 s.l. 17x8	1850s	Plate 2
Plattsburgh, N.Y	ADVERTISED, 1 ct,	black,2s.l.44x5,11x5	1850s	
Poughkeepsie, N.Y	ADVERTISED	red, s.l. 54x5.5	1854	Plate 2
Rochester, N.Y	ADVERTISED	blue, s.l. 21x2	1850	
Rome, N.Y.	ADVERTISED	blue, s.l. 29x3.5	?	
Rome, N.Y.	ADVERTISED	black, s.l. 39x4	1853	
Saratoga, N.Y.	ADVT/1	black, arch 13x12	1850s	
Seneca Falls, N.Y.	ADVERTISED, sep. date	red, s.l. 39x4	1850s	Plate 2
Syracuse, N.Y.	ADVERTISED 2 Cts.	blue, s.l. 21x2	1850	
Syracuse, N.Y.	ADV 1 ct	black, s.l. 28x4	1850s	
Syracuse, N.Y.	ADV 1 ct	blue, s.l. 35x5	1851	Plate 3
Towanda, N.Y.	Advertised	blue, s.l. 30x4	1850s	Plate 3
Troy, N.Y.	ADVERTISED: 4cts.	blue, oval 40x7	1849	
Troy, N.Y.	ADVERTISED: 1 ct	blue, bl.,oval 43x7	1850s	Plate 3
Troy, N.Y.	Advertised/ 1 / ct/ date	blue, 2 s.l. 38x10	1850s	Plate 3
Utica, N.Y.	ADVERTISED. 2 CENTS.	blue, s.l. 42x3.5	1849	Plate 3
Utica, N.Y.	ADVERTISED, 2 CENTS	blue, s.l. 42x2.5	1850s	
Utica, N.Y.	ADVERTISED 2 CT.	blue, s.l. 60x7	1850	Figure 20
Utica, N.Y.	ADVERTISED 1 CT.	blue, s.l. 58x7	1851	

Plate 2



New Orleans, Louisiana



Newark, New Jersey



New Haven, Connecticut



New Orleans, Louisiana



New York, New York



Niagara Falls, New York



New Haven, Connecticut



Northampton, Massachusetts



Norwich, Connecticut



Painesville, Ohio



Oregon City, Oregon Territory



Philadelphia, Pennsylvania



Richmond, Virginia

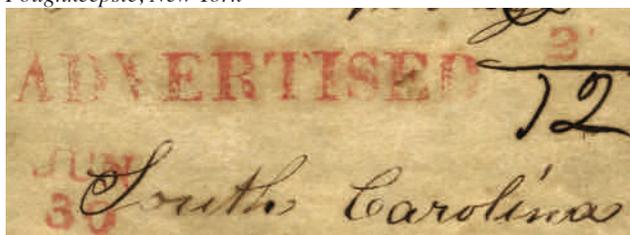


Piqua, Ohio



Salem, Massachusetts

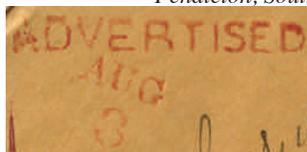
Poughkeepsie, New York



Pendleton, South Carolina



Providence, Rhode Island



Seneca Falls, New York



San Francisco, California



Stockton, California



St. Louis, Missouri



St. Louis, Missouri

Utica, N.Y.	ADVERTISED 1 CT.	red, s.l. 60x7	1850s	Figure 21
Utica, N.Y.	ADVERTISED 1 CT.	black, s.l. 60x7	1852	Figure 15
Utica, N.Y.	ADVERTISED	red, s.l. 47x7.5	1850s	
Utica, N.Y.	ADVERTISED 1	red, s.l.55x7	1853	
Watertown, N.Y.	ADVERTISED ms 2	blue, s.l. 30x3	1850	
Watertown, N.Y.	ADVERTISED	black, s.l. 40x5	1852	
Akron, Oh.	Adv. 2	red, s.l. 24x6	?	Plate 1
Cincinnati, Oh.	ADV 2	red, s.l. 21x5	1849	Figure 9
Cincinnati, Oh.	ADV	red, s.l. 22x6	1851	
Cincinnati, Oh.	ADV 1	red, s.l.22x5	1850s	Plate 1
Cleveland, Oh.	ADVERTISED, date 2nd l.	red, 2 s.l. 25x6	1834	Figure 5
Cleveland, Oh.	ADVERTISED, date 2nd l.	black, s.l. 25x5	1837	Plate 1
Cleveland, Oh.	ADVERTISED, date 2nd l.	black, s.l. 20x6	1839	Plate 1
Cleveland, Oh.	ADVERTISED/ date 2nd l.	red, s.l. 24x11	1840-2	Plate 1
Cleveland, Oh.	ADVERTISED/ date	red, rect. 31x13	?	
Cleveland, Oh.	ADVERTISED/ date	blue, rect. 31x13	1843	Figure 6
Cleveland, Oh.	Adv date	red, rect. 31x13	1848	Plate 1
Dayton, Oh.	ADV. 1	black, s.l. 28x5	1851	Plate 1
Millersburgh, Oh.	ADVERTISED	black, s.l. 27x2.5	1850s	
Painesville, Oh.	Adv 1	blue, s.l. 7x5	1851	Plate
Piqua, Oh.	ADV	red, oval 21x17	1839	Plate
Oregon City, O.T.	ADVERTISED	black, s.l. 42x5	1855	Plate
Philadelphia, Pa.	ADV 4 CTS	blue, 2 s.l. 33x19	1848	Figure 12
Philadelphia, Pa.	ADVERTISED	black, s.l. 43x4	1855	Plate
Towanda, Pa.	ADVERTISED 1 CENT	blue, s.l. 40x3.5	1850	Plate
Providence, R.I.	Advertised:	black, s.l. ?	1850s	Plate
Providence, R.I.	ADV/CE 1 NT	red, rect. 23x19	1850s	Plate
Charleston, S.C.	ADVERTISED/ ONE CENT	blue, rect. 37x12	1850s	
Columbia, S.C.	Advertised ms 1	blue, s.l. 21x3	1850s	
Pendleton, S.C.	ADVERTISED, 2	red, s.l. 63x7	1846	Plate
Clarksville, Tenn.	ADVERTISED	black, s.l 38x3.5	1857	
Galveston, Tex.Rep.	Advertised	ms.	1842	Figure 9
Richmond, Va.	ADVERTISED	green, s.l. 39x4	1847	Plate
Richmond, Va.	ADVERTISED	black, blue, s.l. 42x4	1850s	
Richmond, Va.	ADVERTISED	blue, s.l. 43x5.5	1855	
Fond du Lac, Wis.	ADVERTISED	black, s.l. 46x5	1850s	

Endnotes

¹ See Clarke, Tom, "Advertised Letters, 1785," *Pennsylvania Postal Historian*, November, 1991, pp 6; Hahn, Calvet (who wrote about advertised mail in the 1970s), "'Dead' letters were advertised in newspapers in the 1700's," *Stamp Collector*, October 23, 1993, 12, 18; Graham, Richard B., "The Dead Letter Office Until 1851," *The Chronicle of the U.S. Classic Postal Issues*, No. 145, 42:18-28, 1990; Alexander, Thomas J., "Dead Letter Office," *The Chronicle of the U.S. Classic Postal Issues*, No. 145, 42: 36-42, 1990.

² See previously-published, and complementary, work: Milgram, James W. and Persson, N.L., "Markings on Advertised Letters to 1870," *American Philatelist*, 93: 405-412, 506-512, (May and June), 1979; Milgram, James W., "Handstamped 'advertised' postmarks on United States stampless covers" & "Undeliverable mail: 'advertised' markings used during the 1851-57 stamp period," *The Chronicle of the U.S. Classic Postal Issues*, No. 228, 62:306-323, 2010; No. 230, 63: 122-3, 2011 & No. 231, 63: 215-235, 2011 (also, in 2012, "City-named Advertising Postmarks 1856-1890").

³ Piskiewicz, Leonard, *Chicago Postal Markings and Postal History*, Cary, IL 2006, pp 406.

Plate 3



Syracuse, New York



Towanda, New York



Troy, New York



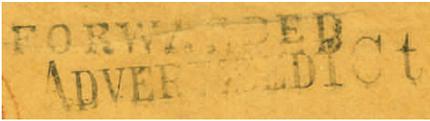
Utica, New York



Worcester, Massachusetts



Troy, New York



Washington, D.C.



Worcester, Massachusetts

Dr. James W. Milgram, an orthopedic surgeon, is very active in The Collectors club of Chicago. He has written several books focusing on 19th century postal history - his most recent, *Federal Civil War Postal History* was reviewed in *PHJ* 143; and his articles on "Forwarded and Missent Markings on Stampless Covers" (*PHJ* 145 and 146) were judged to be the best contributions to the Journal in 2010.

New Haven, Vermont: A Well Read Town

by David L. Straight

Editors, publishers, and booksellers received nearly half of the known registered mail from New Haven, Vermont in the 1850s. Intrigued by Dr. Milgram's article in the previous issue, *PHJ* 150, I turned to my own collection, where I discovered two Return Registered Letter Bills coming back to New Haven. As with the first bill he illustrated, mine also show registered letters to publishers, or booksellers. In March 1858, sequential registered letters were mailed from New Haven to Johnson, Fry & Co., booksellers and publishers, at 27 Beekman Street, New York and to Charles B. Russell, a dealer in foreign books, at 12 Tremont Street, Boston.¹ From my Stony Hill, Missouri research,² I know the value of registered mail post office forms, because they include names of firms and individuals. The Return Registered Letter Bills list recipients of registered letters. At a time when most registered letters contained money, these forms provide clues to business and economic relationships.

When I met with Dr. Milgram at ChicagoPex, he graciously offered to copy all of the forms and covers discussed in his article so that I could extend my investigation. I uncovered six additional New Haven Return Registered Letter Bills held by other collectors. The bills I have examined document 37 registered letters, some bills listing multiple letters. Based on Dr. Milgram's estimate of 40 registered letters per year, they represent approximately 23% of the registry business in New Haven during the four years (1856-1859) that he studied. Seventeen of the registered letters (45%) were mailed to ten editors, publishers, and booksellers - contrasted with Stony Hill where only 12% of the registered letters went to publishers.

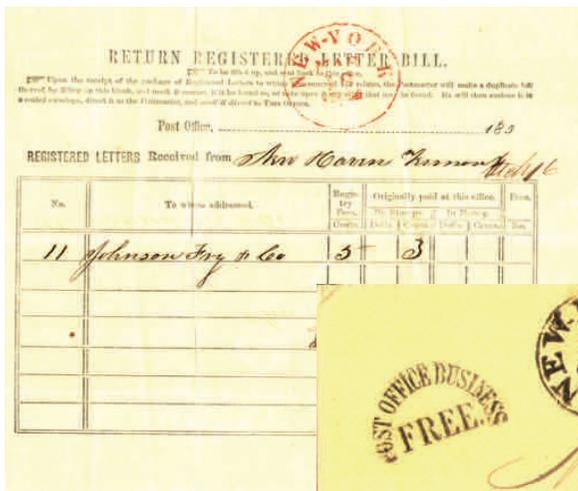


Figure 1: Form-344, The New Haven, Vermont Return Registered Letter Bill for Registered Letter 11 addressed to Johnson, Fry & Co. in New York.

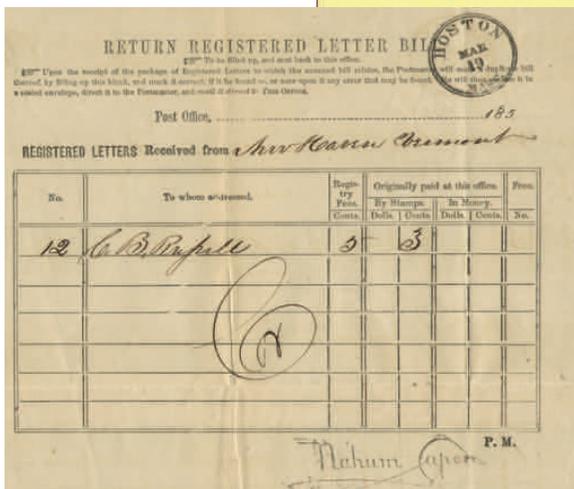
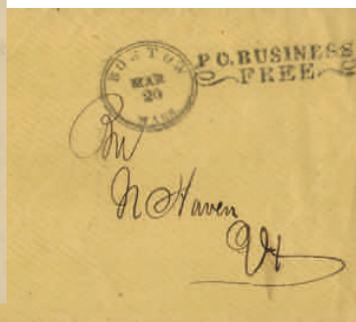


Figure 2: Form-370, The Return Registered Letter Bill for Registered Letter 12 addressed to C. B. Russell, in Boston.



Enough New Haven, Vermont Return Registered Letter Bills have survived to warrant an examination of these documents for what they reveal about the business patterns of this village in the mid-19th century. Therefore, I am inviting readers to check their collections and report any New Haven, Vermont registered letters or post office forms from the 5¢ fee period, 1855-1863. I will publish a full report on recipients of New Haven registered letters after analyzing all the data. Please send scans or photocopies to me at dls@mophil.org or Post Office Box 32858, St. Louis, Missouri 63132. Thank you in advance for your assistance with this study.

Endnotes

- ¹ The occupations and addresses are from the appropriate city directories.
- ² "Registered Mail Stony Hill, Missouri, 1883: the Cultivation of Rural Commerce," *Postal History Journal*, 138 (October 2007) pp. 6-18.

American Communists and the Soviet Famine of 1921

by William Moskoff

In 1921, when Soviet Russia became engulfed in a devastating famine that would eventually take the lives of millions of people and create havoc with the lives of millions of survivors, Americans came to the aid of the Russian people, providing mostly food but also clothing and medical supplies. The United States government allocated a total of \$20 million to support starving Russians and placed responsibility for administration of the aid on the American Relief Administration (ARA). The ARA also supervised a voucher program that provided many more millions of dollars in food aid. In addition, non-governmental organizations provided food aid, both long established and newly created organizations such as the American Red Cross, the Joint Distribution Committee, and the Volga Famine Relief Society. What is much less well known is the assistance provided by American communist-front organizations. This paper is an attempt to fill that gap and document with philatelic material some of the efforts extended by these organizations.

A communist front organization was essentially under the control of the Communist International (the Comintern, 1919-1943), the Communist Party USA, or some other authoritarian organization with a similar credo. In mid-1921, the Comintern called for the creation of groups that would raise money to combat the ravages of the famine in Soviet Russia. The Friends of Soviet Russia (FSR) was formally established on August 9, 1921 as an outgrowth of the CPUSA's legal branch, the American Labor Alliance. The FSR published the postcard represented in Figure 1. The organization itself had a broader vision than simply raising funds for famine victims. It published a five-point agenda defining its goals, which included raising money for the rebuilding of the Soviet economy and finding ways to gain support in general for Soviet Russia. At the end of 1923 and into 1924, the FSR changed its name in response to the aborted October 1923 revolution in Germany and the subsequent chaos. For a brief period, it called itself the "Friends of Soviet Russia and Workers' Germany." It subsequently resumed operations under its original title.

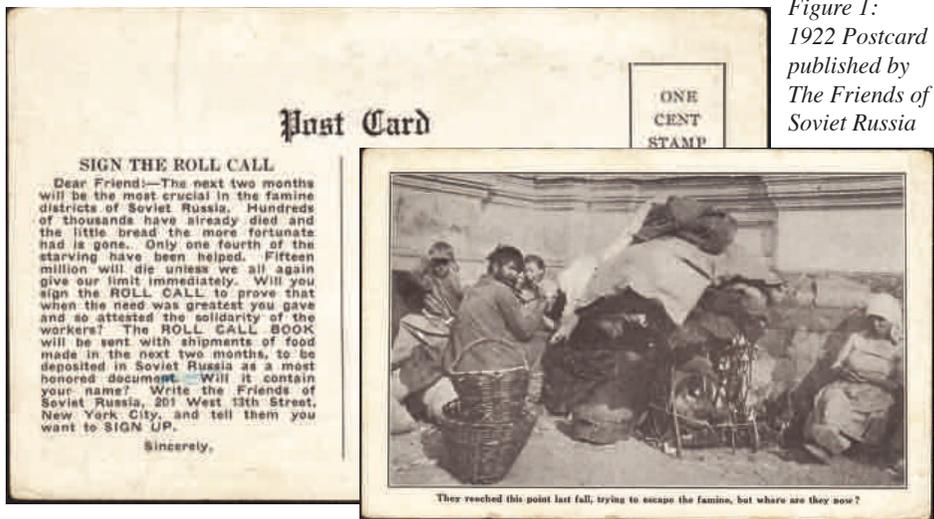


Figure 1:
1922 Postcard
published by
The Friends of
Soviet Russia

The card was almost certainly issued in 1922, probably in the spring or early summer, since the “escape” from the famine “last fall” referred to in the description on the front of the card had to have taken place in 1921. The picture is one of desperation: a family of four on the move with perhaps all their worldly belongings seeking a place where they can find food and shelter. The preprinted message speaks of the next two months as being the time when the need for aid would be most acute, that is, the time before the new crops could be harvested.

The FSR was extremely successful at raising money. It managed to amass close to \$250,000 during the first two months of operation, and an additional \$500,000 as well as \$300,000 worth of clothing during the following year, 1922. There was nothing clandestine about the organization’s fundraising activities; the names of all donors were published in *Soviet Russia*, the organization’s monthly magazine. Ultimately, the organization died a natural death and morphed into the Friends of the Soviet Union, probably in 1927 when the latter was created by the Communist International.

The second communist-front organization of note was the American Committee for Relief for Russian Children. This organization was affiliated with the Russian Red Cross, along with such organizations such as the American Committee for Russian Relief (headquartered in Chicago) and the Canadian Famine Relief Committee (headquartered in Winnipeg).

The Russian Red Cross, like all nominally independent volunteer organizations in Soviet Russia, was really the creature of the Communist Party of the Soviet Union and therefore was most likely operating under the indirect if not direct instructions of the Soviet government. This was certainly the view of Herbert Hoover, then head of the American Relief Administration, which was providing food aid to Soviet Russia. The representatives of the Russian Red Cross in America were Dr. D. H. Dubrowsky, T. G. Ohsohl, and a Dr. Michaelowsky. The Russian Red Cross was not affiliated with the American Red Cross and the latter was willing to avoid a conflict with its Russian namesake as long as it believed that the Russian Red Cross was not directly raising money in the U.S. - that is, as long as the money was being raised by an American organization rather than the Russian Red Cross, the American Red Cross was satisfied.



Figure 2: 1922 charity stamp

The American Committee for Relief for Russian Children put on a campaign to raise money to provide milk for Russian children, issuing the charity stamp shown in Figure 2 as part of this campaign. The appeal began in mid-1922 and the goal was to get 1,000,000 cans of milk into the hands of Russian children. The drive was chaired by stage actress Doris Keane (1881-1945) and was headquartered in Manhattan’s Theater District at 110 West 40th Street, between 6th Avenue and Broadway. In a dramatic plea in May 1922, Keane said, “There is no woman, I am sure, who cannot give at least one can of milk for these little ones who sit in the shadow of death.” Earlier, in February 1922, a who’s who of New York’s cultural elite presented a Russian Street Fair that included a Russian marionette show, a simulated Russian inn with actors serving as waiters,

and booths where Russian arts and crafts were for sale. The committee was chaired by the former wife of the eminent Swedish playwright and novelist, August Strindberg. Among those involved in the event were the actors John Drew, Billie Burke, and the eminent Lynn Fontanne, composer Ernest Bloch, and composer and conductor Walter Dambrosch.

At a moment in history before communist-front organizations were recognized as being servants of a larger Soviet Communist political agenda, Americans were quite generous in supporting a focused cause to provide food assistance to starving children and adults in Soviet Russia.

William Moskoff presents this piece as a coda to his work on the ARA (*PHJ* 150). Dr. Moskoff is Hollender Professor Emeritus of Economics at Lake Forest College and Editor of the *Rossica Journal of Russian Philately*. He holds a Ph. D. in Economics and the Certificate in Russian Area Studies from the University of Wisconsin-Madison. He is the author of many books and articles on the Soviet economy and some twenty articles in Russian philately. A collector on and off since childhood, he has become an avid writer of Soviet postal history since his retirement in 2002. He would like to thank Carol Gayle for helpful comments on an earlier version of this paper.

COVER IMAGE

Our cover image reproduces a cigar box label designed for the inside cover of a wooden display box, printed by George S. Harris & Sons, 718-724 Arch Street, Philadelphia, a large lithography company with branches in New York and Chicago. This design was number 2816 in their catalog, and cost \$17.50 per thousand, or \$1.90 per hundred. The first edition of this label appeared in 1882, when the Harris company moved into their own building (that survives in Philadelphia, remodeled as an office block in 1987). The elder George Harris died in 1890 and his sons moved the business to New York City in 1900, merging with Joseph Knapp.

The image visually describes the protocol of the “Fast Mail” of the United States Railway Mail Service: the train is not stopping at this station, but is passing by, with one RMS clerk caught in the act of tossing out the mail bag (filled with mail that had been sorted on route) towards the Mail Messenger on horse who will carry it to the post office. The other RMS clerk is shown waving to the Mail Messenger, and standing by the metal arm that will hook off the outgoing mail bag that waits on its armature in the middle distance.

Cigar-smoking captains of industry (or those who aspired to be) would have seen in this image the reassurance of un-delayed communication – a promise that the hinterland would be connected but would not slow the pace of progress. [Image thanks to David M. Beach, www.cigarboxlabels.com, and *Antique Cigar Label Art*, 2009. See Jay T. Last, *The Color Explosion: Nineteenth-Century American Lithography*, 2005, and John Grossman, *Labeling America: Popular Culture on Cigar Box Labels*, 2011.]

The Postal History Journal, 2010 volume, was awarded a Gold Medal at Chicagopex in November 2011.

The Grand Award for Philatelic Literature was for the book, *Detained, Interned, Incarcerated US Enemy Noncombatant Mail in World War II* by Louis Fiset, a contributor to our Journal.

The American Commission to Negotiate Peace

by Jesse I. Spector M.D. and Robert L. Markowitz

The Great War was ended on the eleventh day of the eleventh month at the eleventh hour on a gray morning in 1918. The armistice, fragile, contentious, and to last but two decades, took effect. Sixteen million military combatants and civilians had died; another twenty-one million had been injured or maimed; a defeated but intact German army was required to march back to the motherland to the east shore of the Rhine River. To arrive at a determination of cost to be born by the vanquished, and indeed to determine the worldwide geo-political repercussions of the Great War, the victorious nations were to meet in January, 1919, to construct the post war world: the Paris Peace Conference of 1919, better known as the Versailles Conference and the ensuing Versailles Treaty, actually one of five peace treaties hammered out between January and December of 1919. As American representatives to the international conference, the delegation led by President Woodrow Wilson aimed to be the chief architects of an enlightened plan to lead the call for a just "Peace Without Victory" in which, rather than retribution, there would be rehabilitation; rather than dividing up the geographic spoils of the defeated nations and their colonies, there would arise instead a liberating self determination offered to the numerous, previously captivated peoples and ethnicities of the world, as well as mandates of protection rather than suppressed, rule of the defeated, former super powers' colonies. All of this was encompassed within the Fourteen Articles created by the idealistic President Wilson as he led his American Commission to Negotiate Peace to the conference.

The Commission and its staff sailed for Europe on December 4, 1918. Four of its members have captured our philatelic and historic interest.



Figure 1: Letter sent by Sergeant Neil Burkinshaw in France, February 28, 1919 to his father in Meriden, Connecticut.

Neil J. Burkinshaw, a graduate of Georgetown University, was a Washington reporter for the Associated Press. In 1915 he served on the staff of the Henry Ford Peace Mission to Europe, which failed to meet its goal of negotiating a settlement between the warring European powers at a time when the United States was still a neutral nation. During the war he served in France with the Fifty-seventh Engineers. Following cessation of hostilities he was assigned to the American Peace Commission assisting William C. Bullitt, later the Ambassador to the Soviet Union. In the 1920s, he would be the successful prosecuting

government attorney in the Teapot Dome Scandal trial, involving the sale of oil leases on government lands. In the 1930s he was one of the defense attorneys representing Bruno Richard Hauptmann in the Lindbergh kidnapping and murder.



Figures 2 & 3: Letter sent by Captain S. Montgomery in France, January 18, 1919 to his brother, Richard, in Brooklyn. A photograph shows Montgomery in Paris with Commission colleagues.



Stuart Francis Montgomery was a graduate of Harvard Law School, and served in army military intelligence 1917 to 1918. Following the Armistice he was assigned to the Paris Peace Conference as American secretary to the Commission on Polish Affairs and as attaché to Colonel Edward M. House, Wilson’s most trusted advisor throughout his political career. Montgomery was a colleague of Samuel Eliot Morison, the iconic historian who was serving on the Russian Section of the Commission and Figure 3 shows (right) Montgomery, Morison and a third associate on the left, Captain Walter Pettitt of military intelligence. Following discharge from the military in 1919 Montgomery, too, practiced law.

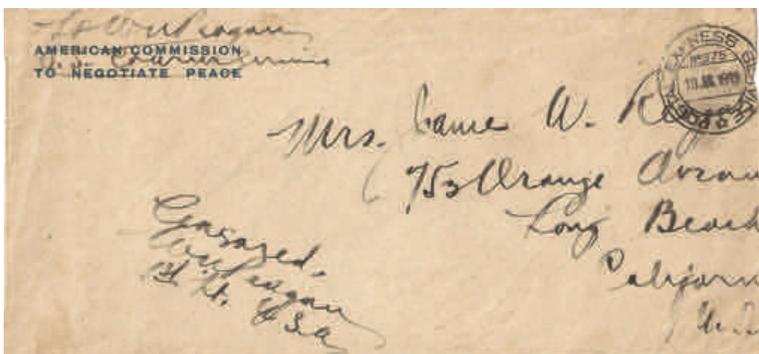


Figure 4: Letter sent by Lieutenant W.N. Reagan in France, July 19, 1919 to his mother in Long Beach, California.

William Nelson Reagan was a graduate of Stanford University and served with the Stanford University 2nd Ambulance Unit. After the Wilson commission, Reagan’s 1919 passport application reveals that he was a Vice Consul for the State Department, en route to France, where the Lieutenant was to serve as an official courier for the United States Government in Europe, Scandinavia and Greece. After this service, he became a stock broker.



Figure 5: Letter sent by Colonel R.H. Van Deusen in France, June 24, 1919 to his mother in Delaware, Ohio.

Colonel Robert Hicks Van Deusen had participated in the 1916 Mexican border conflict where he served as a private in the United States Army. During the war he served with the 12th Field Artillery, 2nd Division of the A.E.F. Based on the cover from his activity with the American Commission to Negotiate Peace, his role was clearly that of military assistance on the General Staff Corp attached to the United States delegation headed by President Wilson. In peacetime, he, too, became a successful trader in securities.

President Wilson's noble venture did not pass muster with the American public, nor more importantly with Congress. The deaths of 117,000 American soldiers and the maiming of 205,000 more young men hardened the hearts of Americans and initiated an almost two decade ascent of isolationism. Added to this were the reports of the bickering and self-serving, intrigue, imperialism and colonialism of the Allied victors in Europe. It was too difficult to envision, let alone acquiesce to a politic that seemed to leave an embittered world largely unchanged. Congress disappointed Wilson by voting down American ratification of the Paris Peace Accord, and crushed him by denying United States entry into the League of Nations.

It has been argued, and to a degree rightly so, that the Paris Peace Conference was a political conference, and to meet its ends required a willingness to compromise. Wilson was wise, farsighted, true to his beliefs of making the world safer, better, friendlier, but he was less of a pragmatist than was required for ends to be met.

Our four young well-educated men, born into the end of the 19th century, were given the opportunity to set their feet on the world stage in both war and peace. They each returned to live successful American lives – the reward of peace, if not of the Peace Commission.

Jesse Spector M.D. is a retired hematologist-oncologist who with his wife Patty operate a 35-acre farm in Berkshire County, Massachusetts. He is an ardent collector and frequent writer of postal history. **Robert Markovits** is a practicing attorney residing in Berkshire County, Massachusetts. He is a world authority on United States special delivery mail. He is winner of the American Philatelic Society Champion of Champions competition as well as being an international gold medalist with numerous exhibits.

Antigua to Maine 1774

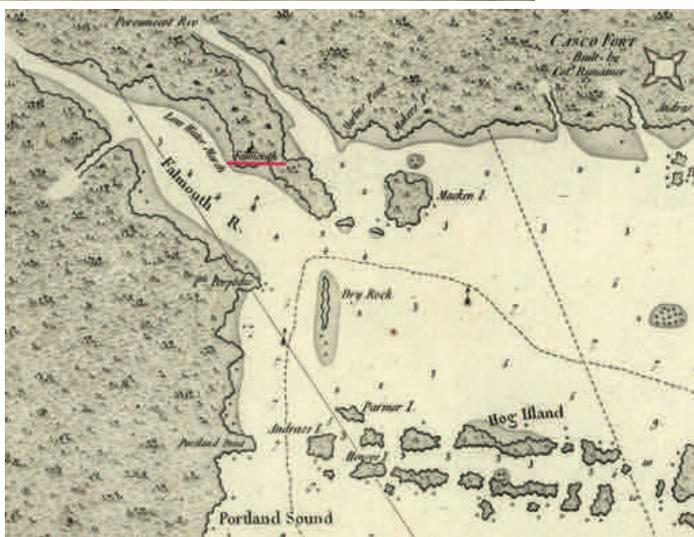
by Nancy B. Clark

A 1774 letter from Captain Joshua Stone in Antigua to Benjamin Titcomb in Falmouth, on Casco Bay in what is now Maine provides a glimpse into the ‘triangle trade’ and its communications at the threshold of the American Revolution.



Figure 1. Letter from the Caribbean island of Antigua by Brig Abigail to Falmouth on Casco Bay [Province of Massachusetts Bay, now Maine] 1774.

Figure 2: 1779 detail of map of Casco Bay by Cyprian Southack showing the settlement of Falmouth. See Figure 7 for relationship to the mouth of the Piscataqua River. (Library of Congress)



There were several Benjamin Titcombs in the area of southern Maine, but only one who was a merchant in Falmouth, the town on Casco Bay which became Portland in 1786. Deacon Benjamin Titcomb was the second son of Captain Joseph Titcomb, and had been an ensign at the siege of Louisburg in 1758. He settled in Falmouth as a blacksmith and located his business on the breastwork by Central Wharf. At this time he lived on the corner of Plumb and Middle Streets.

The cargo delivered at Antigua was, perhaps, munitions, or slaves. His London-bound cargo was sugar.

I have ship'd on board the Brig^t *Abigail* Cap^t John Wheelwright lying in S^t John's Harbour in this Island as sails this afternoon for Piscataqua (by which conveyance I forward this Letter) Ten Hogsheads of Muscovado Sugar marked as B.N.N^o 1a10 on account of the proceeds of the Brig^t *Nancy*'s Cargo, the weight and price of which is noted at foot. I have consigned this Sugar to M^r Joshua Wentworth Merch^t in Piscataqua, to whom I have forwarded Bill of Loading, with directions to let the Sugars lie in his care waiting your orders for disposal, and expedition.

The directive on the face of the cover: "via the Brig^t *Abigail* / Cap^t John Wheelwright / via Piscatqua" is clear. Wheelwright had been elected a member of the Marine Society, an elite group of mariners specializing in the Piscataqua River (the boundary between New Hampshire and Maine). In the five years preceding the American Revolution, Captain Wheelwright made eight consecutive voyages to the West Indies on the Brigantine *Abigail*. Along with the letter, Stone has shipped on board ten hogsheads of sugar for Titcomb that he purchased with the profits from the undisclosed cargo of his Brig *Nancy* that he was able to sell at Antigua. Joshua Wentworth, who was to take care of Titcomb's sugar at Piscataqua until further instructions added his own note to the back of the letter:



Figure 4: Notation on the back of the cover, Joshua Wentworth forwarding the letter December 1, and asking for advice on "what may be done with the shipment per Capt. Wheelwright."

I hinted in my former Letters that I entertain'd some thoughts of a Voyage from London to the Cape Deverdos and thence to Cayenne or this Island; this thought arose from a Supposition of making that dispatch on my present Voyage as would bring me to the coast of America in the most Stormy Season were I to return there directly from London: I now repeat the hint from a desire of receiving your opinion of my plan, hoping that some of your Letters will meet me in London in due time to avail myself of your Judgement. The disorder in my hand prevents your receiving now such particular advices as I would give were I able to write; but if I am capable of holding the Pen before I sail from hence I shall leave a Letter with the Account sales to be forwarded to you. ...

Slaves would have been the only cargo that Stone would find in the Cape de Verde Islands, to take to Cayenne (French Guiana) where there was a struggling colony in need of labor, or to Antigua. He apparently hoped to enlist Titcomb as a confederate, as he had been in the sugar cargo.

I forgot to mention above that I expect our freight to London will be five hundred Guineas in all; I mention it now for your direction should you choose to make insurance on your own proportion of Interest in the Voyage. – The prospect of the next Crop in this Island still continues pleasing, and the Spirits of the Inhabitants would be rais'd if they harbor'd no fears of Suffering in the Quarrel between England and North America.

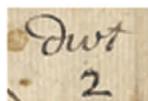


Figure 5: The rating on the 1774 letter arriving at Portsmouth (Piscataqua) by ship and forwarded to Falmouth on Casco Bay.



Figure 6: Undated Portsmouth rating shows the same penmanship and the same approach to the penny-weight rating.

Figure 7: Detail of 1732 map of North America by Herman Moll, with main post road north of Boston indicated, with the offices at Marblehead, Salem, Ipswich, Newbery and Portsmouth (the route is described elsewhere on the map). Mail across the river to “Pescataway” was by private arrangement, and mail to Casco Bay, at top, was via a cross route. (Library of Congress)

Stone expresses hope that the Antiguans would not suffer in the impending “quarrel” - which is ironic since he, and the other men involved in the commercial enterprise revealed in this letter, did suffer in the course of the American Revolution.

Falmouth, itself, was burned in 1775 by the Royal Navy.

The three ship captains saw active duty. In September of 1776, **Joshua Stone** was ready to do battle in the harbor of Falmouth on Casco Bay, as Captain of the *Retrieve*, a ship built in Portsmouth with 10 carriage and 16 swivel guns and a crew of 80 men. In early October, the *Retrieve* captured a Tory sloop, but was in turn captured in October of 1777 by the British Frigate *Glasgow*. Stone, however, led a company of militiamen from Halifax and Pittsylvania, Virginia, under General Nathaniel Greene in the autumn of 1780.¹ **Robert Follett** signed up for active duty in 1775 as Captain of a Company at Kittery Point, and died in August of 1780. In 1775 the *Abigail* was seized by the British with a full load of lumber and taken to Boston. Captain **John Wheelwright** then served as a second lieutenant on the *Raleigh* and later commanded several privateers out of Boston, suffering huge financial losses and dying destitute in 1784.

The two merchants were relatively unscathed by the war. **Joshua Wentworth**, served as both a Commissary and a Navy Agent. After the Falmouth fire, and the rebuilding at Falmouth Neck, **Benjamin Titcomb** relocated to opposite the Customs House and apparently prospered, as his estate was valued at £10,000 when he died in October of 1798.

It is clear from this letter that Benjamin Titcomb and Joshua Stone participated in the sugar from the West Indies to New England trade, and in the sugar from the West Indies to England arm of the ‘triangle.’ But the letter also hints that the men were also at least considering becoming involved in the slave trade. Titcomb had been Deacon of the First Church in Falmouth since 1769 and in 1780 was elected to be a representative to the general court, but such rectitude did not preclude his trafficking in slaves. In 1774 it was seen as quite acceptable by most merchants in Europe and the Americas to deal in slaves. In practice, even after the American Revolution when the gradual emancipation statutes were passed, slavery continued largely unchanged in New England.²

Postal Markings of the Letter

At Piscataqua (or, more properly since 1653, Portsmouth) the letter was rated with a 2 pennyweight fee, for the forwarding from Portsmouth to Falmouth - 6 pence or 2 pennyweight for 60 to 100 miles (see Figures 5 and 6). The merchant Joshua Wentworth was well placed to formally accept the letter and arrange for forwarding: Portsmouth (or Piscataway, under the 1714 Act of Queen Anne) was the northernmost post office of the main line of colonial post (see Figure 7). Falmouth was, in post route terms, some 65 miles north, on what was termed a cross route.

Endnotes

- ¹ Captain Joshua Stone served as a surveyor, a justice of the peace and a sheriff in Pittsylvania County before his death in 1822. Maude Carter Clement, *The History of Pittsylvania County, Virginia*.
- ² Contrary to common belief, many New Englanders had embraced slavery along with their southern compatriots. Both Native American and imported Negro slaves were employed in New England. In 1774, the year of this letter, Narragansett’s slave population formed 10% of the total population according to a chart in Robert K. Fitts’ book, *Inventing New England’s Slave Paradise*. Advertisements in the papers of the time show New England planters selling troublesome slaves and also announce slave sales. After the revolution, the trade in slaves continued with “perhaps as many as forty ships setting sail each year for the African coast from ports such as Salem, Boston, Providence, and Philadelphia” - Alexandria A. Chan, *Slavery in the age of reason: Archaeology at a New England Farm*.

Nancy B. Clark, vice president of the American Philatelic Congress and treasurer of the Philatelic Group of Boston has received both the Kehr and the Luff awards. For more than twenty-eight years she has coordinated and supported education with stamps, and has shared her passions for stamp collecting and postal history through exhibiting, mentoring and lecturing. “The Puzzle of the Piscataqua postmarks” appeared in *The Congress Book 2011* - an important article complementary to this piece.

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Bomber Mail and Newsgathering

by Richard D. Martorelli

Even before the United States was officially engaged in World War II, an alternative routing for trans-Atlantic mail was provided by what the British nicknamed the “Atlantic Bridge” - ferrying bomber and fighter aircraft to the Royal Air Force. In early 1941, the Atlantic Ferrying Organization (ATFERO) of the British Ministry of Aircraft Production took over the operations from Canadian hands. Within a month, a process was established to carry important military and government mail in limited quantities of one to two pounds. In 1941, a total of 98,000 pounds of mail were carried, and the total grew to almost 300,000 in 1943. Official mail was marked “Bomber Mail” or “Via Air Bag” and is not found in quantity.

Archive documents show that Lester Pearson, in the office of the High Commissioner for Canada in London, was briefed on the availability of the service in January 1941, and made use of it for important communications between Ottawa and London. Within two months of the establishment of the U.S. Air Corps Ferrying Command (of the Air Transport Command, ATC) in May 1941, the U.S. Government also recognized the need for swift delivery of communications and instituted a passenger and mail shuttle service. The initial trips were made in bomber aircraft, either aircraft being transported by ATFERO/RAF or the modified B-24 “Liberators” used by the ATC. By 1943, C-54 transports flown by TWA and American Airlines crews were making direct flights from Washington DC and New York to Prestwick, Scotland that approximated daily round trip service.

It was from those initial flights using modified B-24s that the North Atlantic service came to be colloquially referred to as “bomber mail.” The only mail carried on these flights was a very limited amount of high-priority military and diplomatic letters. As the number of flights increased over time, larger quantities of mail were carried. This included what could be called “ordinary business” government mail, such as the two examples from 1943 and 1944 shown in Figures 1 and 2.

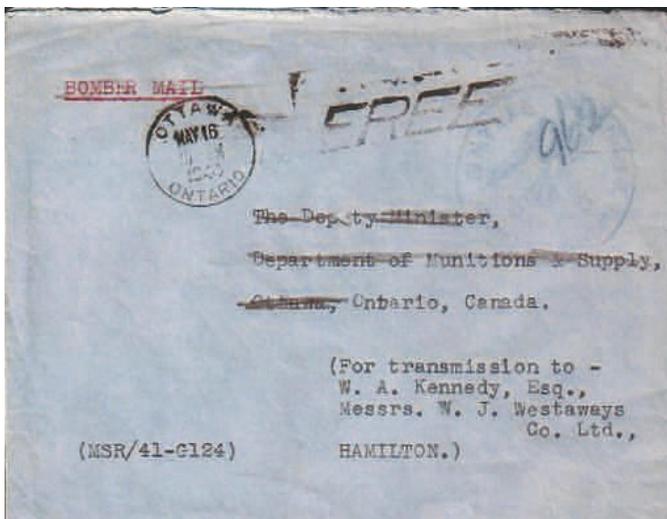


Figure 1: “Bomber Mail” received in Ottawa, Canada, May 16, 1944 by the Deputy Minister of Munitions and Supply and redirected to a textile company in Hamilton, Ontario.



Figure 2: (Possible bomber ferry service) to the Paper Controller at a hotel in Reading, England,, and received at a London hotel on January 6, 1943.

The envelope in Figure 1 was sent from England to Canadian government offices in Ottawa as noted in the upper left by “BOMBER MAIL.” There it was endorsed “FREE” by a government meter machine in May 1944, and entered into the Canadian postal system for delivery to a contractor making uniforms. The envelope in Figure 2 was sent from a British government official in the United States back to the Ministry of Supply in England. One of the chief responsibilities of the Ministry of Supply in WWII was for the acquisition and use of raw materials. Multiple “Controllers” were created for the management of specific metals (iron and steel, copper, lead, zinc, aluminum) and other consumable resources (wool, paper, leather). The Paper Controller, for example, ordered printers to reduce the weight of paper used for books, magazine and scientific journals, the individual page size, type font size and the total print runs. This cover bears no postal markings, what appears to be a government office receiving mark and a manuscript pencil mark circled “63” that may or may not be contemporary to the mailing. When I acquired it, the seller indicated that it had flown on the Atlantic Air Ferry bomber service, but there are no other markings to confirm or deny this. Based on the dating and the origin/destination, this is a reasonable conclusion.

To this point, all mail referred to has been “official”. While it may perhaps have been either news-worthy or news-making, it was not “news gathering”.

Figure 3: Probable bomber mail: a press release from ETOUSA to a Detroit newspaper, July 1943.



Figure 3 is a hybrid of both official mail and news gathering mail. It is an official mail penalty envelope mailed in July 1943 from the European Theater of Operations U.S. Army, (ETOUSA, established June 1942). Its mission was to conduct planning for the eventual retaking of Europe and to exercise administrative and operational control over U.S. forces. Until the creation in February 1944 of the Supreme Headquarters Allied Expeditionary Force (SHAEF), ETOUSA worked closely with the British in the

planning and organizing of Operation Overlord, the invasion of Northern France. Based on similar items seen, this official mail envelope contained a pre-formatted press release about the achievement or promotion of a soldier, and was intended for publication in his hometown newspaper. Looking at the handstamp markings, we see that the Press Censor approved this item on July 23, and the Public Relations Office approved it for “P.R.O. PACKET No. 1809”. The envelope also has a Washington, DC postmark of July 26, 1943 where it entered the mails for final delivery to Detroit, MI. Again, there are no explicit markings stating “Bomber Mail”, but the dating and the Public Relations handstamp strongly suggest it.

Figure 4:
By “Bomber Packet” - a war correspondent’s report from Germany to a New Jersey newspaper, May 1945.



The cover in Figure 4 was sent from Warren Kennett, a reporter for the Newark, NJ *Evening News* (who had been authorized to travel overseas with the 102nd Cavalry Regiment from October 1942. Part of this regiment landed at Normandy and fought in Northern France, Paris, Germany, Belgium and Luxemburg). The distinguishing features of this envelope, sent from Germany, compared to other similar ones are the typed routing indicator “BOMBER PACKET” at the bottom left, the SHAEF press censorship handstamp and the “clock dial” stamp of “PRO AIR DISPATCH” dated May 17, 1945. The envelope also has a cancellation from Washington, DC on May 21, 1945 when it was mailed to Newark after its trans-Atlantic flight. (This was after V-E Day, May 8, 1945.)

News Photo Ferrying

The introduction of the 35 mm Leica camera in the 1930’s made it possible for photographers to move with the action, taking shots of events as they were happening. Newspapers quickly took advantage of this portability to obtain timely images of matters of interest to their readers. A new general-interest magazine relying on modern photojournalism, called *Life*, started publishing in late 1936. It immediately became popular, and was copied by other publications such as *Look*, *See*, *Photo*, etc. In the World War II era, *Life* was probably the most influential photojournalism magazine in the world, and published many of the most dramatic pictures of the war. Newspapers also used the new field of photojournalism to show their readers “up-close” images that allowed them to feel connected to the realities far around the world.

Figure 5 and Figure 6 are envelopes sent, respectively, from London in July 1944 and Paris in August 1945. Their corner cards tell us that they contained photographs that were destined to be in editions of *The New York Times* and accompany accounts of the unfolding story of Europe. Both envelopes carry handstamps and sealing tapes reflecting censorship, and are addressed to New York City. Neither bears postage or any other postal



Figure 5: “By U.S. Bomber Pouch 31” in July 1944: The New York Times in London sending photographs to their Assistant Managing Editor in New York City.

Figure 6: “By Bomber Packet” in August 1945: The New York Times in Paris addressing photographs to New York City, but noting it would be picked up by their Washington bureau.



cancellation. This is explained by the manuscript note on the August 1945 envelope stating “...is to be collected by our Washington Bureau...” making this flight consistent with others above in having a terminal point in Washington, DC.

Each of the envelopes has a “Bomber Mail” directional marking, but they are different. On the 1944 envelope, there are three handstamps. The first is “BY OWI BOMBER POUCH”, with “OWI” written over with a “U.S.”, the second is “BY U.S. BOMBER POUCH 31” in a different typeface, and the third is “VIA U.S. AIR TRANSPORT”. The 1945 envelope bears two strikes of “BY BOMBER PACKET” in addition to the Public Relations Office “clock dial” described above. From the six other covers I have (five from 1944 and one from 1945, all acquired in one lot), the “BY OWI...” handstamp appears to have been used up until the Normandy invasion, and the “BY U.S...” afterwards. The “BY BOMBER PACKET” appears to have started in 1945, but with a small sample size, it is impossible to make either of these an authoritative or definitive statement.

Another observation concerns the package number system. All six items from 1944 have a manuscript number written next to the “BY OWI...” or “BY U.S...” handstamp. The table below gives this data. It seems as if there was one flight number sequence used before D-Day, and one after. Perhaps there was a different numbering sequence for “official” mail as compared to “civilian press” mail. Again, I will repeat that the observations in such a small sample size allows for error, but speculate that the “civilian press” flights started in September 1943, and averaged one per calendar day until the Normandy invasion, and then were halted until the initial outcome of the invasion was known. It seems that the North Atlantic flights carrying mail were increased to more than one a day and resumed carrying the “civilian press” correspondence in early July 1944. There is not enough consistent data visible on the two 1945 envelopes from Paris to draw any conclusions about the number or timing of flights. I have reviewed several histories of the Air Traffic Command during WWII. They have general information about the implementation and general number of flights, but I have not seen any specific information on the use of them by news organizations. When I contacted the Archives of *The New York Times*, they told me that they had no information on the markings or routing of these envelopes.

Censor Date	Flight Number	Elapsed Calendar Days from last Flight	Elapsed Number of Flights from last Flight
<i>Sep, 1943??</i>	1		
Mar 01,1944	172		
Apr 11,1944	208	41	36
Apr 13,1944	210	2	2
May 20,1944	250	44	42
<i>Jul 1944??</i>	1		
Jul 28,1944	31		
Oct 02,1944	139	66	108

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Richard D. Martorelli is primarily interested in Postage Due and WWII era U.S. history, but allows his interests to expand and encompass many facets of postal history. As a collector of 40 years, and a philatelic writer for 10, he pursues his accounting profession as a way to enjoy stamps - loved and supported in his hobby by his wife.

South Pacific Story

by John Scott

A cover's imperfections can shed light on its journey, in this case a Pacific crossing. The cover illustrated was sent from the yacht *Jeta II* moored in Rikitea on August 9, 1937. The envelope is lined with deep blue tissue paper that must have become wet during the voyage and bled through the paper as the address has been rewritten over the stain.



Figure 1: Letter originating on a yacht, that had acquired a "Galapagos Isl. Post Office Bay" souvenir cancel, and a handstamp of the "N.Z. Postal Agency / Pitcairn Island" on July 20, 1937, before entering the post office, August 11 handstamp "Rikitea / Ile Mangareva."

The Island of Mangareva may have escaped the notice of most philatelists which is excusable when you consider that it is only 8 kilometres long and 1.5 kilometres wide. Even with those modest dimensions it still makes up over half the land mass of the Gambier Group of French Polynesian islands and in the Polynesian language the name translates as Floating Mountain. The group of islands was discovered by a British Captain, James Wilson, in 1797 and named after Admiral Gambier who had helped to equip the voyage. 150 years or so later, the Holcomb family arrived there in their yacht *Jeta II* for a three-week stay after a month at sea. The remoteness of the island becomes apparent from the purchasing power of the Holcomb's cigarettes, which were exchanged for a live chicken, lettuce, Chinese cabbage, lobster and parrot fish. Presumably Ted Holcomb also had some medical training as he started a clinic three times a week, the first of his patients being the chief who had been isolated with suspected leprosy (his features were instead being distorted by some suspect medicine, perhaps a specific against venereal disease, supplied by the French government). With just over 800 people living on the island even in 2002, it is no surprise that postal history from this area is scarce and that the cancellation on the cover - Rikitea August 11, 1937 - is rare.

In their letter the Holcombs write of their twenty-day voyage to Pitcairn averaging 141 miles a day with three storms that meant they were hove to for two days. They describe the thrill of landing in a whaling boat for their two-day stay and during that time they evidently had a souvenir postmark of the New Zealand Postal Agency applied to their letter. Pitcairn is even more remote than the Gambier Group and the Holcombs's visit on July 20th 1937 is recorded in Herbert Ford's book, *Pitcairn – Port of Call*. The Galapagos Islands are recorded as their point of departure, hence the Post Office Bay cachet on the envelope.

The post office on Floreana Island was in fact just a barrel nailed to a stake where letters could be deposited for collection by the next passing ship bound for home and a number of cachets were applied by a Mrs. Wittmer who came to live on Floreana in 1932. This particular design with the staked barrel in the centre is the first type to have been used from December 30, 1936 until February 26, 1940. Writing in her book, *Floreana*, Margaret Wittmer records that: "A marvellous yacht had just gone past. Isn't it a pity, though? She's sailed on to Post Office Bay, so my husband has had to go all the way there to check the ship's papers." The next day, Dr. Holcomb from California visited Mrs Wittmer with his wife and two children and once again put his medical skills to work as the Wittmers were the only residents on Floreana.

The Holcombs went on to Tahiti at the end of October 1937 and, who knows, maybe there are other letters out there which would enable the whole voyage to be retold.

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John Scott is President of the Postal History Society, UK (that celebrated its 75th anniversary in 2011). A retired Investment Banker, he is an elected Member of the City of London. He deals in postal historical material and the business which he started with his wife Claire also publishes vintage stationery and greeting cards. john@historystore.ltd.uk.

Women's Seal & Stamp Club, Albany NY

This piece of folk art incorporates hundreds of the following postage stamps: for the green leaves, U.S. 1-cent Benjamin Franklin definitive of 1922-34, U.S. 1-cent George Washington from the Presidential Series of 1938, Great Britain 1/2d King George VI definitive of 1937, and, for the trunk, primarily the U.S. 2-cent Columbian Exposition issue (Landing of Columbus). Recently donated, along with the club's archives (the club founded in 1936, merged with the Fort Orange Stamp Club in 2004), to the Albany Institute of History & Art.



Ticonderoga P.O. Mural

by Linda Osborne and Robin Nowc

The mural-painting projects of the Great Depression fell under different government jurisdictions. Those for post offices were by artists working for the Section of Fine Arts, established in 1934, and administered by the Procurement Division of the Treasury Department. Commissions were chosen from anonymous competition, juried by people associated with a particular post office, including the postmaster. Scenes of local interest and historic events were encouraged. There was often much local involvement before a painting was actually installed – artists were reminded that the community was their patron.¹

In the village of Ticonderoga, New York, a mural “The Exhortation of Ethan Allen” was commissioned from a design entered by Frederick Massa (1909-1969), a native of New York City who had already painted a mural for the Brooklyn Library (since destroyed).²

The heroic scene depicts Ethan Allen and his Green Mountain Boys just before they captured Fort Ticonderoga from the British. The figure at left center is Benedict Arnold, who held a commission from the Massachusetts Committee of Safety to command an expedition against the Fort. The Green Mountain Boys had refused to follow Arnold, but Allen and Arnold worked out a shared command compromise. The moment depicted by the mural is the dawn speech of May 10, 1775 (probably apocryphal, but claimed in Allen’s account of the affair³), exhorting the Boys to attack.



Figure 1: Mural, “The Exhortation of Ethan Allen” by Frederick Massa, from a post card published by postmaster Linda Osborne. The colonial revival post office, built 1936-1937, was listed on the National Register of Historic Places in 1989.

Mr. Massa executed the painting in 1940, and it is one of the eighty murals or sculptures commissioned for post offices in New York State between 1935 and 1943 that survive.⁴ A comparison of the original drawing with the finished product shows that two figures were dropped from either end, and changes were made to items of dress (a more rustic hat replaces a tricorne on a buckskinned figure at left; laces replace buttons on a figure kneeling to the left of Arnold; a bayonet has been edited out as well as a ram rod.



Figure 2: Copy of the original drawing by Frederick Massa for the mural. From the Treasury Department archives, and kept at the Ticonderoga post office in a research file prepared by Robin Nowc.

Ticonderoga, as a community whose main industry of pulp and paper is declining, depends on tourism to the restored Fort Ticonderoga where yearly re-enactments of both French and Indian War and Revolutionary War skirmishes take place. Ethan Allen, although a fairly controversial hothead whose career in New York and an independent Vermont was decidedly checkered, is accepted as a local hero.

Endnotes

- ¹ Patricia Raynor, "Off the Wall: New Deal Post Office Murals" *En Route* Vol. 6 Issue 4, October-December 1997, Smithsonian National Postal Museum.
- ² Biographical information on Frederick Massa copyright 2006 Carol McCormack, the artist's daughter.
- ³ *Ethan Allen's Narrative of the Capture of Ticonderoga: And of His Captivity and Treatment by the British*. C. Goodrich 1779.
- ⁴ See Heather Sweeting "WPA Murals Project" *Stamp Insider*, Vol. 22 No. 1, September/October 2004, for a list of known post office murals in New York State.

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American Postal History in Other Journals

by Douglas N. Clark

A large number of articles on U.S. postal history is being published each month. In order to present a useful survey of recent publications, it is necessary to adopt a rather narrow definition of postal history and to present what is more an index than a literary endeavor. Unlike an index, however, the present listing contains very little cross-referencing; so that a reader interested in trans-Atlantic mail should check each geographical location from which such mail might have originated. Editors not finding their publication reviewed here need only make sure the publication is available to the U.S. Associate Editor, at P.O. Box 427, Marstons Mills MA 02648-0427.

General Topics

Carriers and Locals

1c "U.S. Mail" black on buff carrier stamp used with 5c 1847 issue is an earliest known use, part of a find reported in "Recent find of 5c 1847 covers includes earliest reported use of 'U.S.Mail' carrier stamp" by Alexander T. Haimann. *Chronicle* 63 No. 4 (November 2011).

Colonial Postal History

Earliest evidence of a post office in America is the content of "Use of the franking privilege in New England in 1699-1707: the earliest proof of a durable post" by Tim O'Connor and Mark Schwartz. Ten covers from the archives of historical societies are listed in a table, each having a marking such as "P post free," "ffrank," etc. Five are illustrated. *Chronicle* 63 No. 4 (November 2011).

Destinations

Manila is the destination of two 1861 covers recently rediscovered by author Ken Gilbert in his "Vault diggings at the National Postal Museum." Known covers from the U.S. to Manila in the period 1860-1872 are listed by the author, identifying the correspondence, the stamps and where last sold. Postmarks or origins are not included. *C.C. Phil.* 90, No. 4 (July-August 2011).

Russia is not known as a destination of covers with 1869 issue adhesives. But author Michael Laurence illustrates a cover with 10c 1869 adhesive addressed to Koenigsberg in east Prussia which today is in Russia. Also illustrated in "1869 covers to Russia – almost" are three bank note covers, one bearing a 10c 1869, addressed to Russia, but never mailed. *Chronicle* 63 No. 3 (August 2011).

Inland Waterways

Maysville & Cincinnati River Agent is (probably) the postmark on an 1884 cover illustrated by author Alan Borer. The article is mostly devoted to a discussion of the question "What was a 'river agent'?" *Ohio Post. Hist. J.* No. 130 (Spring 2011).

Military Mail

"Civilian through-the-lines mail accepted and rejected - an overview Part I of two parts" by John L. Kimbrough illustrates a north-to-south (1862), a south-to-north (1864) and an unsuccessful attempt at a south-to-north cover (1863). Reasons for denying forwarding are discussed. *Confed. Phil.* 56, No. 4 (October-December 2011).

Confederate Navy Commander Samuel Barron is warned of a Union attack in which he was ultimately captured in a letter with cover reproduced in "Commodore Samuel

Barron, CS Navy Commander, naval coastal defenses of Virginia and North Carolina” by James L.D. Monroe. The cover is a Portsmouth, VA handstamped Paid 5 of August 1861. *Confed. Phil.* 56, No. 4 (October-December 2011).

World War II forwarded mail is the subject of “Redirected Mail during World War II” by Richard D. Martorelli. Several examples are illustrated together with a discussion of how war conditions can lead to forwarded or returned mail. *La Posta* 42, No. 3 (Autumn 2011).

Ocean Mail

“Additional steamship covers for United States Incoming Steamship Mail, 1847-1875, 2nd Edition” by Theron Wierenga is an addendum to the author’s book. *Chronicle* 63 No. 4 (November 2011).

“United States-Spain mail under British and French Conventions, Parts 1 and 2” by Richard F. Winter begin a three part series. There never was a U.S.-Spain convention and mail carried under conventions with Bremen, Prussia, Hamburg or Belgium are not included. The study begins in 1835 with private ship mail and will end in 1875, when Spain and the USA entered the GPU. *Chronicle* 63 Part 1: No. 3 (August 2011); Part 2: No. 4 (November 2011).

Post Office Forms

“Return registered letter bills, 1856-1859” by James W. Milgram contains illustrations from a find of the forms, which were sent back upon delivery of registered mail. The find is from the New Haven, Vermont post office. *Post. Hist. J.* 150 (October 2011).

Post Office History

Cave Johnson, Postmaster General, 1845-49 is the subject of “In the National Postal Museum” by Thomas Lera. The article reviews Johnson’s accomplishments as PMG, such as implementing the 1845 rate change and nationalizing the idea of postage stamps. *C.C. Phil.* 90, No. 3 (May-June 2011).

Frank C. Walker, Postmaster General, 1940-45, is the subject of “The Postmasters general of the United States 51” by Daniel Y. Meschter. *La Posta* 42, No. 3 (Autumn 2011).

Postal Markings

“Date slugs as cancellers” (no author specified) illustrates covers from Milbury, Mass., Wampsville, N.Y. and Bartonsville, Pa, with date slugs cancelling the stamps. There is speculation about how and why this came about. *U.S.C.C. News* 30, No. 6 (May 2011).

Fancy killers representing the construction in Euclid’s proof the Pythagorean Theorem are illustrated and discussed in “A lesson in geometry” by Roger D. Curran. *U.S.C.C. News* 30, No. 6 (May 2011).

“Machine cancel on 1857 issue stamp?” by Roger D. Curran illustrates a 1c Scott #24 adhesive and compares the parallel lines marking on it to the American Machine cancel designated D5(). *U.S.C.C. News* 30, No. 7 (August 2011).

“Precursors to the Doane Cancellations” (author unspecified) contains illustrations of postmarks with horizontal lines to the right of, and close to, a CDS, used 1880-95. *U.S.C.C. News* 30, No. 8 (November 2011).

“Quarterly payment markings” from New York and Philadelphia are explained and illustrated in their intended use (on stampless circular mail) and also shown used to cancel stamps (1870s-’80s issues). Author is not specified. *U.S.C.C. News* 30, No. 8 (November 2011).

Third Assistant Postmaster General’s handstamp killing a stamp on a letter from Warren Mills to Milwaukee, Wis. is explained in “Accountability at the Post Office Department: a reported infraction” by Cary E. Johnson. *Chronicle* 63 No. 4 (November 2011).

“Three stampless discoveries: new 1845 ‘R’ cover, triple-rated short-rate express mail, new type of Leominster fancy marking” by James W. Milgram illustrates and discusses these discoveries. The first mentioned is a manuscript Paid/R from Newburgh to Albany, N.Y. Chronicle 63 No. 3 (August 2011).

Two killers applied to the same stamp on the same cover, occurring in six examples (1866-87), is the subject of “One stamp, two cancels” by Roger D. Curran. Sometimes it is simply because a duplex canceller missed the stamp or the receiving office applied another strike, but sometimes the reason is not so clear. U.S.C.C. News 30, No. 6 (May 2011).

“Undeliverable mail: ‘advertised’ markings used during the 1851-57 stamp period” by James W. Milgram contains a listing by town, with scans of most of the handstamped types. Seventeen of the more unusual uses are shown on complete covers. Chronicle 63 No. 3 (August 2011).

Railway Mail

“Freight train runs over love letter; RMS apologizes” by Edward Close contains an illustration and explanation of the rescued love letter, the letter of apology from the Railway Mail Service and the “ambulance” cover in which the two letters were forwarded to addressee. Trans. Post. Coll. 62, No. 6 (September-October 2011).

Routes

Oversized registered cover sent from New York via Panama Canal and sea plane to Vancouver, B.C. and thence via Yokohama to Vladivostok, Russia, is illustrated. Authors Jesse I. Spector and Robert L. Markovits note the identity of the addressee in “Addressee an ‘American Dreyfus.’” Post. Hist. J. 150 (October 2011).

Stamps on Cover

Confederate States 2c green lithographed adhesive of 1862 is the subject of “A census of Confederate covers bearing the 2c green stamp” by Daniel C. Warren. Listing is by state with usage explained and most covers illustrated. Congress Book 77 (2011).

Official stamps of the Executive Department are the subject of “Executive stamp uses outside Washington, D.C.” by Lester C. Lamphear III. A census of Long Branch, N.J. covers used by the Grant administration, and two with New York City killers are recorded. Chronicle 63 No. 4 (November 2011).

Uses

Airmail stamps applied to, or airmail envelopes used for, surface mail are the subjects of “U.S. Notes” by John M. Hotchner. Linn’s 84, No. 4327 (October 3, 2011).

Disaster covers from the 1906 San Francisco earthquake and Hurricane Andrew in 1992 are illustrated and discussed in “U.S. Notes” by John M. Hotchner. Linn’s 84, No. 4318 (August 1, 2011).

Fourth class “undeliverable as addressed” cover of 1964 is illustrated in “Modern U.S. Mail” by Tony Wawrukiewicz. According to the author, it is the only reported such use. Linn’s 84, No. 4333 (November 14, 2011).

Registered letter found in ordinary mail without the registry fee paid was forwarded with postage due, in 1924, as a cover illustrated in “Modern U.S. Mail” by Tony Wawrukiewicz shows. Linn’s 84, No. 4324 (September 12, 2011).

Registered letter with registry fee (15c) unpaid had that fee collected from addressee for a 1934 letter illustrated by author Tony Wawrukiewicz in “Modern U.S. Mail.” Prior to March 17, 1908, the writer would have had to forward payment. Linn’s 84, No. 4319 (August 8, 2011).

Geographical Locations

Arkansas

“Arkansas in the Confederate postal system: a cover census part IV” continues author Bruce Roberts’ listing of covers to and from the state during the Confederate period, 1861-65, this installment dealing with uses of the 5c 1862 local print, the 10c engraved, types I and II, the 20c engraved, patriotic covers, trans-Mississippi covers and postmaster provisionals. *Confed. Phil.* 56, No. 4 (October-December 2011).
“Little Rock fancy shield town mark, 1830-1832” by Bruce Roberts contains background on the creation of this marking and a census of its 27 known uses. *Chronicle* 63 No. 3 (August 2011).

California

Nipomo to Livingston registered pouch is illustrated and discussed by author Rod Crossley (edited by Margaret Rice) and its route is traced, including identification of each railway post office that handled the cover and two pictures of the Nipomo depot. *La Posta* 42, No. 3 (Autumn 2011).
Sherwood fancy S killer, used 1884, with manuscript town mark, is illustrated by author Roger D. Curran, who identifies other alphabetical killers of similar style, which may have come from “A ‘set’ of cancels traveling under the radar.” *U.S.C.C. News* 30, No. 7 (August 2011).

Colorado

Fort Wise (1860) and Fort Lyon (1863), Colorado Territory, covers illustrate the article “Bent’s Fort: a welcoming place” by Bill German. The fort was built on property where William Bent’s trading post had been. *Colo. Post Hist.* 26, No. 1 (November 2011).
Georgetown (1882) and Bald Mountain (1895) postmarks are on local letters representing “A pair of Colorado letter drops,” by Steve Morehead. There is a discussion of drop letters. *Colo. Post Hist.* 26, No. 1 (November 2011).

Connecticut

“The New Haven postmasters provisionals - a census” by Philip T. Wall contains illustrations of 11 stamps and covers (1845-46), with notes on previous sales. *C.C. Phil.* 90, No. 6 (November-December 2011).
Waterbury rosette killer, listed as Rohloff type P-25 (1877-82) is almost identical to a killer used by the Win. & Bridge’pt. route agent (1878). William T. Crowe, “When is a Waterbury Ct fancy cancel not a Waterbury cancel?” *U.S.C.C. News* 30, No. 6 (May 2011).
Wilton fancy shield killer is illustrated by author Joe H. Crosby, who marvels that it has never been reported before. “After 122 years a new fancy cancel is revealed: a solid shield with ‘US’ and ‘RF’ from Wilton, Connecticut,” In a separate article, “How to figure out a 19th century U.S. fancy cancel,” in the same *News*, author Crosby outlines his method for analyzing the Wilton killer. *U.S.C.C. News* 30, No. 7 (August 2011).

District of Columbia

Washington, D.C. mourning cover of 1881, sent by James G. Blaine is illustrated. “The plumed knight and the Swedenborg preacher” by Jesse L. Spector and Robert L. Markovits deals mostly with the contents which concerned the death of President Garfield. *La Posta* 42, No. 3 (Autumn 2011).

Florida

“David Yulee free franks” by Deane R. Briggs traces Yulee’s political career as territorial congressman (before he changed his name from Levy), Senator and prisoner at Fort

Pulaski (just after the War). Yulee was principally responsible for the development of the Florida Railroad. Fla. Post. Hist. J. 18, No. 3 (September 2011).

“U.S. Sc. Porpoise 1823 letter” by William H. Johnson shows the (non postal) cover and discusses the letter, which concerns the location of the vessel, which was involved in a coastal survey of Florida. Fla. Post. Hist. J. 18, No. 3 (September 2011).

“Jacksonville territorial covers” by Deane R. Briggs traces the early history of the town and illustrates four covers, dated July and December 1827, 1836 and 1841. Fla. Post. Hist. J. 18, No. 3 (September 2011).

“Tampa Scott #505 five-cent rose error usage” by Daniel B. Curtis illustrates a cover with the error adhesive, postmarked with a 1922 Ybor City Station Tampa flag cancel. Fla. Post. Hist. J. 18, No. 3 (September 2011).

Georgia

Georgia politician Robert Toombs’ life is recounted and two of his congressional free franked covers from the 1840s-50s are illustrated. Edwin L. Jackson, “Robert Toombs: Georgia’s unreconstructed rebel,” Ga. Post Roads 19 No. 1 (Summer 2011).

Anderson prison article “The two postmarks used at Anderson prison” by James W. Milgram, previously appearing in Confed. Phil. 56, No. 3 (July-September 2011) is reprinted. Chronicle 63 No. 3 (August 2011).

Blakeley and Hillsborough (Baldwin County) Confederate covers are illustrated to help tell the story of “B is for Baldwin... and many other significant Georgia essentials” by Nancy B. Clark. Ga. Post Roads 19 No. 2 (Fall 2011).

Crawford Confederate cover (turned, with the other use from Lake City, Florida) illustrates “Sergeant Witcher and the Yankee Sword,” a story of Witcher’s capture of a Union officer’s sword and the post-war return of the weapon. Author is Douglas N. Clark. Ga. Post Roads 19 No. 2 (Fall 2011).

Crawford’s (=Lexington Depot’s) Southern Express agent is identified by an Augusta Southern Express Co. cover. A turned cover sent by the agent is illustrated. Douglas N. Clark, “Southern Express Agent Lexington (Depot),” Ga. Post Roads 19 No. 1 (Summer 2011).

Washington, GA cover with (two) 5c 1847 adhesives, addressed to a post office box in Buffalo, NY constitutes “A most unusual address” according to author, the late Harvey Mirsky, being the only 1847-issue cover addressed to a PO box seen by the author. Ga. Post Roads 19 No. 1 (Summer 2011).

Hawaii

Hawaii letters were carried on an 1846 trip to Honolulu and back by Henry Lindsey, editor of the New Bedford Daily Mirror. Lindsey’s return trip was via Salvador and Honduras. This “News from the Pacific: mail via Honduras in 1846” is reported by Richard C. Frajola and Dale Forster, with two covers (one outgoing and one on the return) illustrated. Chronicle 63 No. 3 (August 2011).

Illinois

Cate is located on a map and the application for a post office (1886) is reproduced. The post office stayed open only 11 months and no covers are known to author Jack Hilbing. “Postal History of Cate (Adams County) post office,” Ill. Post. Hist. 32, No. 3 (August 2011).

“Chicago general delivery at the turn of the 20th century” by Leonard Piszkiwicz is a treatise on how undeliverable mail was handled. Based on a 1900 Chicago Post Office Guide, a table on disposition of different types of mail is constructed and a variety of examples of covers is illustrated. Ill. Post. Hist. 32, No. 3 (August 2011).

Chicago Wesson time on bottom postmark with a newly reported killer (1882) is reported in “New Wesson ‘T.O.B.’ reports - Chicago, Ill, and Washington, D.C.” (author not specified). *U.S.C.C. News* 30, No. 8 (November 2011).

Quincy (1861) and Adams County (1893) postmaster appointments are the subjects of “Who will be the next postmaster?” by Jack Hilbing. The process of selection and biographical sketches of the postmaster candidates are given. *Ill. Post. Hist.* 32, No. 4 (November 2011).

“Streator, Illinois ‘V’ cancels” by Roger D. Curran gives a review of seven V and OV killers known used from Streator, ca1880s. *U.S.C.C. News* 30, No. 7 (August 2011).

Windsor Park postal history is the subject of “Hotel Endeavor, Windsor Park and the World’s Columbian Exposition” by Leonard Piskiewicz. The post office existed mostly to accommodate hotels for the exposition and was open only three years, 1891-94. *Ill. Post. Hist.* 32, No. 3 (August 2011).

Iowa

“Tom Corwin, Allamakee County, Iowa” by Leo V. Ryan contains an illustration of a cover with the post office’s manuscript postmark (1849) and a history of the town (Johnsonspont) served by the office and many of the personalities involved, including several local postmasters and Tom Corwin himself. *Ia. Post. Hist. Soc. Bull.* No. 258 (July, Aug., Sept., 2011).

Maine

Piscataqua postmarks of the eighteenth century, reading “Pescada,” “Pesct,” “Pisa,” “Pis” and other variations are illustrated and studied in a historical and geographical attempt to identify their origin. Evidently it was on the Atlantic coast, near where New Hampshire meets Maine. Nancy B. Clark, “The puzzle of the Piscataqua postmarks,” *Congress Book* 77 (2011).

Massachusetts

Boston negative letter and numeral killers are the subjects of two articles by Roger D. Curran. “Forwarded ‘Boston negative’ covers” illustrates uses of the killers with forwarding markings. “Boston negatives on demonetized stamps” shows them cancelling 1c adhesives of the 1851 and 1857 issues (used in 1881 and 1879, respectively). *U.S.C.C. News* 30, No. 7 (August 2011).

Montague 14mm CDS is shown on 1857-issue cover with 13-bar square grid killer. Author Roger D. Curran speculates about the relation with the “only known example” referred to in Alexander’s Tracy Simpson book and to square grids of other towns. “Unusual 1850s postmark and cancel,” *U.S.C.C. News* 30, No. 7 (August 2011).

Salem handstamped PAID markings with pointing hand are the subject of “The Salem ‘pointing hand PAID’ handstamps: America’s first pictorial postal markings” by Mark Schwartz. Four varieties of the marking are identified, 1796-1811. *Congress Book* 77 (2011).

Michigan

Ten domestic-use covers addressed to a firm in Pontiac, Michigan are analyzed in detail in “Recent 1847 find highlights important figure in Michigan history.” Four bear 1847 adhesives, one from Detroit and one from Cincinnati; the rest are rather unremarkable. In introductory remarks, author Alexander T. Haimann compares his discovery to the Ludlow Beebe find! *Chronicle* 63 No. 3 (August 2011).

Birch is located on a map and a photo, postmark of 1911 and railroad schedule showing the town as a stop on the Lake Independence Branch of the Munsing, Marquette, Birch and Big Bay railroad are illustrated. “Snapshot in time: the Birch, Michigan

post office” by Paul Petosky, *La Posta* 42, No. 3 (Autumn 2011).

Grand Rapids “Postage due 1c” marking is seen on a cover illustrated by author Lawrence R. Mead, as an example of “Bisected stamp/postage due.” *Peninsular Phil.* 53, No. 2 (Fall 2011).

Saginaw handstamp “Please return this envelope to Post office.” on a 1911 cover from Knysna, Cape of Good Hope is illustrated and its purpose is pondered by author Cary Johnson. “A proverbial kid in the candy store,” *Peninsular Phil.* 53, No. 2 (Fall 2011).

Minnesota

“Highway Post Offices” of Southern Minnesota occupy two by William Keller. Part 1 deals with the Worthington & Sioux Falls HPO (1954-60), while Part 2 concerns the Austin & Worthington HPO (1955-59). *Trans. Post. Coll.* Part 1: 62, No. 6 (September-October 2011); Part 2: 63, No. 1 (November-December 2011).

New Hampshire

Orford, N.H. killer (ca. 1881) is illustrated in “Edward Willard on Orford, NH cancels” by Roger D. Curran. The philatelist Willard’s grandfather Isaac Willard was Orford postmaster in the 1870s and carved a similar killer. *U.S.C.C. News* 30, No. 7 (August 2011).

New Jersey

“New Jersey manuscript town markings: update” by Steven M. Roth includes data on number of markings reported and illustrates Bergen and Smith’s Landing covers (1866 and 1850s) with manuscript town markings. *NJPH* 39, No. 3 (August 2011).

Morris County postal history exhibit “The Development of mail in Morris County, 1760-1850 Part IV” by Donald A. Chavetz is reproduced. This issue contains Chatham, Chester, Schooley’s Mountain, Stockholm, Pompton, Berkshire Valley, Parsippany, Dover and Rockaway Valley. *NJPH* 39, No. 3 (August 2011).

“Elizabethtown stampless postmark altered to read ‘Elizabeth’” by Robert G. Rose gives background and an illustration of the newly discovered postmark, created for the name change, May 23, 1855. *NJPH* 39, No. 3 (August 2011).

Jersey City is the origin of one cover and the destination of the other of “Two Jersey City stampless transatlantic letters.” Both date before the U.S.-British convention of 1848; the one originating in New Jersey (in 1839) treated as a private ship letter in Liverpool, on its way to Scotland. The other, originating in Leith, Scotland, traveled out of the mails, but author Robert Buckler is able to identify the route and the ships involved. *NJPH* 39, No. 3 (August 2011).

“Liberty Corner and its postmasters” by Doug D’Avino follows the succession of postmasters, with illustrations of the post office buildings and one postmark illustration (1910). The post office has operated from 1817 to the present. *NJPH* 39, No. 3 (August 2011).

New Brunswick is the subject of authors Ed and Jean Siskin’s “Census of early New Jersey covers - part 2.” Covers with “Br” (1752), “NBrunswick” (1764), “Brun” (1765-7), “Brun” (1767-70) and a letter datelined New Brunswick (1791) are illustrated. *NJPH* 39, No. 3 (August 2011).

Wharton (originally named Port Oram) is presented, with postcard views and a 1910 cover. “Hometown post offices: Wharton (Port Oram), NJ” by Doug D’Avino. *NJPH* 39, No. 3 (August 2011).

New York

Alleghany County discontinued post offices, at least the ones considered by author Bill Howden to be “Very dead post offices of Alleghany County” are listed, with a paragraph about each location, first postmaster and dates of operation. Excelsior!

No. 17 (September 2011).

Dutchess County figures in the address or origin of seven non-postal letters illustrated in “The Samuel Augustus Barker letters, 1789-1797” by George H. Lukacs. Historical background is presented. *Excelsior!* No. 17 (September 2011).

Hudson used several straight line handstamps in the 1790s. Four (at least three of which are different) are illustrated in “Thanks, Cal!” (all are ex-Calvet Hahn) by George DeKornfeld. *Excelsior!* No. 17 (September 2011).

“Military/Acuny, NY” by Glenn Estus contains an explanation of the town of Military, N.Y., the military branch at Fort Plattsburg, with name changed to Acuny, the Associated Colleges of Upper New York, the post office branch at Champlain College, administering veteran education for the first two years of college. *Excelsior!* No. 17 (September 2011).

New York and Buffalo “Collection and Distribution Wagons” (1896-1900) are presented by author David Przepiora, along with those from Washington, D.C. Information and an illustration of a wagon are taken from the James R. Bruns monograph published by the Mobile Post Office Society. Four covers are illustrated. *Excelsior!* No. 17 (September 2011).

New York City returned letters of the Bank Note period are often seen with a B.L. or C.L. circular handstamp. In “More on NYPO ‘B.L.’ and ‘C.L.’ markings,” author Roger D. Curran proposes that these stand for ‘Box letter’ and ‘Call letter,’ depending on instructions left by the addressee. *U.S.C.C. News* 30, No. 6 (May 2011).

“New York City’s 1875 ‘rickrack’ cancel a product of the W. Livingstone ‘stamp canceling machine’?” by John Donnes examines this odd looking duplex and concludes that it is a “patent cancel” that produces small holes defacing the stamp. The marking is known used April-June 1875. *U.S.C.C. News* 30, No. 8 (November 2011).

“New York foreign mail cancels GE-EP4 and GE-EP4-some observations” by Alex Gundel deals with different sizes and other features of killers that are catalogued as the same. Two 1875 postal cards are illustrated. *U.S.C.C. News* 30, No. 7 (August 2011).

New York foreign mail killers (two different) and a supplementary mail marking make an 1876 postal card the subject of “Two NYFM cancels on a second cover” (author unspecified). *U.S.C.C. News* 30, No. 6 (May 2011).

“New York foreign mail update,” Parts 1, 2 and 3 by Dan Richards each show an illustration of an “unlisted NYFM killer.” In Part 1, it is round, cut in with an X and horizontal lines (1870); in Part 2, it is a sort of cog wheel with eight arms (1874); and in Part 3, the killer consists of three wedges in a circular pattern (1872). *U.S.C.C. News* 30, Part 1: No. 6 (May 2011), Part 2: No. 7 (August 2011), Part 3: No. 8 (November 2011).

Philadelphia, N.Y. postmarked 1860s cover is addressed to Lieut. Col. William M. Coburn, who is the subject of this article. Author Jesse I. Spector titles the article “When egos make us blind,” an apparent reference to his unwillingness at first to accept that New York had a post office called Philadelphia. *Excelsior!* No. 17 (September 2011).

North Carolina

“North Carolina’s Registered Letters” by Tony L. Crumbley is an overview of the registry system, illustrated with uses from North Carolina. Beginning with an 1846 Charleston cover with a Philadelphia “R” the study goes up to 1912. *N.C. Post. Hist.* 30, No. 4 (Fall 2011).

Meat Camp post office is located and its history discussed by author Scott Troutman. Four covers are illustrated, 1901-1929, as the author tells us “A little about Meat Camp, North Carolina.” *N.C. Post. Hist.* 30, No. 4 (Fall 2011).

Overhills' history and post office history are presented by author Charles F. Hall, Jr., with four covers illustrated, 1936-76. The property containing the post office was purchased by the U.S. government in 1996 to enlarge the Fort Bragg reservation, hence the title "Overhills, another Fort Bragg post office." N.C. Post. Hist. 30, No. 4 (Fall 2011).

Wilmington letter to a naval officer on a vessel serving with the Mediterranean Squadron at Port Mahon, was forwarded to addressee by the Naval Lyceum in Brooklyn, NY, as told by author Richard F. Winter in "U.S. Naval Lyceum and Midshipman Archibald MacRae." N.C. Post. Hist. 30, No. 4 (Fall 2011).

Yanceyville postmark with the misspelling "Yancyville," on an 1857 issue cover is illustrated in "New Markings" (author not specified). N.C. Post. Hist. 30, No. 4 (Fall 2011).

Ohio

Cincinnati killer from a circular cork cut into eight segments (ca. 1851) is illustrated as an example of "Early whittled cancels." Author is not specified. U.S.C.C. News 30, No. 8 (November 2011).

Cincinnati stampless cover of 1845 requesting payment for a beaver hat prompts author Alan Borer to launch into a treatise on the beaver in Ohio. "The beaver and the beaver hat," Ohio Post. Hist. J. No. 130 (Spring 2011).

Cleveland ADVERTISED handstamp of May 1, 1834 is illustrated and is earlier than the earliest such handstamped marking listed in a 2010 Chronicle article by Milgram. So author Tom Ringenbach reports that "Ohio lays claim to earliest reported marking." Ohio Post. Hist. J. No. 130 (Spring 2011).

Miamiville 1860s manuscript postmark is accompanied by a handstamped killer reading SCHOOLEY. Author Roger D. Curran speculates "Postmaster name in Ohio cancel?" but admits that he "didn't have access to the postmaster data needed to check this point." U.S.C.C. News 30, No. 7 (August 2011).

Pennsylvania

"Pennsylvania wheels" (wheel of fortune fancy killers) are surveyed in an article by Roger D. Curran. 35 towns (1883-94) are recorded, mostly from the Arthur Beane collection. Pa. Post Hist. 39, No. 3 (August 2011).

Elk, Erie and Fayette Counties are the subject of "2nd Update on Pennsylvania Manuscript Markings, Part X" by Tom Mazza. Dates recorded and corresponding postmaster names, with dates, are given, 1799-1862. Pa. Post Hist. 39, No. 3 (August 2011).

Chester Valley post office (located at Howellville) is chronicled with a list of its postmasters (1857-1906) and illustrations of two covers (1858 and ca1870). William Schultz, "The Chester Valley P.O. story: early 18c registered cover and unlisted manuscript marking," Pa. Post Hist. 39, No. 3 (August 2011).

Easton used a large OK to cancel stamps on an 1875 cover to Yokohama and a straightline FLEMING O.K. to cancel the stamps on an 1878 cover to New Zealand. Author Matthew W. Kewriga makes some conjectures about the use of these "Easton, Pennsylvania 'OK' cancellations." U.S.C.C. News 30, No. 7 (August 2011).

Harrisburg used a 1 in circle cancel, 1861-63, which indicates a carrier fee paid and is sometimes applied as a precancel, as author Greg Sutherland shows as this "Study of Harrisburg carrier cancel leads to new insights." Chronicle 63 No. 4 (November 2011).

Haverford College and General Wayne duplex markings whose killers are "11-bar ellipses with '24'" in the center are illustrated and possible reasons for the 24 are discussed (author unspecified). U.S.C.C. News 30, No. 6 (May 2011).

Lazaretto Sta. is identified (the Lazaretto was a hospital south of Philadelphia) and an 1865 cover is illustrated. "The Philadelphia Lazaretto: Lazaretto Sta., Delaware County" by Edwin J. Andrews, Pa. Post Hist. 39, No. 3 (August 2011).

New Hope oval datestamp containing 1836 year date is the subject of "The 'unlisted' year-dated New Hope/Penna. Oval" by Norman Shachat. Pa. Post Hist. 39, No. 4 (November 2011).

Norristown and Harrisburg were the two post offices that forwarded 1860s letters illustrated and analyzed by Edwin Andrews in "Forwarded from Pennsylvania." Pa. Post Hist. 39, No. 3 (August 2011).

Philadelphia letters are illustrated (two examples from 1844), together with a discussion of their contents mostly concerning penmanship and the art of letter writing. Tom Clarke, "The election that changed history: Whigs vs Democrats," La Posta 42, No. 3 (Autumn 2011).

Tennessee

"Hand-crafted Tennessee townmarks" by Jerry Palazolo and James W. Milgram is an attempt to illustrate all non-manufactured Tennessee town marks found on stampless covers. Chronicle 63 No. 4 (November 2011).

"Tennessee in Transit and Mobile Postal Markings" is the tenth installment of a listing of markings involved in transit (steamboat, train, airmail field, etc.) compiled from many sources, by author L. Steve Edmondson. Tenn. Posts 15, No. 2 (August 2011).

"Fort Oglethorpe" by Jim Cate gives the history of this military location, first Camp Thomas, during the Spanish-American war, then Fort Oglethorpe, consisting of Camp Greenleaf, Camp Forrest and Camp McLean, during World War I. Military uses of the camp and the various postmarks used, are discussed. Tenn. Posts 15, No. 2 (August 2011).

Texas

"Texas in 1861: Correcting the dates for secession-era mail" by Ken Lawrence contains the author's assertion that Texas seceded from the Union on March 2, 1861, not February 1, as many writers and collectors believe. The date is important because of the "independent state" period in Texas postal history. Linn's 84, No. 4333 (November 14, 2011).

"The Dallas Herald," history and information about its owners, is the subject of an article by Tom Koch, illustrated by items, some postal, relating to the paper, 1856-69. Tex. Post. Hist. Soc. J. 36, No. 4 (November 2011).

"Transatlantic mail from Texas DPOs" by Tom Koch illustrates ten covers demonstrating UPU rates, 1882-1905. Destinations are France, Prussia and the rest Germany. Tex. Post. Hist. Soc. J. 36, No. 3 (August 2011).

Utah

Marysville branch of the Denver and Rio Grande Western Railroad is covered in an article by Dennis H. Pack. There is a map, pictures and a paragraph on each RPO running on the line, with sample covers or postmark tracings. "RPOs of the Marysville branch of the D&RGW Railroad in Utah Part I," La Posta 42, No. 3 (Autumn 2011).

Vermont

"Vermont 19th century Maltese crosses" by Bill Lizotte contains a discussion of Maltese crosses as symbols and as postal killers and gives a census of 25 such markings from Vermont post offices, 1850s-90. Vermont Phil. 56, No. 3 (August 2011).

"Basin Harbor Doanes - a slight problem" is caused by temporary closing dates (in 1905) and other facts explained by author Bill Lizotte. Vermont Phil. 56, No. 3 (August 2011).

Chester killer with VT inside a C is one of the "Letter cancels" illustrated in this article by Roger Curran. U of Uxbridge, Mass., CG in star (Casa Grande, Arizona) and O

for Centerville, Oregon, are others. All are on Bank Note era covers. U.S.C.C. News 30, No. 7 (August 2011).

“Milton octagon cancels” by Merle Farrington and Bill Lizotte contains illustrations of three varieties of the marking (1883-88). Vermont Phil. 56, No. 3 (August 2011). South Hardwick stampless cover “Earlier than previously recorded: South Hardwick 1842” is illustrated by author Bill Lizotte. Vermont Phil. 56, No. 3 (August 2011).

Virginia

“Emory, Virginia Postmasters and Provisionals” by Rick L. Calhoun contains illustrations and a discussion of the Emory Confederate adhesive and postal stationery postmaster provisionals along with information about the first two postmasters. Confed. Phil. 56, No. 4 (October-December 2011).

West Virginia

Charlestown prison is the address of two 1859 covers illustrated in an article by Diane DeBlois. Both covers are “Addressed to John Brown in prison 1859.” Post. Hist. J. 150 (October 2011).

Wisconsin

“The 2008 Wisconsin Post Offices and Postal Facilities List: Part I” by Paul T. Schroeder reproduces an official post office list, including facility types. The list is alphabetical by facility name, from Abbotsford through Lac du Flambeau. Badger Post. Hist. 51, No. 1 (August 2011).

“Calumet County Postal History: Part II” continues author Vern Witt’s narrative of post office establishment in the county, up to 1855. Five covers are illustrated, 1856-1938. Badger Post. Hist. 51, No. 1 (August 2011).

“Goodyear to Norway Ridge - Mail by Rail?” by Bill Robinson contains an illustration of a 1894 cover with postmark reading “Chi. Mil. & St. P. Ry/Goodyear Branch/Sold on Train.” The railroad route is explained, but the circumstances of the marking are left open. Badger Post. Hist. 51, No. 1 (August 2011).

“Pleasant Valley Gem” by Bob Baldrige contains an illustration of a 1838 cover with this Wisconsin Territory postmark. The author asserts that it is the only stampless cover from the town. Five months after the letter, Pleasant Valley became part of Iowa Territory. Badger Post. Hist. 51, No. 1 (August 2011).

Journal Abbreviations

Badger Post. Hist. = Badger Postal History, Ken Grant, E11960 Kessler Rd. Baraboo WI 53913 and William B. Robinson, 1641 Bruce Ln., Green Bay WI 54313-5503.

C.C. Phil. = Collectors Club Philatelist, Robert P. Odenweller, RDP, Box 401, Bernardsville NJ 07924.

Chronicle = Chronicle of the U.S. Classic Postal Issues, Michael Laurence, 324 East 41st St, Apt. 1001-C, New York NY 10017.

Colo. Post Hist. = Colorado Postal Historian, Bill German, 1236 Sequerra St., Broomfield CO 80020

Confed. Phil. = Confederate Philatelist, Randy L. Neil, Box 6552, Leawood KS 66206.

Congress Book = American Philatelic Congress Book, Kenneth H. Trettin, Box 56, Rockford IA 50468-0056.

Fla. Post. Hist. J. = Florida Postal History Journal, Deane R. Briggs, 160 E. Lake Howard Dr., Winter Haven FL 33881.

Ga. Post Roads = Georgia Post Roads, Douglas N. Clark, Box 427, Marstons Mills MA 02648.

Ia. Post. Hist. Soc. Bull. = Iowa Postal History Society Bulletin, William Dall, Box 1375, Dubuque IA 52004.

Ill. Post. Hist. = Illinois Postal Historian, Leonard Piszkiwicz, 951 Rose Ct, Santa Clara CA 95051.

La Posta = La Posta: A Journal of American Postal History, Catherine Clark, 33470 Chinook Plaza, Suite 216, Scappoose OR 97056.
N.C. Post. Hist. = North Carolina Postal Historian, Tony L. Crumbley, Box 681447, Charlotte NC 28216.
NJPH = NJPH The Journal of New Jersey Postal History Society, Robert G. Rose, Box 1945, Morristown NJ 07062.
Oh. Post. Hist. J. = Ohio Postal History Journal, Alan Borer, 568 Illinois Ct., Westerville OH 43081.
Pa. Post. Hist. = Pennsylvania Postal Historian, Norman Shachat, 382 Tall Meadow Lane, Yardley PA 19067.
Peninsular Phil. = The Peninsular Philatelist, Charles A. Wood, 244 Breckenridge West, Ferndale MI 48220.
Post. Hist. J. = Postal History Journal, Diane DeBlois and Robert Dalton Harris, Box 477, West Sand Lake NY 12196.
Tenn. Posts = Tennessee Posts, L. Steve Edmondson, P.O. Box 871, Shelton WA 98594.
Tex. Post. Hist. Soc. J. = Texas Postal History Society Journal, Tom Koch, 1013 Springbrook Dr., De Soto TX 75115.
Trans. Post. Coll. = Transit Postmark Collector, Douglas N. Clark, Box 427, Marstons Mills MA 02648.
U.S.C.C. News = U.S. Cancellation Club News 28, No. 8 (November 2007), Roger D. Curran, 20 University Ave., Lewisburg PA 17837.
Vermont Phil. = The Vermont Philatelist, Glenn A. Estus, Box 451 Westport NY 12993-0147.

Foreign Postal History in Other Journals

by Joseph J. Geraci

Frequently, general or specialized philatelic periodicals publish good foreign postal history articles. If one is not a member of that society or does not subscribe to that journal for one reason or another, that particularly useful article may be missed. The purpose of this compendium is to list and briefly describe as many significant foreign postal history articles as we have seen. No doubt there will be other good articles which we have missed that are equally as valuable in postal history content, and we would be obliged if our readers would call them to our attention for inclusion in the next compendium. Thank you for your assistance!

Barbados

“The Airmails of Barbados During World War II, Part 8: 1945,” by the late Jerone R. Hart, continues his review of airmail rates to foreign destinations and provides a table summarizing 1945 airmail rates and destinations based upon his survey. (Journal of the *British Caribbean Philatelic Study Group*, No. 240, July-September 2011. Secretary Ms. Mary Gleadall (2012), Beacon House, Beacon Hill, Lower Estate, St. Georges, Barbados.)

Canada

“Newly-Listed U.C./C.W. Broken Circles,” by Ferdinand Bélanger (translated by Robert C. Smith) shows an example of a requisition for broken circle handstamps and provides an alphabetical listing of known broken circles, and the dates on which they were ordered, 1852-1868. (*PHSC Journal*, No. 145, Spring 2011. Postal History Society of Canada, Back Issues, Gus Knierim, P.O. Box 163, Stn. C, Kitchener, ON Canada N2G 3X9.)

“The Spanish River (Spanish Mills) Post Office,” by John Robertson, finds it was named after a Spanish speaking woman living with an Ojibwa tribe in the area, which is

only part of the history of this office, 1868-1927. (*PHSC Journal*, No. 145, Spring 2011. See address of contact under first entry for Canada.)

“Annexed Post Offices of Calgary: Midnapore,” by Dale Speirs, looks at this rural office, of which only a mill pond and an overgrown irrigation ditch remain today, 1844-1990. *Calgary Philatelist*, No. 110, October 2011. Editor Dale Speirs, P.O. Box 6830, Calgary, Alberta Canada, T2P 2E7)

“Annexed Post Offices of Calgary: Weno,” by Dale Speirs, reviews the history of Weno, which was swallowed up in the expansion of Calgary, 1910-1921. (*Calgary Philatelist*, No. 109, August 2011. See address of contact under third entry for Canada.)

“Postmaster’s Legacy, Frank Vincent (1885-1949),” by Stephen Scriver, is a biography of this postmaster of Wolseley, Saskatchewan, from 1919 to 1951. (*PHSC Journal*, No. 145, Spring 2011. See address of contact under first entry for Canada.)

Cayman Islands

“Updating *The Postal History of the Cayman Islands* book,” by Tom Giraldi, records newly discovered official markings, registration labels and handstamps, 1901-2008. (Journal of the *British Caribbean Philatelic Study Group*, No. 240, July-September 2011. See address of contact under Barbados.)

“Cayman Islands Postal Rates, 1936-69,” by Graham Booth, provides an update and makes corrections to previous articles concerning postal rates and extends this information until demonetization. (Journal of the *British Caribbean Philatelic Study Group*, No. 241, October-December 2011. See address of contact under Barbados.)

China

“Service Suspended, The Caroline Islands, Japan, the Marshall Islands, China, Manchuria and Korea from 1914, Parts 2 and 3.” (See under Great Britain.)

Danish West Indies

“The ‘Dateless’ 1855 St. Thomas Post Office Cancel,” by Arnold Sorensen, focuses on a British datestamp for which the day and month slugs were lost in a fire, but which was used for about three months before they were replaced. (*The Post Horn*, No. 264, August 2010. The Scandinavian Collectors Club, Secretary Alan Warren, P.O. Box 39, Exton, PA 19341-0039.)

Dodecanese Islands

“Carpathos (Scarpanto) of the Dodecanese: Its Postal History and Markings,” by P. Mavros, aided by Paul Woodness and Robert Wightman, offers a comprehensive overview of the history and postal history of this Aegean Island, illustrating its postal markings from the Turkish period to the turn-over of the island to Greek Authorities, 1895-1993. (*Fil-Italia*, No. 146, Autumn 2010. Journal of the Italy & Colonies Study Circle, Secretary L. Richard Harlow, 7 Duncombe House, 8 Manor Road, Teddington, Middx., TW11 8BG, England, United Kingdom.)

Finland

“Finland’s 1943 National Relief Issue and its First Day Covers,” by Alan Warren, surveys the first day covers of Finland’s first set of semi-postal stamps, including cachets, postmarks and censorship. (*The Post Horn*, No. 264, August 2010. See address of contact under Danish West Indies.)

France

“The French Royal Packet Service between France and the United States, 1783-1793,” by Steven Walske, describes the history of the service, postal rates, ship postmarks

known, illustrates a number of interesting covers carried on the line, and provides a valuable table of sailing schedules for the entire period of the service. "Addendum and Errata" reports the discovery of a cover carried by *Le Washington* which had been previously unknown and not included in his previous article. (*The Collectors Club Philatelist*, Vol. 89, No. 6 and Vol. 90, No. 1, November-December 2010 and January-February 2011. The Collectors Club, 22 East 35th Street, New York, NY 10016-3806.)

"Studio delle tariffe postali tra il Regno di Sardegna e la Francia dal 1^o gennaio 1823 al 31 luglio 1849, Prima parte." (See under Sardinia.)

"A Message Brought to Paris by Pigeon Post in 1870-71," by Ashley Lawrence, describes the siege of Paris, the correspondence of William Brown, a businessman in the city whose wife Margaret was in England, and the role of the pigeon post service in communicating through the Prussian lines. (*Postal History*, No. 336, December 2010. The Postal History Society, Secretary Hans Smith, 99 North End Road, London, NW11 7TA, England, United Kingdom.)

"The Free French in the British Mandate During World War II," by Dennis Tong, relates the history and postal history behind General Charles de Gaulle's Free French Liaison Mission in Palestine, 1940-1947. (*Military Postal History Society Bulletin*, Vol. 49, No. 4, Fall 2010. Military Postal History Society, Secretary Louis Fiset, P.O. Box 15927, Seattle, WA 98115-0927.)

"French Military Cancels from World War II Used in the Levant," by Gabriel Boulard, reviews the background and history of the Free French forces operating in the Western Desert, Sudan, the Red Sea area, Lebanon and Syria, 1940-1944. (*The Levant*, Vol 6, No. 3, September 2011. Journal of the Ottoman and Near East Philatelic Society, Secretary Rolfe Smith, 201 SE Verada Ave., Port St. Lucie, FL 34983.)

"WWII - German Occupation of France - Foreign Letter Examination Office Paris Mystery Marking: New Discovery and More of the Story." (See under Germany.)

France, Offices Abroad, Levant

"The Status of the French Post Office in Beirut after 1 Oct. 1914," by Semaan Bassil, discusses the last days of operation for this French office abroad and when it actually closed in 1914. (*Journal of the France & Colonies Philatelic Society*, No. 260, June 2011. Secretary P.R.A. Kelly, Malmsy House, Church Road, Leigh Woods, Bristol, BS8 3PG, England, United Kingdom.)

Germany

"Christmas Miracle on the Western Front," by Roger Callens, describes an impromptu, unauthorized truce on Christmas Day between British, Belgian and German troops in the areas near Frelinghien, Wytshate, Ploegsteert, Dixmude, and Ypres, Belgium, where the troops met half-way between the trenches and exchanged gifts, photographs of loved ones and played soccer together, 1914. (*Military Postal History Society Bulletin*, Vol. 49, No. 4, Fall 2010. See address of contact under fourth entry for France.)

"La censura postale in Italia della corrispondenza nelle province di Alpenvorland e Adria (1943-1945), Terza Parte." (See under Italian Socialist Republic.)

"Lo smembramento delle Polonia, Primo parte." (See under Poland.)

"WWII - German Occupation of France - Foreign Letter Examination Office Paris Mystery Marking: New Discovery and More of the Story," by Tony Brooks, adds additional information to an earlier study on a series of markings found on mail eventually processed by the German Foreign Letter Examination Office in Paris,

1944. (*Civil Censorship Study Group Bulletin*, No. 169, January 2011. Secretary Charles LaBlonde, 15091 Ridgefield Lane, Colorado Springs, CO 80921.)

Great Britain

“Crimean War Mail,” by Mike Batty, discusses the British participation in this 1853-1857 war against Russia and provides a time-line linking both political and postal events. (*OPAL*, No. 226, January 2011. Oriental Philatelic Association of London, Secretary Philip Longbottom, 5 Ringway Close, Tythrington, Macclesfield, Cheshire SK10 2SU, England, UK.)

“Christmas Miracle on the Western Front.” (See under Germany.)

“Service Suspended, The Caroline Islands, Japan, the Marshall Islands, China, Manchuria and Korea from 1914, Part 1,” by Robert I. Johnson, introduces the reader to the way in which mails were affected as a consequence of military and other events. It deals mostly with British Area mail addressed to the Caroline Islands, Japan and the Marshall Islands. “Part 2” reviews various types of “Service Suspended” markings found on covers and cards traveling between China and foreign nations, 1914-1941. “Part 3” continues this line illustrating and explaining mail addressed to and returned from China, Macao, Korea and Manchuria, 1914-1941. (*The Collectors Club Philatelist*, Vol. 89, No. 6 and Vol. 90, Nos. 1 and 2, November-December 2010, and January-February and March-April 2011. See address of contact under first entry for France.)

Great Britain, Offices Abroad, Danish West Indies

“The ‘Dateless’ 1855 St. Thomas Post Office Cancel.” (See under Danish West Indies.)

India

“Early Railways in India,” by George Arfken, discusses construction of the rail lines from Calcutta to Delhi, Madras to Bombay, and Bombay to Allahabad and east to Rajchur, illustrating the article with several Small Queens covers to India, 1855-1881. (*PHSC Journal*, No. 145, Spring 2011. See address of contact under first entry for Canada.)

Iran

“A.F. Stahl and the First Postal Cards of Iran,” by Behruz Nassre, focuses on the postal history usage timeline of the first postal cards of Iran and the role of Alexander F. Stahl in their creation, 1878-1879. (*Postal Stationery*, No. 367, July-August 2009. Journal of the United Postal Stationery Society, Secretary Porter W. Venn, P.O. Box 96, Racine, WI 53401-0096.)

Ireland

“Irish Ship Letters,” by Malcolm Ray-Smith, illustrates and describes a number of rare, early Irish ship letters, 1757-1849. (*Postal History*, No. 336, December 2010. See address of contact under third entry for France.)

Italian Socialist Republic

“La censura postale in Italia della corrispondenza nelle province di Alpevorland e Adria (1943-1945), Terza Parte,” by Luigi Sirotti, continues his analysis of censor markings, this time concentrating on the German postal arrangements in the Alpevorland and Adria regions, and the Italian censorship offices in South Tyrol, Trento and Istria. (*Posta Militare e Storia Postale*, No. 118, January 2011. Rivista dell’Associazione Italiana Collezionista Posta Militare, Piero Macrelli, Casella Postale 180, 47921 Rimini (RN), Italy.)

Italy

“1866 - S. Maria Maddalena, da ufficio postale a collettoria,” by Paolo Fabrizio, looks at

the downgrading of the S. Maria Maddalena from a full service post office to a letter collecting agency. (*Bollettino Prefilatelico e Storico Postale*, No. 162, November 2010. Associazione per lo Studio della Storia Postale, Editor Adriano Cattani, Casella Postale 325, I-35100 Padova, Italy.)

“The Punched Card Paper for the Blind,” by Riccardo Buttironi, (translated by Richard Harlow) transcribes an official post office letter of 1869 in a correspondence concerning the concessionary rate to be charged and illustrates covers bearing a concessionary rate, 1870-1954. (*Fil-Italia*, No. 146, Autumn 2010. See address of contact under Dodecanese Islands.)

“Destinazione estere. Cartoline postali del Regno d’Italia post U.P.U. (1875-1946), (prima parte),” by Daniele Cesaretti, reviews a number of postal cards addressed to exotic or unusual destinations and provides a table of countries of the world where postal cards are known to have been addressed. (*Vaccari Magazine*, No. 44, November 2010. Vaccari s.r.l., Via M. Buonarroti 46, 41058 Vignola (MO), Italy.)

“Siena e dintorni fra ottocento e novecento, 1890-1920, Parte 1,” by Giuseppe Pallini, reviews the various types of datestamps used at Siena, and shows where the differences lie in the squared circle mark markings. (*Il Monitore della Toscana*, No. 12, November 2010. Notiziario della Associazione per lo Studio della Storia Postale Toscana, Secretary Leonardo Amorini, Via A. Vespucci, 6, 56020 La Serra (PI), Italy.)

“Arcipelago Toscano di Roberto Petrone,” by Giancarlo Moretti, discusses an extensive collection of covers documenting the navigation lines of the Tuscan Archipelago, from 1900-1943. (*Qui Filatelia*, No. 61, August-October 2010. Rivista della Federazione fra le Società Filateliche Italiane, Piero Macrelli, Casella Postale 180, 47921 Rimini (RN), Italy.)

“Una tariffa postale agevolata poco conosciuta,” by Eliza Gardinazzi, discusses the organization and the propaganda postcards of U.N.P.A. (Unione Nazionale Protezione Antiaerea/ National Union [for] Protection [against] Aircraft [bombing]) which were in use between 15 September 1936 and 20 January 1937, which could be mailed at the reduced rate of 10 centesimi, if the message was not longer than 5 words. (*Il Foglio*, No. 166, December 2010. Unione Filatelica Subalpina, C.P. No. 65, Torino Centro, 10100 Torino, Italy.)

“AMGOT 1943-44: I servizi accessori della corrispondenze civile nel periodo di occupazione alleata della Sicilia.” by Giulio Santoro, reviews the auxiliary services of express mail, express mail-registered mail, registered and insured mail services available during the Allied Occupation of Sicily. (*Sicil-Post Magazine*, No. 22, December 2010. Associazione di Storia Postale Siciliana, Secretaria, Viale Regione Siciliana 2217, 90135 Palermo, Italy.)

Japan

“New Insights into Yokohama’s Interim Experimental Foreign-Mail Datestamps, (1878-1882 and 1884),” by Charles A.L. Swenson, apprizes the reader of a number of new facts which have surfaced, and of several new covers which have been reported since the publication of an article on this subject earlier in the year. (*Japanese Philately*, No. 385, December 2010. The International Society for Japanese Philately, Inc., Assistant Publisher Lee R. Wilson, 4216 Jenifer Street NW, Washington, DC 20015.)

“Another Compound Variation Reported for Province Names on Maruichi Cancellations,” by Charles A.L. Swenson, identifies variations in characters which may be found on these native language datestamps, 1888-1909. (*Japanese Philately*, No. 384, October

2010. See address of contact under first entry for Japan.)

“Medium-size, Single-Circle Cancellations with 2-Digit year: Nanao and Tsuruga,” by Charles A.L. Swenson, traces the story of these rare datestamps applied on uncanceled mail from Russia, 1902. (*Japanese Philately*, No. 384, October 2010. See address of contact under first entry for Japan.)

“Japanese Field Post Office Cancellations of the Russo-Japanese War,” by Bernard Lochon, adds to our knowledge of these postmarks by extending the known dates of use. (*Japanese Philately*, No. 384, October 2010. See address of contact under first entry for Japan.)

“Tsuruga Roman-letter Comb Cancellations,” by Charles A.L. Swenson, provides history and background about these postmarks in use from 1907 to 1922. (*Japanese Philately*, No. 385, December 2010. See address of contact under first entry for Japan.)

Kenya and Uganda

“Air Accelerated Mail between the United States and British East Africa, 1931-1945,” by the late Richard W. Helbock, reviews the history of east Africa and the development of international air line services in the area. Postal rates are indicated for airmail service. (*La Posta*, No. 244, Winter 2010. La Posta Publications, 33470 Chinook Plaza, #216, Scappoose, OR 97056.)

Libya

“The French Occupation of Fezzan,” by Ray McGarrity, provides an overview of the little known territory of Fezzan during its occupation by French troops, 1943-1944. (*Fil-Italia*, No. 146, Autumn 2010. See address of contact under Dodecanese Islands.)

Lombardy-Venetia

“I rapporti postali del Regno Lombardo Veneto con lo Stato Pontificio, 1815-1866, (quarta parte),” by Lorenzo Carra, continues his analysis of postal rates under the adhesion of the Roman States to the Austro-German Postal League, 1852-1859. (*Vaccari Magazine*, No. 44, November 2010. See address of contact under third entry for Italy.)

Lubiana/Slovenia

“WWII - German Occupation of Slovenia - A Censorship Question Answered,” by Tony Brooks, publishes new information about the meaning of a boxed marking, “P.S./S/D”, 1943-1944. (*Civil Censorship Study Group Bulletin*, No. 169, January 2011. See under fourth entry for Germany.)

Modena

“Corrispondenze fra il Ducato di Modena e la Francia,” by Emilio Simonazzi, reviews the franking and postage rates on 14 illustrated covers from Modena to France, 1852-1859. (*Vaccari Magazine*, No. 44, November 2010. See address of contact under third entry for Italy.)

Netherlands

“Cancels from the French Masson Company for the Dutch Mail, Part 1,” by Hotze Wiersma and H.J.W. van Kesteren (translated by Ben H. Jansen and Hans Kremer) provides a postal map of the Kingdom of Holland from 1806 to 1811, illustrates a map of the Dutch Departments, and lists the names of post offices prior to January 1, 1809. “Part 2” discusses the Kingdom of Holland’s first postal treaty with France in 1807, the ordering of various types of exchange office postmarks, lists all the towns where post offices were established and where the town names handstamps were ordered. (*Netherlands Philately*, Vol. 35, Nos. 2 and 3, November 2010 and January

2011. Magazine of the American Society for Netherlands Philately, Secretary, Jan Enthoven, 221 Coachlite Ct. S., Onalaska, WI 54650.)

Norway

“The Thomas Cook Mail Scheme & Norway-Canada WWII Undercover Link for Norwegian Seamen, Part II,” by Ed Fraser, updates information previously published in May 2008 and provides further information concerning the Thomas Cook operation (*The Post Horn*, No. 265, November 2010. See address of contact under Danish West Indies.)

Poland

“Lo smembramento delle Polonia, Primo parte,” by Ivan Cacitti, discusses the history and postal history of the dismemberment of Poland after 1 September 1939, the break off of the territory forming the General Government, and the incorporation of portions of Poland into Germany and Russia, as well as postal changes in the region, 1939-1945. (*Posta Militare e Storia Postale*, No. 118, January 2011. See address of contact under Italian Socialist Republic.)

“WWII Red Cross Correspondence,” by Syd Samuels, documents the story of a POW located in Stalag VIII, Lamsdorf, Poland, through correspondence between him and his wife in Hailfa, Palestine, 1941-1945. (*The Israel Philatelist*, Vol. 62, No. 3, June 2011. Journal of the Society of Israel Philatelists, Inc., Secretary Howard S. Chapman, 28650 Settlers Lane, Pepper Pike, OH 44124.)

Roman States

“I rapporti postali del Regno Lombardo Vaneto con lo Stato Pontificio, 1815-1866, (quarta parte).” (See under Lombardy Venetia.)

Russia

“One Aspect of Russian Military Censorship Abroad, 1914-1915,” by David M. Skipton, provides a translation of Russian regulations for print shops and printed matter street vending, in occupied Galicia. (*Rossica*, No. 155, Fall 2010. Journal of the Rossica Society of Russian Philately, Secretary Dr. Ed. Laveroni, P.O. Box 320997, Los Gatos, CA 95032-0116.)

“Mestnye Tarify Rossii (1993-2005 gg.) /Local Postal Rates in Russia (1993-2005),” by A. Serebriakov and Iu. Serebriakov (translated by Alexandre Denisenko and William Moskoff), describes the breakup of a single head post office to many regional postal districts after the fall of Communism. This inefficient arrangement caused a large loss of funds, so the regional authorities were permitted to establish their own postal rates and fees. This article indicates the rates established in the various oblasts. (*Rossica*, No. 155, Fall 2010. See address of contact under first entry for Russia.)

Russia, Offices Abroad, Galicia and Bukovina

“Russia Used Abroad: WWI - Galicia and Bukovina,” by Alexander Epstein, provides a list of the Russian military post offices established in Austrian Galicia and the Bukovina during their occupation of those areas in World War I, 1914-1917. (*Rossica*, No. 155, Fall 2010. See address of contact under first entry for Russia.)

Sardinia

“Studio delle tariffe postali tra il Regno di Sardegna e la Francia dal 1^o gennaio 1823 al 31 luglio 1849, Prima parte,” by Massimo Moritsch, provides both French and Sardinian rate schedules and explains the rates shown on various illustrated covers. (*Vaccari Magazine*, No. 44, November 2010. See address of contact under third entry for Italy.)

“Il Corpo di Spedizione Sardo nella Guerra di Crimea,” by Valter Astolfi, gives the background behind the Sardinian expeditionary force deployed to the Crimea during the Crimean War, their participation in the Battle of Cernaia, and the siege of Sebastopol, together with military postal arrangements for the troops, 1855-1856. (*Posta Militare e Storia Postale*, No.118, January 2011. See address of contact under Italian Socialist Republic.)

Syria

“Post WWII - Syrian Censorship During 1948 & 1957: An Update,” by Marc Parren, adds to previous information published and provides three tables of known covers, one each for 1948 (when oval markings were used) and 1957-58 (when circular markings were used). (*Civil Censorship Study Group Bulletin*, No. 169, January 2011. See under fourth entry for Germany.)

Tanganyika

“Air Accelerated Mail between the United States and British East Africa, 1931-1945.” (See under Kenya and Uganda.)

Trieste, Zone B

“La corrispondenza civile nelle Venezia Giulia, 1945-1947 (sesta e ultima parte),” by Luigi Sirotti, in this section, discusses the tariffs and censorship markings of Zone B under Jugoslav military government, and provides a list of Slovenian and Croatian post offices names, with their Italian equivalents. (*Vaccari Magazine*, No. 44, November 2010. See address of contact under third entry for Italy.)

Turkey

“The Turkish Post Office in Smyrna, Parts 1 and 2,” by Michael Fulford, outlines the history and postal history of the post office of this port city, and illustrates a number of datestamps and postmarks used during the period 1839-1923. (*OPAL*, No. 226, January 2011. See under first entry for Great Britain.)

“A Hidden Postal History Gem,” by William K. McDaniel and Seref Bornovali, piece together the amazing story of an 1857 U.S. cover which was written at Sivas, Turkey, mailed to Constantinople, forwarded to New York through the courtesy of a traveler, and handed to the American Board of Missions, who supplied two 3 cent 1857 stamps, and mailed it to Vermont. (*The Chronicle of the U.S. Classic Postal Issues*, No. 230, May 2011. U.S. Philatelic Classics Society, Secretary Dr. Charles J. DiComo, 102 Old Pawling Road, Pawling, NY 12564.)

“Dulos, not Duloz: Pierre Edelstand Stanislas Dulos (1820-1874),” by Farley P. Katz, takes the reader on an extraordinary odyssey in order to determine the true identity and complete name of the French designer of the Ottoman issues of 1865. (*The Levant*, Vol 6, No. 3, September 2011. See address of contact under fifth entry for France.)

Tuscany

“Corrispondenza Estera per la Toscana con la Mediazione Austriaca: Uso dei Bolli ‘Austria’ e ‘T.A.’, Seconda parte,” by Alessandro Papanti, continues his analysis of these transit postmarks identifying the origin of the letter, which simplified rating the item for postage due purposes, 1840-1854. (*Il Monitore della Toscana*, No. 12, November 2010. See address of contact under fourth entry for Italy.)

“I bolli a doppio cerchio ‘Via di Mare’ di Livorno,” by Alberto Càroli, continues his exposé concerning the “Via di Mare” postmarks incorporating the letters A/ B/ C/ D/ E/ and F, which were applied at the port of Livorno, and the puzzle of why no postmarks

have ever been found bearing the letters D/ E / or F, 1844-1866. (*Vaccari Magazine*, No. 44, November 2010. See address of contact under third entry for Italy.)

Two Sicilies - Sicily

“Le alte affrancature del periodo Sardo-Italiane in Sicilia,” by Francesco Orlando, shares his fascination of high franked covers to foreign destinations, and in this article illustrates and describes in color, frankings from Lire 1,25 up to Lire 9, 1861-1863. (*Sicil-Post Magazine*, No. 22, December 2010. See address of contact under seventh entry for Italy.)

Universal Postal Union

“The Changing Formulas of the GPU/UPU for Postage Due, Part 3,” by James Gough, continues his study, this time concentrating on “Mini-Postal Unions” (conventions between two or more states, one of which was outside the UPU), the work of the Convention of Paris (1880), and the Congress of Lisbon (1885). “Part 4” examines the changes implemented by the Congress of Vienna (1891), the Congress of Washington (1897), and the Congress of Rome (1906). (*The Collectors Club Philatelist*, Vol. 89, No. 6 and Vol. 90 No. 1, November-December 2010 and January-February 2011. See address of contact under first entry for France.)

Vatican City

“The Conciliation Issue: High Value Usages,” by Greg Pirozzi, examines covers bearing high values of the 1929 definitive issue and explains the rate breakdown. (*Vatican Notes*, Vol. 58, No. 347, First Quarter 2011. Vatican Philatelic Society, Secretary, Joseph G. Scholten, 1436 Johnston St. SE, Grand Rapids, MI 49507-2829.)

Venetian Republic

“Una nuova via di comunicazione postale con il Levante, un percorso completamente terrestre: ‘La Via di Tana’,” by Giorgio Burzatta, records his discovery of a previously unknown route of postal communication between Aleppo and Venice, as alluded to in a 1588 letter, which traveled a long but safer land route from Venice to Vienna, down the Danube Valley, to Tana in the Crimea and Trebisonda to Aleppo. (*Bollettino Prefilatelico e Storico Postale*, No. 162, November 2010. See address of contact under first entry for Italy.)

Yemen

“Post Ottoman Cancellation Marks of Yemen, Part V, Modified or Copied German Cancellers” by Robert Waugh, identifies those datestamps which have been modified or reproduced types which were based upon German handstamps which had been purchased earlier, 1946-1964. (*OPAL*, No. 226, January 2011. See under first entry for Great Britain.)

Zanzibar

“Air Accelerated Mail between the United States and British East Africa, 1931-1945.” (See under Kenya and Uganda.)

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Society Forum

This space is set aside for commentary, announcements, questions and other information by, for and about members of the Postal History Society. The editors welcome correspondence: P.O.Box 477, West Sand Lake NY 12196, <agatherin@yahoo.com>

President's Message, Joseph J. Geraci

I begin this message on a note of disappointment in that no volunteers have stepped forward for our open positions. Everyone seems to be waiting for someone else to volunteer. This is YOUR Society. It will sink or swim according to the amount of effort the Board and membership exert. If you will not assume a position, and perform the job, you cannot expect the Society to survive. The same few people cannot continually do all the work of running the Society by themselves. To paraphrase our late President, John F. Kennedy, "Ask not what your Society can do for you, but what can you do for your Society?"

We need a Membership Recruitment Chairman to try and gain new members, and a Publicity Chairman, to publicize the Society, its Journal and its Meetings (perhaps these two positions can be combined). We need two individuals to take over the duties of Secretary and Treasurer. Kal Illyefalvi deserves to be able to retire from that job, after serving 22 plus years. Any member interested in working for the betterment of the Society should write to me immediately.

If, in the future, we can get the Society on a firm financial footing, with several years worth of Journal printing costs in the bank, perhaps we can embark upon publishing postal history works. We have not published any works in addition to the *Journal* since Ernst Cohn's translation from the original German language of Paolo Vollmeier's *Forged Pre-Adhesive Postmarks of the Old Italian States, Especially the Territory of Venice*, back in 1979. Surely there are authors among our members who would like to have their works published.

Our next General Membership Meeting will be held at the Boxborough Holiday Inn, Boxborough, Massachusetts, on Saturday, May 5, 2012. The winner of our Best Article Award for 2011 is Mr. Jorma Keturi, of Finland, who wrote about "Secret Postal Censoring during the first Decades of Finland's Autonomy." Unfortunately, Mr. Keturi has advised us that he will be unable to attend the General Meeting. However, we will have a program and the speaker will be announced in the future. Check the Exhibition Program for time and room number. We also plan to have a booth at the Exhibition to introduce the Society to prospective new members, and greet old members. We are also planning to have a Dutch Treat informal dinner on Friday evening, May 4, at a local restaurant. Be sure to stop by our booth to sign up.

Wade Saadi, President of the U.S. Philatelic Classics Society, has invited the members of the Postal History Society to join with that Society in attending the Postal History Symposium at APS Philatelic Center in Bellefonte, Pennsylvania, on the weekend of November 2-4, 2012. This will be the Seventh Annual Postal History Symposium. This year's topic will be "Blue & Gray: Mail and the Civil War." It promises to be quite interesting.

As mentioned on the APS website, "The Symposium will include one and a half hour

morning and afternoon sessions on both Friday and Saturday with four papers presented in each session. This allows time between sessions for viewing the invited stamp and postal history exhibits, purchasing stamps covers and ephemera from the philatelic dealers, using the American Philatelic Research Library and other APS services and conversing with fellow attendees.” Many of our members attended the 2009 Symposium, and found it both interesting and educational. I encourage all our members to mark these dates on their calendar and make plans to attend. The opportunity to use the facilities of the Research Library just adds to the value of attending these sessions.

Remembering Harvey Mirsky

It is a testament to Harvey Mirsky’s devotion to the hobby that, in the month before he died in May of 2011 at the age of 71, he traveled to Philadelphia to attend our Board meeting, and many of us also saw him at Richard John’s presentation at the Collector’s Club in New York. He served not only on our Board but also on those of the Collectors Club of New York and the Philatelic Foundation, and was an active member of the Council of Philatelists of the Smithsonian National Postal Museum. Harvey was a native of Brooklyn, earned an MBA at the University of Chicago and worked for Proctor and Gamble in



France and Britain. After military service in Europe, he eventually returned to New York and founded a marketing consultancy focusing on the drug industry. In retirement, he poured energy into postal history, specializing in the 1847 issue. His collections won both gold and grand awards nationally and large gold medals internationally. In October, the Philatelic Foundation presented the Neinken Medal “for Meritorious Service to Philately” posthumously to Harvey Mirsky. And, as a tribute to this dedicated philatelist, his wife, Carol, is continuing his philatelic memberships.

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Cornell Harriers Sail Dec. 14.
ITHACA, N. Y., Oct. 12.—Cornell's cross-country team of ten men, scheduled to meet the combined teams of Oxford and Cambridge in England during the Christmas holidays, will leave New York Dec. 14 aboard the steamship Aquitania, it was announced today. Coach John F. Moakley will accompany the Ithacans.

Hans Kremer noted that the *Acquitania* (“Addressee an ‘American Dreyfus’”), after sailing to Seattle mid-October, would leave New York on December 14, bearing Cornell’s cross-country running team! [*The New York Times* of October 13, 1920]

Richard Frajola has agreed to have the **John Brown** in jail covers recorded on his information site: www.philamercury.com. He remembered that he had sold such a cover: Richard C. Frajola Auction 42, March 8-9, 1990. “Lot 1341: (Capt. John Brown), cover addressed to Brown while on trial in Charlestown, Virginia, 3c Dull Red (#26) tied, red ‘Providence R.I. Nov’ cds, endorsement at side indicates letter requested autograph and expressed sympathy, soiled. est 100-150.” The catalog illustration hides the endorsement so it is not certain that it is in the same hand - though it is likely.

Membership Changes by Kalman V. Illyefalvi

New Members

- PHS 2343 Erick Lee Erickson, 17515 County Road 98, Elbert CO 80106-9101. Business records, Fourth-class PO, free exchange.
- PHS 2344 Joe H. Crosby, 5009 Barnsteeples Court, Oklahoma City OK 73142-5405. Oklahoma & Indian Territory, 19th century US fancy cancels, weather forecast backstamps, Alternate delivery request in addresses, B.F. Stevens & other US appointed agent markings.
- PHS 2345 Edward J. Hall, Jr., 635 Woodside Dr., Kent OH 44240-2663. Routes, Transportation, Geography, Post Office locations, Postal routes.

Resigned

- PHS 1985 John Barwis
- PHS 2184 Ruth Caswell
- PHS 1052 Stephen D. Schumann
- PHS 2207 Jan R. Van Meter
- PHS 2167 Donald G. Vorhis
-

Postal History Society Awards

- BALPEX, September 2-4: Jerry Miller, “The Evolution of ‘Via Siberia’ Mail: 1899-1945” (also the Grand)
- MILCOPEX, September 16-18: Larry Lyons, “All Roads Lead to San Francisco: The Private Companies that Carried the Mail in the Early West” (also the Grand)
- INDYPEX, September 30-October 2: Rev. Edward Millowney, “Usages of the Stamps of the Roman States”
- OKPEX, October 21-22: Kathryn J. Johnson, “Ceylon Postal Markings 1836-1903”
- CHICAGOPEX, November 18-20: Hugh V. Feldman, “Mails Carried by Water Within the USA (1813-1875)” (also the Grand)
- FLOREX, December 2-4: Nicholas M. Kirke, “The Progression of the New York Foreign Mail Cancellation 1870-1878”
-

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In December, the first of three auctions of Belgian philatelic material collected by Anatoly Karpov the world famous chess grand master sold the famous Burrus letter for Eur 84,000 (estimate 15,000).

