CANCELLATIONS AND KILLERS

OF THE

BANKNOTE ERA

1870 - 1894

James M. Cole

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TABLE OF CONTENTS

Publisher's Preface, Richard B. Graham	vi
Author's Forward, James M. Cole	vii
Collecting Cancels of the Banknote Era, Clyde Jennings	iz
Credits and Acknowledgements	xi
Postmarks and Postmarking Devices of the Banknote Era, Richard B. Graham	
Rarity Rating System, James M. Cole	
Geometrics (GE)	
Chicago Geometrics (GEC)	
New Orleans Geometrics (GEN)	
Triangles (GET) & Diamonds (GED)	
Circular Geometrics (GCR)	
"Wheel of Fortune" (WOF)	
Radial Geometrics (GR)	
Floral (GRF)	
Leaves (GL)	
Honeycombs (GHC)	
	00.00
Solid Stars (STA)	
Stars in Circles (STC)	
Negative Stars (STN)	
Four, Six, Seven & Eight Point Stars (STX)	
Shaded Stars (STB)	
Lined Stars (STL)	
Segmented Stars (STG)	
Open Stars (STO)	
Unusual Stars (STU)	107-11
Crosses	
Maltese Crosses (CSM)	112-114
Shaded Crosses (CSS)	115-116
Lined Crosses (CSL)	
Christian & Greek Crosses (CSO)	
Enclosed Crosses (CSC)	119
Unusual Crosses (CSU)	120-122
Negative Crosses (CSN).	122
Pictorial	
Shields (SH)	123-130
Anchors (RN)	
Padlocks (LCK)	
Flags (FL)	
Hearts (HE)	
Crescents, Stars & Crescents (CR)	
Fratemal (MA)	
Boots (BT)	
Clover (CV)	
Hats (HA)	
Arrows (AR)	
, ,	
Pictorial (Pi) Animals (AN)	
Birds (Bi)	
Insects (IN)	159
Jack-O-Lanterns, Masks, Man-in-the-Moon,	100 17
Figures (JO)	100-170
Skull & Crossbones (SK)	170-17

TABLE OF CONTENTS (Continued)

Hands & Feet (HF)	172-173
New York Foreign Mail (NYFM)	174-183
Numerals & Rate Markings (NU)	
Commercial Numerals (NC)	189
Year Dates (YD)	
Precancels (PC)	
Patent (PT)	
Paid, Paid All, Paid 3, Paid 6 (PA)	
Multiple Letters (ML)	
OK (OK)	
PO, POD (PO)	226-227
U.S., U.S. Mail, U.S.M., U.S.M.T., U.S.X.,	
U.S.P.O., U.S.P.O.D. (US)	
Single Letters (La-Lz, L)	
Boston Negatives (BOS)	293-295
Boston Related Negatives (BOR)	
New York Numerals, Letters (NYC)	298-301
Machine (MC)	302-306
3rd & 4th Class Mail(VL)	307-313
Ellipse (EL)	
Bibliography	327
Post Office Index	32 9
Railroad Agent and Railway Post Office (RPO) Index	34 3
Cole Number Letter Prefix Index	345

PUBLISHER'S PREFACE

This book takes a somewhat different approach to recording cancels than do several previously published books about cancels of other eras. Traditionally, those books have emphasized the unusual to the extent the routine is ignored. Those works have included not only the unusual cancels on stamps but the origin markings not normally used to cancel postage stamps. Mostly, the cancels shown in those works represent the whimsical carvings of clerks and postmasters, but little is said about the privately purchased or government-furnished devices that produced similar cancels used at many post offices.

The banknote era, however, was the period of transition from the whimsical carvings to what developed as the highly automated machine cancels of today. Thus, it appears desirable to avoid misunderstandings as to the scope and intent of this book. Due to the very large number of kinds of cancels on stamps of the banknote period, it was recognized from the outset that this work could not be complete but would only be representative. In fact, this became apparent immediately because the compiler had more tracings than could be included in a work much larger than this.

For this reason, and also because Mr. Cole had based a high percentage of his tracings upon auction catalogs, what he saw at exhibitions and in the reference material of stamps and postal history, it seemed pointless to ask other collectors to submit material by other than a general invitation in *Linn's Stamp News* and other publications.

The scope of this book is all cancels found on banknote era material, not just fancy cancels. Another facet of the problem stems from the changing meaning of the word "cancel," which is apparently being extended to include all postal markings rather than just those involving the cancellation of postage stamps. It appears rather misleading to include in the term even those postal markings of the prestamp period, in use before there were any postage stamps to cancel.

Thus, this book is about the postal markings used to cancel stamps or postal stationery indicia of the banknote era, 1870-1894. Such cancellations range from the traditional carven corks and target killers of the 1870's to the privately manufactured fancy killers, duplexed or not, used in duplicate by many offices for some designs, and on to the more sophisticated combination postmarks of the early machine cancel era. It also includes handstamps used on 3rd or 4th class mail that were used to cancel stamps.

There are several purposes for the publishing of this book. First, it was to provide some sort of reference where there was a large gap on publications available to collectors, as Clyde Jennings points out in his discussion of collections of cancellations. Another purpose is connected with Jim Cole's original reason for starting to accumulate pictures of cancels from which he could make tracings. This was that he noted many partial cancels on the off-cover banknote stamps in his collections, and he wished to know more about them. Undoubtedly, that same curiosity exists with most collectors. Thus, this book is aimed primarily at the collector of banknote stamps off cover rather than those who collect covers other than just as part of their stamp collections.

Still another purpose was to point out that many of the intriguing cancels of the late 1870's and early 1880's were made by manufacturers who furnished identical killers to many post offices. The well-known wheel-of-fortune is the primary example, believed to have been used in several hundred different post offices. Many other killers were also used in identical form in more than one office. Thus, these markings needed to be listed by manufacturer as well as by town of origin. It would appear that Jim Cole has developed a simple and yet very satisfactory method of handling such markings.

In many ways, publication of this work is a new departure for this Society as it is the first book published by it that has the banknote era not only as an included theme but as its exclusive subject. It is my personal opinion that there are far more collectors not presently members of the Society who will find the book useful than will the current membership. Accompanying this, is the thought that many of the former may eventually become members.

Richard B. Graham Chairman, Publications Planning Committee

AUTHOR'S FORWARD

I didn't start out in compiling tracings and information on Bank Note Era cancels with the idea of putting them into book form, but rather just for my own personal use. However, it soon became clear to me that there was a lack of reference material covering the cancellations of the Bank Note stamp period in general. What was available tended to be limited to a particular area, such as the New York foreign mail cancels, the kicking mule fancy cancels and on the 2¢ red-brown issue of 1883-87.

No period of 19th century philately provides a more diverse range of cancellations than the period of 1870-94. From the "Paid" cancels, holdovers from the stampless period, to numerous hand carved "fancy" cancels, to the commercially prepared and supplied "Wheel-of- Fortune" cancel, used in well over 300 towns, to the early machine cancels. Cities such as Boston and New York used series of letters or numbers, while New Orleans and Chicago used large numbers of geometric cancels.

An attempt has been made to show at least a representative number of each of these kinds of cancels, but it should be understood that completeness of the listings is an impossibility, at least within the intent of this book.

There were probably hundreds of solid star cancels alone used at various post offices during this period, and no purpose could be served by showing them all, even were it possible. Those types of cancels generally considered more desirable, such as the pictorial cancels, or the unusual, necessitated a more extensive listing in preference to the more mundane star or other types, though again, completeness is not attempted here.

Where a choice was necessary between similar cancels, a colored cancel usually took precedence over one found in black; one where the town(s) of origin and either dates of use or issue were known were used over one where information was less complete. An attempt was also made to show as many cancels from the states not represented as well as the rest. States such as New York, Massachusetts, Wisconsin and Illinois are very well presented while states such as Nevada, Arkansas and Florida are not. This is due to a great extent to the lack of a sizeable population during this period, but also to the amount of research done by certain state postal history societies. (Both the Illinois and Wisconsin Postal History Societies have published works on this subject.)

No fakes were intentionally included. However, cancels on stamps off cover can at times be difficult to determine as genuine or not. As the project progressed, cancels determined to have been fakes were deleted. However, those that might be questionable were given the benefit of the doubt until proven to be other than genuine, if of sufficient interest.

Reports of fakes being detected, important additions and other information developed after this book appears may be reported through the *Chronicle of the U.S. Classic Issues*, the quarterly publication of the Society publishing this book.

James M. Cole

COLLECTING CANCELS OF THE BANKNOTE ERA

Clyde Jennings

The stamp bug bit me as early as age eight when I began collecting "gimmies" like many of us started out. By age 12 I knew U.S. was my main love and it has remained so ever since. About 1956 I became interested in cancels, per se, and began accumulating them. . . . but to this day I am stumped on how to answer the question, "What is a fancy cancel?" After all, the first postal regulation on how to cancel an adhesive stamp asked for a "pen stroke," as may be seen in Figure 1, which shows stamps of 1847 and 1851 with pen stroke cancels. So, the first time a postal employee used two strokes to make an "X," like to cancel the 5¢ 1847 stamp on the cover in Figure 2, was that not a fancy cancel? How about Figure 3, where the postal clerk canceled the two 5¢ 1847 stamps with a whole row of "X's" to form a cross hatch pattern? The example at the left end of the cover in Figure 2 is quite neatly done.

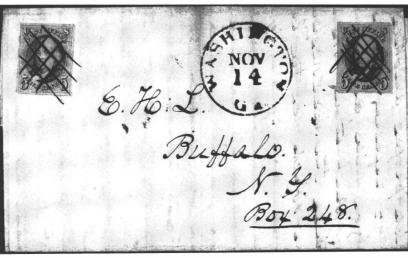
Figure 1. Stamps of 1847 and 1851 cancelled as per regulations, with black pen strokes.





Figure 2. A Columbus, Ohio cover of 1850 with a 5¢ 1847 stamp cancelled with two pen strokes making a cross.

Figure 3. A cover sent from Washington, Georgia to Buffalo, New York In 1850, with 10¢ postage prepaid by two 5¢ 1847 stamps, one at each end of the cover. The stamps are cancelled by pen strokes forming a cross-hatched design.



To quote good friend Dr. Hubert Skinner of New Orleans, one of the leading exponents of (what I now call) unusual cancels, "I collect what strikes my fancy." That being the case, then I do collect fancy cancels.

However, the line between fancy cancels and all other cancels is very dim, if it can be seen at all. Some are so far to one side or the other that everybody called them "fancy" or nobody does. Some, like the government-furnished 4-ring target killers used in the mid-19th century, probably would be considered a fancy cancel if there weren't so many of them. So, the term "fancy cancel" implies not only something pleasing to the eye but something very unusual if not unique.

The above mentioned Dr. Skinner, together with the late Amos Eno, has published a very fine and informative tome covering cancels and markings of the U.S., *United States Cancellations*, 1845-1869. And Sol Salkind of Lake Worth, Florida has produced a study of the cancels and markings from 1890 to 1900, on the so-called small banknotes in U.S. Cancels 1890-1900.

These two books bracket what for a number of years has been sadly lacking a published study, the period 1870-1890, when the so called large banknote issues were current. Now, comes what you are holding in your hands, that long needed pioneer study. And I am—among others, I'm certain—happy to see it! This work was accomplished by a young man who has until now had a rather low profile in philately, one James M. (Jim) Cole of Fairfield, Ohio. Jim has collected and studied U.S. cancels for a number of years, an exhibit of which garnered a silver at VAPEX '87 in philately's very first marcophily exhibit.

Even then, this doesn't reflect the depth of Jim's interest in his subject. Rather than being based primarily on his own collection, as most authors of pioneering books are apt to do, Jim has included countless tracings made from photocopied auction catalog listings (adjusted for size by photocopier) and from many other sources. The number of tracings he has made and accumulated is far greater than the number shown in this book. Jim has remarked that he has enough tracings of star killers, alone, to fill a book this size again!

This book, although a pioneering work, thus cannot be a final and complete study of this period of prolific cancels, but it is a beginning—a first step. In years to come, Jim or other students, using this as a nucleus, will refine and add to this study as more data becomes available. That's a phenomenon that often happens when someone publishes a work on a new field. It seems to act as a catalyst for others to come forward and expand the field with new data, corrections and additions.

The problem is expanding the field of banknote cancels in future books lies in that this, already a large book, still is only a selection from what Jim has available with no attempt to be complete. Probably several more books this size would be needed to produce anything near completion in listing all cancels to be found on the stamps and postal stationery of the banknote era.

Some sort of logical means needs to be found to separate this gigantic subject into sub-divisions that could be published separately. Undoubtedly, clues to how the subject might be subdivided lie in the way Jim Cole has arranged this book. The government issued handstamps; those made and distributed by specific manufacturers to lots of different post offices, and machine cancels are some of the subdivisions that suggest themselves.

As mentioned above, the line between fancy cancels and other cancels is hard to establish. Probably the first interest in fancy cancels came when a stamp collector noticed that an ink blob cancel on one of his stamps looked like his wife's bonnet or a rooster's head or something else familiar. When the post office began to require separate killers for canceling the stamps, and postal clerks began to carve their initials or some sort of design they liked into the corks or whatever they used to cancel stamps, stamp collectors naturally began to notice the odd shapes of cancels on the stamps in their collections.

No thought was given to what town produced the unusual cancels, and on loose stamps long since removed from covers there really wasn't a good way to find out, which problem is still with us today.

One caution: in any area in which a minimum value stamp can be made into a three figure—or even four figure—item by the simple addition of a cleverly conceived and executed cancel a danger is presented that it entices and beckons the forger. Before paying into three figures or more for any unusual cancel or marking, a certificate of authenticity should be demanded or obtained. That is just good business practice applied to philately. These spurious cancels are not always copies of existing ones; some are created as "originals." The two cancels shown in Figure 4 are such examples, and both were offered in an auction by what was at that time one of New York's leading auction houses of a cancel collection which featured unusual cancels all over the front of the catalog. There were even sources quoted, the cow's head from



Figure 4. Faked fancy cancels on 3¢ banknote stamps offered as being applied by postmasters at Arcola, Illinois and Gloucester, Massachusetts, the former being identified as the head of a cow and the latter as a fish. the expert committee certificate denies this, calling them fake cancels. (Also, see page 17.)





Arcola, Illinois, and the fish from Gloucester, Massachusetts. Neither ever saw either city and I can show certificates to prove it.

These fakes are not to be confused with the so-called "copy-cat" cancels. A postal employee would see on incoming mail a cancel carved by someone else and say to himself. "Shoot, I can carve that well," so he whipped out his trusty old blade and produced his version of what he just noticed. Figure 5 is an example of this, a genuine Waterbury, Connecticut three-leaf clover, Rohloff F-14. In Figure 6 is a copy of it done by a railway mail clerk. I wrote the whole story of this for the Philatelic Foundation, so you can find more detail in that organization's Opinions VI, if interested.

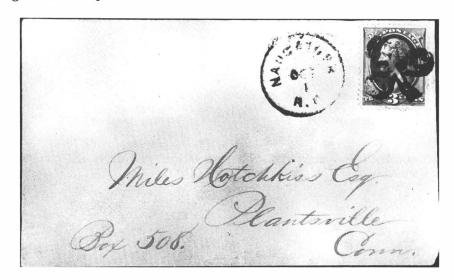


Figure 6. A cover with a railway postal clerk's carved "copy-cat" imitation of the Waterbury 3-leaf clover cancel.



Figure 7. Fakes, as guaranteed by expert committee certificate, of the West Meriden, Connecticut (or was it meant to be the copy-cat Brattleboro, Vt. version?); "devil-with-pitchfork" (left) and Waterbury Andrew Johnson's tombstone fancy cancels.

CREDITS AND ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

A number of people contributed much to this book. To anyone I have overlooked, it was purely accidental and I offer my apologies ahead of time.

> Carl Albrecht Tom Allen Bob Baldridge Arthur Beane, Jr. John Becker Stan Bednarczyk Louis Campbell Alyce Evans

Richard Frajola (Auctions) John Grabowski

Larry Haller Ed Hines Clyde Jennings Cary Johnson Donald B. Johnstone

Doug Kelsey Jim Kesterson

Warren F. Kimball, Jr. Leroy Lipman

Jim Linker

Diana Manchester

Frank Mandel Bob McKain Mike Morrissev William Muttera Randy Neil Robert J. Payne

David G. Phillips (Auctions)

Guy Purington Roger Rhoads

Robert R. Rhodehamel

Howard Rust Dick Sargeant Dave Semsrott Al Staubus George Tarallo Tom "Tuck" Taylor Tom Todsen

Scott Trepel (Robert A. Siegel Auction Galleries, Inc.)

John Valenti

Bill Weiss (Auctions)

A special thanks to Dick Graham, without whose expertise, assistance and unending support, this project would never have gotten off the ground.

POSTMARKS AND POSTMARKING DEVICES OF THE BANKNOTE ERA

Richard B. Graham

The form and appearance of the postmarks, cancels and the devices producing them saw a great deal of change during the Banknote stamp era, 1870-1894. These changes were produced by many factors, the chief of which were the more than doubling of the number of post offices in the United States and an even greater increase in the volume of mail handled.

Thus, not only does the collector of covers, postal stationary and loose stamps of the Banknote era have a far larger volume of material to cope with but the variety of markings and cancels and even their characteristic styles both changed and increased in variety during the period. The onset of machines to postmark mail and cancel stamps simultaneously and the awakening of Post Office Department officials in the 1880's to a need to provide postmarking equipment of a standardized nature to all post offices were major factors here. So was the development of auxiliary and ancillary markings reflecting new and changed services and thus applied for different reasons than the similar markings of the previous eras.

Banknote Era cancels may be roughly divided into three overlapping periods, all overlaid by the "G.I." (Government Issue) standardized postmarks furnished to larger offices by the Post Office Department. The first of these is the continuation, lasting into the 1880's, of the markings and devices of the 1860's. Next came a period when the 4th class offices, not furnished "G.I." devices, purchased their own cancellers from private suppliers. Many of the devices were rubber stamps with elaborate cancels furnished in identical design to many other offices. The final period saw the 4th class offices gradually supplied with standardized "G.I." devices and also saw the larger post offices starting to use rapid cancelling machines applying markings of entirely new styles.

The overlappage stems from the fact that many instruments of the 1860's and 1870's or later eras lasted long into the subsequent eras. New equipment producing different markings usually went through an experimental period when only a single or at least very few post offices used them and even after acceptance, use in more offices was a gradual affair as equipment had to be manufactured in volume and therefore was distributed gradually.

The first period, covering the 1870's, saw use of the markings applied by postmarking devices produced in previous eras or, in the early 1870's, produced in the same styles. The large post offices used mostly handstamping devices furnished by the U.S. Post Office Department, and the smaller offices, depending upon how much mail was handled, used a wide range of devices furnished by either the government or the private sector, or simply used manuscript markings.

Until the late 1870's, the Post Office Department furnished postmarking devices of varying styles to post offices doing certain volumes of business above a minimum figure that varied from gross annual receipts of \$50 to \$200, depending upon the then current regulations. Going into the 1870's, the style of devices furnished were, as spelled out by Section 14, Chapter II of the 1866 P.L. & R, as follows:

GROSS RECEIPTS	STYLE OF HANDSTAMPS
Over \$1000 annually	
Over \$500 but less than \$1000	
Over \$100 but less than \$500	

Section 15, following, stated that postmasters at offices with gross receipts of less than \$75 per annum had to furnish their own handstampers. The \$25 gap here, between \$75 and \$100 as the minimum amount of annual business required to receive free handstamps, reflects a rather casual attitude of the P.L. & R.'s compilers that indicates other factors in the way the furnishing of handstamps was handled.

The "first class" handstamps were steel duplexed types, as shown in the photo (with tracing of the marking it produced) in Figure 1 and the patent type drawings in Figure 2. These were furnished to the post offices doing over \$1,000 annual gross business. The 4 ring target killer of the handstamp shown in Figure 1 and its style of dated townmark indicates it was manufactured in the mid 1860's. The style shown in Figure 2, with a socket ("F" in Figure III of the drawing) duplexed to accept cork killers (often with carved fancy devices) also was developed in the 1860's after it was learned that the softer corks generally did a more thorough job in canceling the stamps than the metal four ring targets, even though they wore out more quickly. Since corks or carved wood killers did require frequent replacement, easily done in the socket type mountings used with the handstamps made like the drawing of Figure 2, these became an almost endless source of fancy cancels. Some postmasters or clerks fancied one type design, and as they wore out, continually replaced them with a somewhat similar but slightly different cork of the same general design. This produced markings of confusing variation, many of which some experts deem to be fakes, but actually, barring ink chemistry variations, who knows?

It is assumed that the class 2 devices of 1866 were made of iron and that they were not necessarily duplexed. The difference between iron and steel, the latter being hardenable after finishing, would have produced longer life in terms of steel surfaces being usable to postmark a great many more pieces of mail before being worm out.

The wood instruments furnished, per the P.L. & R. of 1866, were almost certainly manufactured by E.S. Zevely of Cumberland, Maryland. Portions from his *Monthly Bulletin* of November, 1869 (Vol. 4, No. 5, Whole No. 41) are shown in Figures 3 and 4. The portions shown in Figure 3 comprise the major feature of the front page of the four-page bulletin. It shows typical postmarks of the kind supplied by Zevely, and also pictures a hammer type postmarking device plus an unduplexed "circular office stamp," together with

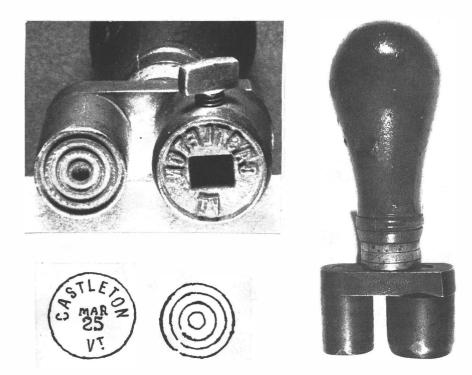


Figure 1. A first class duplexed handstamp with town datestamp and a target killer arranged to be applied at one blow. Used at Castleton, Vt., circa 1870. Courtesy, Dr. Donald B. Johnstone.

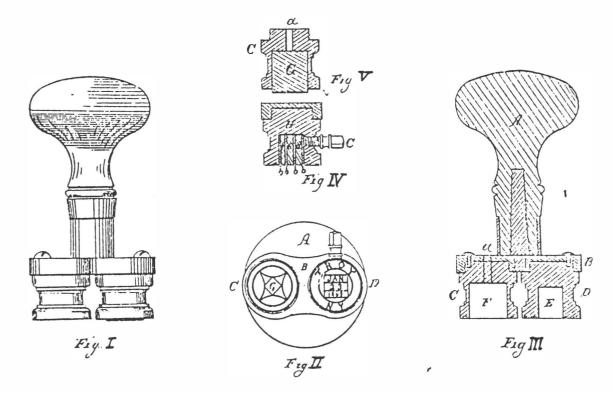


Figure 2. A patent drawing of a duplex handstamp, circa 1865, from a patent granted to Marcus P. Norton in the 1860's.

\$1,25

\$1,65

\$2,00

\$3,00



See elsewhere for further particulars.

THESE STAMPS HAVE BEEN FULLY TESTED AND APPROVED, - MANY YEARS.

HAND STAMPS!

POST-OFFICE MARKING STAMPS!

Delivered by mail, at the following prices:





No. 1. Circular office stamp with date changes and screw, complete,

No. 2. Same with year blocks.

No. 3. Same, prass bound, with do.

No. 4. Same, with cancellor attached,

HAMMER STAMP, To those who prefer it, I can furnish Miller's patent hammer stamp, with office stamp and date changes on one face, and cancellor on the other. Sent by mail for \$2,50. Brass bound.

Post-office Business, Free, Dating Stamps, and names of post-SIXTY CENTS masters and post-offices in straight lines, each Paid, Free, Advertised, Registered, Forwarded, Missent.

Due 3. and all kinds of rating stamps, cancelling, black ink,

and Pad, each -Full directions for use sent with all stamps, including now to make the ink and pad. Every and any style of stamp made to order, warranted to do good service many years if used with ordinary care per directions sent with them.

STAMPS for Books, Clothes, Business Cards, Envelopes, Fac simile Signa-A190. tures, Merchants, Railroads, Banks, everybody. SEALS for Private Initials, Notaries, Commissioners, Societies, Corporations, WOOD CUTS OR WOOD EN-&c., Sent by Mail. GRAVING for all sorts of things and all sorts of uses.

FAC-SIMILE SIGNATURE STAMPS delivered by mail Three to Five Dollars. REVENUE STAMP CANCELLORS, with dates, ink and pad complete in a box, sent by mail for Five Dollars. - same without box ink or pad \$3.

E. S. ZEVELY.

CUMBERLAND, MARYLAND.

See inside, second and third pages.

N. B .-- The contract for furnishing marking and rating post office stamps to the P. O. Dept. was re-awarded to E. S. Zevely for four years from April 1, 67.

Figure 3. Pages from the Monthly Bulletin published by E.S. Zevely of Cumberland, Maryland in 1869. Zevely made handstamps of boxwood for the Post Office Department and also, as shown in his Bulletin, offered them privately to postmasters who were not eligible to receive them from the government and who wanted additional handstamps. Courtesy, David G. Phillips.

prices.

Zevely's note at the bottom of the right-hand column, "The contract for furnishing marking and rating post office stamps to the P.O. Dept. was re-awarded to E.S. Zevely for four years from April 1, '67." is of interest. This probably refers to only the wood handstamps, since Fairbanks & Co. had the contract for the metal handstamps from 1863 to 1867, although they were manufactured by Edmund Hoole of New York as a sub-contractor.

Zevely's Bulletin, although aimed at postmasters, does provide us with the form the wooden handstamps furnished under government contracts took, as shown in Figures 3 and 4, from pages 2 (left) and 4 of the Bulletin. Figure 4 shows portions of pages 2 and 4, and give Zevely's terms and also show a very great familiarity with the regulations and practices of the Post Office Department. This isn't surprising, since E.S. Zevely was a brother of A.N. Zevely, 3rd Assistant Postmaster General from 1859-69. The note in small print is especially significant that notes, "Post offices collecting (gross) Fifty dollars or more annually can get Stamps from the Department by writing the First Assistant P.M.G."The portion at the right in Figure 4 provides instructions for use of the handstamps and ink suppled with it, from page 4 of the Bulletin.

A section on page 3 traces the history of manufacturing of postmarking handstamps in the United States and is worth repeating, as follows:

THE MONTHLY BULLETIN

Is Published by E. S. ZEVELY, at CUMBERLAND, MD

Stamps for use in post-offices sent by mail, "Free. P. O. B. All other stamps by mail postage prepaid, which is cheaper than by Express.

No stamps sent by Express "C. O. D.." but promptly forwarded on receipt of price by mail.

In writing, give the name of your post office, county and State plainly and in full.

When writing for information or circulars &c., it would be well to enclose a stamp.

The INK sent with stamps must be thinned with raw linseed or sweet oil See directions.

Describe what kind of a Stamp you want, [if you do not see it in this paper,] and I can then state price, &c.

Post Offices collecting (gross) Fifty dollars or more annually, can get Stamps from the Department, by writing to the First Assistant P. M. G

Postmasters must be careful to use the stamp for postmarking Registered packages, as well as letters, according to the new regulations concerning the registration of let-Written postmarks are not allowable.

OBSERVE—The Department only furnishes the circular office stamp. All other stamps, &c., must be procured by the postmasters. See prices elsewhere on this sheet.

DIRECTIONS

FOR USING THE

MARKING AND RATING STAMPS

Supplied by E. S. ZEVELY, Cumberland, Maryland.

The INK should be of an oily nature, as printers' ink. Vermillion, or Ivory Black, or Prussian Blue, or any other fine color, mixed with oil, will answer very well, though printers' ink does better, and may be had at any printing office. This should be slightly thinned with raw linseed or sweet oil. In order to apply the ink properly to the face of the stamp, the following simple fixtures should be provided:

- I. A cushion or PAD made by stretching a piece of buckskin or cloth over a block three or more inches in diameter and stuffed with cotton or wool.

A bit of glass, wood, stone, or porcelain.
 A small wooden spatula, (vulgo "paddle.")

THEN, to transfer the ink properly to the pad—which may require a little practice—with the spatula rub out a small portion of ink on the glass, and gently strike the pad upon it until it is perfectly "distributed." This being done, the process of stamping may be proceeded with as rapidly as desirable by first pressing or striking the stamp on the pad and then on the letter or paper to be stamped, which should be placed with layers of cloth or paper under it—and not directly on a hard table.

The ink, pad and glass should be kept covered when not in use, to protect them from dust, and the pad should also be kept moist with sweet oil, and by keeping it covered when not in use with a damp woolen cloth.

These stamps will do good service many years, and yield plain impressions, when used with care as per above directions, and will seldom require cleaning; but this may be done by rubbing gently with a soft brush with weak lye, camphene, or spirits of turpentine, &c., and completed when necessary by picking with a small pointed stick. Lastly, wipe stamp dry and oil.

TO USE SEALS—the same directions apply, except that the pressure should be harder than is necessary for a stamp; and if it be desired to use a seal without ink, a press or leverage of some kind must be used, with cloth or buckskin over the seal.

To use wood seals on hot wax, (and they answer for this just as well as metal, at much less cost,) it is only necessary to have them slightly moist or oily on face at the moment of using, and to use dexterously—allowing them to rest on the wax but an instant, or to allow the wax partly to cool first.

All kinds of stamps or seals made and delivered through the mails

Figure 4. Terms for purchasing handstamps from E.S. Zevely and his instructions for using them, from his Bulletin of 1869. Courtesy, David G. Phillips.

"MARKING AND RATING HANDSTAMPS"

(From the U.S. Mail)

"In days long syne, that is to say perhaps forty years ago, prior to the burning of the old general post-office and patent office building in Washington, Dec. 15, 1836, the P.O. Dept. furnished certain offices with stamps made of brass. These were made by William J. Stone; price \$15 for an office stamp. About the year 1850, or nineteen years ago, necessity, the parent of invention, was the means of introducing a much cheaper stamp to the notice of the Dept. and the public, and had it not been for this the Dept. would even yet probably would be paying much higher prices for stamps than it is paying. In that year, E.S. Zevely, then Postmaster at Pleasant Grove, Allegany Co., Md., engaged in teaching, who had previously elsewhere been a printer, editor and amateur engraver, after supplying his own office with stamps, conceived the idea of supplying others also. He was the first person who exhibited specimens of wooden stamps in the P.O. Dept.--which were approved, and an order obtained at prices, however, which experience has since shown were too low....."

Thus, Zeveley combined a bit of history as a space filler in his house organ Bulletin published to advertise his products.

The development of the duplexed postmarking devices in the 1860's had stemmed from Post Office Department objections to use of the town datestamps to cancel the postage stamps on a letter. Such use not only usually caused the postmark to frequently be illegible, but also did a poor job cancelling the stamp. Thus, after some years of negligible effect of the P.L. & R.'s in pressing use of a separate handstamp to cancel the stamps, an order by Postmaster General Joseph Holt on July 23, 1860 absolutely required use of a separate killer to cancel the stamps and banned use of the town datestamp for that purpose. This caused problems, particularly in the large post offices where large volumes of mail had to be postmarked in limited time to meet scheduled departures of mail. Additional time was taken by applying the separate markings, a problem only solved by adding additional people to postmark letters.

This led to the development of the duplex handstamp, combining town datestamp and killer so that both could be applied with one stroke.

The government issue devices furnished to the offices having over \$1000 per year gross business were

duplexed for the most part after the mid-1860's, but smaller offices received iron or wooden handstamps and, as per Zeveley's comment in his *Bulletin* (Figure 4, bottom, under "OBSERVE") the Department furnished only the town postmarking device but no other devices including those to cancel the stamps.

POST OFFICE CLASSIFICATIONS AND NUMBERS

The postal act approved July 1, 1864 established classes of post offices for the first time. At that time, five classes were established (later reduced to four), of which the postmasters of the top three classes, whose annual compensation was over \$1000, were appointed by the President and those with less salaries were appointed by the Postmaster General. In 1869, as of June 30, there were 27, 106 U.S. post offices, of which but 980 were of the top three classes having postmasters appointed by the President. The two lower classes, with annual compensation under \$1000 per year, were comprised of 4th Class offices with compensation from \$200 to \$1000 annually and 5th Class post offices with compensation under \$200 per year. These two classes, as of June 30, 1869 thus consisted of 26, 126 post offices or over 96% of the total.

It should be noted that while post office classification was based upon annual salary of the postmaster, the form of postmarking devices, if any, issued to those offices by the Post Office Department depended upon the gross receipts of the offices considered, which was a considerably higher sum. While salaries were also based upon the gross receipts of the post offices, they were but a small percentage of the post office receipts in the Class 1 or Presidential post offices. As per the 1873 P.L. & R., postmasters received as salary 60% of the first \$100 of annual gross receipts produced by their office, 50% of the next \$300, 40% of all receipts over \$400 and under \$2400 and 15% on all revenue exceeding \$2400 per annum.

Sections 65-70 of the 1873 *Regulations* redefined the details of the issuance of postmarking devices from those of 1866 although the change probably was in effect prior to 1870. Under the 1873 code, post offices with under \$50 annual receipts (or, thus, \$30 salary), received no postmarking devices whatsoever, those with gross receipts of \$50 to \$500 received wood circular townmarks; \$500 to \$1000, iron and over \$1000, "first class steel marking stamps."

Translating the breaking points on the style of postmark stamps furnished by the Post Office Department, all postmasters receiving over \$450 per year salary would have received the first class, steel duplexed stamps, those getting between \$250 and \$450 per year, stamps of iron, those getting from \$30 to \$250, wood devices and those receiving less than \$30 per year had to furnish their own.

Annual salaries were recorded in the semi-annual *U.S. Registers*. Compiling data from random selected pages of the 1871 *U.S. Register*, an estimate was made of what percentage of post offices would have received each class of government issued handstamps, if any, by 1871. Considering some 1200 post offices listed on 15 pages from that many different states, it appears that only about 15% of the post offices would have received metal devices made from iron or steel. Of the remaining 85%, about half would have been eligible to have wood handstamps furnished by the government and the remainder would have been entitled to none at all. They not only furnished their own cancels but their own datestamps.

Undoubtedly, from our awareness of the activities of E.F. Zevely and some occasional competitors whose advertisements have survived, many of the wood handstamps were sold to postmasters and postal clerks who purchased them on their own as time saving devices. Also, some of the offices whose mail volume had been decreasing had postmarking stamps left over from earlier years when they had been furnished by the government. But, from the number of small post office manuscript postmarks known from the 1860's and early 1870's, it is estimated that at least 20% of U. S. post offices, all of which sent very little mail were still using manuscript postmarks by 1870.

One of the interesting aspects of attempting to locate data on the process of supplying postmark devices as outlined in the P.L. & R. is the constant variation of terminology used when discussing the handstamps. They were called "Rating Stamps" in the 1866 P.L. & R.; "circular office stamps" or "marking stamps" in the 1873 P.L. & R. and "canceling stamps" or "dated stamps" in the 1879 edition. In the 1887 and 1893 editions they were called "canceling" and "postmarking" stamps. After the mid 1870's, instructions were to order the devices from the Blank Agency of the Post Office Department in Washington. Probably the problem was then, as now, the need to distinguish between the adhesive postage stamp and the rating or postmarking stamp in the discussion.

POSTMARK SUPPLIERS AND POSTMARKS, 1873-9

Chapter V of the 1873 P.L. & R. listed blank forms for ordering supplies. Among the more than two pages of different forms listed was one for ordering "marking and rating stamps" from the Blank Agency in Washington. This was followed by Sections 65 etc. which gave the basis for such orders cited previously.

The first issue of the *United States Official Postal Guide* appeared as a quarterly publication in October, 1874. While the early issues were intended to serve more as a guide for the public than for the postmasters, in 1879, their emphasis was completely shifted. From then on, they were issued monthly and were changed to provide postmasters with necessary information involving changes in laws, regulations and procedures, as well as post office openings and closings. During the 1870's while the quarterly *U.S. Postal Guides* were current, each subsequent issue carried a reference to the 1873 P.L. & R., listing "canceling stamps, to offices entitled to same" under supplies obtainable from the Blank Agency, but there was no other mention of any standards for supplying postmarking devices. However, under "Rulings of the Post Office Department," a section providing changes, instructions, additions and corrections of the P.L. & R.,

namely:

Advertisement Febry 15, 1877. advertisement dated beby 18.

RG28 Miscellaneous Orders of the Postmaster General 1876 6 1883

PROPOSALS FOR MARKING AND RATING STAMPS

Post-office Department.
Washington, February 4-1074

Sealed Proposals will be received at this Department until the day of March next, at 12 o'clock noon, for furnishing for the use of the post-offices in the United States for one year, from the 1st of April next, Marking and Rating Stamps of the following description.

175 1877

suitable be

CLASS NO. 1.

Circular Marking Stamps of Steel, with cancel combined, the stamp to be about one inch, and the cancel one-balf inch in diameter, with the name of the office and State, with type for months and days in blocks of like material, with sufficient thumbserew for the same, and with handles of mahoguny, walnut, or other hearty wood.

or other heavy wood.

In proposals for this class of stamps, the bidder will state the charge when fitted for and accompanied by 24-hour blocks, as 8 A. M., 4 P. M., etc.; also the charge for separate figures and months.

Also. Octagon Marking Stamps, without the cancel, but similar in all other respects to the circular stamp above described, and with type for year, months, and days of the same mafor year, money, terial, in blocks.

CLASS NO. 2.

CLASS NO. 2.

Circular Marking Stamps of Steel, without the cancel, but similar in all other respects to No. 1 Circular Stamp, and with type for months in blocks and single figures fordays, all of the same length as the steel type, but of type metal. Also, Rating and other miscellaneous stamps, of steel or fron, containing such words as "Advertised," "Missent." "Returned for better directions." or any other word, sentence, or figures not exceeding in length the sentence, "Returned for better directions," when several of the same are required.

when several of the same are required.

Also, for such Stamps as names of persons when but one of a kind is required.

Also, Cancels of Hard Wood, half-inch liam-also cancels

stamps will be ordered for the different classes of offices, according to present or future regulations and necessities of the Department, or the Postmaster General may at any time cease to order any of them in his discre

tion.
Models of stamps complete, of the bidders' own manufacture, must accompany the pro-

posals.

Each proposal must be accompanied by the guarantee of two sufficient guaranters, that the bidder will enter into contract within ten days after his bid is accepted to furnish the articles specified in his accepted bid, and a confident from a postmaster that such guarantee. certificate from a postmaster that such guar-

certificate from a postmaster that such guarantors are reliable persons.

The accepted bidder will be required, within ten days after his bid is accepted, to enter into contract, with sureties to be approved by the Postmaster General, to supply thearticles the proposal for which is accepted, in which contract it shall be provided that in case of failure to supply the articles, or any of them, according to the contract. the contractor and his sureties shall be liable for the forfeiture specified in such contract as liquidated damages to be sued for in the name of the United States.

States.

The stamps must be delivered at the Blank Agency of the Post-office Department at the expense of the contractor.

Proposals should be indorsed on the outside

Proposals should be indorsed on the outside of the envelope: "Proposals for Office Marking Scamps," and addressed to the First Assistant Postmaster General. Washington, D. C.

Postmaster Linear !

Figure 5. A galley of an advertisement, annotated and corrected by Postmaster General James N. Tyner, to invite proposals for furnishing "marking and rating stamps" to the Post Office Department in 1877. From Miscellaneous Orders of the Post Master General, National Archives.

in the April, 1879 U.S. Postal Guide (69, page 68) noted as follows:

"69. The Postmaster General has issued an order to the effect that no allowance for the purchase of marking and rating stamps of any kind will be made to postmasters, unless authority therefore shall first be obtained from the First Assistant Postmaster General. This order will be enforced, without distinction, against all postmasters."

Oddly, although a new edition of the P.L. & R. with letter of transmittal by Postmaster General David Key dated July 1, 1879 appeared soon after the publication of the ruling in the April 1879 Postal Guide, the new P.L. & R. contained no statement of the basis upon which handstamps might be provided as had been the case in earlier editions. It did list "canceling stamps" among post office supplies obtainable from the Blank Agency. It repeated, under Sections 721 and 722, the instructions of previous years as to the use of black printing ink to cancel stamps and continued the ban on use of the "Post-marking Stamp" to cancel postage stamps.

The 1879 P.L. & R. also had, as per an act of July 12, 1876, provisions combining the 4th and 5th Class post offices into the 4th Class, eliminating the "break" at \$200 annual gross receipts that had hitherto separated the two classes. The dividing point between Presidential appointment and appointment by the Postmaster General continued at an annual salary of \$1000, but the method of calculating salaries changed somewhat. The Presidential postmasters salaries were calculated upon the gross annual receipts of their offices but the 4th class postmasters salaries were, after July, 1876, computed upon the volume of stamps and postal stationery canceled rather than sold, plus box rents and other sources of revenue.

For both, the percentages allowed as salaries were about the same but the basis shifted from annual to a quarterly basis. On the first \$100 per quarter, 60% was allowed as salary; of the next \$200, 50% and for all over \$300, 40% for the postmasters of 4th class offices. Salary for any one quarter was limited by law to not exceeding \$250 for 4th class postmasters. However, provision was made for reclassifying to a higher level if the amount exceeded \$250 per quarter for four consecutive quarters. At the same time, the basis upon which expenses such as clerk hire, etc. were allowed was limited to the two higher classes of Presidential offices with nothing said about expense allowances for 3rd or 4th class post offices. The net effect on the furnishing of postmarks is uncertain, but it appears that the wood town datestamp contract was dropped and the iron handstamps changed to steel, insofar as the devices purchased by contract are concerned. Figure 5 shows a copy obtained by Dr. Alfred E. Staubus from the National Archives of a printer's galley of an advertisement for marking and rating stamps of 1877. The galley, dated Feb. 15, 1877, was annotated and corrected by James N. Tyner, then serving as Postmaster General. The advertisement is headed "Proposals for marking and rating stamps," and was to run in newspapers commencing February 17th, with the proposals to be received by March 17th, 1877, and the contract to run just one year.

In essence, the requirement was for first and second class devices, the first class handstamp being a round duplexed device of steel and the second class also of steel but without the cancel attached. Separate townmarks, and various auxiliary handstamps, some of hard wood, were also required. From this, it appears the intent of the Post Office Department was to only supply standard postmarking devices to the larger classes of post offices, letting the others acquire their postmarking and office equipment on their own directly from suppliers. This idea stems from the Post Office Department ruling quoted previously, in the U.S. Postal Guide for April, 1879, cutting off allowances for purchasing rating stamps without obtaining prior permission. Just whom the offenders were who caused this ruling to have been published is unknown, but it seems probable that both large and small post offices were ordering handstamps on their own and submitting the costs to the Department as an expense.

Just who furnished these devices is also uncertain since they were probably not covered by existing contracts. However, advertisements in the *U.S. Postal Guides* and other publications seen by post-masters, such as circulars addressed to them, offers clues. Occasional ads had appeared in the *Postal Guides* of the late 1870's and Figure 6 shows such an ad from the Issue of April 1879. The style of marking shown, with a barred oval or ellipse, became the standard U. S. postmark form for many years thereafter well beyond the Banknote period. Advertiser John Goldsborough of Philadelphia developed the elliptical barred oval type killer such as was commonly used In the following decades. This killer and Goldsborough's ads are discussed in detail on pages 314-15. The first of these style of markings appeared in 1875 in New York, their use evidently being experimental.



POSTMASTERS AND OTHERS.

Send 3-cent stamp for Circulars and information of STAMPS OF ALL KINDS, FOR BANKS, RAILROADS, etc., and Postmasters' Complete Set.

J. GOLDSBOROUGH, 919 Market Street, Philadelphia, (Opposite New Post Office.)

Figure 6. Goldsborough's ad in the quarterly April 1879 *U.S. Postal Guide* displays a duplexed Philadelphia postmark with ellipse and star cancel, furnished from 720 Chestnut St. of that city. (See page 314 for other Goldsborough ads.)

THE U.S. POSTAL GUIDES OF THE 1880'S

It was noted earlier that the *U.S. Postal Guides* changed form in 1879. Previously, they had been a quarterly publication with information intended for the general public, but with the January 1880 issue, it became a monthly publication. The publication revolved around a huge January issue of each year with small monthly supplements for the remaining eleven months. The January issues invariably ran to several hundred or even a thousand pages, but the rest of the monthly issues seldom reached 50 pages. The January issues had a huge alphabetic list of all post offices, plus additional large lists of the post offices by states and counties. In addition, there were lists of post offices by classification, of money order, special delivery and classes of registration offices. The data on the foreign mails was extensive and a capsule of the important provisions of the last issued P.L. & R., updated as required, was also included. In short, the January *U.S. Postal Guides* were the "bible" of post office operations in the U.S. from the 1880's on for many years.

The monthly supplements simply updated post office establishments and closings and brought postal laws, regulations and procedures up to date. Both the January and the monthly issues were sent free to all postmasters and to all members of the Railway Mail Service.

All the Postal Guides of the 1880's carried advertising, the advertising pages being confined to sections in the front and back but never interposed into the pages dealing with the post office operations. The advertising was naturally aimed at those who read the Guides the most, the postmasters and postal clerks, after January, 1880.

The January 1881 *U.S. Postal Guide* carried several offerings of postmarking devices for purchase by postmasters who either were not furnished hands tamps by the Department or needed more handstamps than the Department would furnish to efficiently operate their post offices.

SOURCES OF CANCELLING DEVICES, 1870-1880

All through the 1870's, the "cork" or other styles of handstamps used to cancel stamps, as distinguished from the town postmarks, were of about the same pattern as of previous decades. This is to say, while "separate" (as identified by Postmaster General Joseph Holt in his order of July 1860) handstamps were used at times prior to 1860 to cancel stamps, such was usually done with the town postmark until Holt positively banned the practice. When separate handstamps were used, they were either a solid wood or steel grid or target or a soft "cork" inserted into some kind of holder. After 1860, the cancelers evolved into two major groups, having either hard solid designs or soft corks. The cancelers were either separate or duplexed with the soft "corks" inserted into sockets as shown in the patent drawings of Figure 2.

It had been found in the 1860's that the softer materials did a far better job of cancelling the stamps than the harder wood or steel killers, which was probably true with the inks, devices and stamp pads involved. Thus, while the corks wore out rather quickly, the handstamps were designed so that corks could be easily replaced. It was also found that a blank, solid cork didn't produce as densely black a cancel or carry cancelling ink as well as did a cork that had scored grooves or recesses in its face. The relief that was thus provided would not only carry more ink but the smaller areas remaining applied it better.

BRASS, STEEL, RUBBER, AND POSTMASTERS, We have the greatest variety of stamps made in the United 5 States 6 PM Before purchasing send for our 48-page catalogue, containing over one hundred different 79 styles of Post Office Daters alone. Eureka Rubber Dater, price \$3.00. Steel, price \$5.80. AUG 6 188 1875

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

Factory at Aurora, 111.

Figure 7. Ad of F.R. Hammond of Chicago (and Aurora), Illinois for brass, steel or rubber postmarking devices. From the *U.S. Postal Guide* of January, 1882.



Figure 8. Two page ad of F.P. Hammond & Co., of Aurora, Illinois in the *U.S. Postal Guide* of January, 1884. Note that the cancelling devices for stamps are not illustrated but, in spite of being banned the previous year, rubber postmarking devices are still being offered in the official *Postal Guide*.

This, of course, led to the carving of the soft corks into fancy designs by postmasters and clerks so as to provide cancels distinctive of their offices or, in the larger offices, probably of the clerks themselves. These, of course, provided the highly collectible cancels of the 1850's into the 1880's. When the duplexed handstamps supplied by the Post Office Department with sockets for the cork killers became widely distributed, they seemed to supply an endless variety of cancels to delight today's collectors.

It is also apparent from many of the varieties of devices listed here that when a cork with a design fancied by the postmaster or clerk wore out, it was promptly replaced with a new cork of basically but not meticulously the same design as to exact detail. This factor causes a considerable problem today to decide whether such cancels on loose stamps are simply a non-identical replacement or the product of some faker. It is also of interest that many postmasters and clerks copied designs, with more or less accuracy, that appeared on mail incoming from other post offices when the designs caught their fancy. This, too, compounds the problem of just what post office or faker applied a cancel to a stamp that has long since been removed from its cover.

In any case, a fair proportion of the cancels described in this book stemmed from the carvings on cork, wood or other soft materials and used to cancel stamps in the 1870's and into the 1880's.

SOURCES OF CANCELLING DEVICES IN THE 1880'S

Earlier, mention was made of advertisements offering postmarking devices for sale that appeared in the U.S. Postal Guides of the 1880s. The January 1880 Postal Guide carried two small ads of John Goldsborough of Philadelphia and one, full page, of F.P. Hammond of Aurora, Illinois. The latter, while showing only dated postmarks without killers, did mention rubber stamps. The January 1881 Postal Guide had a double page ad of Hammond and a full page ad of E.S. Miller of Newark, Ohio. Both Hammond and Miller advertised rubber stamp postmarking devices. The process of making datestamps from vulcanized rubber started just as the Banknote stamp period opened, and the Hammond ad in the January 1881 Postal Guide presented four duplexed examples of the beautiful and popular "wheel-of-fortune" killers, called by some the "Japanese parasol" and by others,

"doilies." This page is duplicated on page 56 and the Hammond "Eureka dater" which appeared on the opposite page of Hammond's ad, is shown on page 81.

It has been estimated that the wheel-of-fortune killer was used by at least 600 different small post offices, and over 350 of them are listed in this book, pages 56-61. Figure 7 shows another Hammond ad that appeared in the January 1882 Postal Guide. This is a much more modest affair, and Figure 8 shows, much reduced, Hammond's two page ad from the January 1884 Postal Guide. Other Hammond ads continued to appear in the Postal Guides on through the 1880s, although other types of killers are shown in the ads. A Hammond ad in the 1887 Postal Guide illustrates markings of Bath, Ills. (Hammond's abbreviation) and White Rock, Texas. Both these are duplexed with killers of much less intricacy than the wheel-of-fortune cancels, the Bath duplex having a positive, segmented star and the White Rock cancel being a negative star.

Figure 9 shows a postal card, front and back, offering vulcanized rubber handstamps made by the Excelsior Rubber Stamp Co. of Elmhurst, Ill. The card illustrates two markings, one of Columbus, Ohio duplexed with a shaded cross (see page 115) dated June 11, 1879. The Elmhurst postmark on the card is a similar style duplex in magenta with the same killer. The other marking is a money order business stamp of Atlanta, Georgia. The address is a partially printed "POSTMASTER" and finished in manuscript, "Albany, Portage County, Wis," which makes quite clear to whom the mass mailing was directed.

One of the questions aroused from seeing the reproduced postmarks in the ads of the 1880's is whether the towns whose markings are shown actually ordered and used the particular markings. While two of the four wheel-of-fortune markings shown in the Hammond advertisement on page 56 are known with different dates than those shown, there is no record of a Denver, Colorado example.



Figure 9. A postal card advertising rubber postmarking stamps with a fancy cross duplexed, of the Excelsior Rubber Stamp Co. of Elmhurst, Illinois, sent in 1879.

WONDERFUL! **WONDERFUL!** TO POSTMASTERS ONLY. No pay until you get the goods and test them. For \$3.00 I will send by mail my best FLEXIBLE P. O. Dater and (anceler, Pads, Ink, Dates for 10 years, in Walnut Case, with Tweezers and 15 oneline stamps, and everything to use the stamps with. 0 No reduction made when Canceler is not wanted, but we will put Dater and Canceler on same or separate handle, as desired. Order by number. Any one of these Daters with the 15 Stamps for \$3.00, or without the 15 Stamps, \$2.00. Supplied 13. 14. JUNE JAN 13 25 1878 1881 With CAL E. S. MILLER, Dear Sir: Inclosed find P. O. order for \$3.3 mount due for Stamps and Dater. I am well pleased with them. JOHN WHETLEY, P. M., Millville, Cal. Also the 15 Stamps as shown here. these 15. Stamps NOV 5 1881 TEXA S Mr. E. S. MILLER, Dear Sir: The Flexible Dater and Stamps you manufactured for this office are received and tested, for which I inclose \$2.25, balance due for same. You will please accept my thanks for your promptness, and allow me to say they are decidedly the best thing for the price. I have seen. Every letter and figure is clear and distinct, saving much labor. Twice the price could not induce me to be without them. ILENRY C. GILLIAND, P. M., Cartersville, Texas. ppr To Postmasters and decchants. - Having 9 Merchants. — Having purchased the block in which we do business, 16. which we do business, owning our own ruling machines, and running our presses with an Otto gas engine, and buying our paper in large lots, we are prepared to furnish Note Heads, Statements, Bill Heads, and Letter Heads at prices astonishingly low, where not less than 1 000 of a π_{0N} NOV 29 1877 Ō M.O.Bastonishingly low, where not less than 1,000 of a kind are ordered at a time. Send for specimens and mention this ad. d eturned to Writer. 0 Single line is not ordered with E. S. Miller, Dear Sir: Hike the Dater very much. WARREN P. HUNT, P. M., Lewiston, Idaho. In ordering, send 75 cents in postage stamps, to pay packing and postage on the package, and when you get the goods remit \$2.25, or if the goods are not what I represent them to be, return them, and I will remit you 65 cents. All I ask is FAIR PLAY. Do not order these goods unless you need them and will pay for them promptly if they are as represented. 7 These Stamps never need cleaning, and will always give a perfect in pression, if my Ink is used. Postmasters not needing the 15 one-line stumps can have the Dater, Canceler, luk, and Pads for \$2.00. The 15 Stamps, \$1.00. artm Twenty-five per cent. discount on Dater Outfits when cash in full comes with order. Send 3.ct. stamp for circular of Stencil and Rubber Alphabets and Figures, Rubber Name and Business Stamps, and samples of Comic Envelopes, Bill Heads, Post Office Note and Letter Heads, Statements, etc. Address E. S. MILLER, Flexible Stamp, Stencil, and Printing House, NEWARK, OHIO. Please mention January Postal Guide. lent,

Figure 10. Advertisement of E.S. Miller of Newark, Ohio for his "flexible" (actually, rubber) postmarking stamps, from the January, 1884 *U.S. Postal Guide*. Note that Richmond, New Hampshire and Cartersville, Texas duplexed postmarks. The former imitates the target killers made in steel of the previous decades and the latter has a fancy, double lined Maltese cross killer duplexed.

This writer collects Columbus, Ohio covers, including those from the Banknote period, but a marking like the duplexed postmark shown in Figure 9 has yet to be seen. The conclusion is that if the larger towns did order such markings, they were for occasional or emergency use. While Hammond was a prominent advertiser of his handstamps in the *U.S. Postal Guides* of the early 1880s, another frequent advertiser that offered rubber handstamps was E.F. Miller of Newark, Ohio. Miller's ad from the *Guide* for January 1884 is shown as Figure 10, in which he offers various styles of duplexed handstamps.

Illustrated in the ad is a rubber handstamp with a double line outer circle and a duplexed 4-ring target killer of Richmond, N.H. dated Jan. 25, 1881. Figure 11 shows a cover from Richmond using the identical

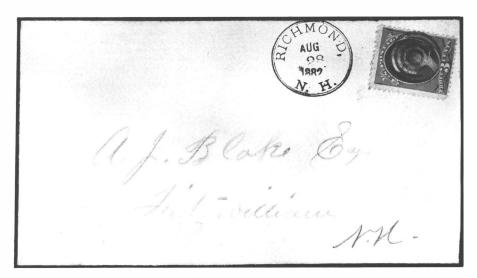


Figure 11. Cover showing use of Richmond, New Hampshire duplexed handstamp with target killer shown in the advertisement in Figure 10. Courtesy, Guy Purington.

type handstamp dated Aug. 28, 1889. Presumably, the other markings shown in Miller's ads, from Millville Cal, Lewiston, Idaho and Cartersville, Texas also could be known on covers, although a cover from Cartersville hasn't as yet been recorded with the fancy cross.

Although Miller used exactly the same artwork including all the postal markings shown in his ad in Figure 10 in similar full page ads in the 1884 and 1887 January *U.S. Postal Guides*, he varied his wording somewhat in each ad. His quarter page ad in the 1881 January *Guide* and his full page ad in that of January 1882 are, like the 1883 ad shown in Figure 10 both headed "Wonderfull Wonderfull" but both identify the material from which the handstamps are made as being rubber. The 1883 ad shown in Figure 10 and all later ads simply say "flexible" instead of "rubber"handstamps. The 1883 ad was duplicated in January, 1884, but the 1887 ads and later have other headings such as ""Cash in advance will tell," and "Rock bottom prices!" The Richmond, N.H. duplexed marking shown in the earlier ads was replaced with a nearly identical Richmond duplexed design in 1887 and again, in September 1889, with a single lined marking dated January 25, 1886 rather than 1881, as previously.

John Goldsborough of Philadelphia, who was apparently the first to offer the steel duplexed handstamp with a barred oval or elipse style killer into which a number, letter or symbol could be placed, had ads in the *U.S. Postal Guides* from about 1878 until at 1886, when he sold his business. One of his ads is shown in Figure 12, from the January 1883 *U.S. Postal Guide*. In this ad, Goldsborough offers 13 rubber stamps for \$3.00, including a rubber duplexed handstamp of the type with elliptical killer and a star in the center. This is the type which he pioneered in steel versions, but didn't actually manufacture. In his ads shown on page 314, he offers postmarking and cancelling devices made of steel or hard brass, but it appears that all his metal devices were made by the Chambers family, until about 1874 located in Washington, D.C. when they moved to Lodge, Virginia. This family, as described by Arthur H. Bond in a chapter in Vol. I of J. David Baker's *The Postal History of Indiana*, and others, manufactured steel and other metal handstamps through four generations. They apparently made, either as sub-contractors or under direct contracts with the Post Office Department, nearly all the steel, wrought iron and brass handstamps used by postmasters of the Banknote era.

There is little doubt that Goldsborough and all others advertising metal postmarking devices bought their advertised products from the Chambers family.

The January 1883 issue of the *U.S. Postal Guide* saw the high water mark in the number and size of the advertisements of handstampers intended to be sold privately to postmasters. In addition, to the two Goldsborough ads and the full or double page ads of Miller and Hammond there was a full page ad from Ward & Adams of Aurora, Illinois and a half page ad from H.W. Hubbard & Co. of Nassau Street, New York, a familiar address to philatelists. It is possible that Ward & Adams, being located at Aurora, Illinois as was F.P. Hammond & Co., were a spin-off or associated with Hammond.

In addition, the 1883 Guide had a tiny advertisement of S.A. Brown of Buffalo, New York, advising "YOU can make money with my outfit for making RUBBER Stamps." This is probably the source of the equipment used by some of the suppliers of the rubber postal handstamps, but the business actually started to go sour in the same issue of the Postal Guide, January 1883, in which the greatest number of ads appeared.



Figure 12. Advertisement of John Goldsborough of Philadelphia appearing in the January 1883, *U.S. Postal Guide*. Note Goldsborough's own imitation in rubber of the standard duplexed, with elliptical killer, postmarking devices he had been furnishing in steel to the Post Office Department.

THE ACT OF CONGRESS OF MAY 4, 1882

On May 4, 1882 Congress appropriated \$35,000 for the purpose of supplying fourth-class postmasters, "in the discretion of the Postmaster General, with the necessary instruments for canceling stamps and weighing and postmarking mail-matter, not to exceed in value five dollars to anyone office, to be accounted for like public property of the Government, and to be turned over to the successor in office."

This enactment probably was reported in the monthly supplemental *U.S. Postal Guides* that appeared prior to the January 1883 *Guide*. However, pages 764-765 of the 1883 *Guide* make the attitude and future course relative to providing and controlling the use of postmarking and cancelling devices very clear. After repeating the provisions that had appeared in previous years as to using only black ink of the approved sort and requirements for postmarking letters, Rule No. 976 banned the use of rubber postmarking devices, as follows:

"The use of a rubber postmarking device is a violation of the law. The Post Office Department furnishes metal postmarking stamps and requires postage stamps to be canceled with black printing ink, which cannot be used with the rubber stamp."

The section providing requirements as to postmarking mail and canceling stamps is shown in Figure 14, combined from pages 764-5 of the 1883 *Guide* at the end of this chapter.

While the act providing funds to supply the 4th class post offices with postmarking and cancelling equipment and scales rather set the tone for the years continuing long after the Banknote period, the implementation probably lasted until after the Banknote stamps were history. This was because of the number of post offices that had to be supplied. While the larger of the 4th class offices, those with several hundreds of dollars salary but not exceeding \$1000 annually probably had long since been furnished government handstamps, there were, as of January 1, 1883, 46,893 post offices in the United States, of which 44,798 were 4th class offices.

Thus, since \$35,000 was appropriated by Congress to supply them with equipment they had not previously been furnished, on the basis of a value of not more than \$5.00 per post office, it is estimated that the number of post offices supplied by the appropriation was but 7,000 to 10,000 post offices. On that basis, assuming Congress continued to add similar amounts to annual Post Office Department appropriations, the time lag is obvious. In addition, the supplying of postmarking devices to all offices was done against requisitions from those offices, worn out equipment also had to be replaced and newly established or newly named post offices also had to be equipped.

The use of rubber stamps, although banned in 1883, apparently again became acceptable within a few years since the manufacturers supplying them privately to postmasters continued to advertise. Only E.S. Miller changed his ad to eliminate any mention of the devices being rubber, by calling them "flexible." The tone of the ads changed, however, cancellers soon disappearing from the illustrations with the hand-stamps shown being intended for supplemental use such as for money order business or auxiliary markings and thus not being cancels.

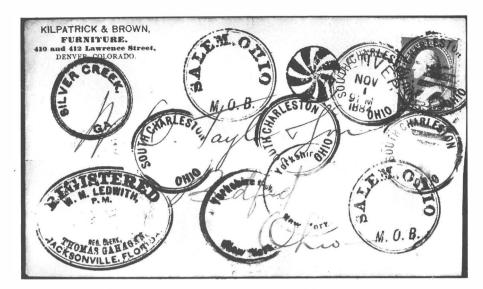


Figure 13. An envelope used for test strikes, possibly by the manufacturer, of rubber stamps intended for several post offices. The original origin of the cover was Denver, Colorado on Nov. 1, 1884 and it is addressed to W.O. Taylor & Son at Bedford, Ohio.

Figure 13 shows a routine piece of mail, sent from Denver, Colorado in late 1884 to W.O. Taylor & Sons of Bedford, Ohio. Received there, the cover abruptly lost its mundane character, insofar as today's collectors are concerned. It was apparently used to test out various new postmarking devices, with their markings covering most of the cover front.

Included in the group is a duplexed example of the Salem, Ohio pinwheel, shown in this book as GCR-197 on page 55, and also a Salem, Ohio "M.O.B." (Money Order Business) handstamp. The group also includes strikes of Silver Creek, N.Y. five South Charleston, Ohio and two partially legible Yorkshire Center, New York postmarks, and a "Registered" oval marking of Jacksonville, Florida that includes names of both the postmaster and the registry clerk.

This cover strongly suggests that the addressee, H.O. Taylor & Sons, manufactured rubber stamps for postal use, but to date, no advertisements under that name have been seen. However, since the kits for making vulcanized (as originally named by Charles Goodyear) rubber stamps were widely available and not expensive, it is probable Taylor advertised only by mail. Printed U.S. postal cards or printed post cards bearing a l¢ stamp for circular rate could be a controlled advertising expenditure. It was also far more convenient and economical for a small enterprise than an ad in the U.S. Postal Guide or other periodicals with national circulation.

A reproduction of a printer's sample page of C. A. Klinkner & Co. of San Francisco in the 1880s is shown as Figure 15. This sample page, depicting various rubber stamps available in a wood handle at 50¢ each, shows, eighth from the top in the right hand row, the famous "kicking mule" design used as a cancel at Port Townsend, Washington and other post offices, as shown on page 154 of this book. A few others of the designs shown bear considerable similarity to known cancels. It also should be observed that surviving handstamps of this nature are tools for fakers to produce some remarkably attractive cancels on loose stamps. It is presumed the original of Figure 15 (made from a photocopy from an unknown origin) dates from the late 1880s or 1890s.

The comment made in rule 976 that black printing ink couldn't be used with a rubber stamp is of interest. This probably meant that the major factor considered by the Post Office Department was their fear of reuse of badly canceled or stamps having cancels being washed off. However, several of the ads of Miller and Hammond and also of others of the late 1880's clearly state that black ink was available that was approved by the U.S. Post Office Department which could be used with steel, brass, wood or rubber handstamps.

Thus, by the end of the banknote period, although many fancy cancels are known on the small Banknote stamp issues and the Columbians, most post offices were using either steel handstamps duplexed with the elipses or barred ovals, or, in the larger offices, postmarking and cancellations were applied by machines.

The first experiments with machines dated from the early part of the Banknote period, but before it came to a close, the Leavitt machines were cancelling postal cards in most large post offices and International and American machines were also seeing extensive use. These, in combination, were to largely eliminate the fancy "cork" and its less pretty associated markings by the turn of the century.

3. Postmarking.

- 969. Section 379, P. L. & R. ed. of 1879, is amended to read as follows: "All mailable matter (except that of the second class) deposited in any post office for mailing or delivery must bear a postmark giving the name of the post office and an abbreviation of the name of the state (and on first-class matter the date of deposit); and all letters received from other offices or post offices for delivery or for redistribution to other offices or post offices must be postmarked on the reverse side with the date and, when possible, the hour on which they are received. But in the case of packages of letters from other offices or post offices, received to be forwarded intact to the post offices of final destination, the facing slips only will be postmarked at the post offices through which they pass. Missent matter of any class, received at any post office, must be stamped 'Missent,' and postmarked with the date of receipt before the same is forwarded to its proper destination."
- 970. The Postmaster General has declined to exempt any post office from the requirement of section 379, P. L. & R., relative to postmarking letters on the reverse side with the date of receipt, deeming that whatever of inconvenience may be occasioned by the few minutes' delay then incurred is amply compensated by the certainty with which delay in transportation or in delivery may be detected by the postmaster showing the date of receipt as well as of dispatch, or of receipt at the mailing office. Postal cards must be so postmarked on the address side, and not on the side containing the communication. See ruling 318.
- 971. The Postmaster General insists that black printing ink must be used in postmark. ing. See ruling 629.
- 972. It is the intention of the law that the postmark on mail-matter shall bear the date of its deposit in a post office, and that the postage stamps affixed be canceled as soon after its deposit as possible.
- 973. The postmark on mail-matter is a very important feature thereof; but from the number of entirely illegible postmarks on matter received at the Post Office Department alone, it is evident that the fact is not taken into consideration by a large number of postmasters. They should read section 381, P. L. & R., and take care that every postmark is distinct enough to be correctly read.
- 974. Postmasters are forbidden to postmark postal cards on the side intended for the communication. The postmarks should be made only on the side intended for the address and so as not to interfere with the address.
- 975. On account of the value of impressions of daily postmarking and dating stamps as evidence, it is deemed best to require the record of such impressions to be preserved at least two years, after which period they may be sold as waste paper. See section 380, P. L. & R.
- 976. The use of a rubber postmarking stamp is a violation of law. The Post Office Department furnishes metal postmarking stamps, and requires postage stamps to be canceled with black printing ink, which cannot be used with the rubber stamp.
- 977. It having been brought to the attention of this Department that many postmasters are using railway stamps, and other similar stamps, for postmarking their mail-matter, and as the stamp upon such matter is often of very great importance as evidence of the date of mailing, and as the value of this evidence is materially affected by the use, by postmasters, of irregular stamps, postmasters are directed in future to use no stamp for postmarking unless it contains the name of the post office and the date of its use, and it must contain no other matter, and must make a clear and distinct impression and be used only with black ink.

 (Continued, next page)

Figure 14. Instructions for postmarking, from the *U.S. Postal Guide* for January, 1883, including (rule 976) a statement that use of rubber postmarking stamps was a violation of the law.

(Continued, from previous page)

978. The attention of postmasters is called to sections 375 and 377, page 103, Postal Laws and Regulations, ed. 1879: "Only black ink should be used for postmarking. All violations of this order should be promptly reported to the General Superintendent of the Railway Mail Service, who is charged with the instruction of postmasters in their duties prescribed by chapters 9, 10, 11, and 12 of title II. of the Postal Laws and Regulations."

C. A KLINKNER & CO., SAN FRANCISCO

Any of these Cuts inserted in any Stamp Free of Charge



The above prices are for Stamps only. If Pads, lisk and Patent Lithigraphics Tin Box are wanted add Sic. 2 306 to may address on receipt of price. In ordering state number, and color of lisk wanted.

Any of the above outs can be put on our Midget Self-labor for \$1.00 extra.

Figure 15. G. A. Klinkner of San Francisco furnished the famous "kicking mule" rubber stamps as described on page 154. Several other cancels of that and other sections may be noted in the designs shown available from him shown in this reproduced offer sheet. It is also possible the surviving rubber stamps of this nature were used to make fake cancels on loose stamps!

The primary reason for this book is to present a sampling of the various cancels used during this period and to identify the place(s) of origin and dates of use, where known. It is not intended to be a catalog of prices.

The intent of these ratings is to give the user a general idea as to value in comparison to other cancels listed here.

Many factors come into play in determining the value of a particular cancel. Quantities available, color (other than black), quality and centering of the cancel and to some extent, the quality of the stamp itself, all play a part in determining the value of a cancel. However, what may play as big a part as any, is the nature of the cancel itself. For example, a particular star cancel may have been used for only a few days, resulting in only a limited number or copies known, while the "Kicking Mule" cancels are fairly common, as evidenced by their inclusion in so many auctions and dealers stock who handle this material. However, the "unusual" nature of the later make them much more desirable.

Each of the tracings in this book has a Cole catalog number assigned that appears at the left above the tracing. For those cancels used by many post offices in duplicate, the single Cole number applies to all the markings of that exact configuration, regardless of from how many towns it was used. When a cancel appearing in a half tone illustration is not traced, the Cole number will be found, often as an "A" or subsequent letter addition, near the illustration or in or at the end of the caption.

At the right above each tracing will be found a Roman numeral rating indicating a combination of scarcity and desirability. Similar numerals will be found applied to cancels not traced but found in the half tone illustrations, but only in those cases when the cancel is considerably different from the norm for that group.

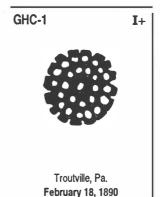
To assist the user in determining a general idea of desirability, three groups are used, I, II, III. In addition, within each group a (-) or (+) may also be used, indicating a tendency towards the higher or lower end of that group. The ratings are for well struck and centered cancels, using the most common values, on off cover stamps. In most cases this will be the 3¢ green or 2¢ 1883 and 1887 issues. An exception to this would be the New York Foreign Mail cancels which appear most frequently on the 6¢ issues. The same cancel on cover will invariably be valued higher, with factors such as destination increasing this further.

The three levels of ratings used in this book may be roughly categorized as follows:

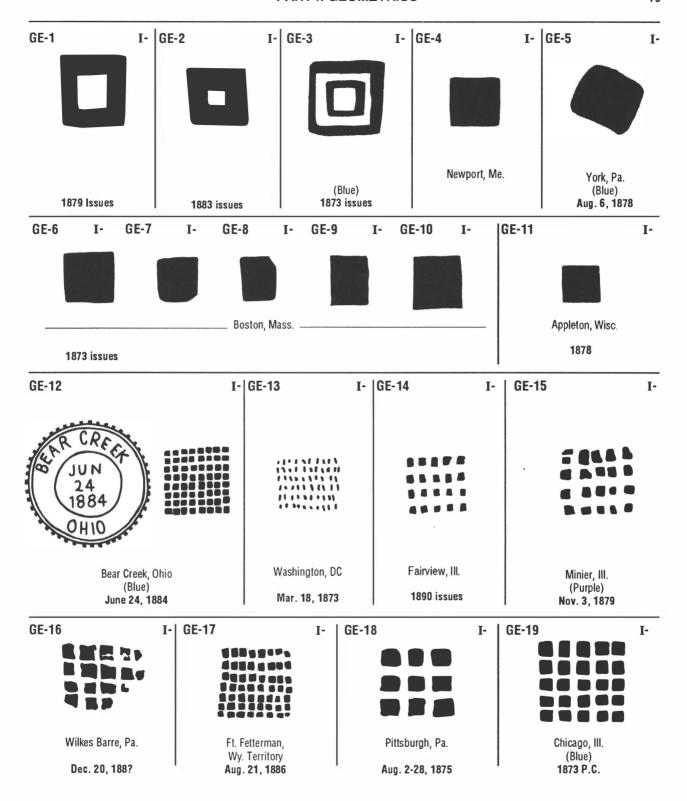
I - Markings relatively common and/or not much in demand.

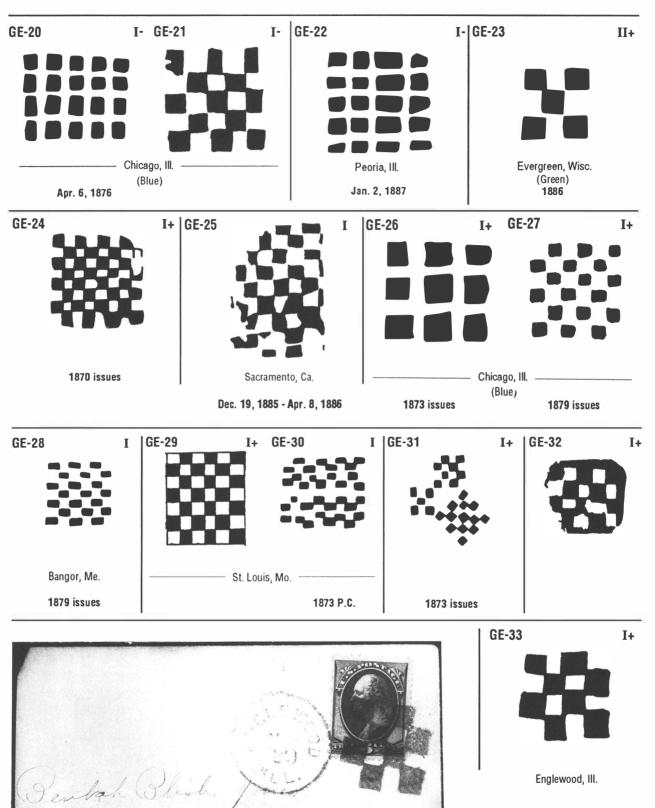
II - Markings fairly scarce and/or with considerable demand.

III - Quite rare and/or with strong demand.

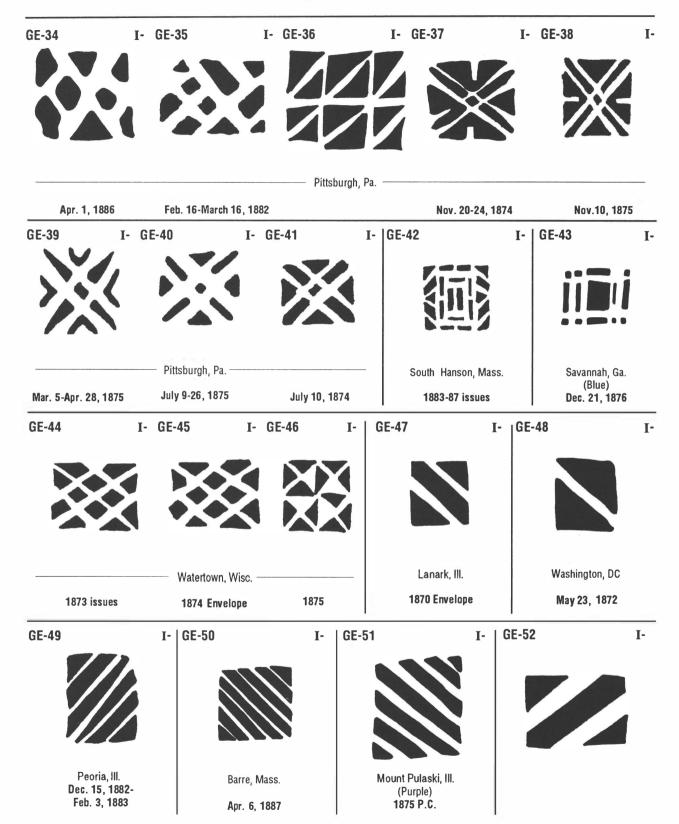


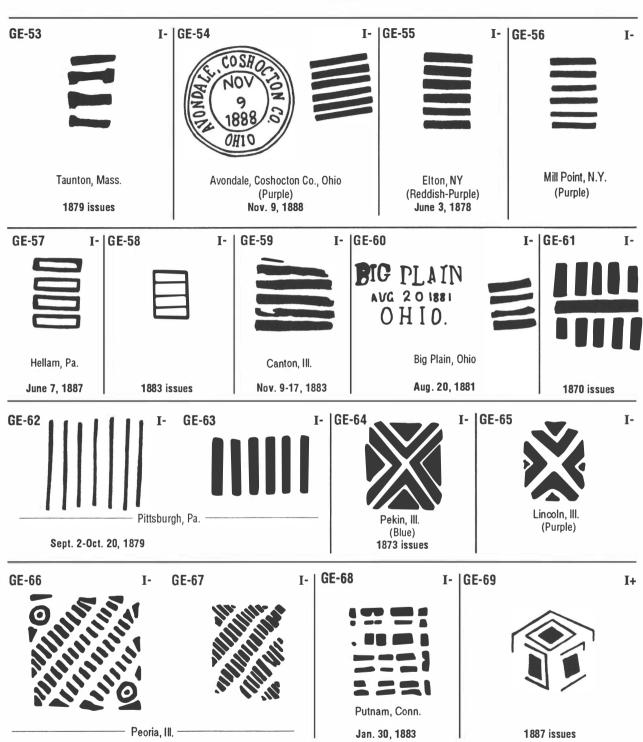
Value rating systems are really an expression of scarcity versus desirability. Neither factor is fixed in a given period of time. A newly discovered correspondence may render a previously scarce cancel readily available. The sale of a large collection, seldom if ever exhibited, may abruptly sate the market with desirable cancels. It is also true there is very little demand for many markings that are both attractive and scarce because they are relatively unknown and have not been publicized.





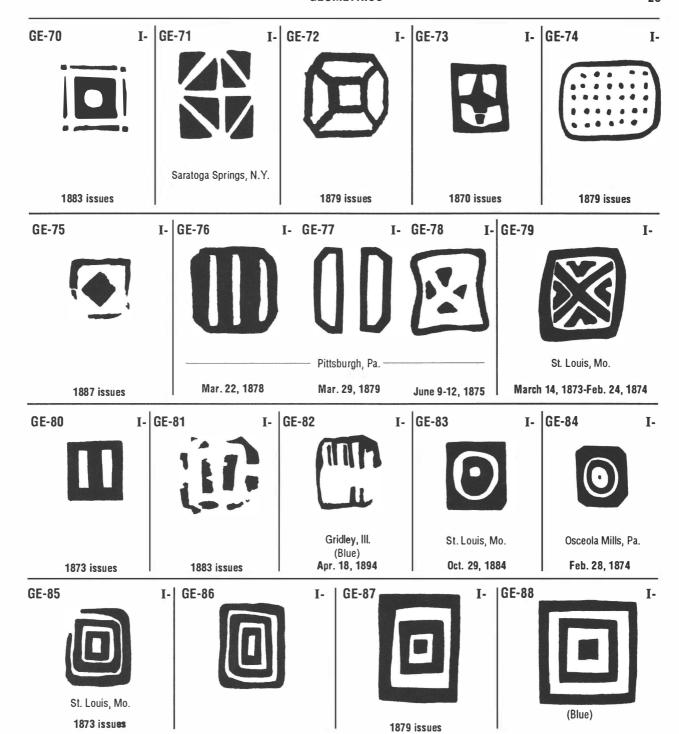
Englewood, Illinois duplexed checkerboard.

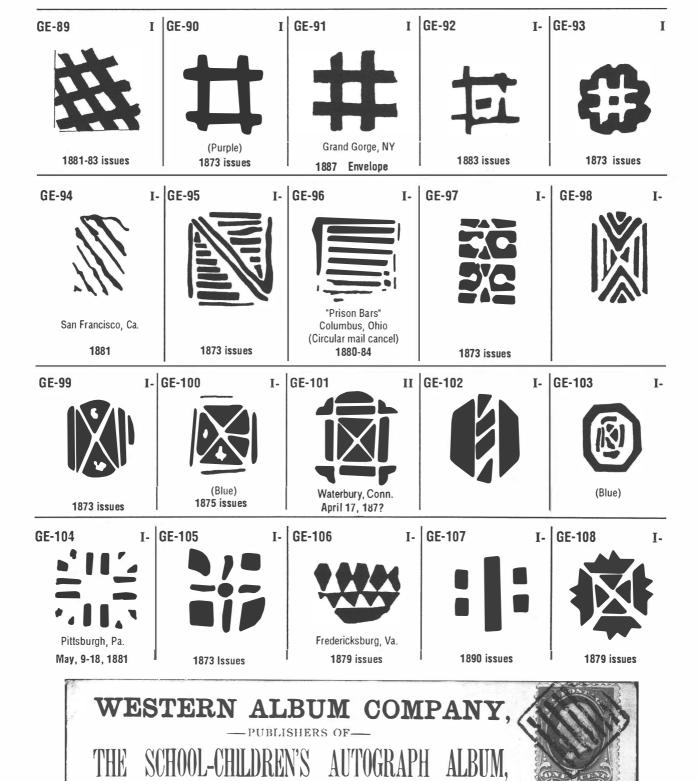




1881 issues

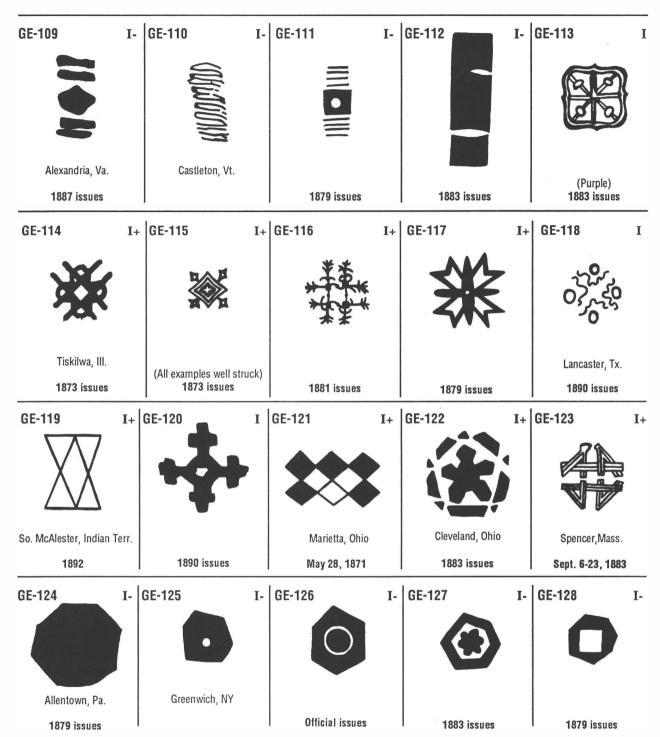
July 17, 1882-Sept. 16, 1887

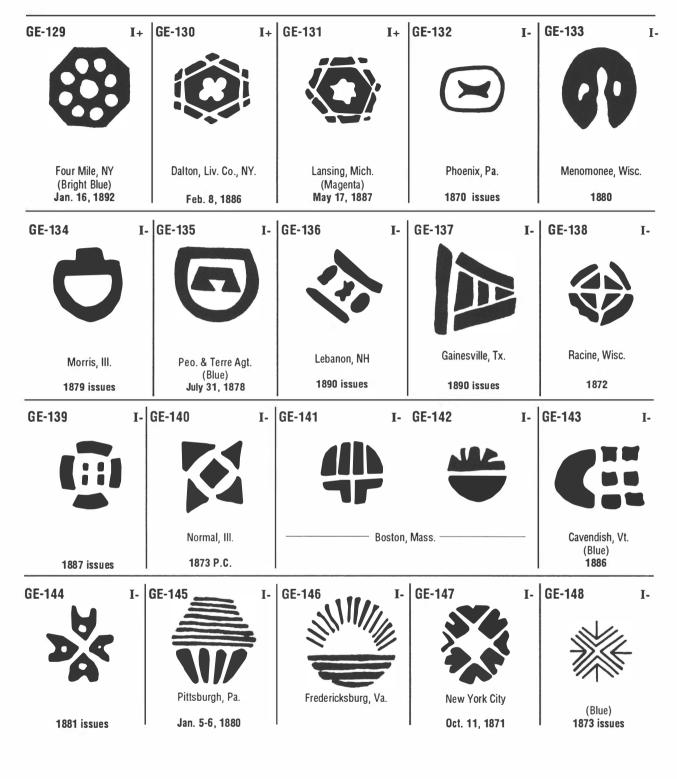




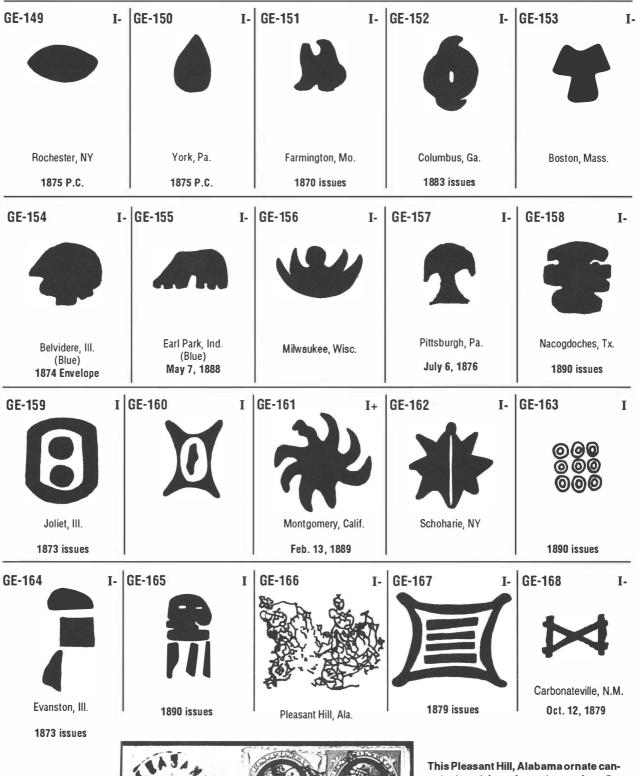


(COPYRIGHTED 1882)



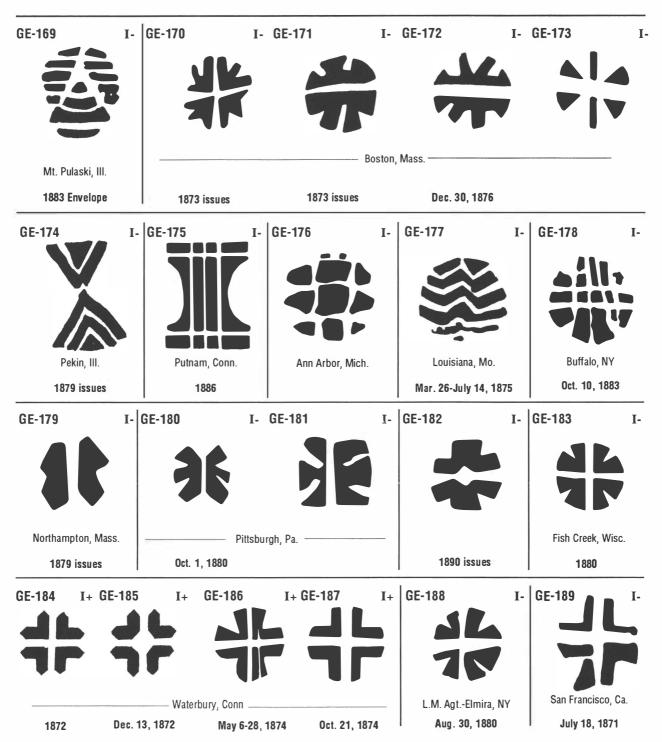


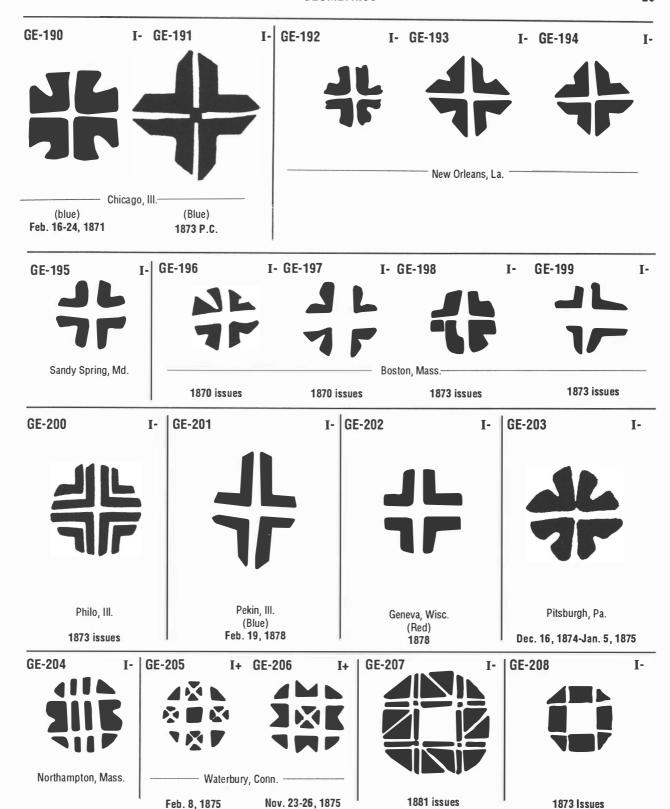
GEOMETRICS 27





This Pleasant Hill, Alabama ornate cancel, dated just four days after St. Valentine's Day, may represent wedding bells.





Feb. 8, 1875

30 GEOMETRICS

GE-209

Caledonia, III. (Purple) 1893 Envelope I GE-210



Cadiz, Ky. (Blue) Apr. 13, 1894 I GE-211



Iroquois, Dak. Terr. **Apr. 2, 1883**

I-

I | GE-212



(Purple) 1881 Brookings, Dak. Terr (Blue) 1882

Norland, Dak. Terr.

I GE-213



I

I

Dekalb, Dekalb Co., III.

March 9, 1889

GE-214



Pittsville, Wisc. Newtonville, Mass. (Reddish-Purple) Apr. 21, 1879 **GE-215**

I



Modella, Minn. Sept. 23, 1885 **GE-216**



Caledonia., NY Sept. 15, 1887 Hingham Center, Ma. Aug. 24, 1884 Delta, York, Co. Pa. Mar. 10, 1887

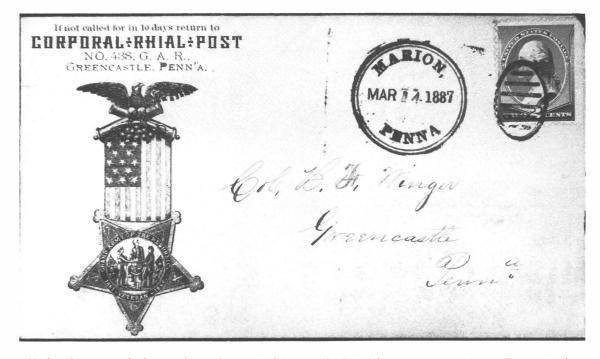
Guernsey, Iowa(Purple) July 28, 1890

Hillsborough, Md.

Marion, Pa. (Purple) March 14, 1887

Atglen, Pa., Wm. McCanna, P.m. Jan. 26, 1886

Shabbona, III. (Purple) May 23, 1894



Marion, Pennsylvania duplexed scarab on Grand Army of the Republic cover of Green Castle, Pennsylvania.

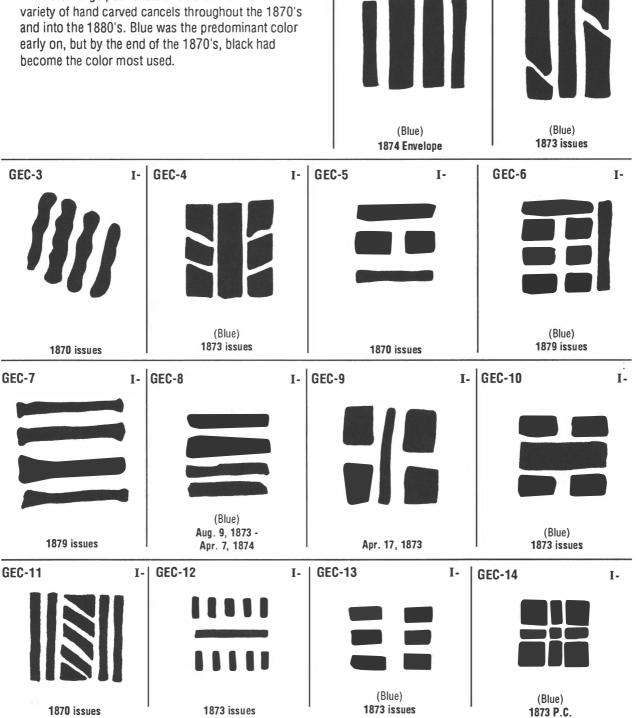
GEC-1

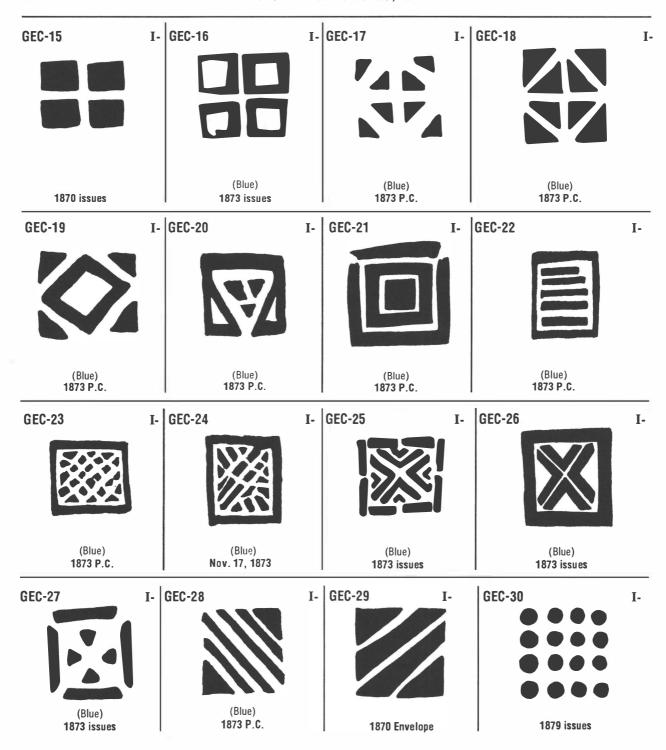
I-

GEC-2

I-

The Chicago post office and its sub stations used a





Sept. 10, 1873

I- GEC-32 I- GEC-33 **GEC-34 GEC-31** I-North Div. Sta. (Blue) (Blue) 1873 P.C. 1879 issues 1873 P.C. 1879 issues I- GEC-36 **GEC-35 GEC-37** I-GEC-38 I-I-(Blue) (Blue) (Blue) (Blue) 1873 issues **1873** issues Oct. 7, 1874 1873 issues **GEC-39** I- GEC-40 I- GEC-41 GEC-42 I-I-(Blue) (Blue) (Blue) (Blue) **1870** issues 1873 P.C. 1873 issues Mar. 1, 1875 **GEC-43** I- GEC-44 **GEC-45 GEC-46** I-I-I-(Blue) (Blue) (Blue)

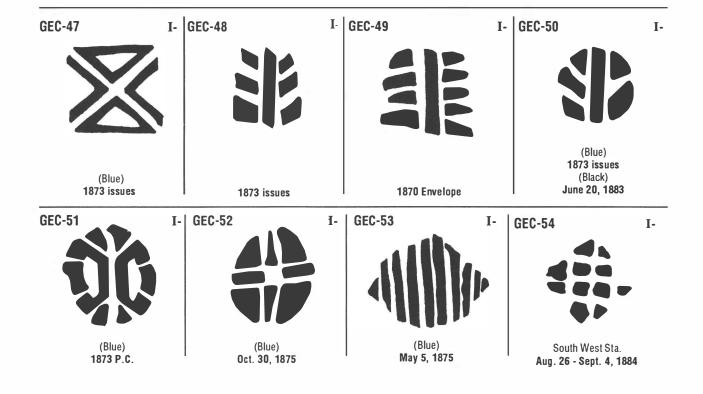
1873 issues

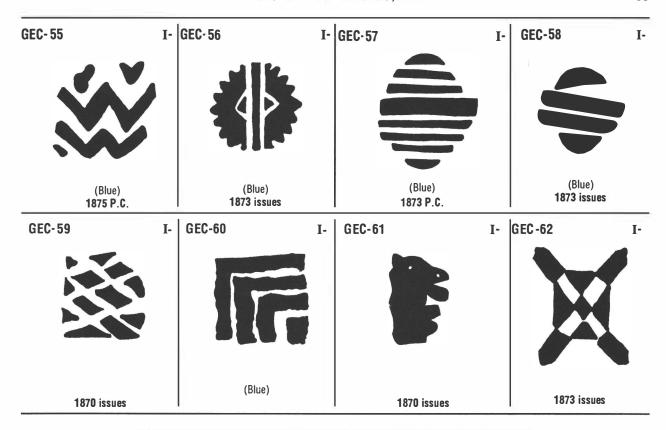
Mar. 12, 1875

1873 issues



One of the many variations of the blue Chicago geometrics, GEC-37 or GEC-39. These killers seemed to vary almost from day to day or week to week.





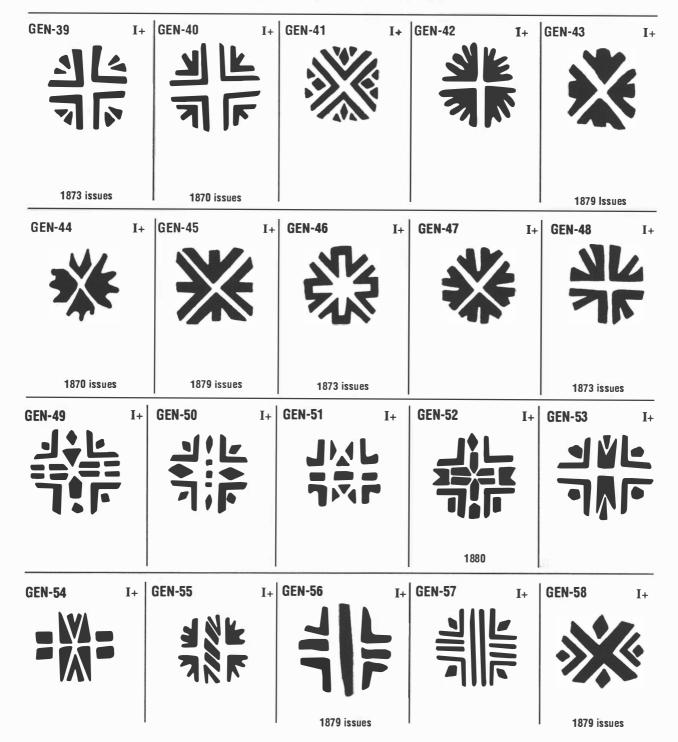


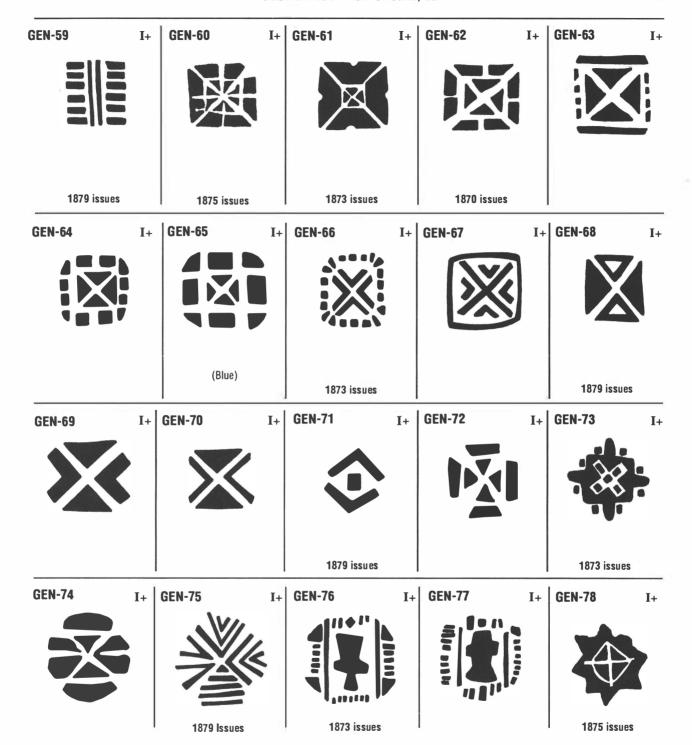
An unusual geometric, even for Chicago's blue period. The overlapping of the $l \not e$ and $2 \not e$ banknote stamps was sometimes done to conceal a cancel on the hidden portion of a reused postage stamp.

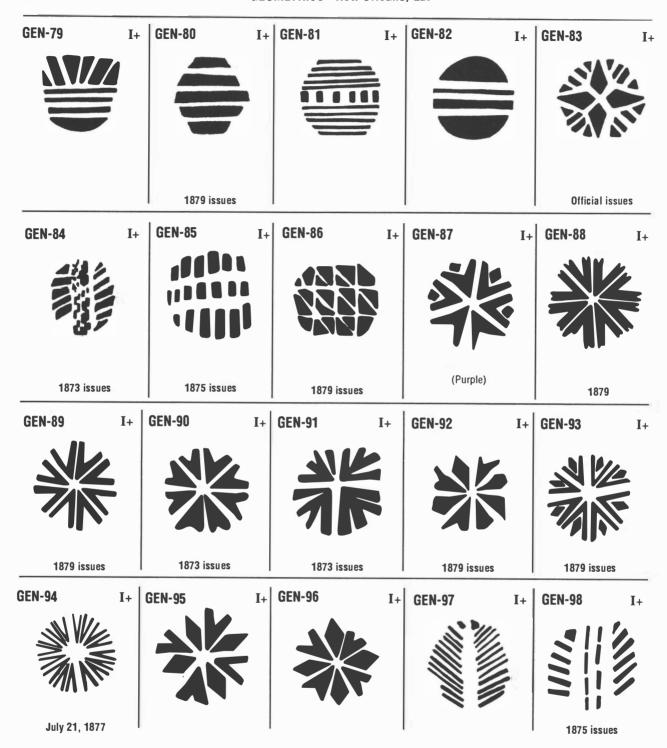
GEN-1 I+|GEN-2 I+ | GEN-3 I+ The New Orleans, La. post office used a number of smaller hand cut cancels throughout the 1870's 1875 issues 1875 **1873** issues GEN-4 I+ GEN-5 GEN-6 GEN-7 **GEN-8** I+ I+ I+ I+ 1873 issues 1874 Envelope 1873 issues **GEN-10 GEN-11** GEN-9 I+ | I+ GEN-12 I+ **GEN-13** I+ I+ (Blue) July 29, 1879 1870 issues 1870-73 issues GEN-14 I+ GEN-15 **GEN-16** I+ GEN-17 **GEN-18** I+ I+

GEN-19 GEN-20 GEN-22 I+ GEN-21 GEN-23 I+ I+ I+ 1875 issues 1879 Issues I+ GEN-26 **GEN-24** I+ GEN-25 I+ **GEN-27** I+ **GEN-28** (Blue) **1875 Issues GEN-29** I+ GEN-30 I+ GEN-31 I+ GEN-32 I+ | GEN-33 I+ (Blue) 1873 issues I+ GEN-36 I+ GEN-37 **GEN-34** I+ | GEN-35 **GEN-38** I+ I+

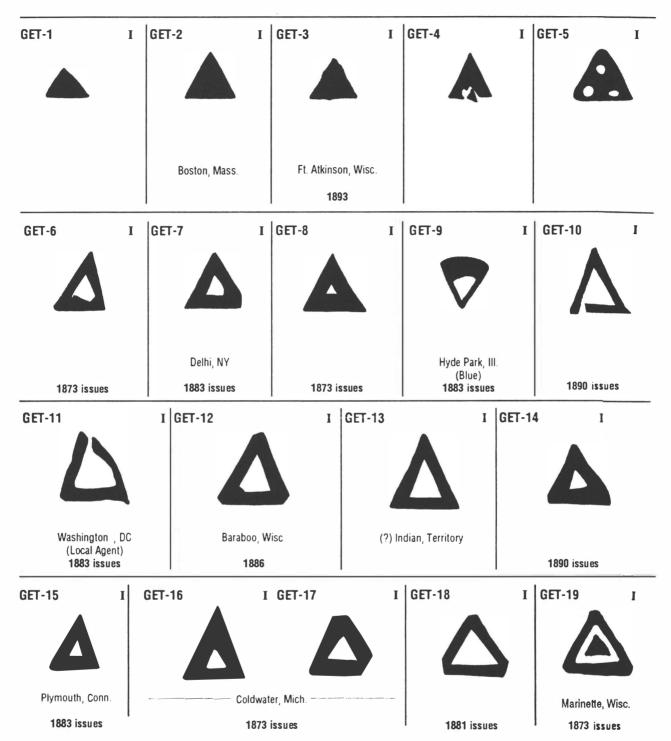
1879 Issues



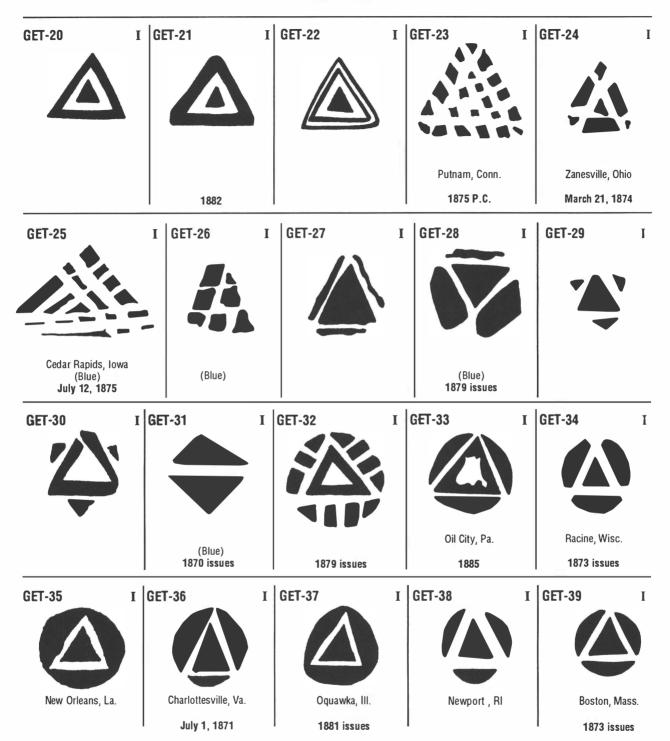


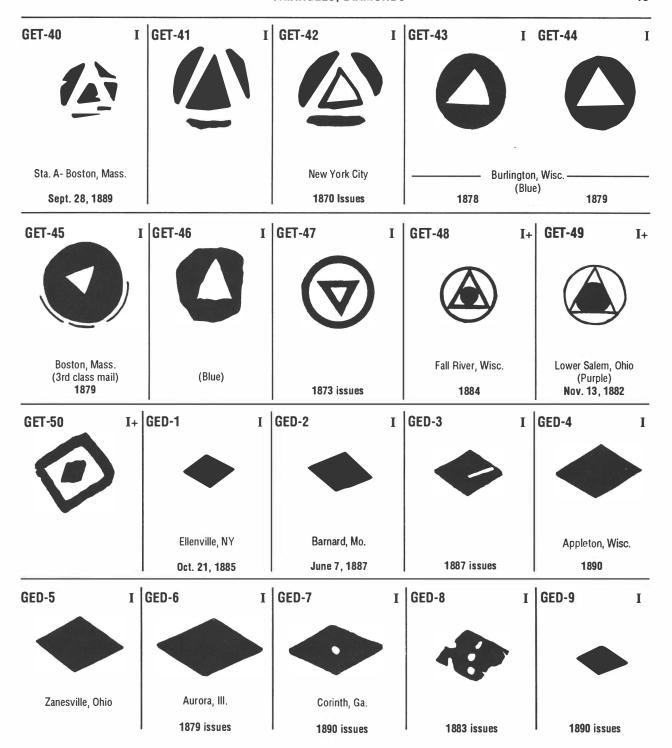


TRIANGLES 41

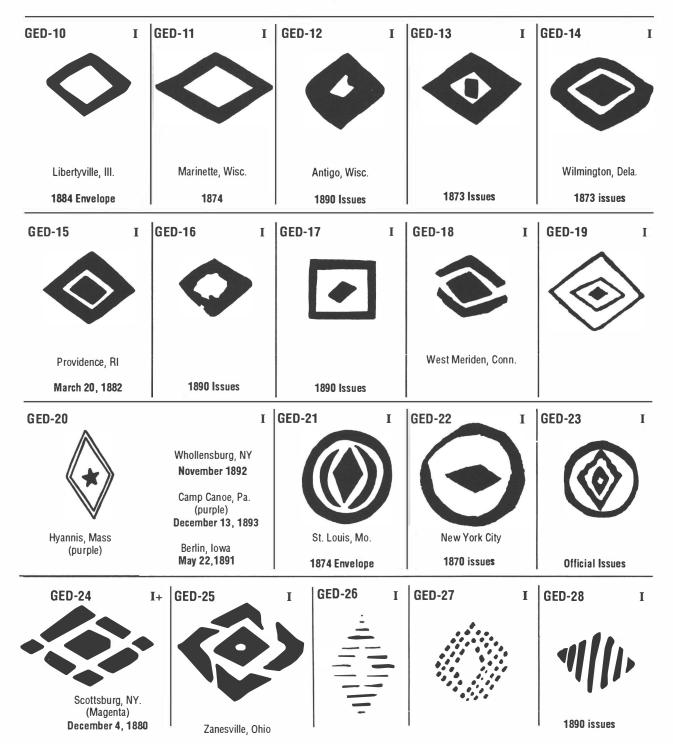


42 TRIANGLES





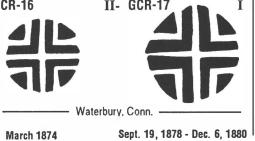
44 DIAMONDS



GCR-1 I- GCR-2 I- GCR-3 I- GCR-4 I- GCR-5 I-Georgetown, Worcester, Mass. Tucson, Ariz. Washington, DC April 9, 1870 (Blue) **1881 Issues** October 31,1881 1874 Envelope 1890 Issues I- | GCR-6 I- GCR-7 I- GCR-8 GCR-9 **GCR-10** I-I-Louisville, Ky. Nashville, Tn. Lincoln ,III. Evansville, Ind. 1870 Issues June 17, 1872 Febuary 19, 1877 Oct. 4-Nov. 29,1884 1881 Issues GCR-14 GCR-11 GCR-13 **GCR-12** I-I-I-I-Worcester, Mass. -Putnam, Conn. Stockton, Ca. 1879-1881 Issues Febuary 3, 1883 1873 Issues I- GCR-19 GCR-16 **GCR-18** II- GCR-17 I-



1873 Issues



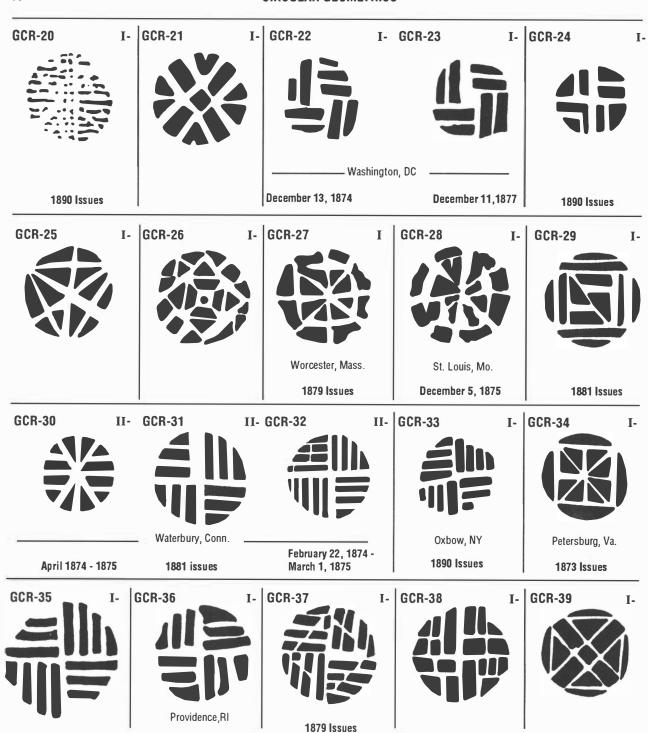




1879 Issues

Chicago, III.

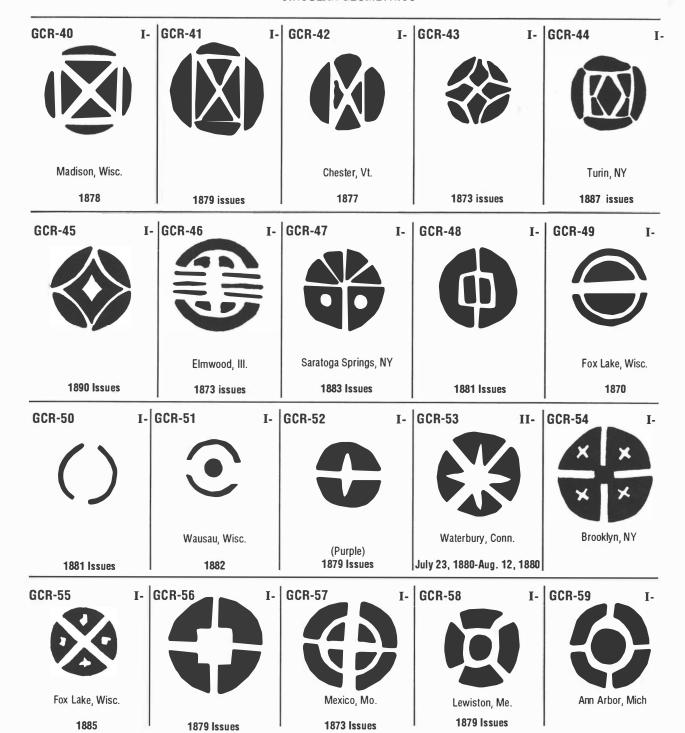
(Blue) 1873 Issues

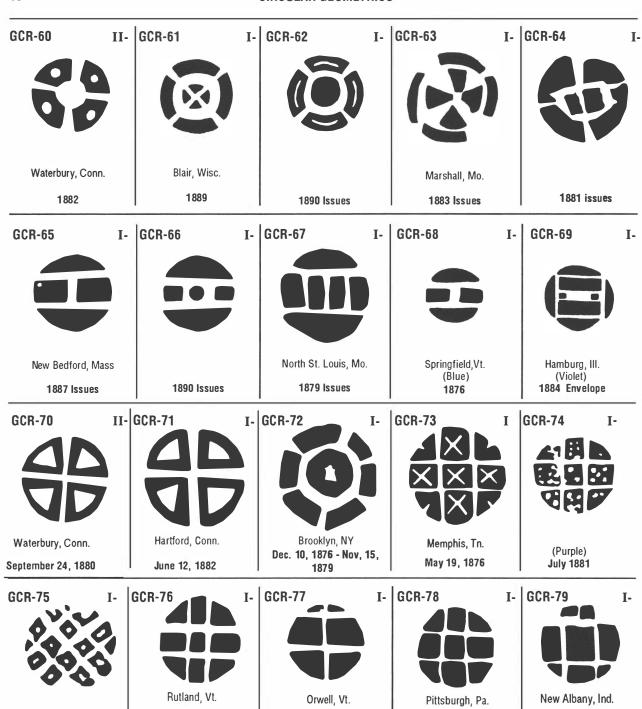


This Worcester, Massachusetts radial geometric cancel is very similar to the Worcester number cancel series, shown as BOR-22 through BOR-26 on page 297, except this cancel has a solid black circle instead of a number in the center. (GCR-27A)

Febuary 22, 1882









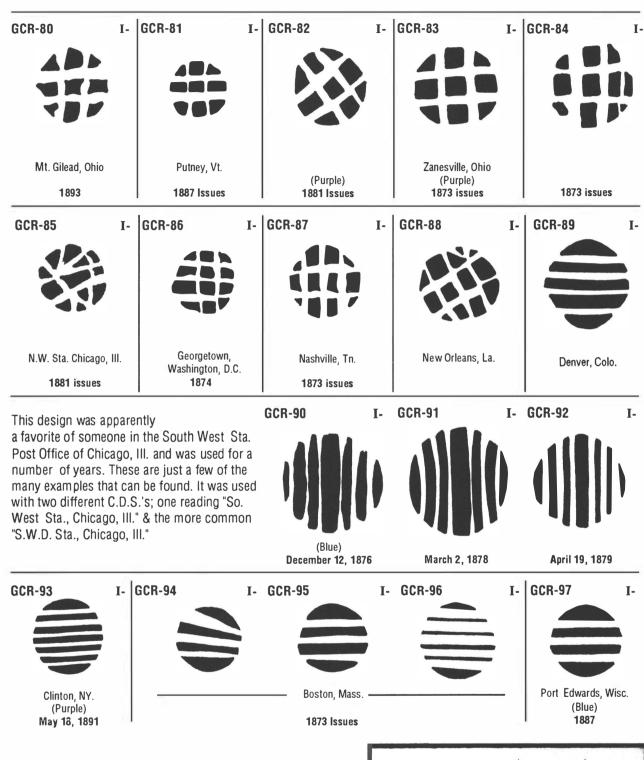
1870 Issues

1879 Issues

If the standard "target" cancel wasn't so common, it probably would be considered a fancy cancel. The standard government issue was widely used in the 1860s, but by the 1890s, they were relatively unusual.

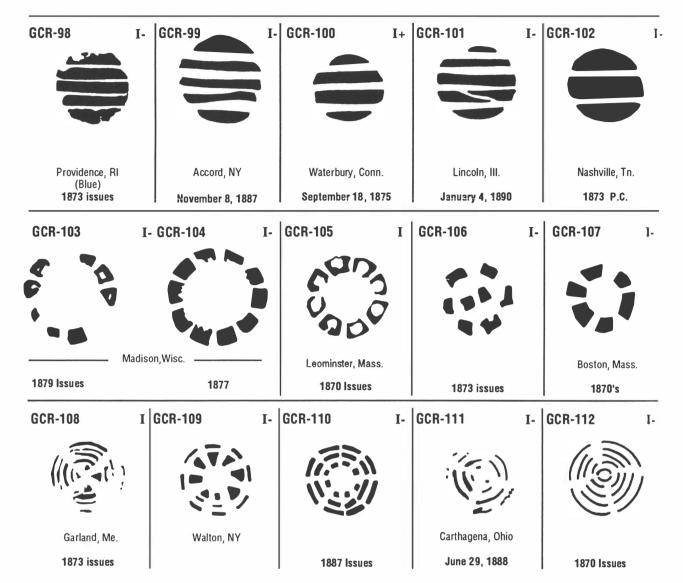
1873 Issues

January 24, 1879



A Worcester, Mass. Time-on-the-Bottom Wesson patent handstamp strike duplexed with a heavy circular bar grid cancel. (GCR-96A)





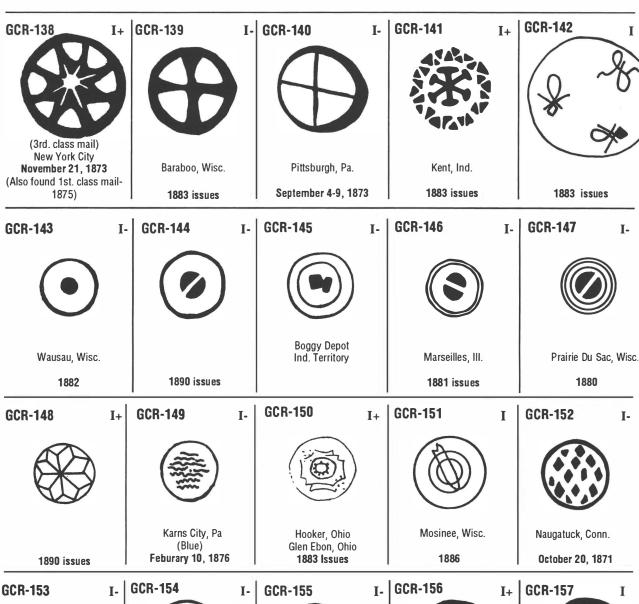


The Leominster, Mass. geometric, called locally the "stovepipe" because of its resemblance to a tile chimney liner section.



1873 issues

1890 Issues









Fox River, Wisc.



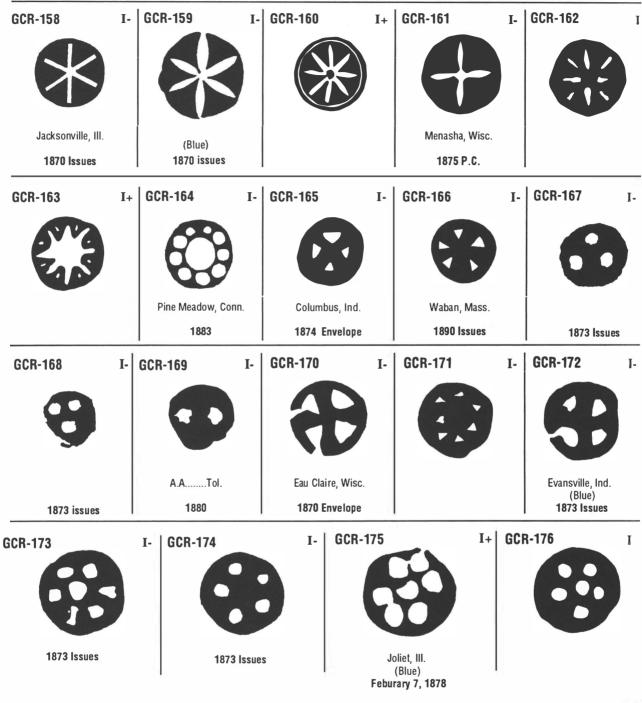
Flint's Mill's, Ohio (Blue- violet) 1881



1879-1883 Issues



(Blue) 1879 issues



This Laketon, Wabash County, Indiana cancel was used to cancel a 2¢ red brown on Jan. 5, 1886. Both the cancel and the accompanying fancy postmark with county and postmaster's names, were probably separate rubber stamps.

(GCR-179A) (I+)



GCR-177



Kruegerville, Warren Co., Mo. Janurary 25,1886 Franklin Grove, III. September 1,1885 Weber, Jefferson Co., Mt., Mathias W. Weber, PM May 16, 1886

GCR-178



Whollensburg, NY 1883 issues

GCR-179

I

I



I

I

I-

I

Dallas City, III. (Violet) 1883 issues

GCR-180



Richfield, Wisc. (Purple) 1887

GCR-181 I+



Brimfield, III. April 5, 1879 **GCR-182**

I-

I-

I-



1873 Issues

GCR-183



New York City 1873 Issues

GCR-184



1890 issues

GCR-185



March 31-April 10, 1879

GCR-186



Assumption, III. (Blue) 1875 P.C.

GCR-187



1890 Issues

GCR-188

I-



Marietta, Ohio

Feburary 6,1889

GCR-189



1873 Issues

GCR-190



Ann Arbor, Mich.

GCR-191



Columbus, Ohio

1879 Issues

GCR-192



1879 issues

GCR-193



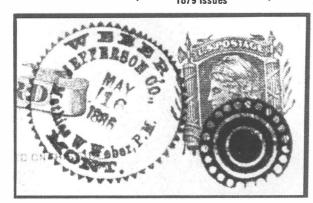
1890 issues

GCR-194



Allenville, Wisc.

1884



The Weber, Montana version of GCR-177 on a postal card mailed to St. Paul on May 16, 1886, with both the name of county, Jefferson, and postmaster Mathias W. Weber's name in the duplexed town datestamp.

I

I

I

I

GCR-195



Monticello Platt Co., III.

(DarkPurple) Oct. 30, 1882-Nov. 20,1884



I

Shanes Crossing, Ohio

November 9,1887 Bingham School, NC

September 17, 1888



GCR-196



Claypool, Ind. (Purple) June 1886 **GCR-197**



Salem, Ohio (Purple) June 5,1880-July 31, 1882

East Corinth, Vt.

(Black, later in Brown)

June 9,1881-1884

Wellington, Lorain Co., Ohio

June 25, 1881

GCR-198

I



Gratiot, Wisc.

1881

GCR-199



Yorkshire Centre, N.Y.

1884-1886 Tuscumbia, Mo.

July 31, 1889

I GCR-200



North Wharton, Potter Co.Pa.

November 1, 1881

Hiram, Ohio

(Blue, Black)

September 1882-December 1883

GCR-201



Smithtown, Suffolk Co., NY

October 14, 1882

GCR-202



Ogema, Wisc.

1873 Issues

GCR-203



Salem, Ohio

Apr. 14,1880-Mar 31,1881 St. Marys, Elk Co., Pa.

September 20, 1882

GCR-204

I



Salem, Ohio

1879 issues



Wellington, Ohio, Lorain County cogwheel rim postmark with butterfly ornaments duplexed with GCR-I99 pinwheel killer, all in purple.

Post Office Supplies

ESTABLISHED 1872.

WE ARE HEADOUARTERS

For the most complete line of articles used by P. M.'s and their Clerks.

Engraved Letter Headings, Note Headings, Stamp Ribbons (all colors), Money Order Daters, Post-Office Daters, Registered Letter Daters, Received Daters, Patent Inking Pads, P. O. Canceling Ink (by Express), P. O. Rubber Canceling Corks, Twine Cutters, Steel and Rubber Stamp Racks, Coin Detectors, Paper Weights. Letter and Package Scales, Check Protectors, Gem Type Case,



One RUBBER P. O. Dater and Canceller, Ink Powder, and Pads, Dates for ten years in Walnut case with tweezers, and all the single line stamps needed in a Post Office, this style type: UNCLAIMED

By mail, postage paid, on receipt of price, **\$**3.00.

PROOFS FROM POSTMASTERS.

PROOFS FROM POSTMASTERS.

Your Quarterly Record received, and I like it very much.
Joun Cecii, P. M., California, Md.

The \$5 Outfit ordered by me was duly received this evening. They are all A No. 1 articles, and give entire satisfaction.—Jas. S. Hantso, P. M., Orangeburg, N. Y

The Rabber Stamps, Note and Bill Heads, came to hand all right and meet with favor with those who have examined them, for cheapness, neatness, and durability.—T. W. Little, P. M., Picture Rocks, Pa.

1 have been using one of your Stamps and Pads for the last your and it gives satisfaction.—W. S. Bowen, P. M., Sheffield, Iowa.

1 received my Note and Letter Heads, Dater, etc., all O. K. Am satisfied with your job. It far exceeds my expectations.

WM J. Kink, P. M., Marville, Mo.

The Dater received, and I am well pleased with it.—Chas.
Goud, P. M., Albion, Idaho.

Your Box Record received, and is all O. K.—J. W. Frow,
P. M., Fort Madison, Iowa.

The Pads ordered came to-day. I am very much pleased with them.—ED. S. Menard, P. M., St. Genevieve, Mo.

Illustrated Catalogue of Post Office Supplies

sent free to Postmasters only. For samples of Note and Letter Headings send 6 cts. Address F. P. HAMMOND & CO., Aurora Illinois. No. 529.





No. 530.



No. 531.



No. 532.



Part of a double page ad of F.P. Hammond & Co. of Illinois appearing in the January 1881 U.S. Postal Guide.









ARIZONA:

Holbrook June 22-26, 1884

Mineral Park **December 10, 1886**

ARKANSAS:

Ft. Smith Prairie View

CALIFORNIA:

Centreville

Gilrov

February 12, 1882

Keeny

(Purple)

December 31, 1888

Marshall

(Dull violet)

February 18, 1884

Nelson

Pine Grove

July 3, 1884

Tipton

Turlock

Wildomar

1884

COLORADO:

Alpine

Arkansas

Buena Vista

Ft. Lyon

Rifle

1885

Salida

CONNECTICUT:

Andover

August 27, 1884

Clintonville Hamburgh

April 9, 1885

Mansfield Center

September 10, 1884

DAKOTA TERRITORY:

Dakota Territorial listings, below, are listed under subheadings of the states of their present locations. Many of these post offices continued to use the Wheel-

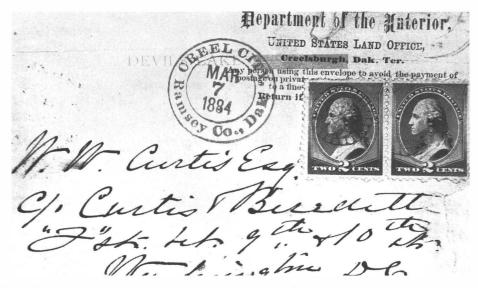
(Continued, next page).

The popular wheel-of-fortune handstamps were manufactured and sold by mail by the F.P. Hammond Co. of Aurora, and later, Chicago, Illinois. The opposite page shows two of Hammond's many ads in the U.S. Postal Guides of the 1880s. The cancel, used with various types of postmarks, is recorded here as used in over 300 U.S. post offices and at least one in Mexico, at Lampazos de Naranjo, Nueva, Leon. Many more undoubtedly exist. Values vary with other factors than the identical rubber stamped killers.

tical rubber stamped killers.			
DAKOTA TERRITORY:	FLORIDA:	ILLINOIS:	INDIAN TERRITORY(OKLAHOMA):
(Continued)	Grahamville	Hillsboro	Alex
of-Fortune cancels after	October 13, 1889	October 16, 1883	Coody's Bluff
statehood on November 2,		Kickapoo	Fishertown
1889, when Dakota Territory	GEORGIA:	Kramm	(Magenta)
was divided into North and South Dakota.	Ringgold	Lanesville	Gibson Station
South Dakota.		Leland	(Purple, Black)
North Dakota	<u>IDAHO:</u>	McLean	1888-90
Bay Centre	Aetna	May 9, 1883	Kaw Agency
December 9, 1888	Blackfoot	Meriden	June 19, 1883
Creel City		Milan	McAlester
March 7, 1884	February 28, 1882	1884	Purcell
Watch 1, 1004	Rocky Bar	Nameoki	(Purple)
Lakota	April 27, 1883	Onarga	1887
Niagara	St. Charles	Plano	Tecumseh
(Purple)	April 6, 1887	Platt	Tulsa
October 9,1889	p 0,	Reading	(Magenta, Black)
Pingree		River Forest	1883-4
November 10, 1885	ILLINOIS:	Sailor Springs	
	Aledo	St. Jacob	IOWA:
South Dakota	Annawan	June 12, 1893	Algona
Arlington	Armstrong	Secor	(Magenta)
May 19, 1886	Bath	Shabbona	September 30, 1880
Carthage	Beecher	South Evanston	Britt
March 10, 1888	Belle Rive	Stillman Valley	Clarion
Dell Rapids	Blackberry Station Bluff Springs	Vera	December 22, 1885
(Blue)	Braceville	Voorheis	Dow City
December 4, 1883	Brimfield	West McHenry	. (Purple)
Eden, Lincoln Co.	Butler	September 24, 1883	May 18, 1894
October 6, 1880	Clifton	Winnetka	Emerson
Mellette	Courtland		(Blue) April 5,1886
November 20, 1883	Dallas City	<u>INDIANA:</u>	Lacey
Miller, Hand Co.	Davis		June 6, 1882
October 17, 1882	DeKalb	Auburn Junction	St. Ansgar
Prior	Delavan	May 7, 1887	Spencer
(Blue)	(Violet)	Gosport	Tabor, Freemont Co.
July 16, 1884	October 19, 1887	April 2, 1883	Tilton
Scotland	Dixon	Keystone	
May 29-August 13, 1889	Elkhart	December 12, 1884	
Waterbury	Elsworth	Pierceton	KANDAO .
(Blue)	Elmwood	March 26, 1883	KANSAS :
May 6, 1884	Essex	Spencer	Carbondale
	Galesburg (h)	South Whitley	Cherryvale Concordia
	Goodwine	1884	May 17, 1884
DELAWARE:	Hebron, McHenry Co.		Cresco
Camden	(Blue)		Gardner
Moorton	August 10, 1885		(Continued)
			(Continued)



Although the Hammond advertisement on page 56 depicts wheel-of-fortune uses as early as 1872, none recorded here have year dates earlier than 1880. The Pawnee City, Nebraska use of Oct. 1880 is one of the earliest uses recorded. The killers were usually provided with one of a variety of different styles of town postmarks, and were very popular, as witnessed by the different postmark on the later Pawnee City duplex of 1884.



A penalty envelope used for private correspondence from the United States Land Office at Creel City, Ramsey Co. Dakota Territory in March 1884. The content was overweight, requiring a pair of 2¢ red browns of 1883, both rather lightly canceled with the Creel City wheel-of-fortune duplex killer. The Creel City return address on the cover is blocked out by a red bar and a new return address, Devil's Lake, provided at the left.

KANSAS:

(Continued)

Halstead (Blue)

October 14,1884 Ionia

November 12, 1880

Irving April 26, 1880

Kingman Lansing Lenora Leonardville, Riley Co.

> 1885 Onaga Oskaloosa Strong City (Violet)

April 23, 1883 Twin Falls

> 1884 Vinina

April 19, 1885 Wea

November 5, 1883 Whiting, Jackson Co. March 3, 1884

KENTUCKY:

Hawesville, Hancock Co.

1886

Owensboro

White Plains

LOUISIANA:

Bullitt's Bayou

MAINE:

Kennebunk Depot Monroe Mt. Desert October 5,1886 West Dresden

MASSACHUSETTS:

Bedford
Brimfield
Danversport
East Braintree
Hadley, E. Scott PM
Montville
Topsfield
West Pelham
West Wareham

MICHIGAN:

Baraga
Caseville
Columbiaville
Fruitport
Hartwellville
Lake Linden
(Magenta)

December 21, 1885

Mancelona Oxford (Purple)

September 25, 1886

Port Austin Riga

Shelby, Oceana Co. (Purple)

October 23, 1883 Woodland

MINNESOTA:

Benson (Purple) May 2, 1888 Bird Island

Bird Island (Blue)

June 10, 1891 Dodge Center

Elizabethtown

Elk River December 19, 1887

Fairmont Henderson

February 5, 1882

Lake Benton Lake Park April 21, 1885

Little Falls 1883 Minnetonka

Nashville Center

MINNESOTA:

Rockford 1883 Stillwater June 5, 1880-March 21, 1881

MISSOURI:

Armstrong

May 29, 1884

Beverly, Macon Co.

March 1, 1883

Desloge Franklin

November 13, 1885

Gallatin Hurdland

Lincoln, A. Berens, PM

Taylor

November 2, 1887

MONTANA:

Ft. Benton

NEBRASKA:

Arapahoe Dawson Harvard, Clay Co. **1880**

Madison

June 4, 1881 Norfolk Oakdale

September 7, 1881
Pawnee City

October 18, 1880-August 16,1884

Syracuse March 16, 1887

Unadilla (Purple)

1884

Weeping Water November 23, 1883 Wood River 1882

NEW HAMPSHIRE:

Derry Marlborough Meadows

NEW JERSEY:	NEW YORK:	<u> 0HIO :</u>	OREGON:
Bloomingdale	Alexandria Bay	Atwater	Medford
Cape May C.H.	Almond	March 1, 1890	August 20, 1886-
Clinton	Ames	Bairdstown	October 22, 1889
Delaware	(Blue)	April 27, 1887	Myrtle Creek
July 18, 1884-	September 11,1886	Baltic	July 8,1887
January 4, 1885	Bangall	Brice	Newport
Hartford	Bayshore	Caldwell	August 9, 1887-
October 23, 1884	March 21, 1885	(Violet)	July 29, 1889
Westwood	Brookfield	June 27, 1882	Tygh Valley
	(Purple)	Campbellstown	(Purple)
	March 9,1887	(Purple)	July 25, 1887
NEW MEXICO:	Castleton Corners,	Chardon	Union
Deming	Richmond Co.	Eber	June 7, 1890
(Blue)	1886	June 11,1888	
July 10, 1882-	Clinton	Freeport	PENNSYLVANIA:
January 21, 1884	Coeymans	(blue) February 4, 1882-	Baxter, Jefferson Co.
Ft. Stanton	Cold Spring	April 10, 188	1884
February 12, 1884-	Groveland	Garth's Ferry	Bayne
November 24, 1885	March 3, 1888	Hannibal	Dangus Mines
Kingston	Hartford	Lenox	Gap
January 9, 1884-	1882 Highland Falls	McCutchenville	Iron Ore
November 1, 1885	Holland Patent	Martin's Ferry	March 21,1887
Liberty	Howe's Cave	(blue)	Nanticoke
May 2, 1888-	Idlewild	January 9, 1892	Newtown Square, Del. Co.
January 30, 1893	Margaretville	New Washington	Royer
Los Alamos	New Dorp	Ravenna	Schwenkville April 1, 1886
(Purple) December 25, 1893	Newfane Station	December 25, 1883	Welsh Run
Los Lunas	New Hartford	Weillersville	White Haven
(Purple)	1882	(purple) Gctober 20, 1866	August 6, 1883
March 19, 1883-	Odessa	Willowdell	,
July 15, 1884	February 27, 1884 Oramel	W mowach	DUODE IOLAND
Ricon	Roxbury		RHODE ISLAND:
May 12-October 8, 1883	Shiloh	OREGON:	Canonchet
San Antonio	September 6, 1885	Baker City	
(Violet, Purple)		Bridgeport	
May 29, 1885-	Stittville	September 20, 1884	
August 1, 1888	Thompkin's Cove West Hampton	Drain 1887	SOUTH CAROLINA:
Springer	west hampton	East Portland	Bucksville
(Violet)		Forest Grove	Easley
March 21, 1887- March 24, 1888	NORTH CAROLINA:	(Purple)	
	Belvidere	August 7, 1889	
Trameras Watrous	Danbury	Ft. Klamath	
(Blue)	Heiligs Mills	August 1, 1887	COUTH DAVOTA
April 14, 1885	New Berne	Fossi	SOUTH DAKOTA:
White Oaks		Jacksonville	(See Dakota Territory)
(Violet, Purple)		December 16, 1886	TEVAC -
January 9, 1884-	MODTU DAVOTA	Lexington	<u>TEXAS :</u> Avinger
May 13, 1886	NORTH DAKOTA: (See Dakota Territory)	(Purple)	Dupree
	(See Danula lellikuly)	January 20, 1894	December 11, 1883
		McCoy	222231 11, 1000
		1887	

WISCONSIN:

1884

Sparta (Blue)

1880

Spring Prairie

1885

Tomah

1880, 1882-3

" WHEEL OF FORTUNE"

WASHINGTON:

Caperton August 29, 1882

Parkersburg

July 30, 1880

Ritchie C.H.

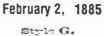
Welcome

September 21, 1886

<u>UTAH:</u>				
Park City				
1880				
Slatersville				
September 18, 1893				

VIRGINIA:

Berkley
Gala
Homewood
New River Depot
March 5, 1884
Rutland



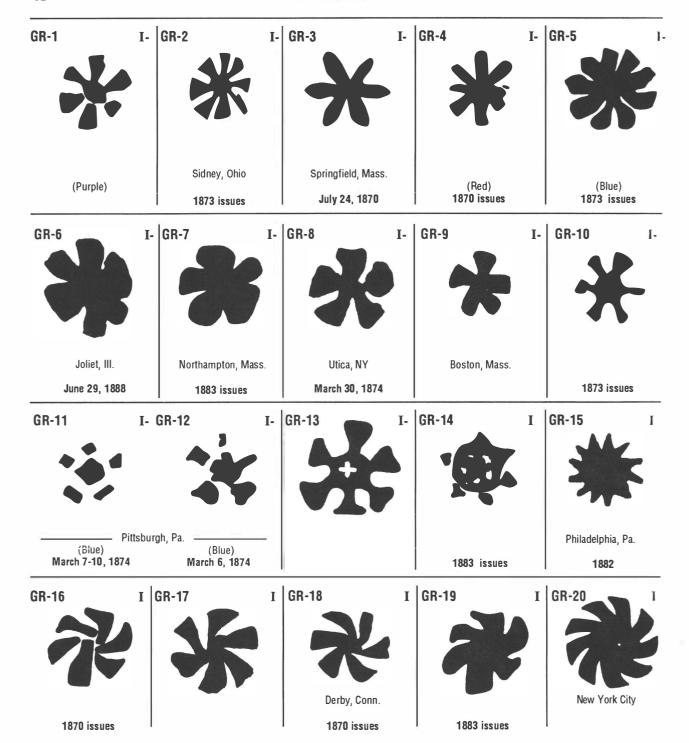


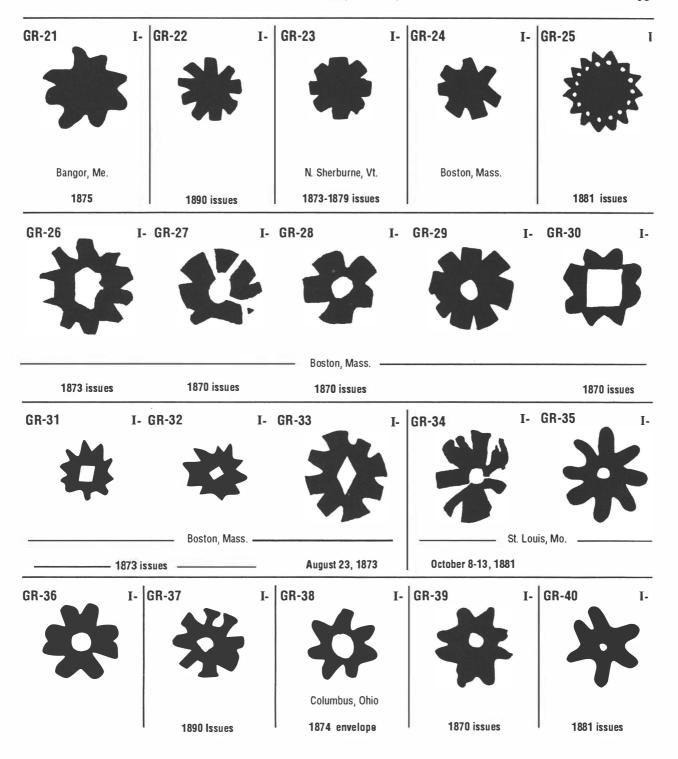




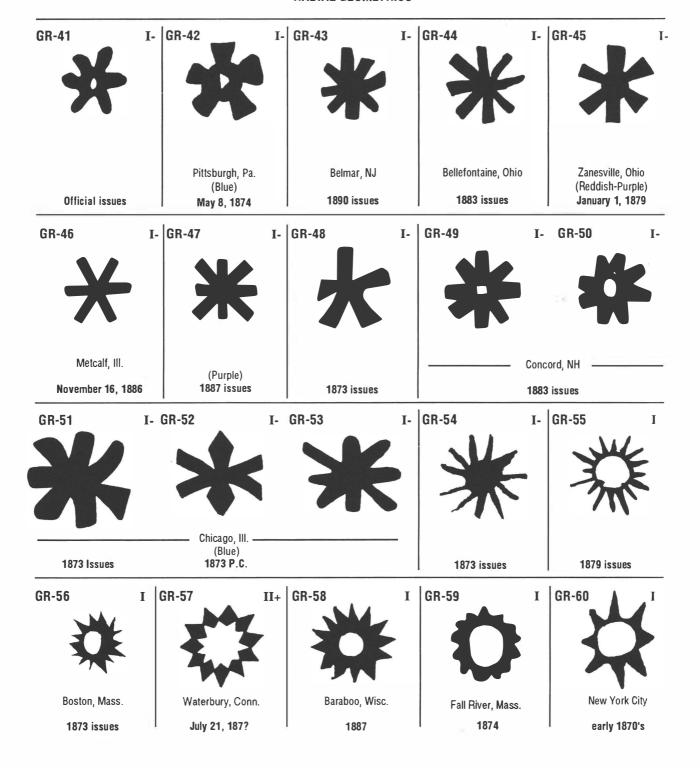
Although the postmarks accompanying most wheel-of-fortune cancels are plain or at least very ornate, some are very fancy. The examples shown here, advertised by Hammond in the May 1880 U.S. Postal Guide, are a few of many furnished by Hammond with duplexed cancels or alone.

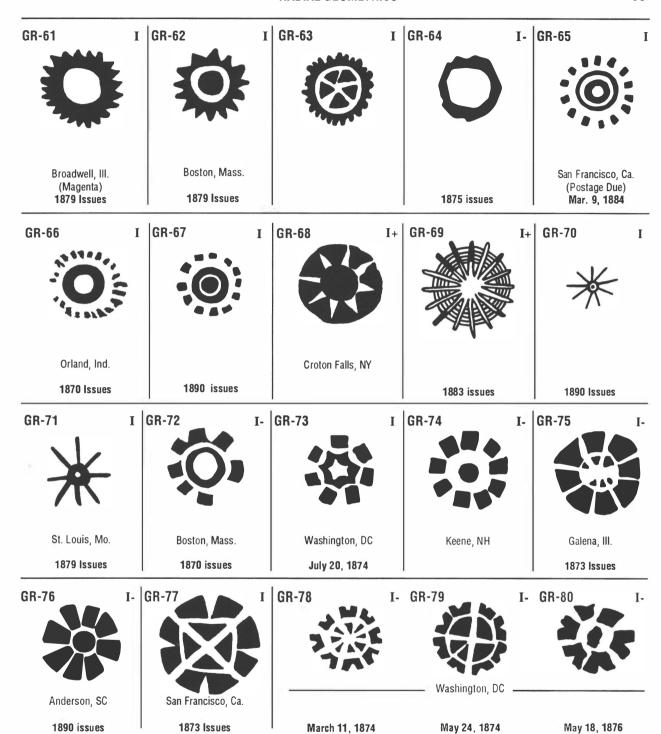
Avon	Allenville
January 14-June 25, 1889	Ashland
Colby	(Purple)
(Purple)	1887
May 30, 1889	Bakerville
Covello	1884
(Purple)	Beloit
August 7,1887	Black River Falls
Edmonds	(Purple)
Ellensburg	1887
(Magenta)	Cadott
Dec. 7, 1886 - Mar. 15, 1887	1884
Farmington	Danville
1888-9	(Black, Magenta)
Freeport	1889-9
September 2-December 21, 1887	Edwards
Grays River	1885
November 11, 1887- April 4, 1888	Falls River
Jackson	1886
October 2, 1885	Grantsburg
Kalama	1887
(Purple)	Houlton
November 8, 1891	(Blue)
Kelso	1886
December 20, 1887-April 24, 1889	Hudson
Mt. Vernon (Magenta)	Jenny & Tomah Agt.
February 2, 1888-February 5, 1890	1880
Port Ludlow	Mather
(Purple)	1881
January 21, 1888	Merrill & Tomah Agt.
Sidney	1880
May 31, 1890	New Lisbon
Stella	(Magenta)
Sumner	1880
January 5, 1886-March 21,1890	Schofield
Wallula	(Purple)
(Biue)	1884-5
August 14, 1886	Sherry
West Ferndale	(Blue)
	1885
WEST VIRGINIA:	Shiocton
	4004





RADIAL GEOMETRICS

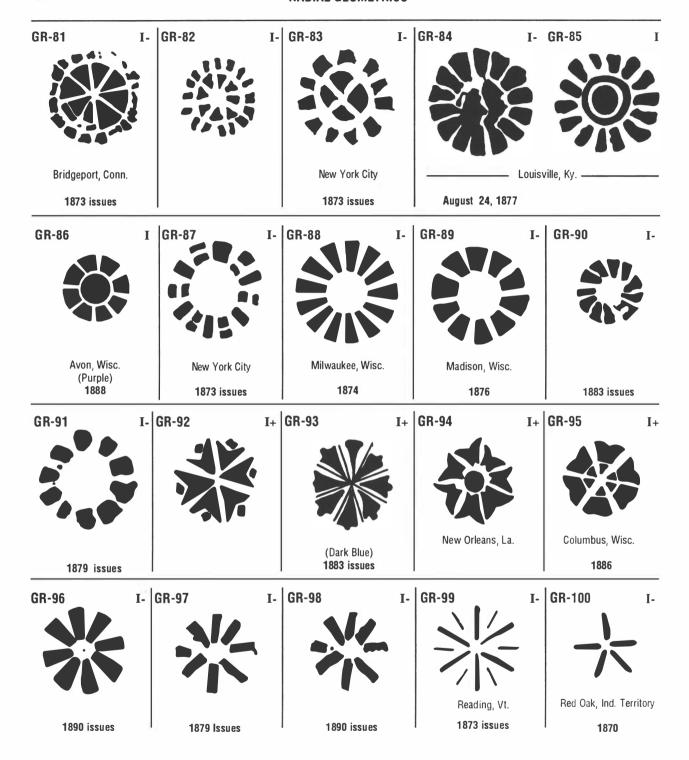


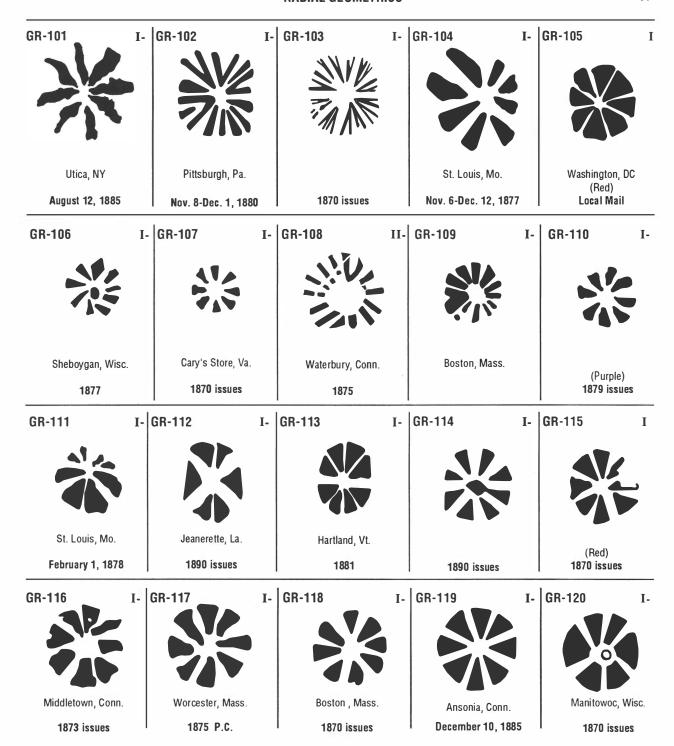


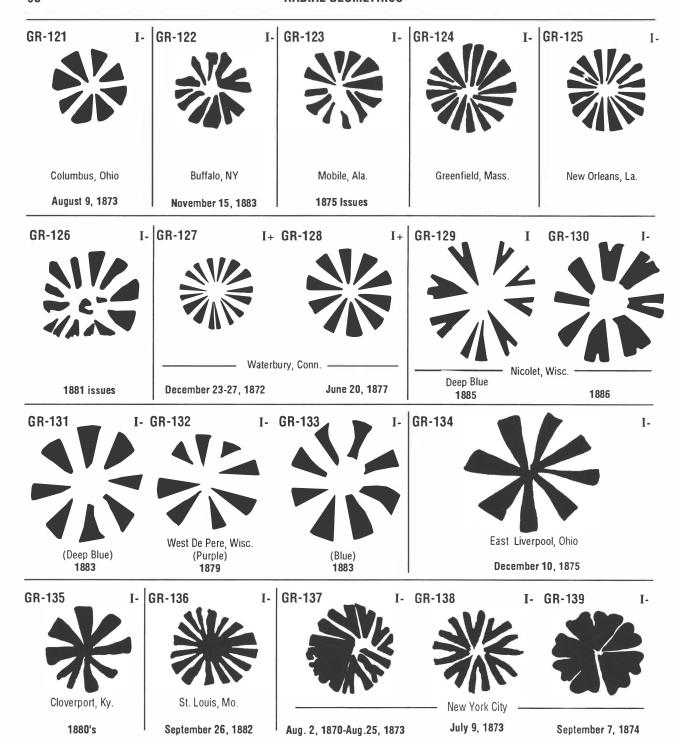


GR-78 cancelling a 3ϕ Executive official stamp on a cover from President Grant's office in the Executive Mansion, April 1, 1874.

RADIAL GEOMETRICS







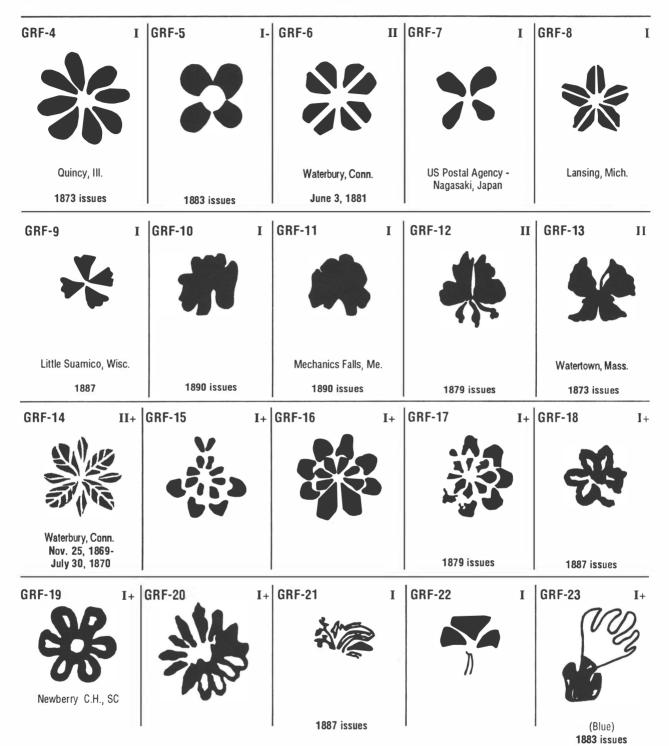
GR-140 GR-141 GR-142 I+ II II GR-143 II GR-144 I-Waterbury, Conn. . Providencetown, Mass. October 11, 1869 -October 30, 1874 -August 4, 1874 -June 19, 187? 1873 issues November 5, 1877 April 9, 1877 October 25, 1875 **GR-145** I- GR-146 II GR-147 **GR-148 GR-149** II II New York City Waterbury, Conn. May 3, 1872 -October 28, 1873 October 14, 1872 -April 9, 1877 June 4, 1870 October 5, 1874 Official issues **GR-150** I- GR-151 **GR-153** I- GR-152 I-**GR-154** I- GR-155 I-Boston, Mass. -McMinnville, Tn. **1870** issues 1873 issu**es** 1873 issues 1890 issues **GR-156** I- GR-157 **GRF-1** GRF-2 **GRF-3** I Darien, Wisc. West Warren, Mass. Chicago, III. Providence, RI

March 21, 1882

1879 issues

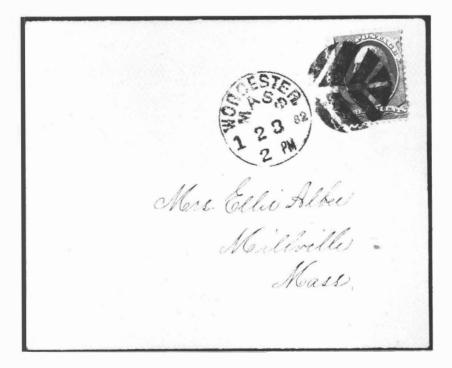
1875 P.C.

70 FLORAL

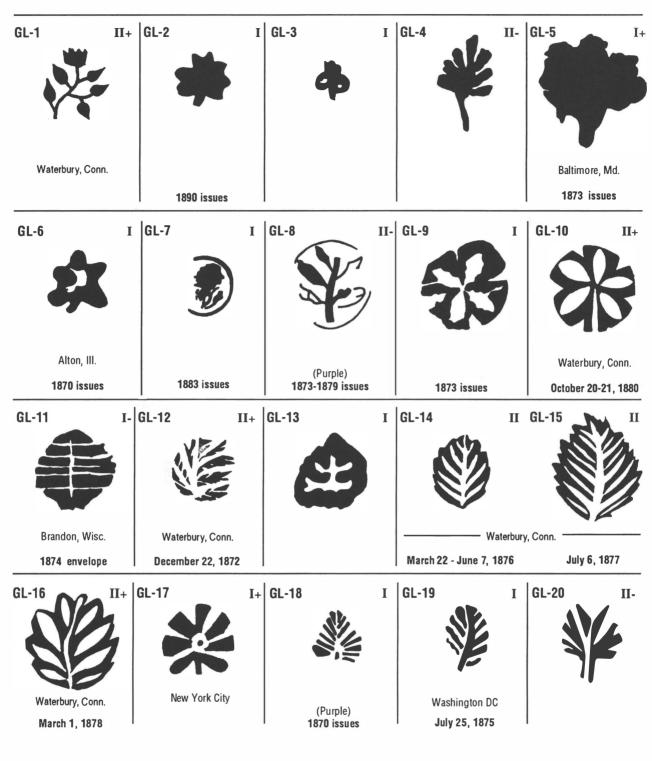


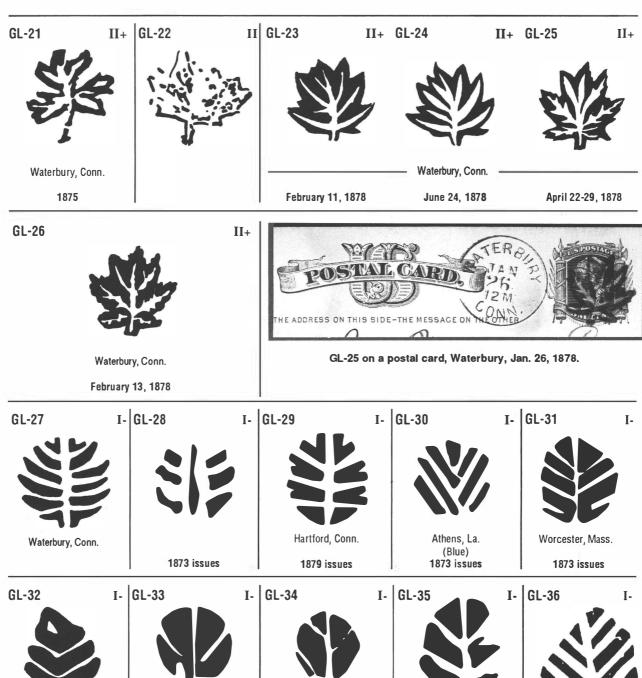


Two of the many Waterbury leaf cancels of the Banknote era, similar to or identical with GL-23/GL-26. The stamp on the lower cover has been photographically faded to better show the design.



Worcester, Mass. Wesson "Time-on-the-bottom" patented handstamp, used Jan. 23, 1882 with leaf style duplex killer GL-64A. The killer is similar but not identical with GL-64.





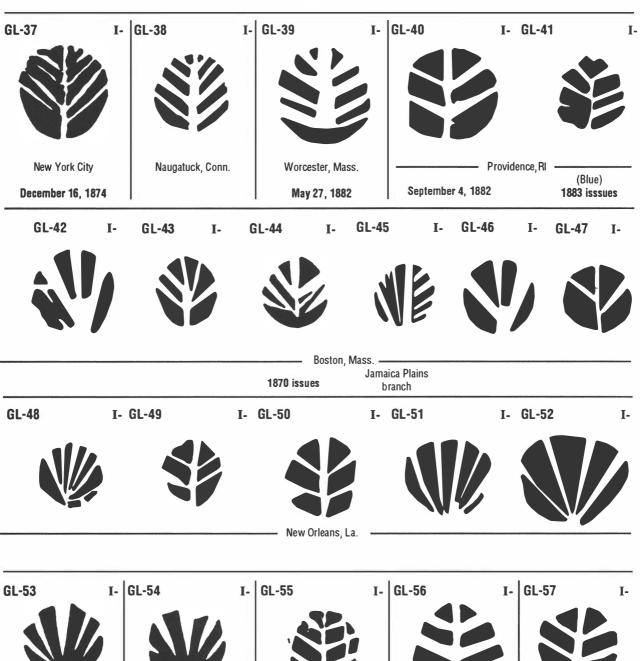
Lincoln, III.

July 18, 1882

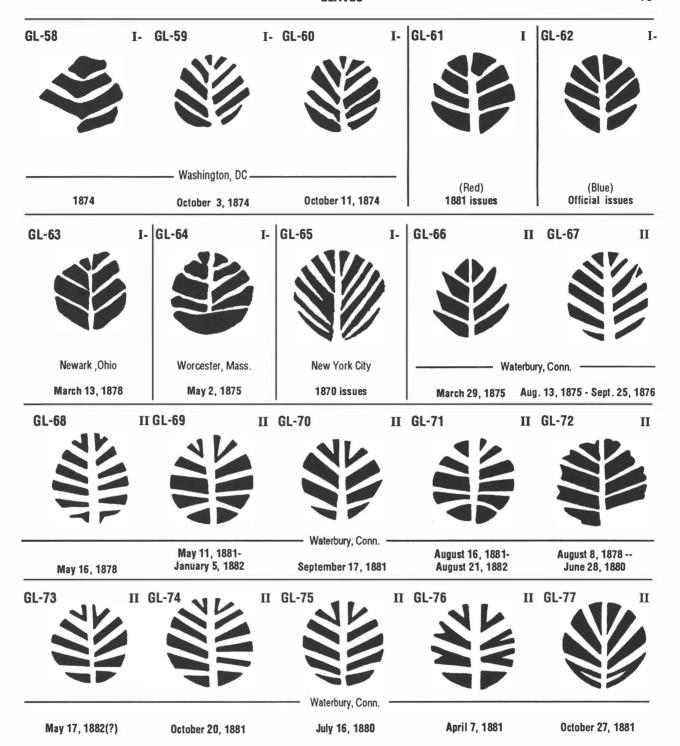
Putnam, Conn.
September 24, 1883

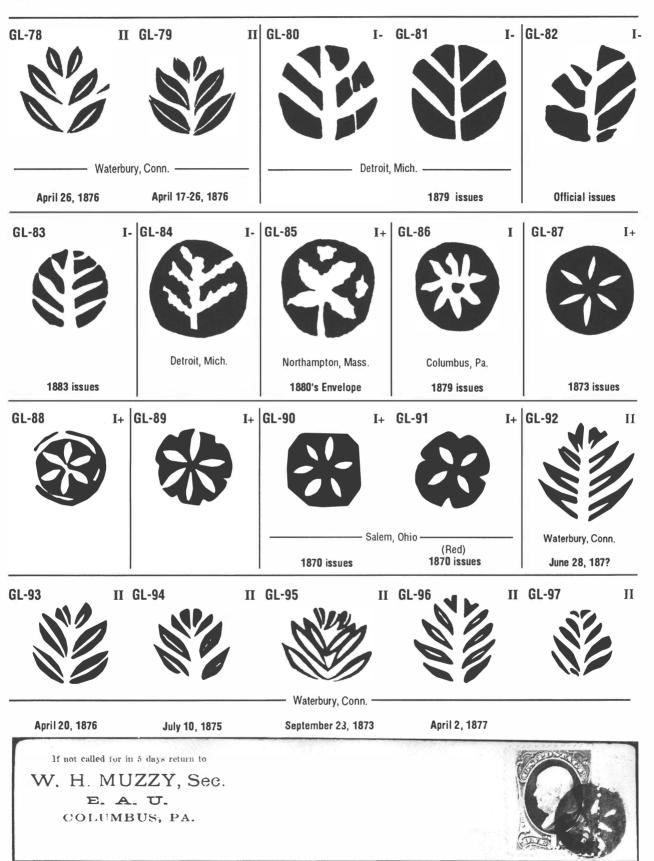
Salem, Mass.

1881 issues









77



New Orleans, La. -

Waterbury, Conn.

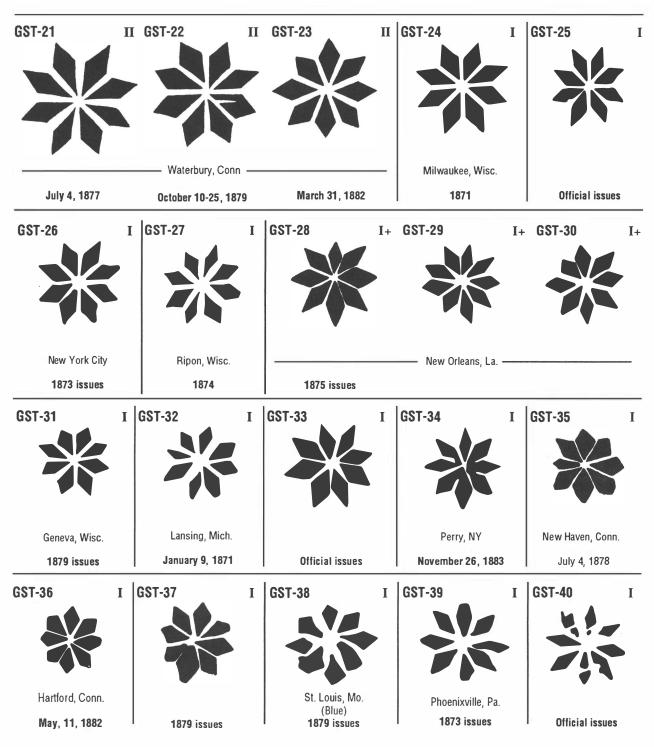
June 4, 1869 -June 2, 1870

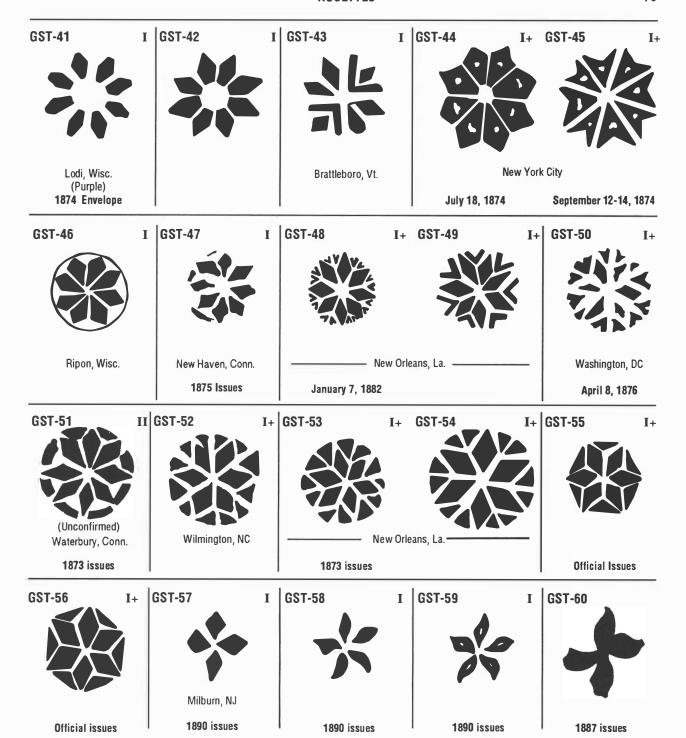
Waterbury GST-12, one of several similar Waterbury rosettes.

Waterbury, Conn. October 20, 1870 -

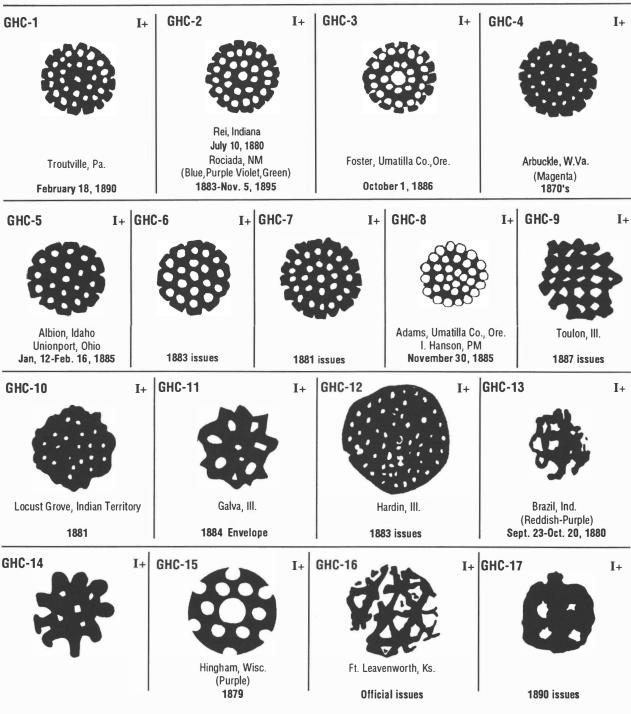
February 12,1879

78 ROSETTES





80 HONEYCOMBS



The Monitor, Indiana honeycomb of Sept. 22, 1886 on a 2¢ red brown is almost identical with GHC-2, except it has a much smaller center hole. A Kilmore, Clinton Co. (also with postmaster's name in the postmark) honeycomb used on a 2¢ blue War Department official envelope appears to match the Monitor honeycomb.



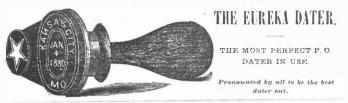
Star killers were probably by far the most popular shape of cancel of the banknote period, except for the simple cork not intended to represent any shape. Although star killers in various forms and Maltese and similar crosses occupy a few more, these cancels provide only a representative sample of the large number of star killers that were used in the Banknote stamp era. It naturally follows that many nearly identical star designs exist used from different post offices.

The covers shown here represent only a few of the types of star killers listed, following.



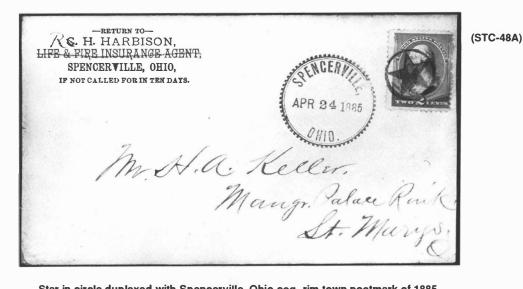
Two of the hundreds of the plain star killers of the era, both duplexed with town datestamps of varying designs. The Sinking Spring, Ohio, with both Highland County and postmaster's name is very elaborate, even for this era.



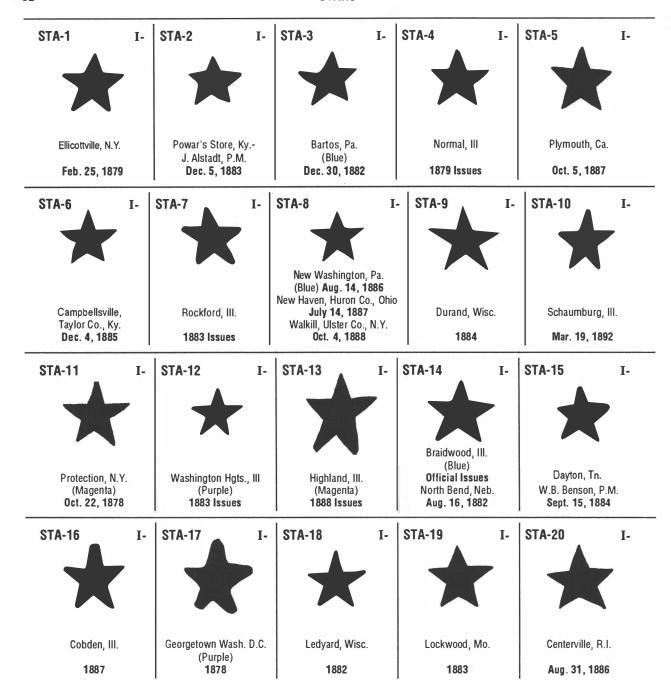


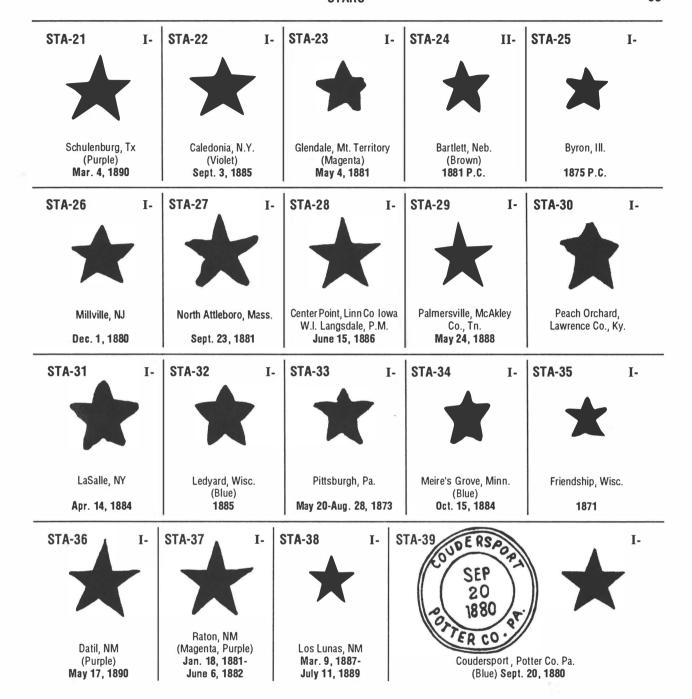
Price of Dater, with Dates for 10 years. Pads and Ink, \$4.00.

One of many ads of F.P. Hammond Co. of Illinois in the U.S. Postal Guides of the early 1880s. This cut of a purported Kansas City handstamp with star killer, to date, unreported was used in several different contexts.

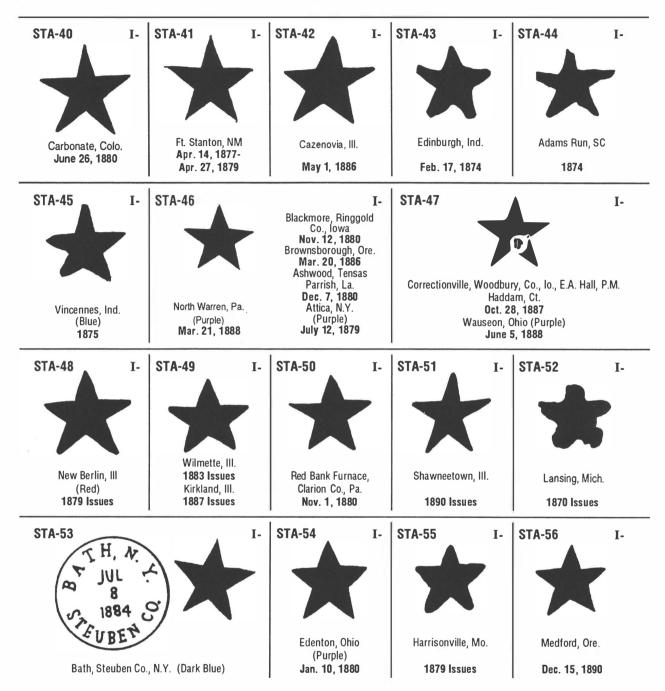


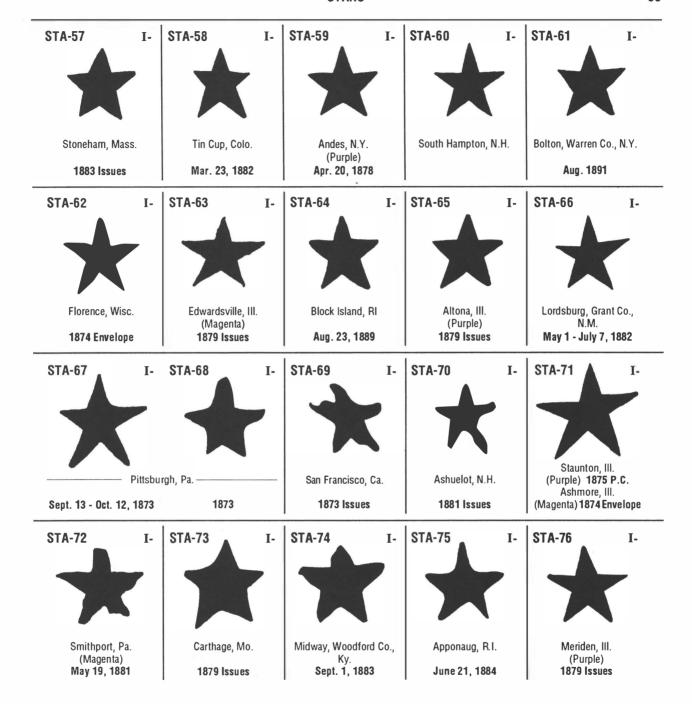
Star in circle duplexed with Spencerville, Ohio cog rim town postmark of 1885.



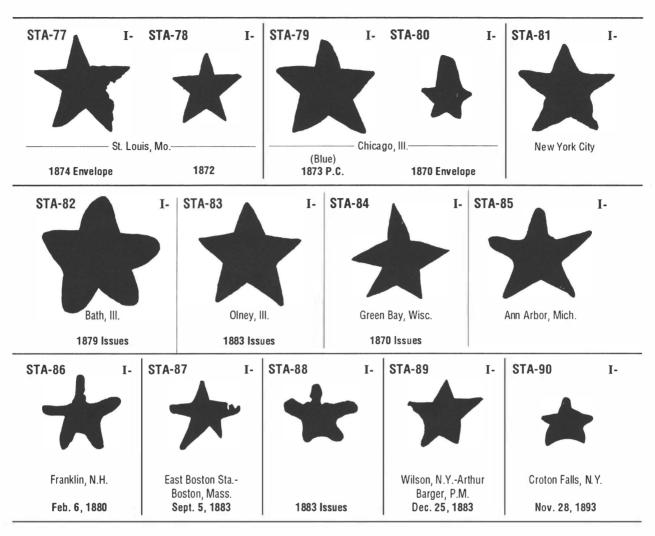


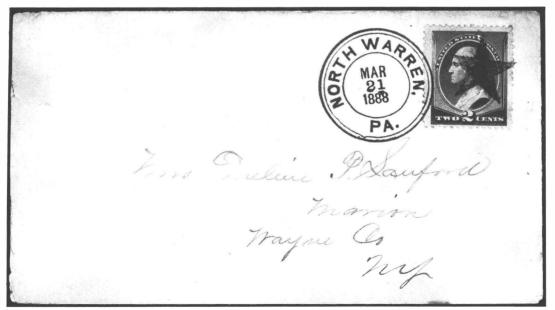
84 STARS





86 STARS





Duplexed North Warren, PA. star in purple (STA-46).

I-

I-

I-

I-



Leola, Dak. Terr. (Red) Woolworth, Dak. Terr. (Red) 1883

I-

STC-2



Dayton, III. 1883 Issues

STC-3

I-



Jacksonville, III. (Blue, Black) 1870 Issues

STC-4

I-



Strasburg, III.

1883 Issues

I-

STC-5

I-



Pontiac, III. (Black, Dark Blue) Jan. 31, 1880

STC-6



Caddo, Indian Territory (Magenta, Purple) Al-Lu-We, Indian Territory Chelsea, Indian Territory (Black, Blue) Atoka, Indian Territory (Violet) Andarko, Indian Territory (Blue)

I-



Grandview, Dak. Territory (Red) 1884 Flandreau, Dak. Territory (Red) 1880

STC-8



Apache Pass, Arizona Territory March 31-Oct. 16, 1880 Norfolk, Sully Co. Dak Territory Aug. 9, 1886



Loose Creek, Osage Co., Mo. (Brown) Sept. 22, 1890

STC-10



Nebraska City, Nebraska Sept. 3, 1879 (Purple) Apr. 1, 1880

STC-11

1877-79

1886

1889

1879

1885

I-



Ft. Stanton, N.M. May 6 - Aug. 29, 1882

STC-12

I-

I-



Ft. Cummings, N.M. (Purple) Oct. 19, 1879-Mar. 22, 1882

STC-13



Lenoirs, Tn. (Purple) Aug. 7, 1880

STC-14



Orchard Lake, Mich.

September 20, 1879

STC-15

I-



Valley, Montana Territory Allen Pierse, P.M. Jan. 4, 1882

STC-16



McGrawville, N.Y. M.C. Bingham, P.M. Mar. 17, 1887

STC-17

I-

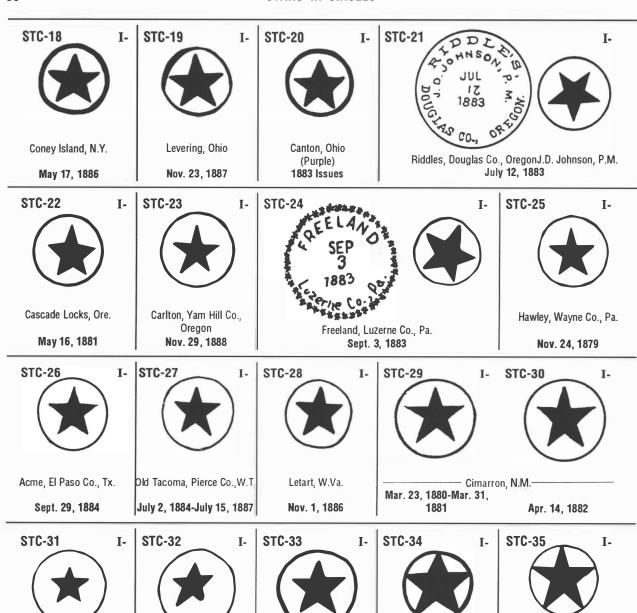


Portland, N.Y.

Sept. 24, 1880



A star in circle cancel, duplexed with the postmark of J.E. Baird, route agent on the Chicago & Milwaukee R.R. between Maquoketa and Davenport Iowa. Baird used "North" or "South" in the date logos slot, running opposite directions on outbound and return trips. (STC-15A)



Plankington, Dak. Territory

(Red)

Oct. 10, 1882



Torah, Minn.

(Red)

Apr. 16, 1883

Weston, Ore.

Aug. 31, 1888

A star in a somewhat lopsided circle, possibly home made, as it is not duplexed. Used at Warrensburgh, N.Y. in 1877. (STC-33A)

Redland, Indian Territory

Anadarko, Indian

Terr.(Violet) 1879

1884

1890-1

(Black, Purple)

(Magenta)

Galva, Ida Co., Iowa

June 7, 1884

J.H. Hagerty, P.M.-

Ridgway, Pa.

Aug. 12, 1884



I-

I-

I-

I-

Petersburg, Va. 1873 Issues

STC-37

I-



Coudersport, Potter Co., Pa. July 15, 1885

STC-38



Warners, N.Y. (Blue) Jan. 2, 1883 Springer, N.M. (Violet, Purple) Aug. 21, 1880-June 26, 1884

STC-39 I-



Dry Branch, Mo .-Fred'k Speck, P.M. Sept. 2, 1884



Orange City, Sioux Co., Iowa July 20, 1883

I-

I-

STC-41



Alexandria, Ohio (Purple-Red) Feb. 5, 1880

STC-42



Cow Run, Ohio Feb. 18, 1882 Col. & Tol. R.R., Owens, Ohio Jan. 31, 1881

STC-43



Apache Pass, Ariz. Terr. Oct. 9, 1880

STC-44

I-

I-



Meredosia, III. June 22, 1883

STC-45

I-



Polo, III. 1870 Issues

STC-46



Lancaster, Mass.

1873 Issues

STC-47



Fontanelle, Neb.

May 15, 1880

STC-48

I-

I-



Walterville, Ore. July 1, 1882 Covington, Tioga Co., Pa. July 30, 1890

STC-49



Rock Point, Jackson Co., Ore. June 1, 1885

STC-50



Kaukauna, Wisc.

1884

STC-51



South Norwalk, Conn.

1883 Issues

STC-52



Mountain City, Nev. (Magenta) 1882

STC-53



Millersville, Douglas Co., Minn-M. Kotschevn, P.M. (Purple) Mar. 3, 1883

STC-54



Eufaula, Indian Territory

1878



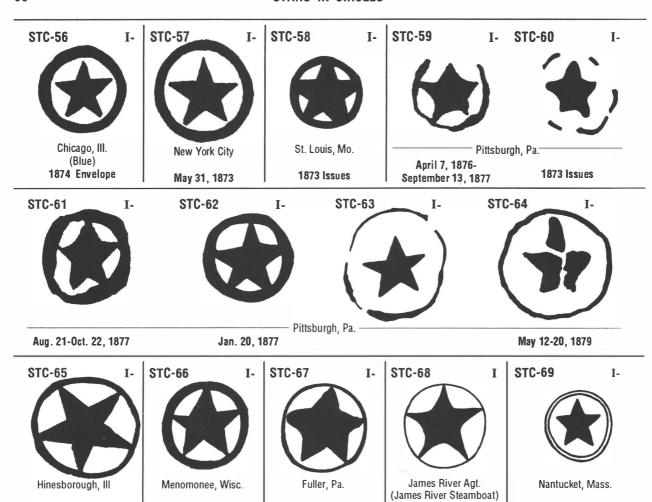


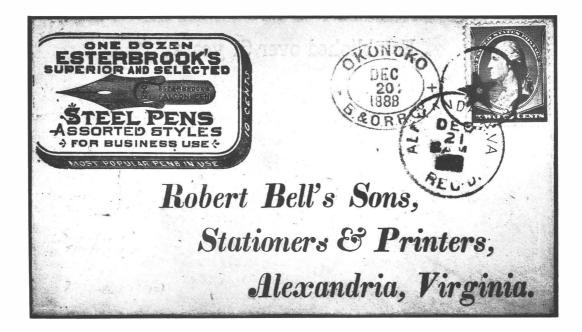
Hancock, N.Y.

Duplexed star in a circle, in blue, from Warners, N.Y., in 1883. Note the small stars in between the circles of the double circle datestamp, confirming the device was a commercial rubber stamp.

1881 P.C.

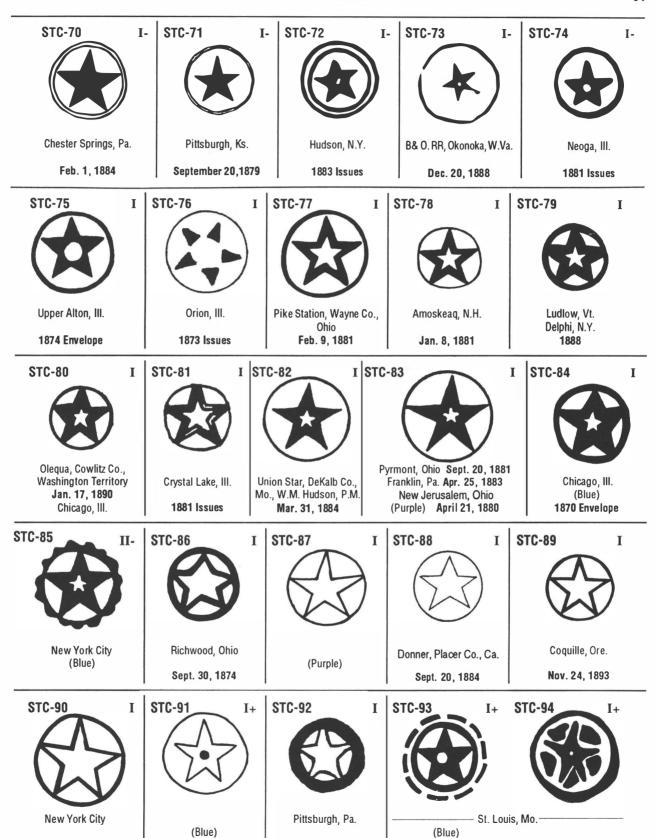
1872





1875 P.C.

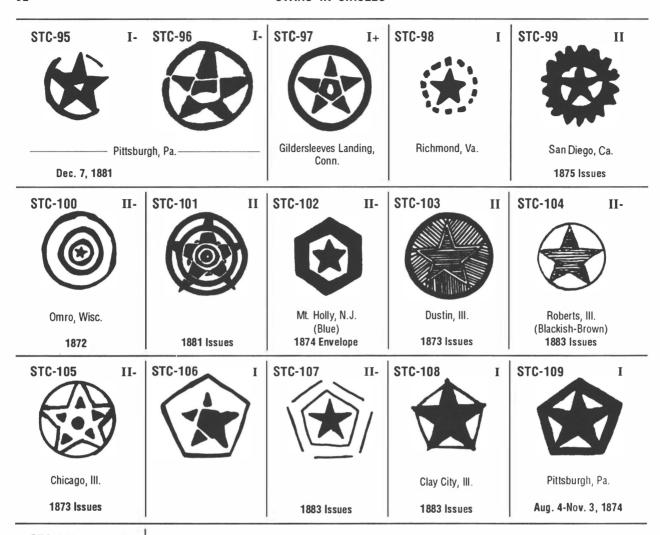
The Baltimore & Ohio R.R. stationmaster at Okonoko, West Virginia was also the local post-master. He used his station ticket dater stamp on both mail and railroad business, using a separate star cancel to cancel stamps.



Jan. 15, 1877

1874

1873-75 Issues







One of the many Pittsburgh star cancels, such as STC-95 and STC-96, above.

STN-2 STN-3 STN-5 STN-1 I-I-STN-4 I-Republic, Ks. Rio Grande City, Tx. Thomasville, N.C. Franklin Sta., III. West Gardner, Mass. (Purple) Jan. 2, 1884 1883 Issues July 23, 1888 Feb. 5-March 24, 1884 1884 Envelope **STN-10** STN-6 STN-7 I-STN-8 I-I-STN-9 I-I-Nunda, III. Fair Grove, Mo. Kalida, Ohio Petersburg, Va. Riggston, III (Blue, Black) (Violet) (Magenta) Apr. 26, 1887 1883 Issues 1887 Issues 1881 Issues 1873 Issues **STN-11** I-**STN-12** I-**STN-13** I-**STN-14** I-**STN-15** I-Pittsburgh, Pa. Baraboo, Wisc. Weston, Vt. Salem, Ks.-Schullsburg, Wisc. J.Brown, P.M. 1885 Oct. 17-31, 1876 1874-5 1875 Issues Jan. 31, 1883 **STN-18 STN-16** I-**STN-17** I-I-**STN-19** I-**STN-20** I-Princeton, III. East Boston Sta. -New York City & Oakland, Ca. (Purple) Boston, Mass. Various Others

1875 P.C.

1873 Issues

1873 Issues

Schroon Lake, N.Y.

1886

NEGATIVE STARS

STN-21 I-**STN-22 STN-23 STN-24** I-I-I-**STN-25** I-Cherokeetown, Indian Buffalo Crossroads, Pa. Weston, Vt. Providence, R.I. Wallingford, Conn. Territory Aug. 3, 1875 1877 1874 1874 Feb. 21, 1880 **STN-26 STN-27 STN-28** I-I-I-**STN-29** I-Kane, McKean Co., Pa. Saratoga Springs, N.Y. (Purple) Stepney Depot (Blue) Rocky Point, Chickasaw July 17, 1879 Fairfield Co., Conn. Aug. 4, 1884-Aug. 16, **National Indian Territory** Chico Springs, N.M. (Blue) (Violet) 1886 1880 July 30, 1879 June 20, 1883 **STN-31 STN-32 STN-33 STN-30** I-I-I-**STN-34** I-Fly Creek, N.Y. Northampton, Mass. Stapleton, N.Y. Breesport, N.Y. Bergholtz, N.Y. (Purple) (Blue-Black) (Purple) July 15, 1886 Dec. 1, 1886 May 27, 1886 1875 P.C. June 25, 1879 **STN-35 STN-36 STN-37 STN-38 STN-39** I-I-I-I-I-

Portland, Pa.

Mar. 14, 1879

Columbus, Ohio

Oct. 22, 1885

Bradford, Ohio

Oct. 11, 1883

Tilden, Hancock Co., Me.-

J.H. Jordan, P.M.

Apr. 30, 1884

STN-40



(Magenta) 1887 issues **STN-41**



Westport, Clinton Co. Pa. C.R. Noyes P.M. July 11, 1887

STN-42



Happy Camp, De I Norte Co., Cal Jan. 22, 1882 Town Hill, Luz Co., Pa. (Blue) June 8, 1891

I-

I-

I-

STN-43

I-

I-



Fredonia, Ks. (Bluish Gray-Black) January 30,1882

STN-44



Forest Mills, Goodhue Co., Mn. Dec. 28, 1887

STN-45 I-



Catawba on Lake Keuka, N.Y. Mar. 1887

STN-46

I-

I-



Pittstown, Hunterdon Co., N.J. Sept. 10, 1886

STN-47



Atlantic, Alturas Co., Idaho May 10, 1887

STN-48



Neponset, III (Purple) Official Issues

STN-49



Leacock, Pa. Sept. 6, 1887 **STN-50**

I-

I



Sun Prairie, Wisc. (Magenta) 1879

STN-51



Hunlock Creek, Luz Co., Pa. Jan. 9, 1888

STN-52



Rockford, Minn. June 1, 1881

STN-53



I-

Northampton, Mass. (Purple) 1873 Issues

STN-54



Addison, Wisc. (Blue, Black) 1873 Issues

STN-55



Jordan, Minn. (Light Blue) Oct. 6, 1882

STN-56

I



Williamsville, N.Y. 1890 Issues

STN-57



STN-58 II-

II-



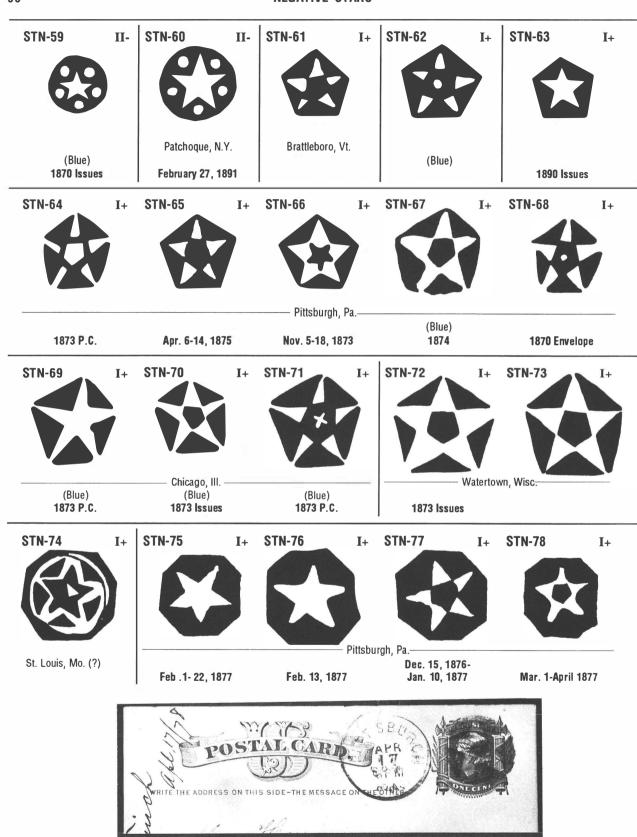
Patchoque, N.Y.

July 9, 1892

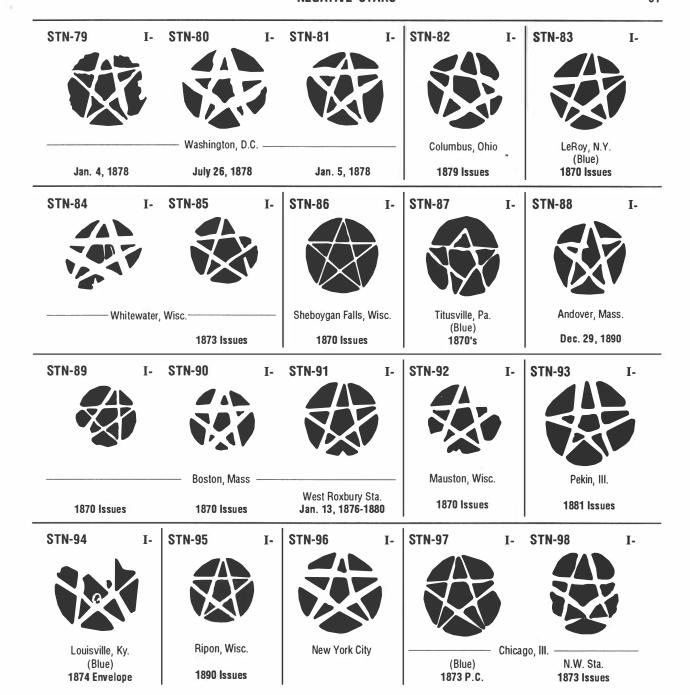
1891

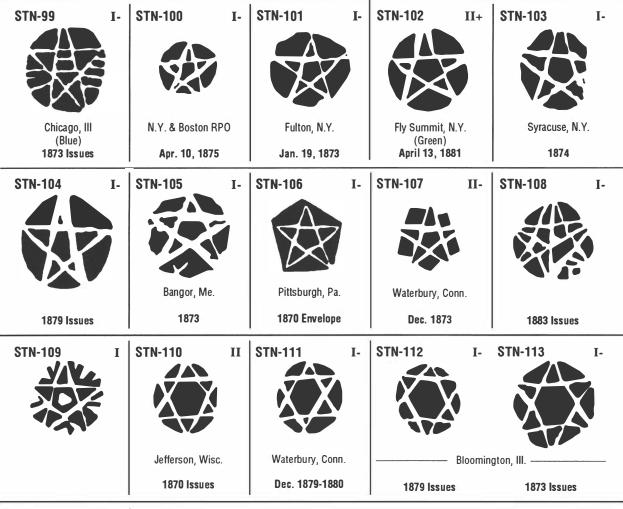


Rubber stamped Williamsville, N.Y. negative star in double circle in blue of May 1893. Note ornaments in town datestamp circle.



One of the many Pittsburgh, Pa. negative stars, few of which saw more than a few weeks of use.



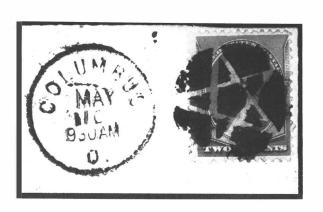




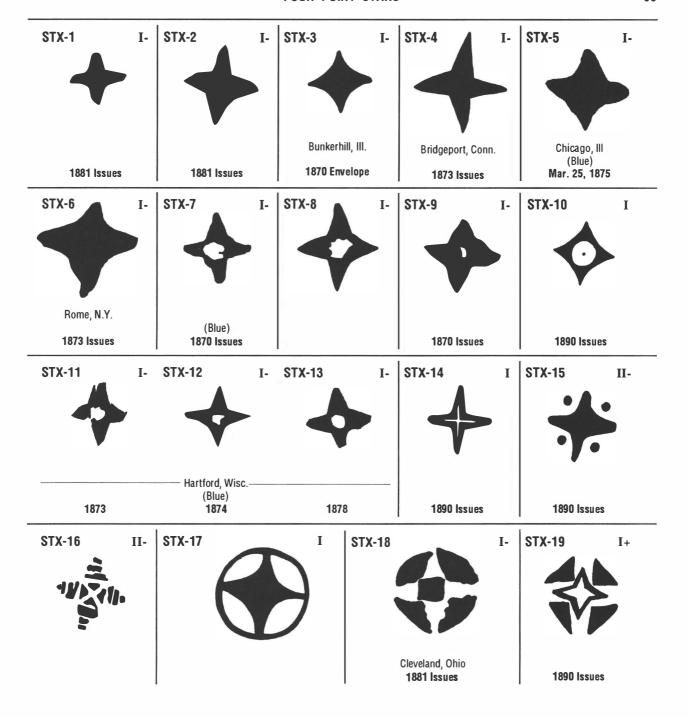
1870 issues

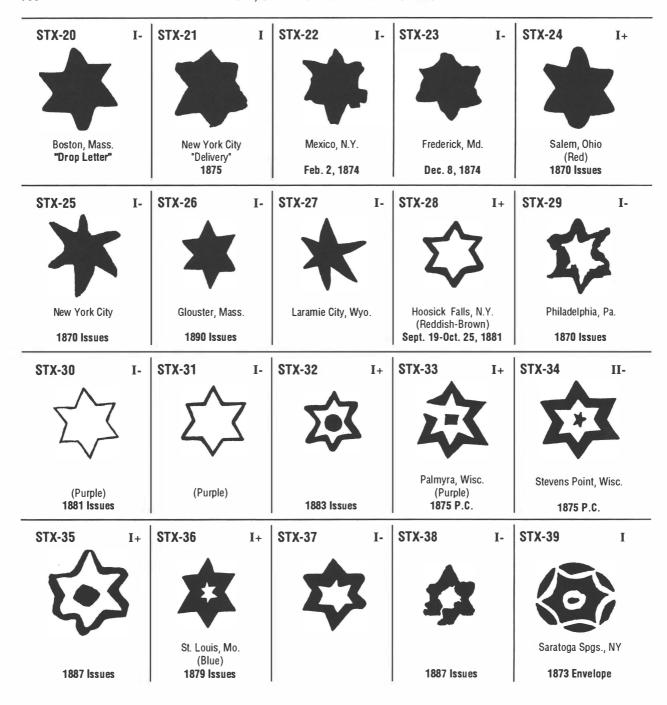
STN-115 I-





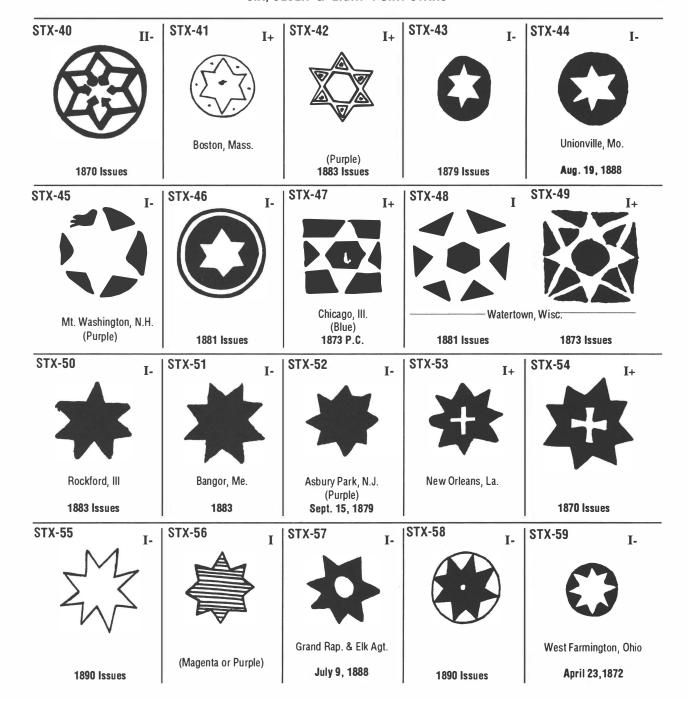
Columbus, Ohio negative, segmented star, STN-82, May, 1887.







A seven point star in a circle, used from New York City in the late 1870s. (STX-60) (I)



The shaded star can be found both commercially made and hand carved, and shaded on the left or right side.

I

I



Elery, Ohio (Magenta) Nov. 9, 1888



Greenwood, III 1883 Issues Hinesborough, III 1879 Issues (Purple)



Ridge Hill, Mass. (Purple) June 10, 1886





Goodenow, III. (Purple) Sept. 17, 1886





Odell, Livingston Co. III. (Blue) Nov. 1, 1880

STB-6

I

I

I



Cannonsburgh, Ohio Feb. 21, 1887

STB-7

I

I



Newton Centre, Mass. Oct. 17, 1890

STB-8

I

I



I

I

I

Shipman, III. (Violet) 1875 P.C.

STB-9



Cedar Hill, Ohio (Purple) Feb. 28, 1887

STB-10



Middletown Spgs., Vt. May 21, 1884

STB-11



Milton, Mass. (Blue) 1879 Issues

STB-12



Avon, N.Y. 1873 Issues

STB-13



Edon, Ohio Jan. 31-Aug. 7, 1888

STB-14



Deansville, N.Y.

Apr. 16, 1887

STB-15



Freedom, III.

Mar. 31, 1881

STB-16



Reading, Mass.

1875 P.C.

STB-17



Oct. 28, 1885

I

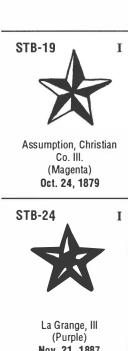
Hatboro, Pa.-(Purple)

Oct. 14, 1885

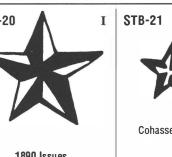
STB-18



The Cedar Hill, Ohio shaded star duplexed with a very plain town datestamp, struck in purple. The configuration of the postmark and its color indicate it was a rubber stamp.









Cohasset, Mass.

Ι

I



East Bethel, Vt. (Blue) 1875 P.C.



Holliston, Mass. (Purple) 1875 P.C.

Nov. 21, 1887



Ocate, Mora Co. N.M. Dec. 18, 1882-Jan. 29, 1886



(Magenta) 1883 Issues



Plymouth, Ca. 1881 Grants Pass, Ore. 1883 Issues (Blue, Black) 1879 Issues



Chebanse, III. 1883 Issues

I





Stillman Valley, III. (Purple) 1890 Issues





STB-31

I

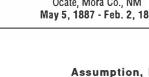


(Blue) 1882 Issues

STB-32



Ocate, Mora Co., NM May 5, 1887 - Feb. 2, 1888



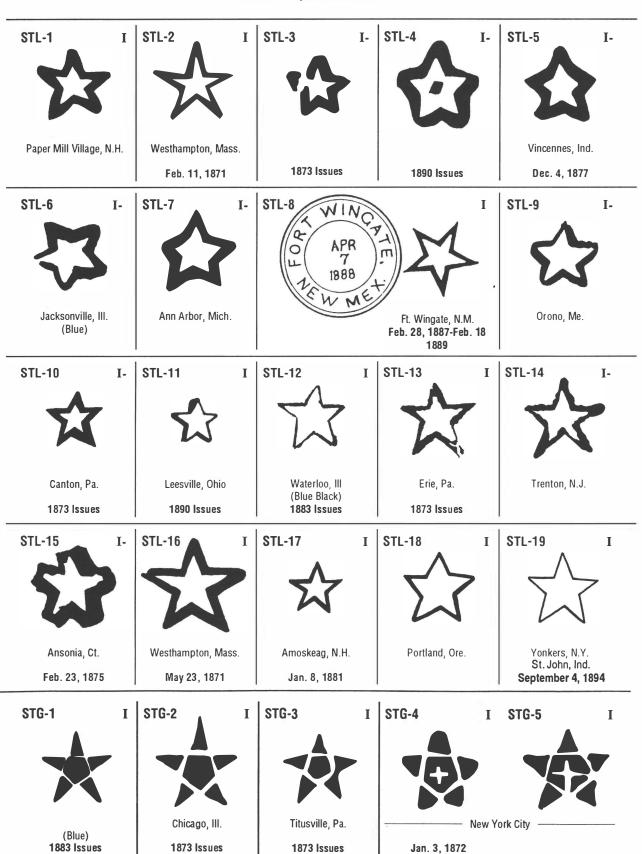


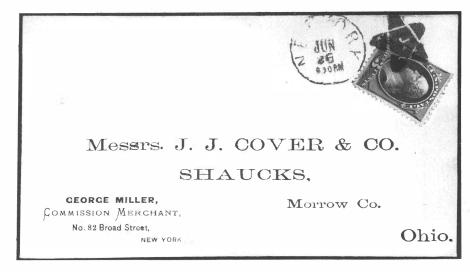
Assumption, III. STB-19, as above.



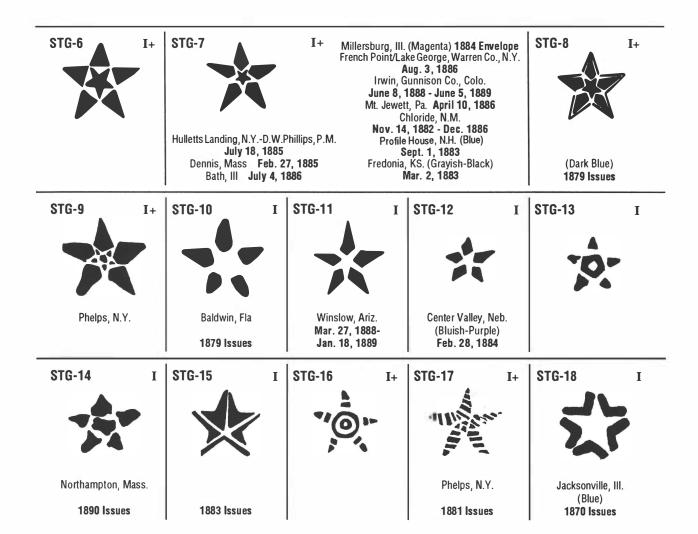


Fisherville, N.H. duplexed star, used on a cover sent from Concord, N.H. as a receiving mark only a short time after receiving handstamps were required as a new regulation, and before they were normally found as backstamps.

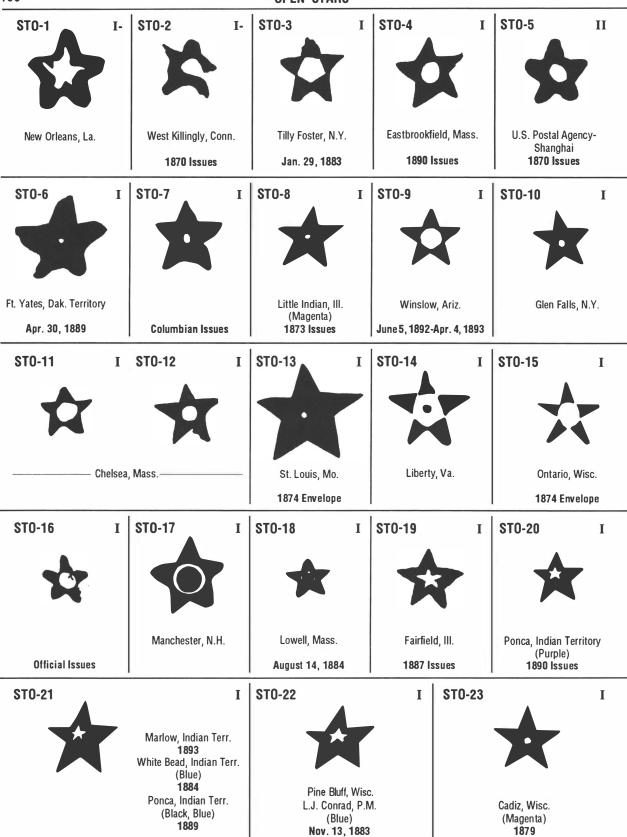




A segmented star on a cover from New York City in the 1870s.

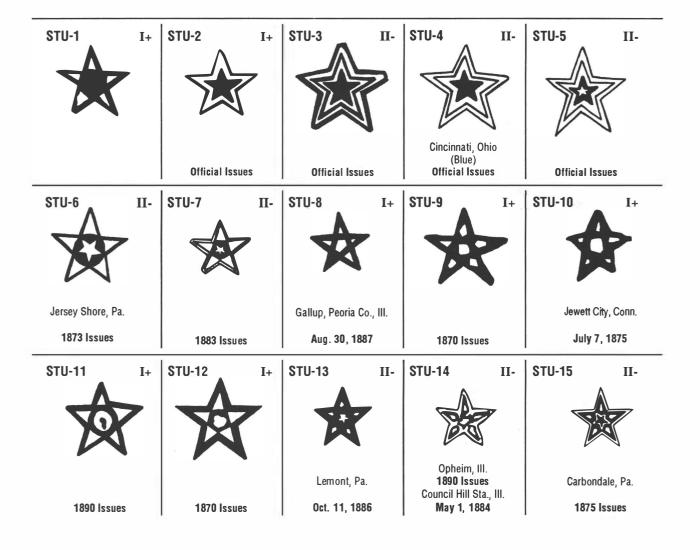


106 OPEN STARS

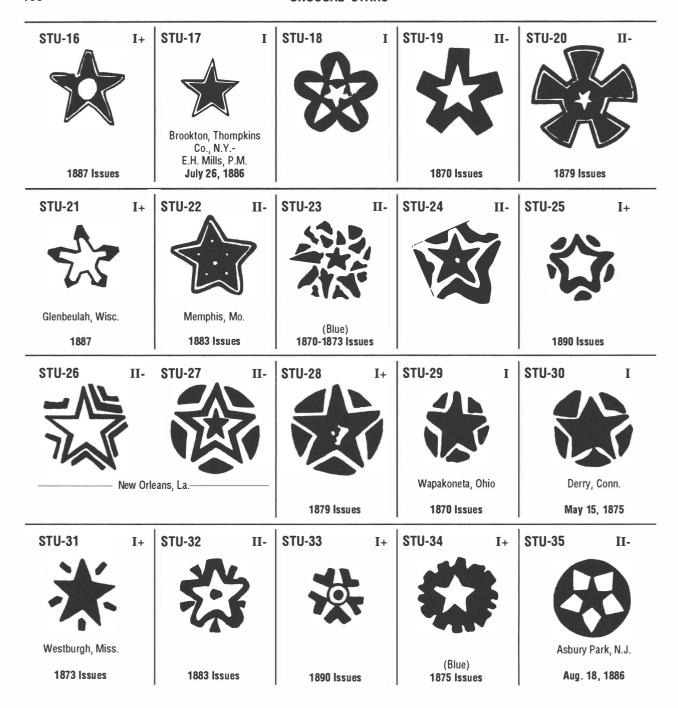




The Lowell, Mass. tiny open star, STD-18 considered to be a receiving marking, possibly to Indicate carrier delivery for Incoming mail, seldom if ever was used as a cancellation. This cover, a local letter sent in 1884, bears Lowell markings of "UNCLAIMED" and also a faint red pointing hand, "RETURN TO SENDER," and partially illegible handstamp, "Have your mail matter directed to your street and number."



UNUSUAL STARS



STU-36

Oyster Bay, NY (Magenta) Plant City, Fla. Ferenbaugh, Steuben Co., N.Y. Clayton, N.Y. Sept. 8, 1877 Brewsters Sta., N.Y. (Magenta) llion, N.Y. (Purple)

I

II



"Starburst"

Mt. Kisco, N.Y. (Magenta) Nov. 24, 1879

II-



(Center of Starburst cancel only) 1879 Issues

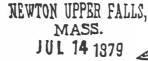
STU-38



Glenbeulah, Wisc.

1886

STU-39





July 14, 1879

STU-40



(Purple, Magenta) 1883 Issues

II-

STU-41

I+



Oconee, III.

July 22, 1887

STU-42



New York City

1873 Issues

STU-43 I+



1883 Issues

STU-44



(Various Cities)

STU-45

II-



Lamy, Santa Fe Co., N.M.

(Blue) Sept. 9 - Oct. 28, 1884 **STU-46**



II+

(Red) 1873 Issues

STU-47

Ocate, Mora Co., N.M. (Red, Violet, Purple) Aug. 12, 1890-Dec. 21, 1893

I+



Deer Island, Columbia Co., Ore. Oct. 15, 1891 Lordsburg, N.M. (Violet) Oct. 17, 1887 - Apr. 4, 1888

Nogal, N.M. (Violet, Purple, Magenta) Nov. 19, 1889 - May 12, 1893 Los Lunas, N.M. (Violet) July 16 - Oct. 13, 1891

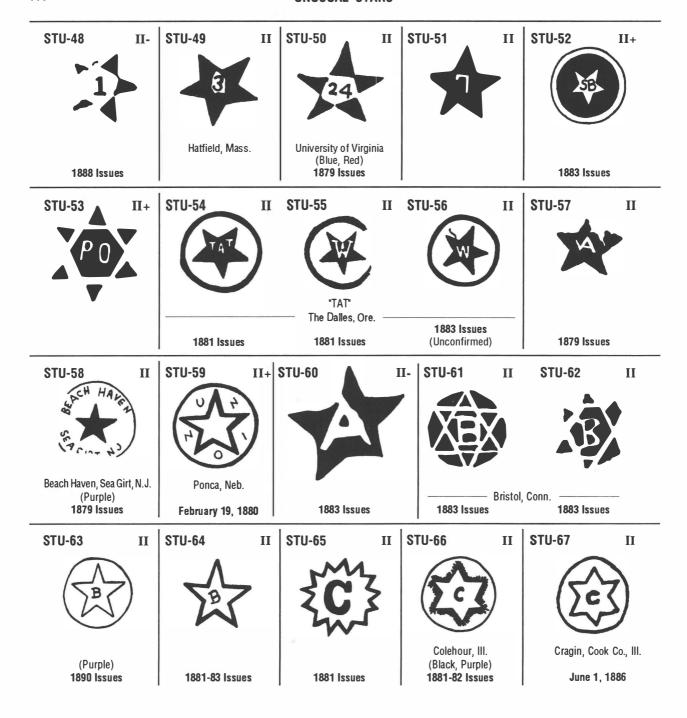
Glorietta, N.M. (Purple) Sept. 22, 1890

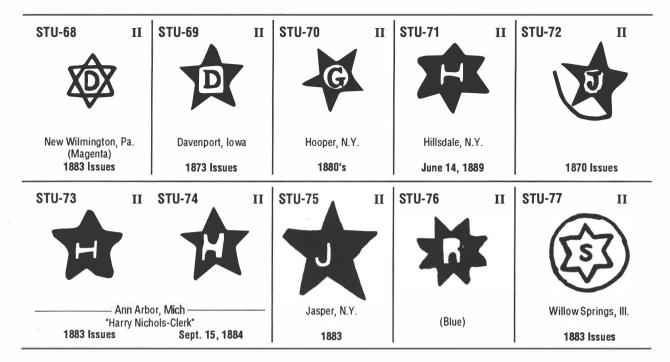
Sabinal, N.M. (Violet) Sept. 10, 1891-Feb. 11, 1893

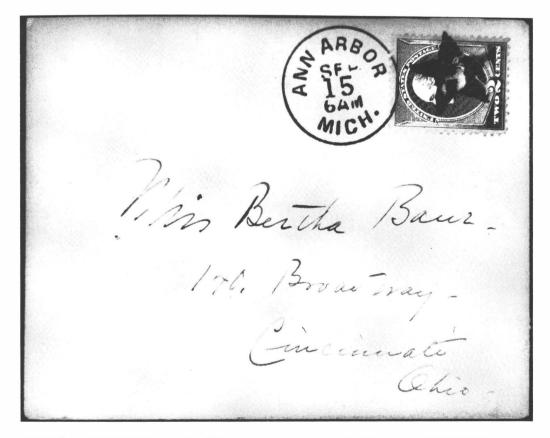
White Oaks, N.M. (Blue) Dec. 27, 1887 - Mar. 21, 1888



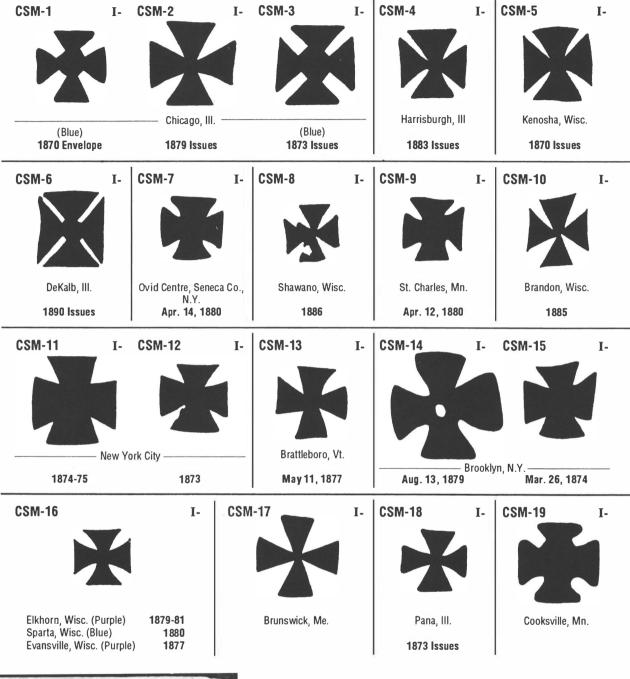
UNUSUAL STARS







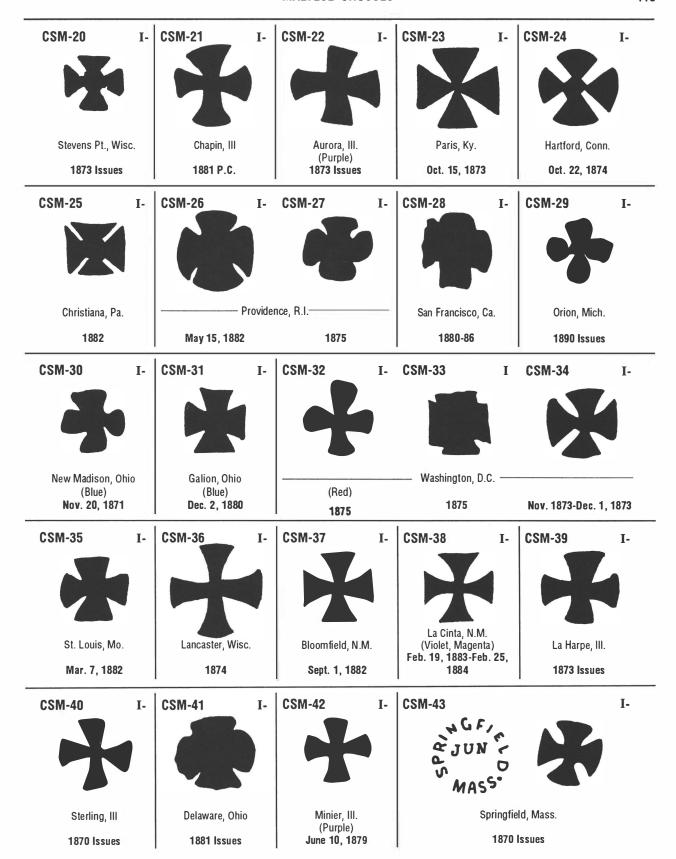
One of the many fancy cancels with initials of Harry Nichols, postal clerk of Ann Arbor, Michigan. Also see pages 211-12.

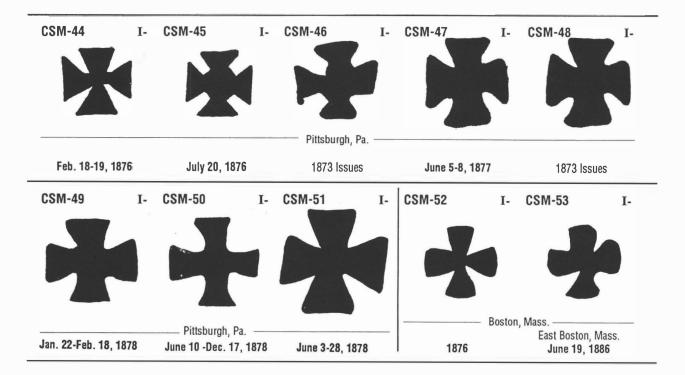




A rubber stamped duplexed postmark, with Maltese cross cancel, applied in black at Delta, Ohio in October 1886. This cancel is similar to CSM-16, but larger. (CSM-16A)

Although this style of cross is usually termed a Maltese cross by collectors, it is actually more like the German iron cross. The true Maltese cross, as depicted on the postage stamps of Malta, has forked ends, such as may be noted in the crude Boston cancel, CSU-4 on page 120.







While the hollow shaded Maltese crosses on subsequent pages were made by E.S. Miller of Newark, Ohio, the manufacturer of the fancy duplexed designs may have been someone else. Kits for making rubber handstamps were being marketed widely, and many small enterprises such as discussed on page 14, probably furnished similar cancels made from similar molds in kits at many locations.

I-

I-

I-

CSS-1



Beverly, N.J. (Magenta) Aug. 22, 1877 CSS-2

I



Grindstone City, Huron Co., Mich. Sept. 16, 1881

CSS-3

I-

I-

I-

I-



Huntington, N.Y.

Apr. 29, 1884

CSS-4

I-



Norwood, R.I., C.A. Lufkin, P.M. Feb. 1, 1879

CSS-5

I-

I-

I



Bob Creek, Wisc. (Blue) 1884 Wausau, Wisc. 1881

CSS-6



Echo, Indian Terr. (Blue) 1885 Flint, Indian Terr. (Magenta, Blue, Violet) 1885-1888

CSS-7

I

I-



Riverside, Ore. Nov. 20, 1885

CSS-8



Simpson, W.Va. N.L. Bartlett, P.M. Aug. 31, 1886

CSS-9

I-

I-

I-



Preston, Minn., B.S. Loomis, P.M. Aug. 8, 1878

CSS-10



Owasco, N.Y.

Mar. 21, 1882

CSS-11



Willard, N.Y.

Mar. 13, 1882

CSS-12



Kingston, N.M.

Nov. 6, 1882-Dec. 6, 1883

CSS-13



Lane, Franklin Co., Ks.

Sept. 14, 1881

CSS-14



Sandy Hill, N.Y. (Violet) Jan. 24, 1879

CSS-15



Milner, Pike Co., Pa.

Oct. 21, 1881

CSS-16



Georgetown, N.M. (Purple, Blue) May 19, 1882-Apr. 22, 1886 Idaville, Ind. Sept. 17, 1883

CSS-17

I



Assumption, Christian Co., III. Oct. 7, 1881

CSS-18



Durand, Wisc. 1886

CSS-19



Chrisman, III. 1883 Issues

CSS-20

I-

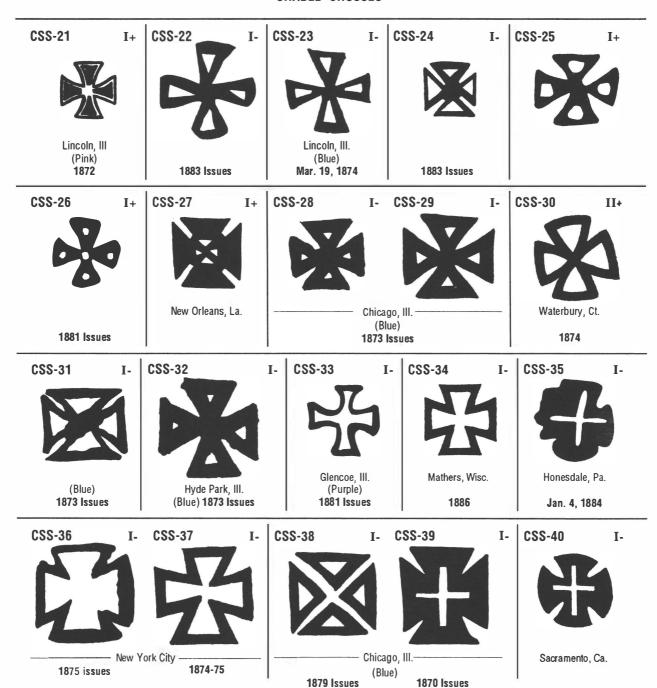


Claremont, Minn. (Brown) Dec. 14, 1881



Pittsburgh Maltese crosses, CSM-50, used to cancel three 6¢ Lincoln stamps on a courthouse cover in 1878.

SHADED CROSSES



CSL-1



Malvern, Ks.-T.C. McNab, P.M. May 19, 1887

Bulger, Pa .-A.J. Russell, PM July 14, 1886

CSL-2

I-

I-

I-

I-



Dorset, Ohio

Dec. 20, 1885

CSL-3



Springboro, Pa. (Blue) Dec. 7, 1886-Feb. 6, 1888 CSL-4

I-

I-

I-



Jewett City, Ohio

July 8, 1885

CSL-5



Sherlock, Finney Co., Ks.

Apr. 18, 1887

CSL-6

I-

I-

I-



Echo, Umatilla Co., Ore.-W.C. Brownell-P.M. Sept. 23, 1883

CSL-7



Frankton, Madison Co., Ind. (Blue)

CSL-8

I-



Dundee, Fla.

Apr. 22, 1884

CSL-9



Beaver, Wisc. (Blue) 1885 Muscoda, Wisc. 1886-1887

CSL-10



Kaneville, III. (Blue-Black) 1884 Envelope CSL-11



Tremont, N.Y.

CSL-12



Bexar, Tx. (Violet) Dec. 31, 1886

CSL-13 I-



Huntington, L.I., N.Y.

Apr. 6, 1882

CSL-14



I-

I-

Cooksville, Wisc. (magenta) 1881

CSL-15



Roswell, N.M. Nov. 14, 1885-Mar. 13, 1886

CSL-16



Chaves, N.M. Nov. 2, 1887-April 3, 1891

CSL-17



Dexter, Mich. (Purple) July 29, 1890 **CSL-18**



Oak Hill, Mo. (Blue, Black) 1887 Issues

CSL-19

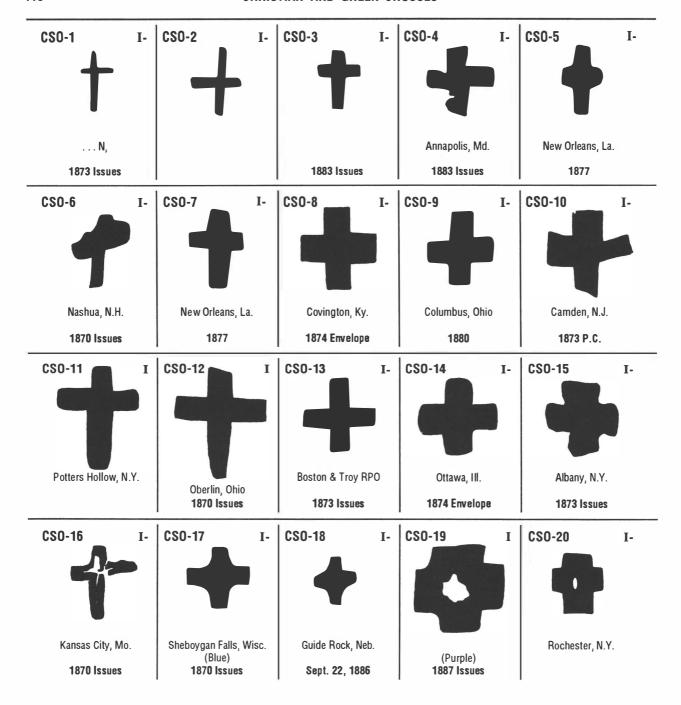


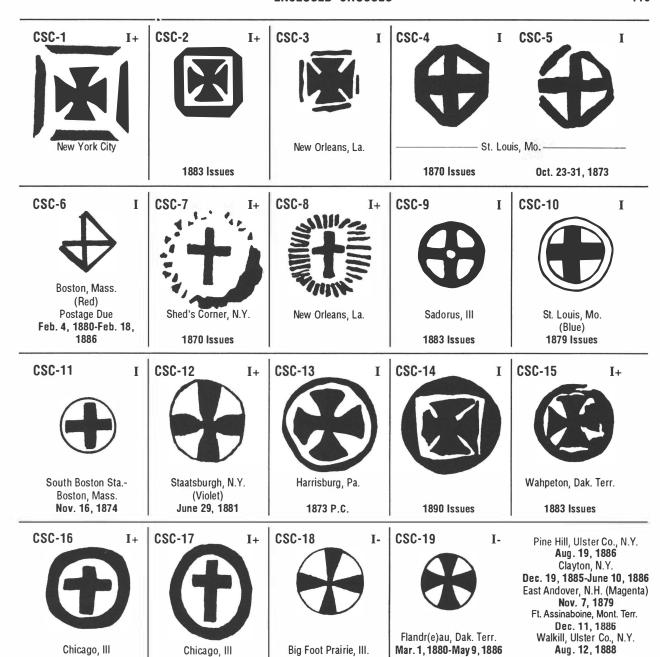
Galton, III.

1883 Issues



A shaded, duplexed Maltese cross with a postmark with tiny matching crosses, used at Boonville, New York. This is one of many similar duplexed handstamps furnished by makers of molded rubber handstamps to small town postmasters. (CSS-7A)





1881 Issues



1879 Issues

(Blue)

1873 Issues

Sent from Sidney, Ohio in the late 1870s, this duplexed postmark was struck in purple ink from a handstamp of molded rubber, similar to CSC-13 or CSC-15, above.

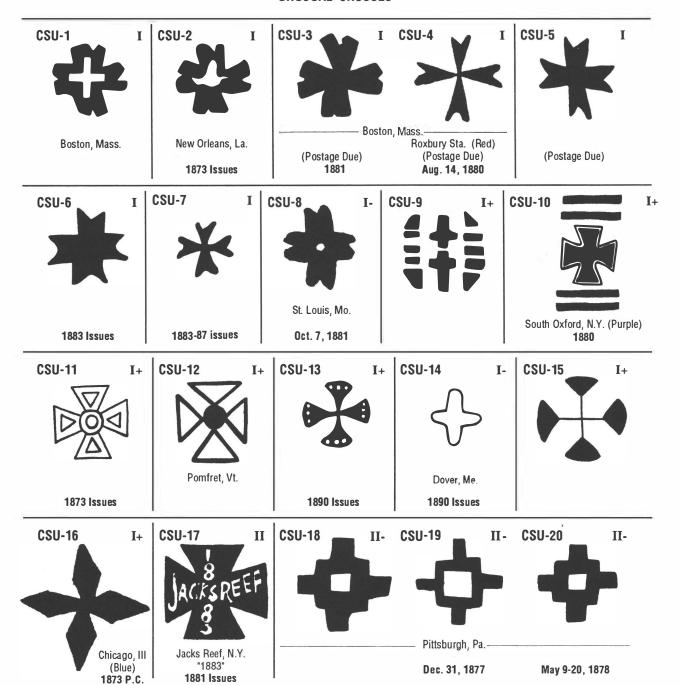
Kenwood, Mad. Co., N.Y.

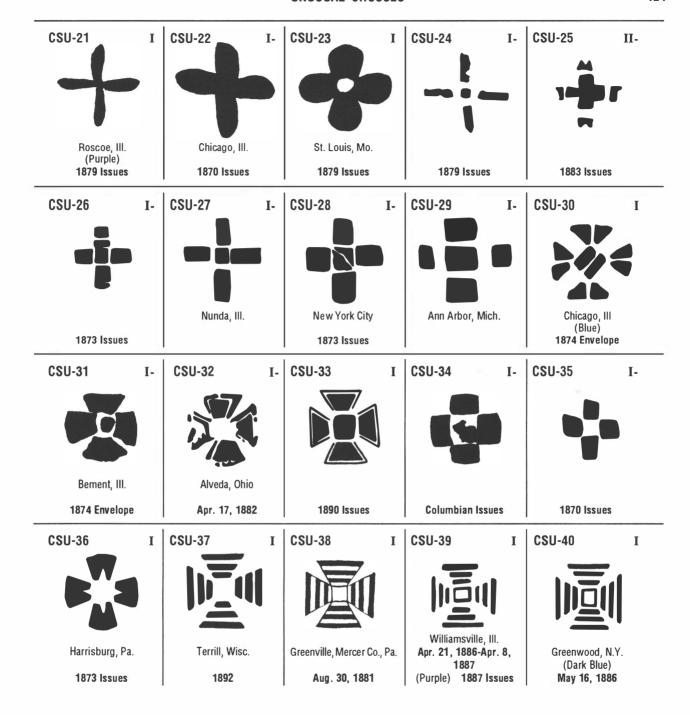
May 15, 1890

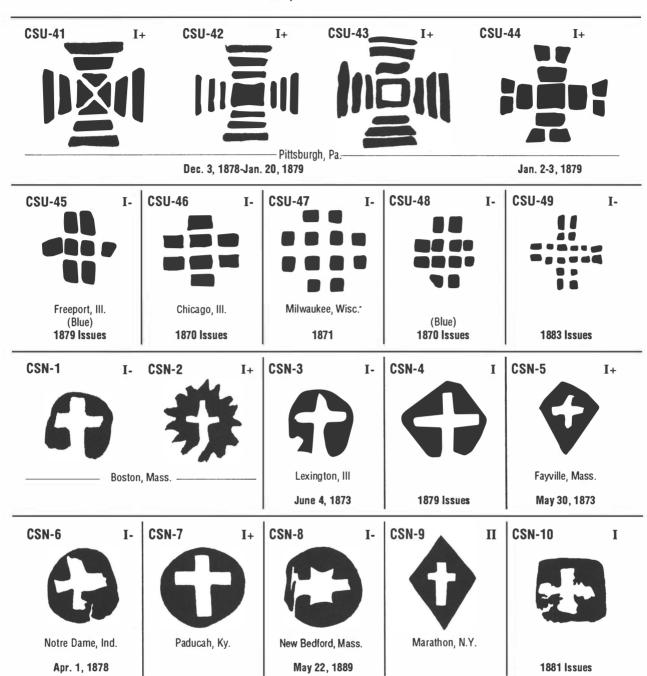
Wau-Hil-Lau, Indian Territory

1884-6

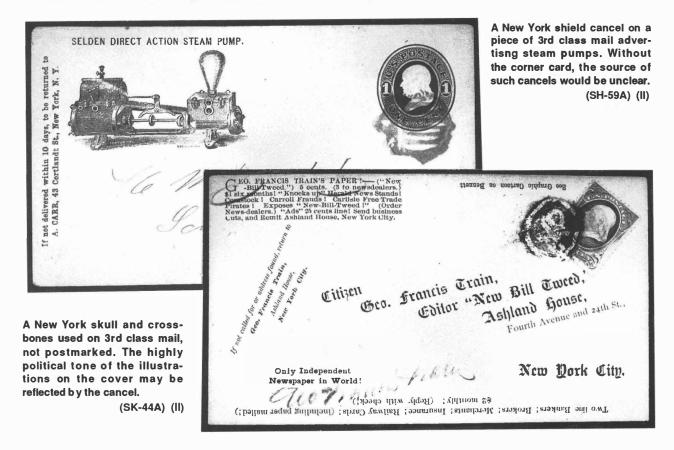
UNUSUAL CROSSES



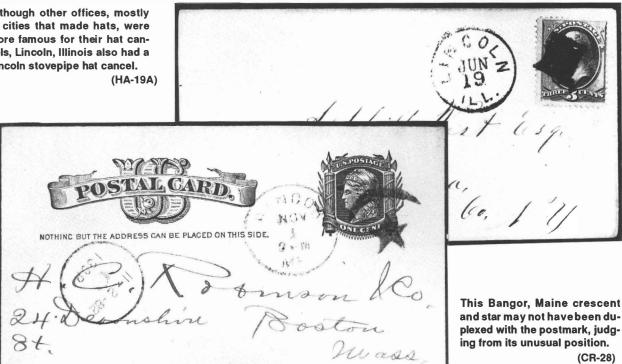




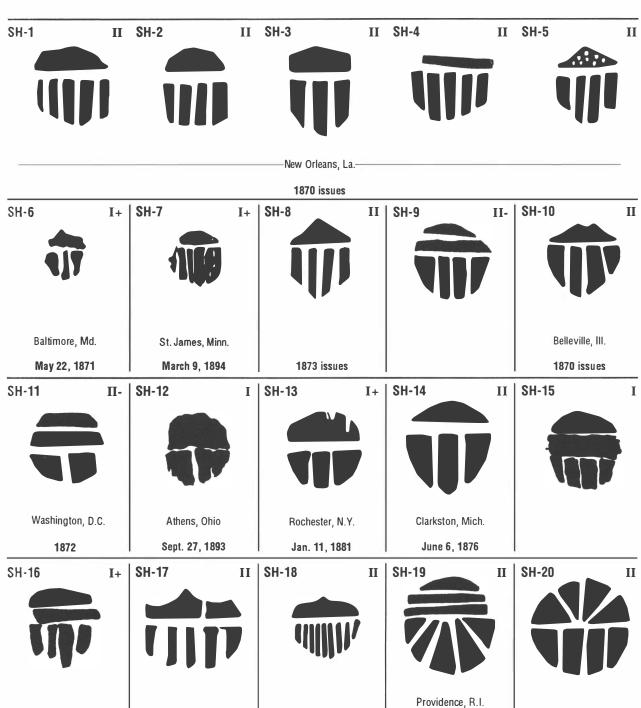
By "pictorials" is meant those cancels easily recognized where the design obviously represents an emblem, object known to all, or a living person beast, bird or fish. This area includes most of what collectors term "fancy cancels," and is probably the most popular (and valuable) style of cancel of the banknote period.



Although other offices, mostly in cities that made hats, were more famous for their hat cancels, Lincoln, Illinois also had a Lincoln stovepipe hat cancel.



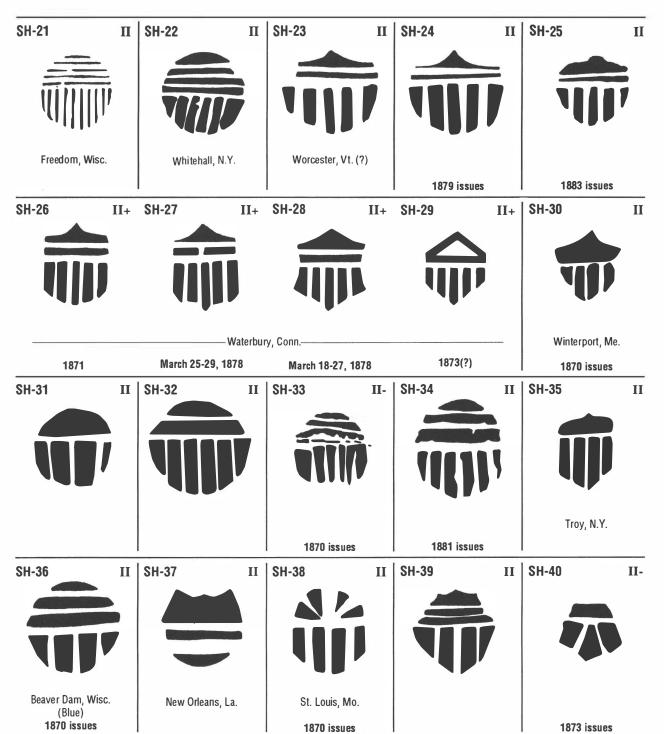
1870 issues



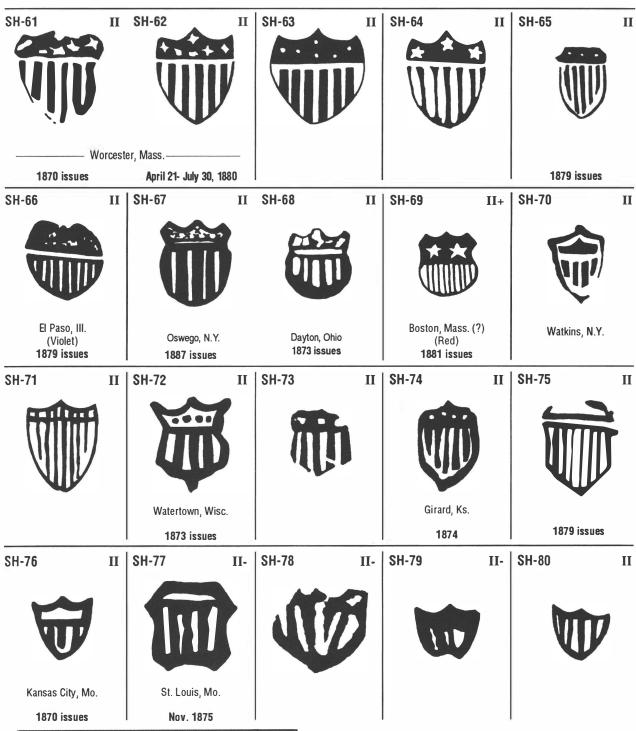
1875 issues

Nov. 29- Dec. 1, 1882

1879 issues

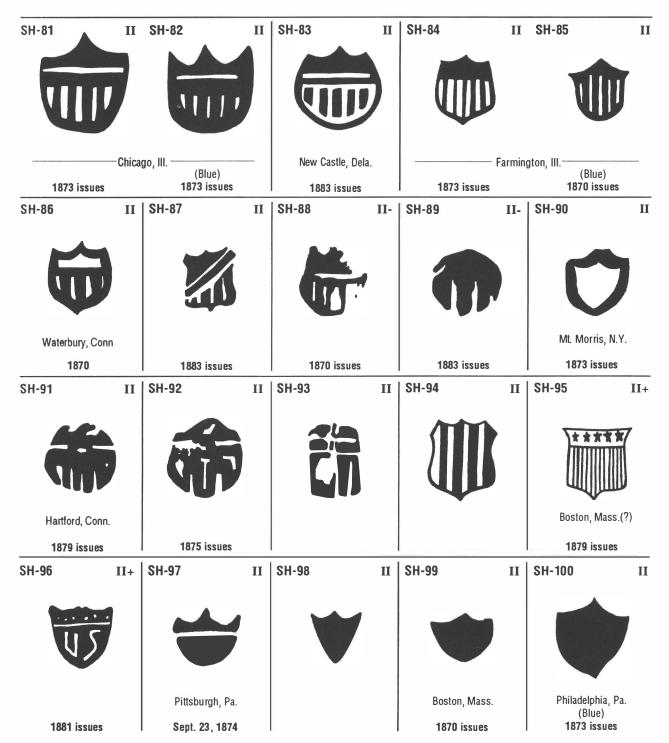


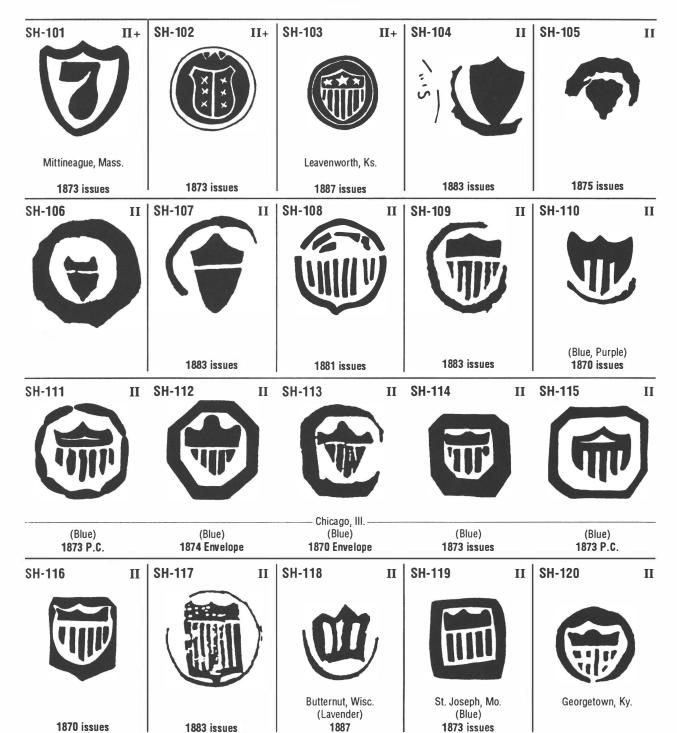
SH-41	П	SH-42	II-	SH-43	I+	SH-44	I+	SH-45	I+
1	7								
· III		\\\\\\\\\\\\\\\\\\\\\\\\\\\\\\\\\\\\\\				गींग			
				Wilkesville, Ohio.		(Red)		Richfield Spgs., N.Y.	
		1		Sept. 30, 1892		()		1870 issues	
SH-46	I+	SH-47	II	SH-48	II	SH-49	II	SH-50	II
Trans				-		N. C. A.Y			1
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,1,		01144		di.		Ab.		UP	
Allere									
Athens, ? (Red)		Champaign, III. (Blue)				Red Lion, Pa.			
1870 issues		1873 issues				Nov. 9, 1876	-	1890 issues	
SH-51	II	SH-52	II	SH-53	II	SH-54	II	SH-55	II
A								XXX	
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4110		(I)		Alli		Affly		יווי	
Covington, Ky.				Cayuga Lake, N.Y.		Thomaston, Me.			
011 50		011.57		1870-73 issues		1870 issues		1870 issues	
SH-56	II	SH-57	II	SH-58	II	SH-59	II	SH-60	II
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N 44 45=0		St. Louis, Mo.—		4070 :-				St. Louis, Mo.	
Nov. 11, 1872		1870 issues		1879 issues				1873 issues	





An ornate shield with stars and bars, used at Worcester, Mass. in May 1880, probably type SH-2, traced above.



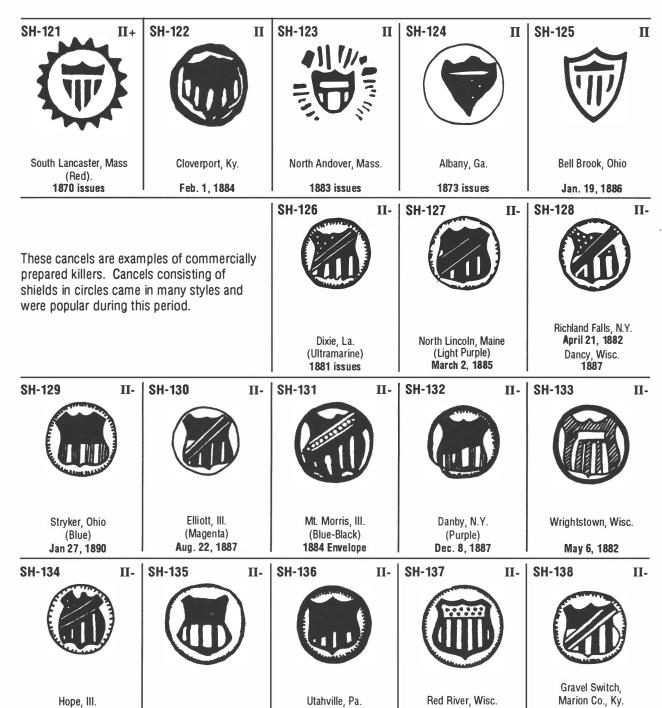


(Black-Blue)

1887 issues

1881 Issues

SHIELDS

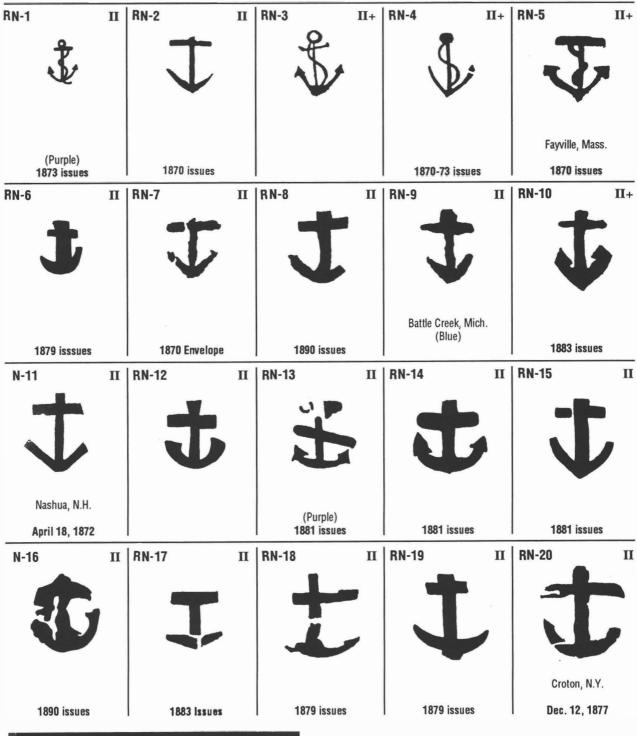


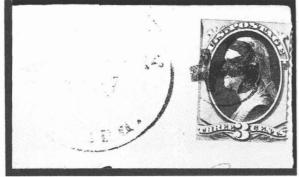
June 27, 1884

J.P. Harberton, PM.

May 4, 1883

May 17, 1887

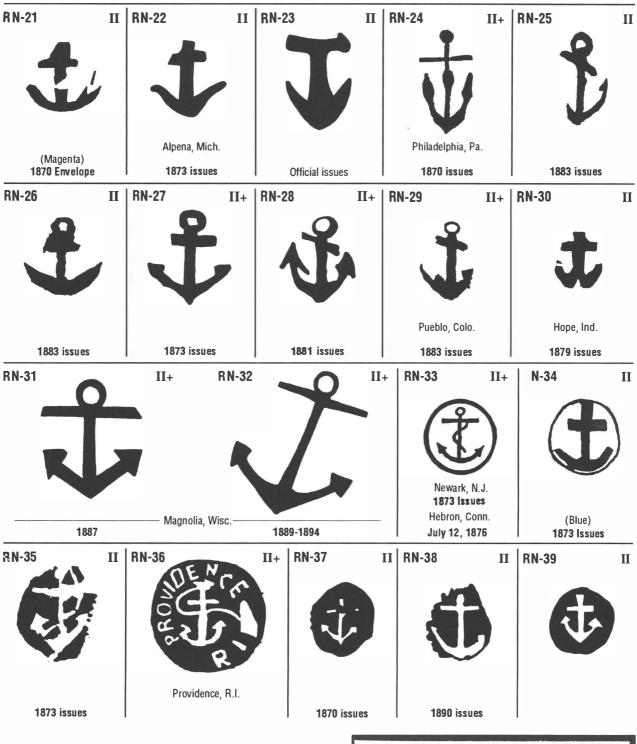




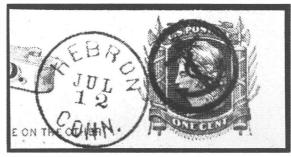
This crudely carved anchor probably emanated from the Indiana Ohio River steamboat port of Evansville.

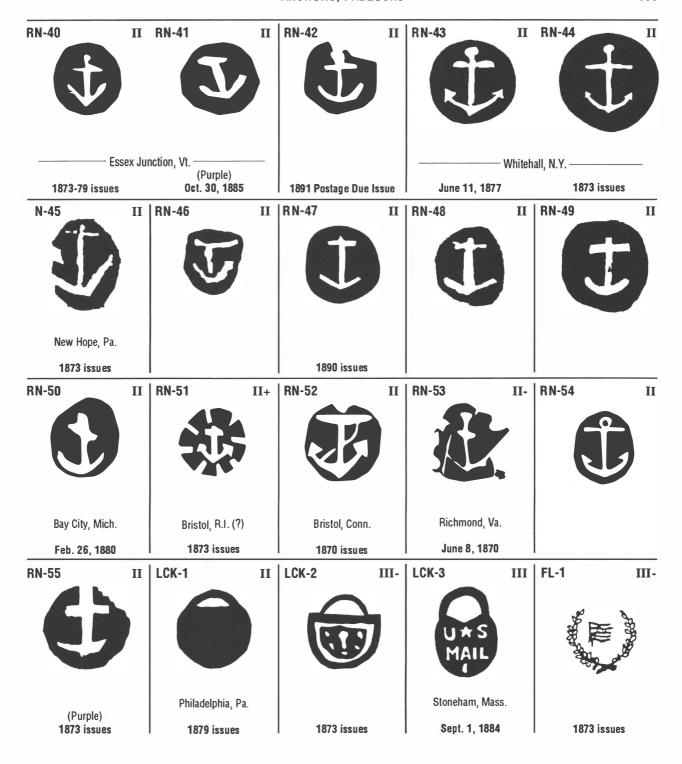
(RN-34A) (II)

132 ANCHORS



The Hebron, Connecticut fouled anchor, a similar cancel also being used at Newark, N.J., was apparently not duplexed and probably was a separate rubber stamp.





MISCELLANEOUS PICTORIALS

Pictorial cancels depict a wealth of subjects in the fanciful carvings of postmasters and postal clerks. These range from the very crude to some that are highly detailed, and from the fossil seashell to the skull and crossbones. Some designs, such as the man in the moon, created by one clerk, were frequently imitated by clerks in other offices.

Animals were always a favorite subject, nearly all (except the kicking mule) being homemade, so that in many cases detail is such that we can only guess what beast or bird the post office carvers tried to depict.

At right: Bay City & Detroit rail-





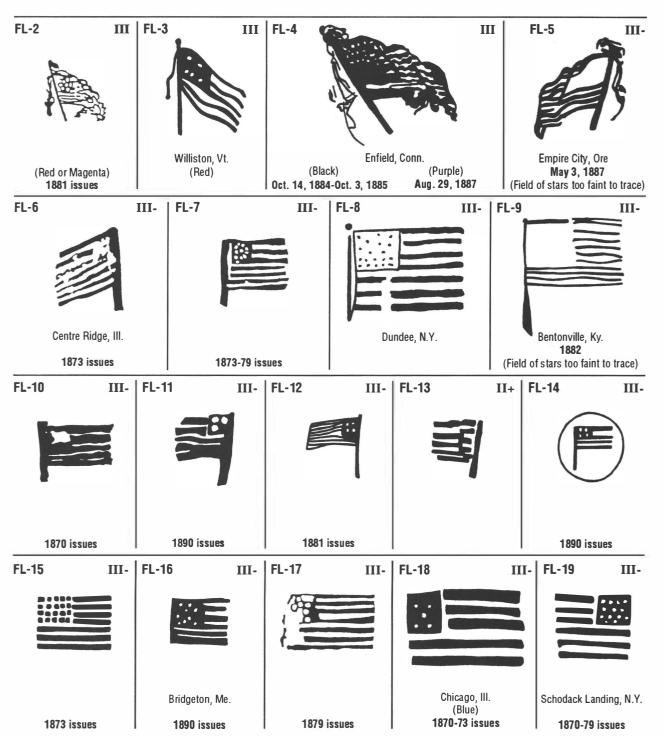
This piece of cover with four banknote stamps, each with a kicking mule cancel, displays what may have been the only commercially produced animal rubber handstamps of the banknote era.

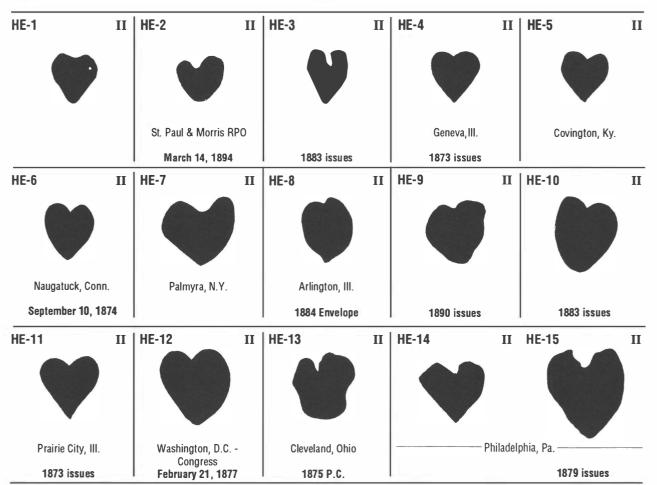
Pittsburgh, Pa had a wide variety of cancels in the banknote era, but the skull and crossbones in a coffin may be the only such with a macabre theme (see SK-52, p. 172 for details).

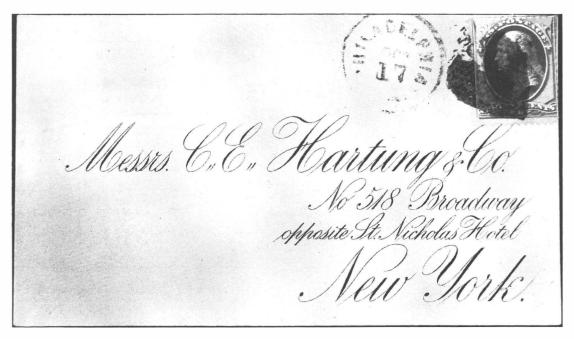


FLAGS

135

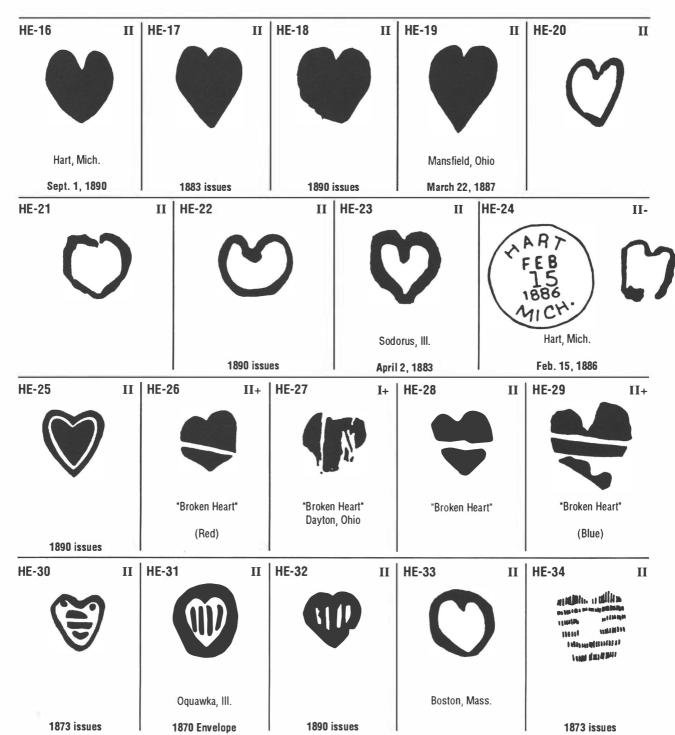




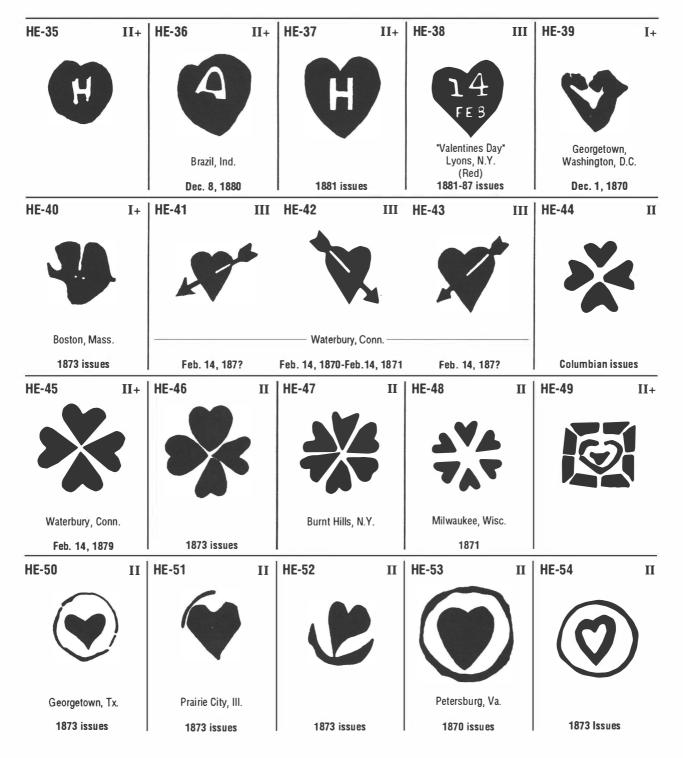


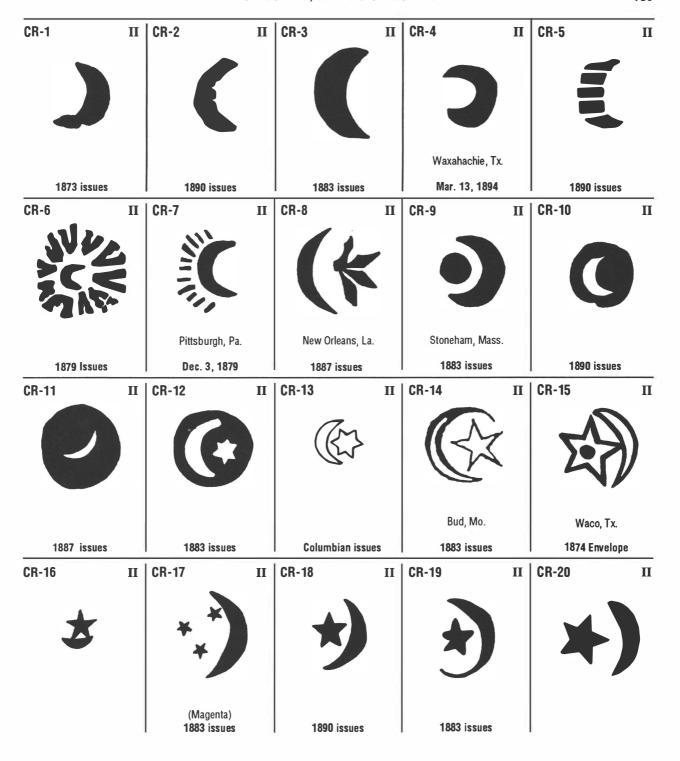
A Philadelphia heart cancel, HE-15. duplexed with a small single circle Philadelphia circular date stamp.

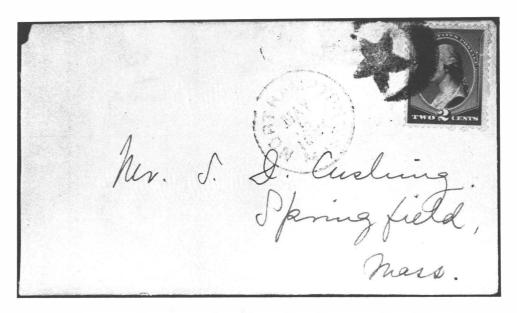
HEARTS 137



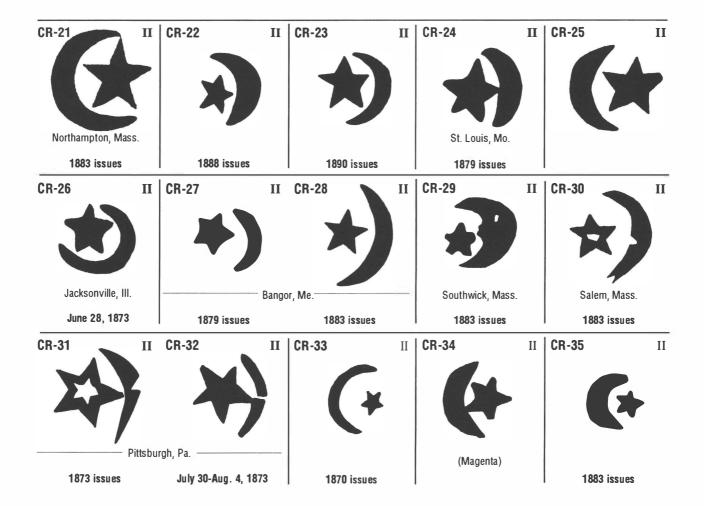
138 HEARTS



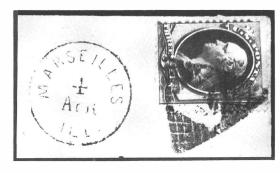




The large star and crescent of Northampton, Mass. on a 2¢ red brown of 1883.

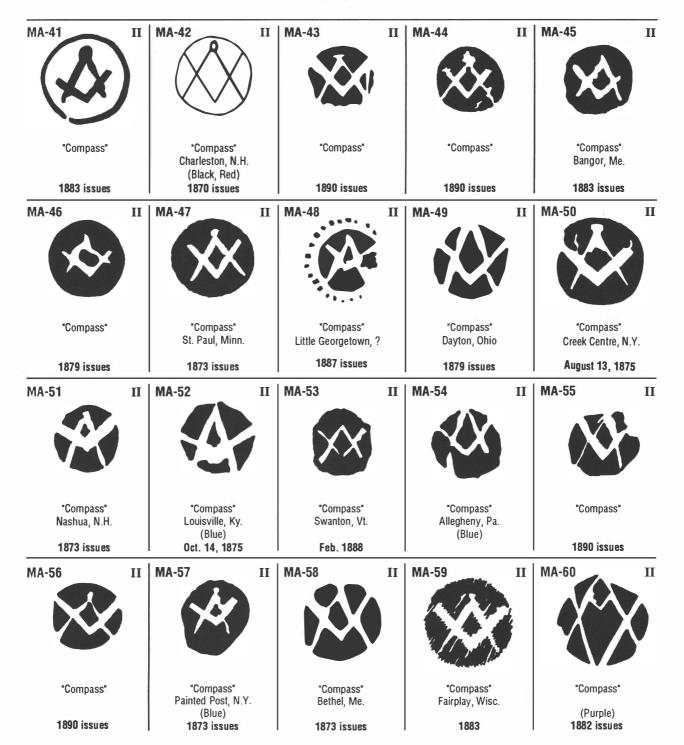


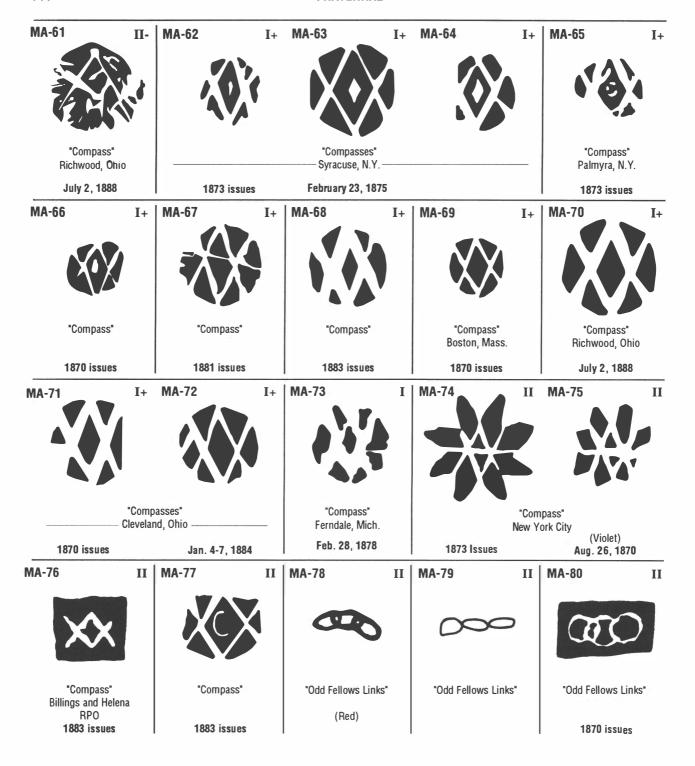
MA-1 MA-2 II II MA-3 II**MA-4** II **MA-5** II "Keystone" (HTWSSTMS - He That Would "Keystone" "Keystone & Compass" "Keystone" "Keystone" Cornwall Bridge, Conn. Pittsburgh, Pa. McMinnville, Tn. (Purple) Smoke Spanish Tobacco Might Know Something) Dec. 10-17, 1875 1874 Envelope **MA-6 MA-7 MA-8** II-II-II-**MA-9** II-**MA-10** I+ "Keystone" "Keystone" "Trowel" "Keystone" "Keystone" Yonkers, N.Y.ville, III. 1890 issues 1881 issues 1873 issues June 30, 1884 1875 P.C. **MA-12 MA-11 MA-13** I+ **MA-14** II **MA-15** II+ I+ I+ "Trowel" "Seeing Eye" "Trowel" "Trowel" Syracuse, N.Y. Chicago, III. Putnam, Conn. 1873 issues 1879 issues **MA-16** III **MA-17** II-**MA-18** I+ **MA-19** I+ **MA-20** II-"Seeing Eye" "Open Book in Star" "Gavel" Rutland, Vt. Hornellsville, N.Y. Marseilles, III. Shelbyville, Mo. Stoneham, Mass. (Purple) Wilton, N.H. (Blue) 1873 issues **1873** issues May 4, 1878 1883 issues 1870 issues

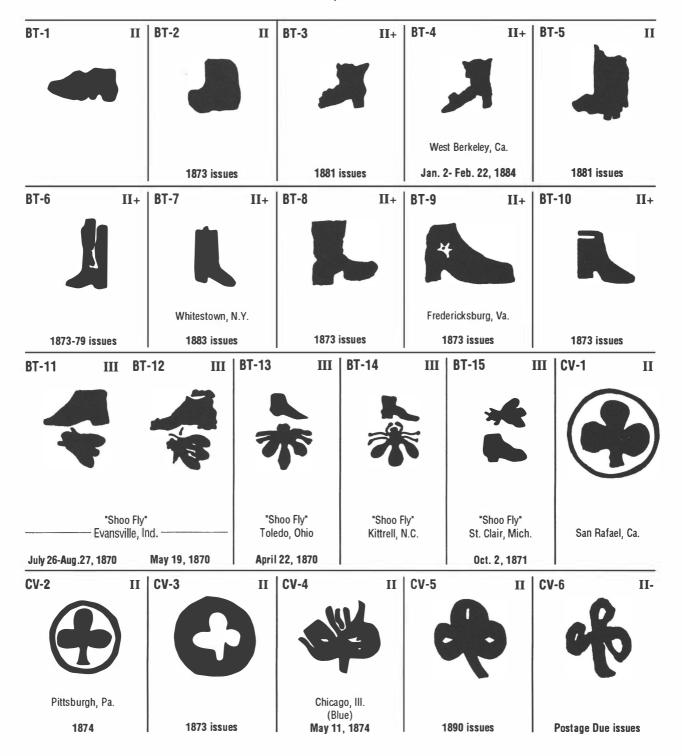


Although the spacing between postmark and the Marseilles, III. Masonic All-Seeing Eye cancel would seem to indicate they were duplexed, the fact the cancel lies on its side in the relationship indicates they were separate handstamps, probably one of steel and the other rubber.

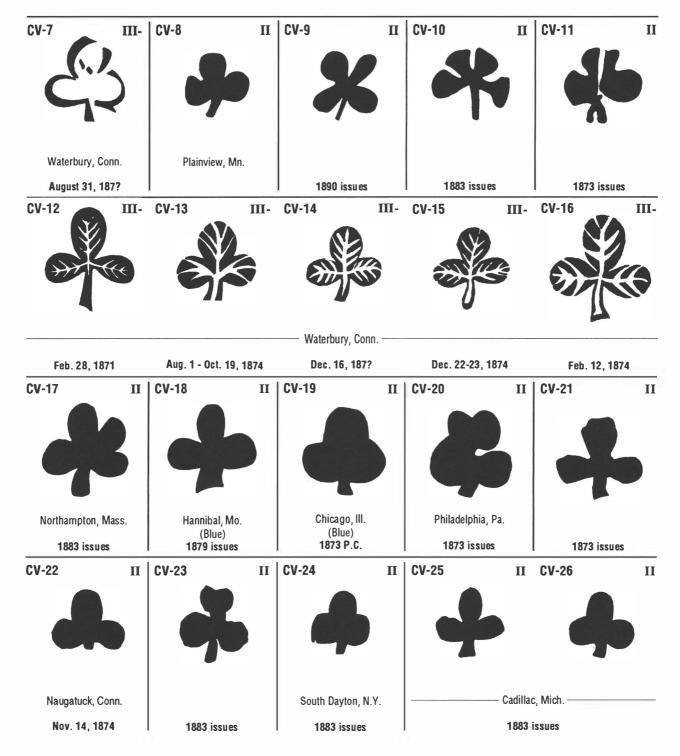








146 CLOVER

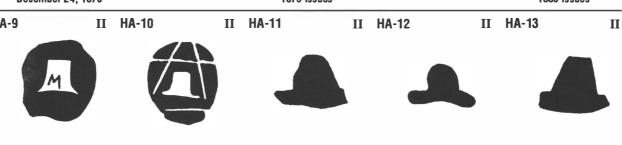


HATS 147

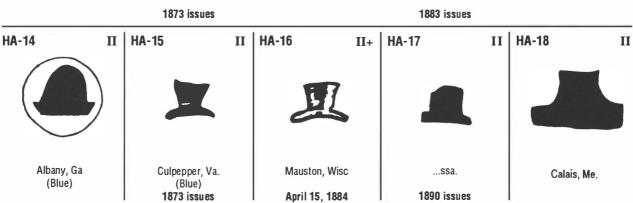
II

II

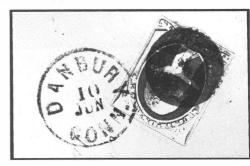
II HA-3 **HA-1** II HA-2 Danbury, Conn. The Danbury Hat Company was one of the largest employers in the area during this period. In recognition of this, the Postmaster used a number ofhand carved "hat" cancels. Most of these are found on the 1873 issues. Danbury, Conn. May 4, 1875 Jan. 22, 1875 1870 issues HA-4 II HA-5 II HA-6 II HA-7 II **HA-8** Danbury, Conn. December 24, 1875 1873 issues 1883 issues **HA-9**

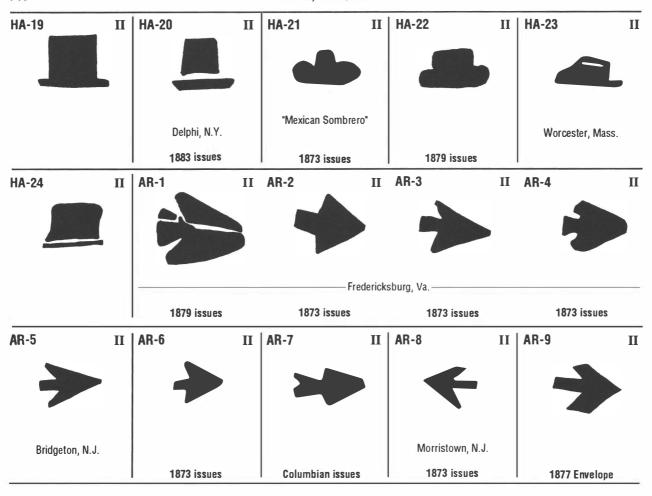


Danbury, Conn.



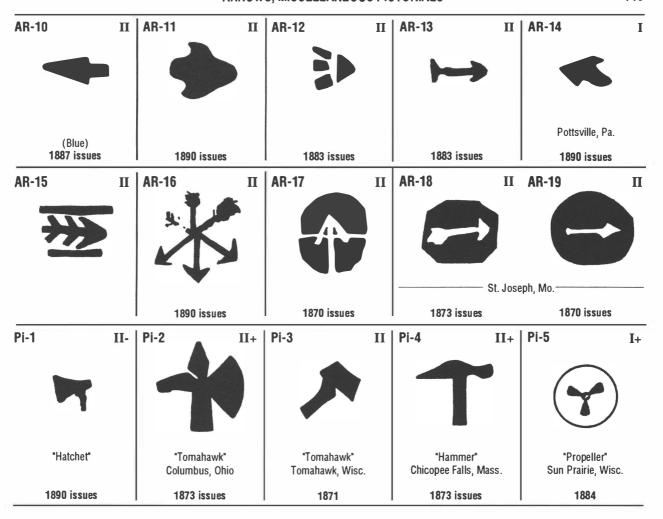
The major problem with the Danbury hat designs is in deciding just which of the several very similar cancels a particular stamp or cover bears. (HA-1A?)

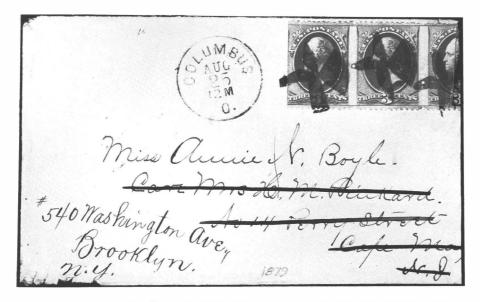






Fredericksburg, Virginia arrow cancel, AR-1, as above, on a 3¢ Banknote of the 1879 issue.





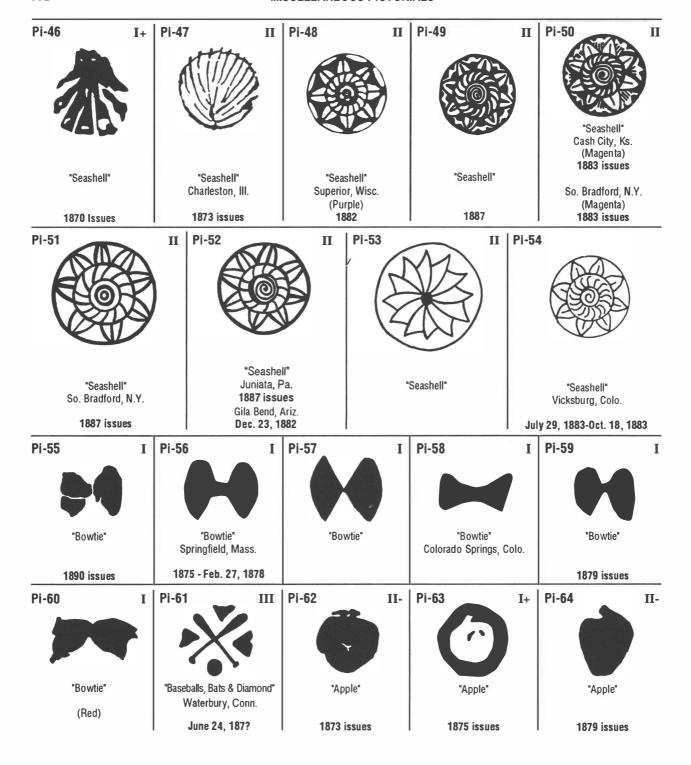
The Columbus, Ohio "tomahawk," Pi-2, plus two more similar strikes, not duplexed, cancelling a strip of 3¢ Continentals paying a triple rate to New Jersey. Forwarded to Brooklyn and backstamped there, Sep 2, 1879. Note that the duplexed killer is more complete than the other two cancels, which were probably produced by a different handstamp. Some prefer to call this cancel a medieval halberd, and some a hatchet rather than a tomahawk.

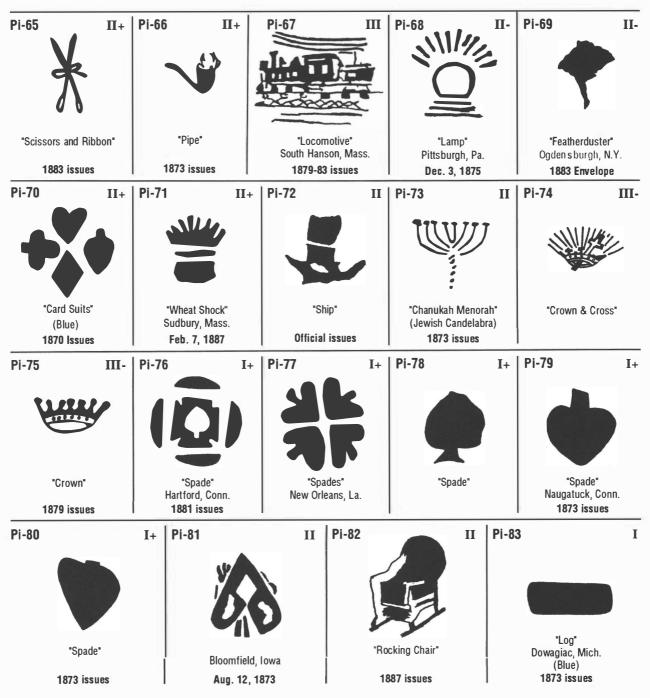




A Dutch windmill cancel used at Cornwall, Orange County, New York, in the heart of Knickerbocker country, used to cancel a 3¢ green of 1873. (Pi-8A)



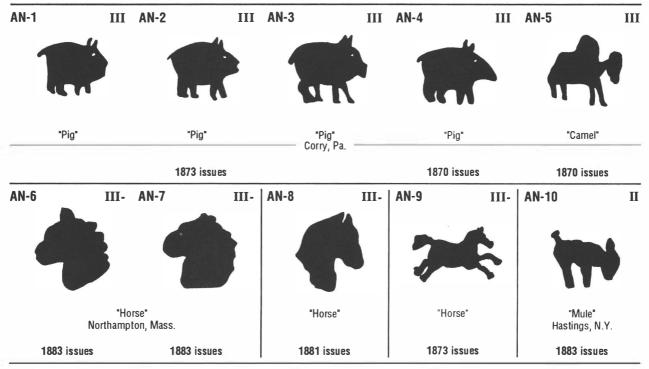






The South Hanson, Mass. "locomotive," on a piece of War Department Official 3¢ red indicia on a blue envelope, Scott U054. This piece, shown through courtesy of Robert A. Siegel Auction Galleries, and one full cover are all the examples that have been recorded of this marking.

154 ANIMALS



AN-11

These cancels were produced by C.A. Klinkner & Co. of Oakland, Cal. and were used in the following towns:

Goleta, Ca. - Nov. 11, 1880-Feb. 10, 1885. (Black, Purple)

Susanville, Ca. - July 6, 1881-Aug. 10, 1882 (Black) (Scarce.)

Forbestown, Ca. - Mar. 2, 1882-Sept. 8, 1892. (Early - Black, Later - Brown, Violet, Violet-Brown) X

"Kicking Mule"

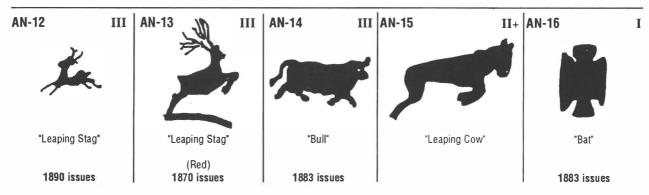
Port Townsond Wash - July 10, 1990-Feb 7, 199

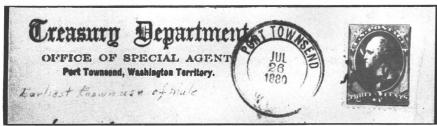
Port Townsend, Wash. - July 19, 1880-Feb. 7, 1887 (Black)

Neah Bay, Wash. - June 12, 1883-May 31, 1886 (Black)

II

At least one cover with a Klinknerville, Alameda Co., Cal. postmark and a kicking mule cancel is known, dated Feb. 23, 1890. This cover is deemed to be a fake for several reasons, such as Klinknerville being discontinued two years before the postmark date on the cover.



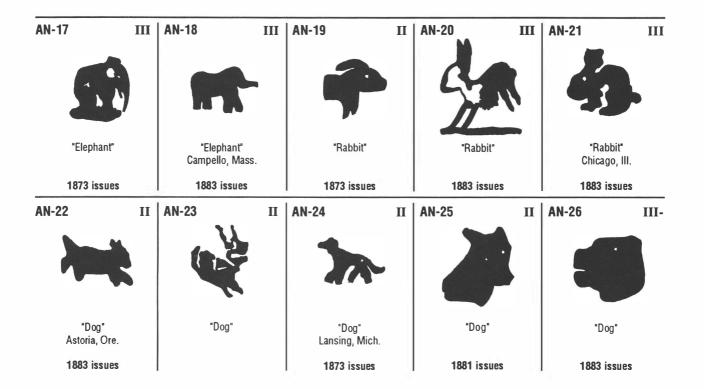


An early use of the Port Townsend, Washington kicking mule cancel, duplexed, on July 26, 1880.

ANIMALS 155



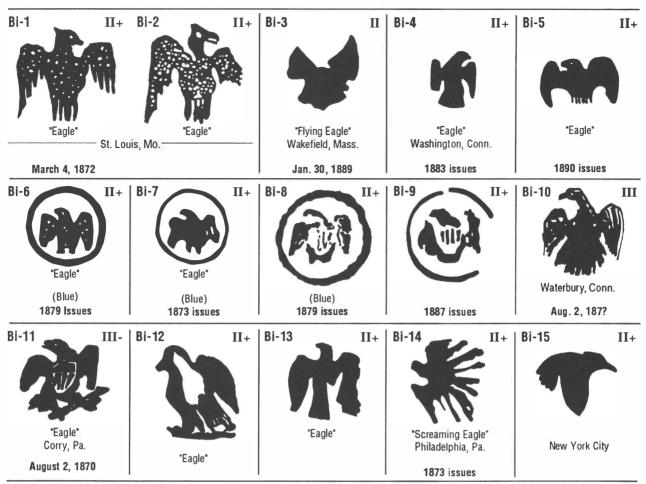
A montage of covers with kicking mule cancels. Above, Goleta and Forbestown, California duplexes. At left, Port Townsend, Washington duplexed and individual cancels of 1885 and 1890.

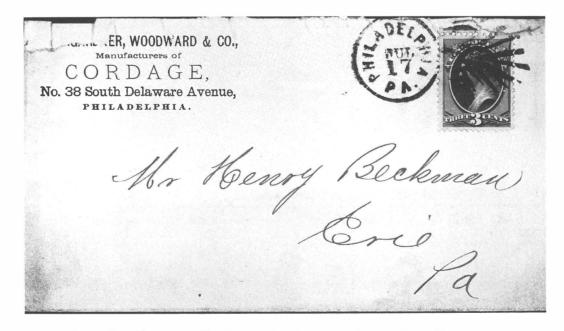


156 ANIMALS



BIRDS 157





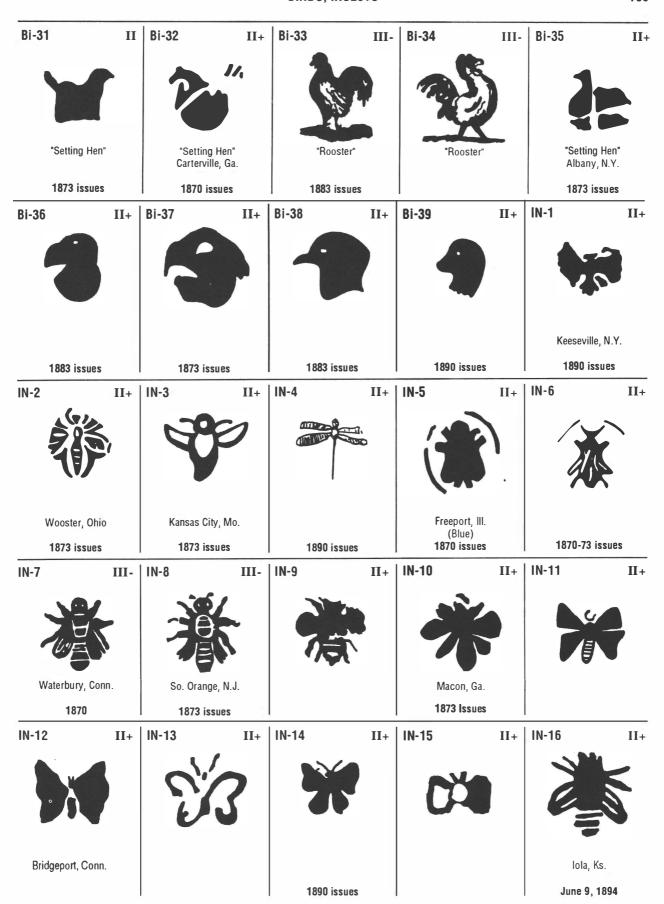
The Philadelphia "screaming eagle" duplexed cancel of the 1870s. As with many examples of these duplex handstamps, the head of the eagle doesn't show clearly.

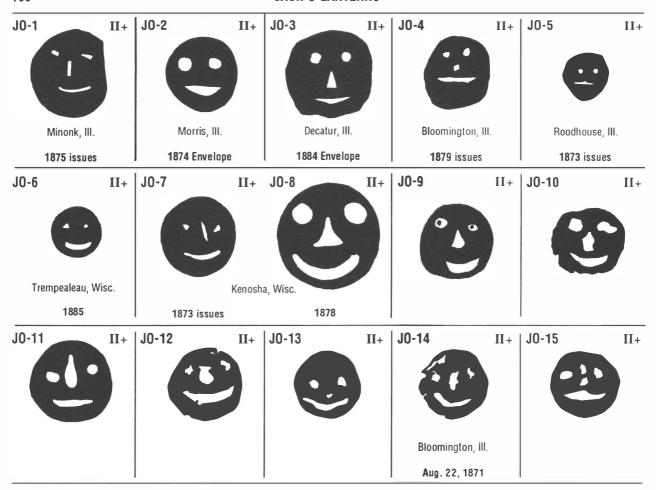
158 BIRDS



Bird cancel, applied by railroad route agent on the Petoskey & Grand Rapids, Michigan route on December 7, 1878. (BI-16A)

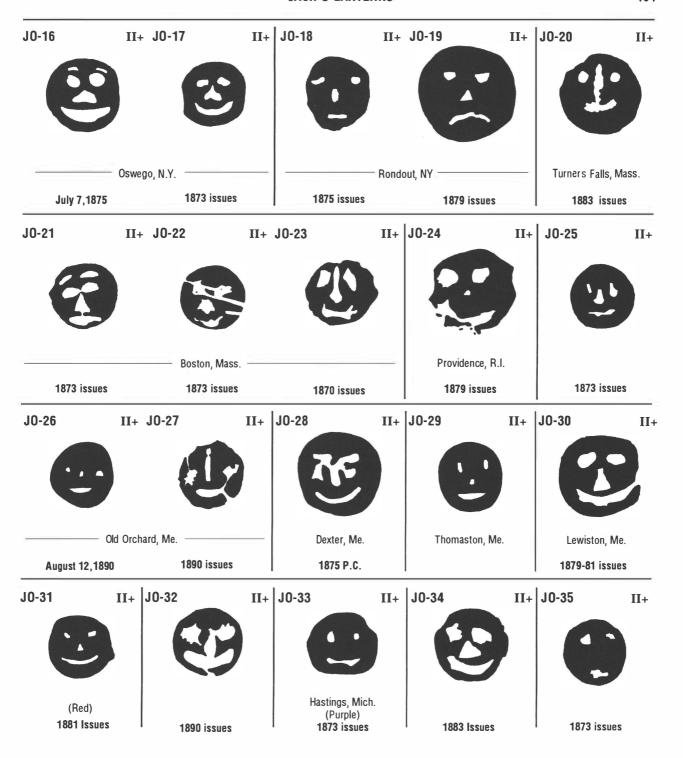






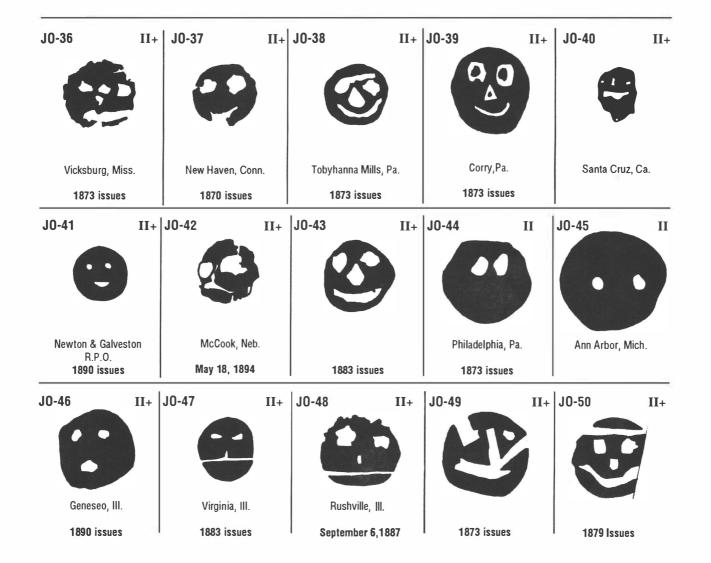


The Bloomington, III. Jack-O-Lantern, J0-4, struck three times to cancel three I¢ National Banknote Co. 1¢ stamps on a cover to Atlanta, III.

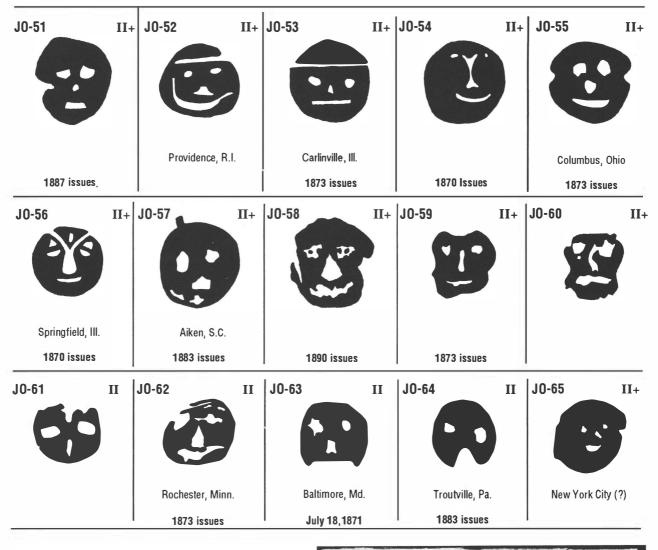




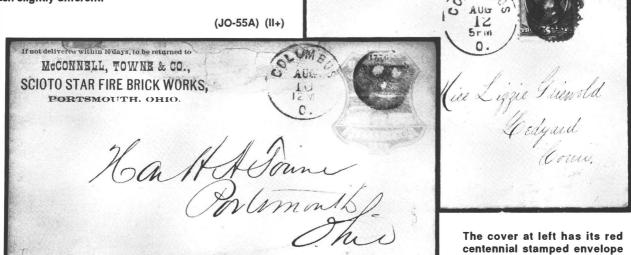
A New Haven, Connecticut Jack-O-Lantern, on a 3¢ green Banknote stamp on a cover from New Haven to Springfield, III.

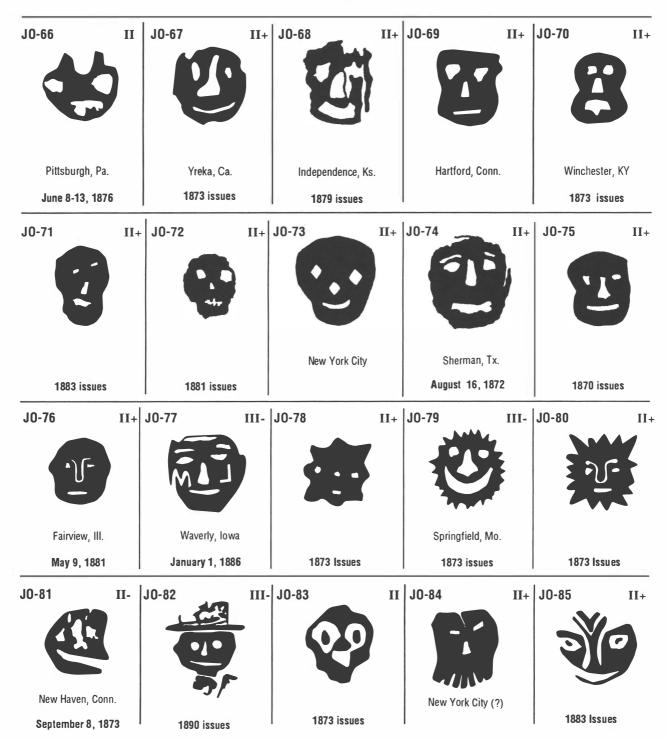


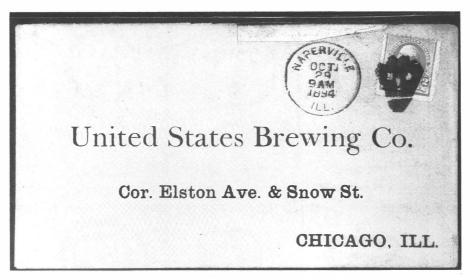
design faded photographically to better show the cancel.



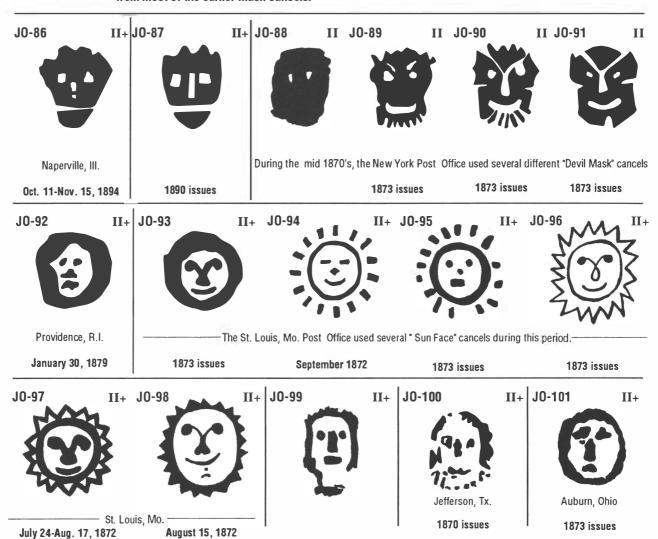
Columbus, Ohio mask (right) and jack-o-lantern (left) cancels of the 1870s. These designs show the tendency of postal clerks to keep carving similar cork designs, each slightly different.



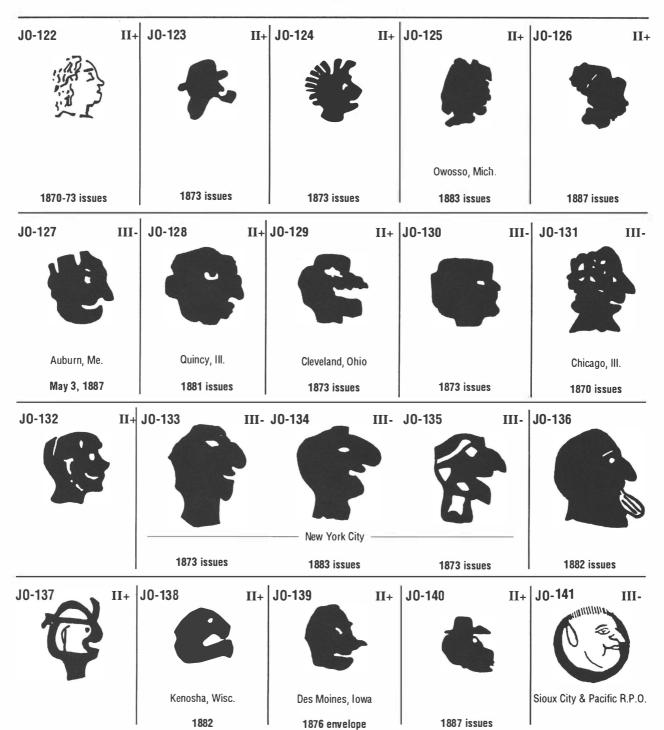


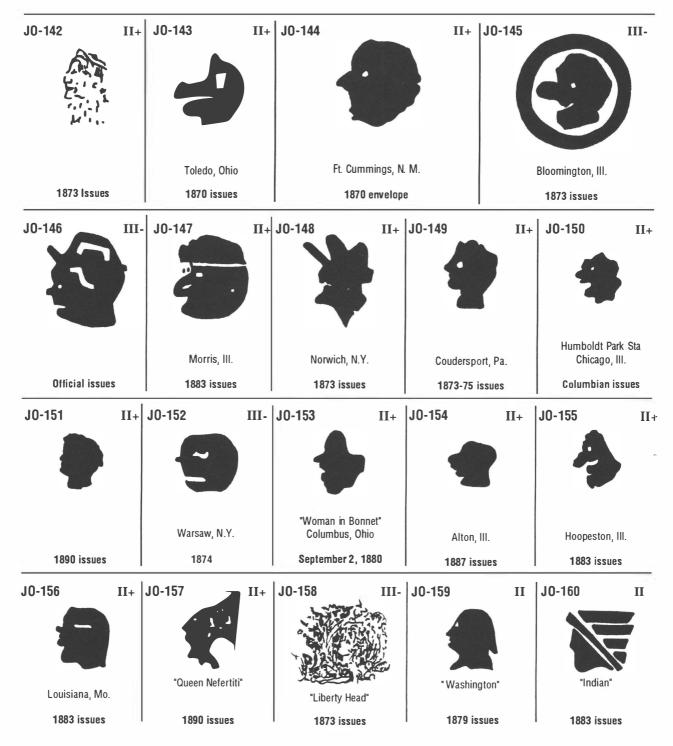


The Napierville, Illinois stylized "Devil's" mask of the 1890s differs in shape and form from most of the earlier mask cancels.

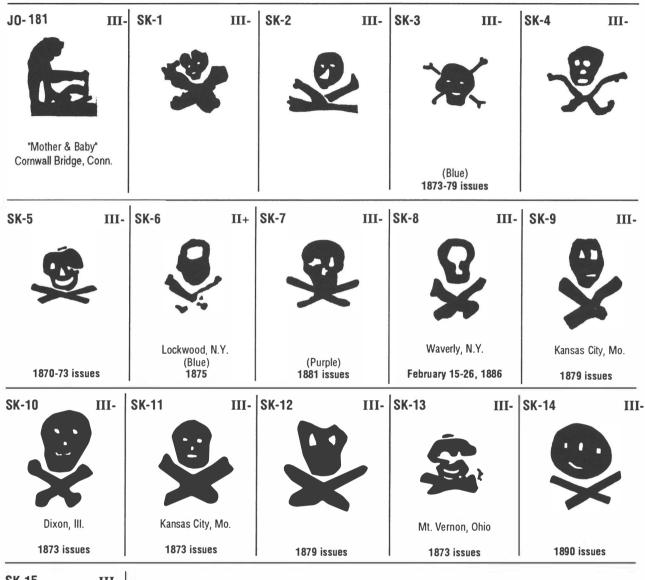


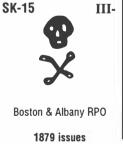






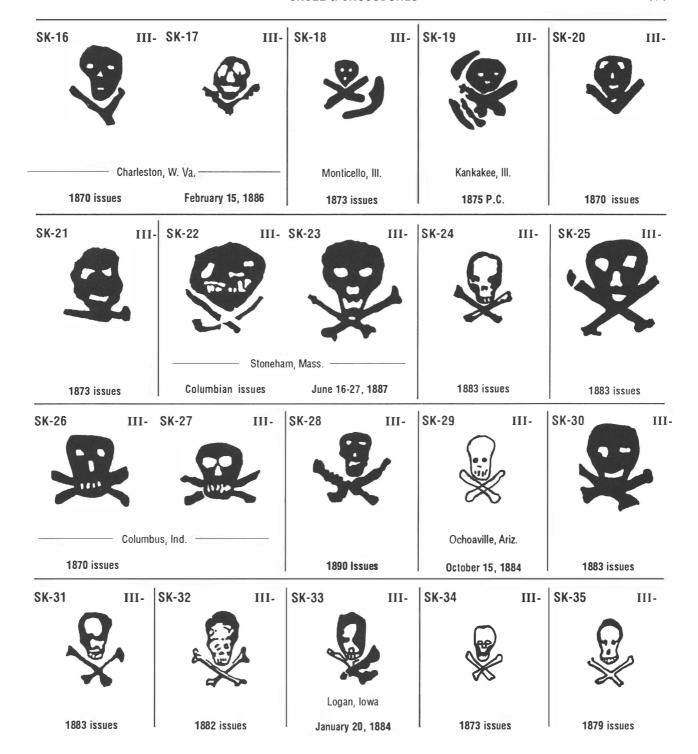
J0-161 II+ J0-162 II+ J0-163 II+ J0-164 II+ J0-165 II "Indian" Damons Crossing, Vt. September 23, 1884 "Indian" "Indian" "Indian" "Indian" Chug Water, Wyo. Troutville, Pa. Cranes, N.M. B.F. Kelley - P.M. Head Tide, Me. (Blue) 1883 Issues April 26, 1882 **1870** issues **1870** issues March 6-14, 1885 J0-166 JO-167 J0-168 JO-169 J0-170 Π II II II III-"Man In The Moon" "Man In The Moon" "Man In The Moon" "Man In The Moon" "Man In The Moon" Thumbing Nose (Blue) 1873 issues 1883 issues 1883 issues II+ J0-173 II J0-174 J0-175 J0-171 II+ J0-172 III-III-"Man In The Moon" "Man In The Moon" Los Angeles, Ca. (Blue) **1883** issues 1873 issues 1873 issues **1883** issues III- J0-179 II+ J0-177 III- J0-178 III- J0-180 J0-176 III-"Gingerbread Man" Boston, Mass. "Man In Coffin" Brattleboro, Vt. Harrisburg, Pa. January 13, 1874 1873 issues 1873 issues 1883







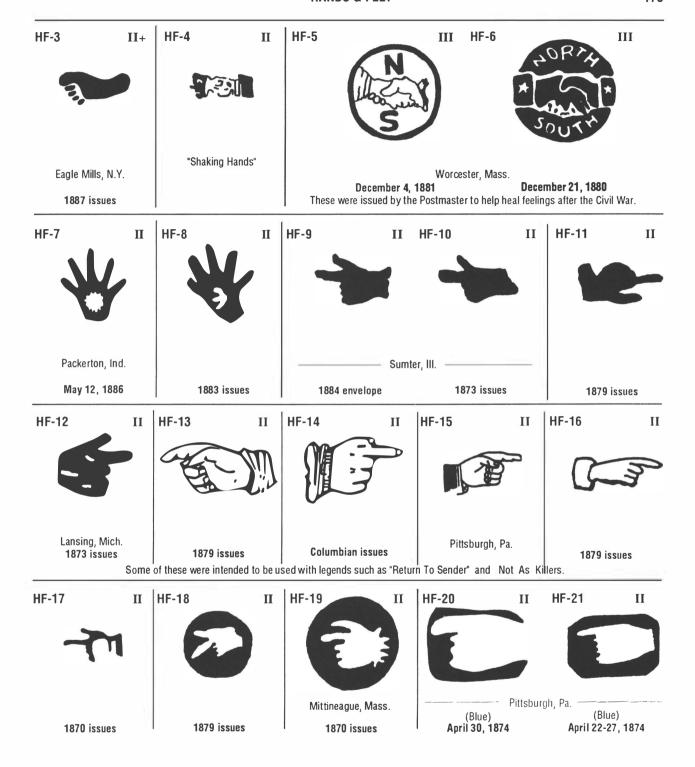
Mt. Vernon, Ohio skull and crossbones, used early in the Banknote period.



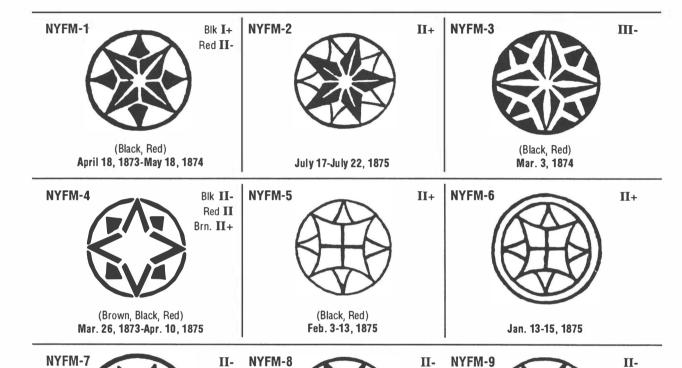


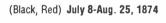


The West Gardiner, Massachusetts postmaster used a shield-shaped postmark with skull and crossbones cancel apparently duplexed. Although the shield shaped postmark was available commercially (often for money order business), the outline design of the skull part of the cancel, different from other such cancels, indicate it was a homemade duplexed device.

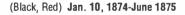


During the 1870's a series of geometric designs were used by the foreign mail section of the New York City Post Office, for mail posted in New York, and intended for foreign destinations, except Canada.











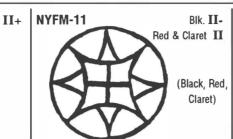
NFM-1 on a cover to England, July 29, 1873, per the Guion Line's *Nevada*.

П-

II+



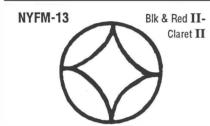
1873-75 Issues



Jan. 13-Feb. 20, 1875



(Black, Red) Dec. 24, 1872-Jan. 12, 1875



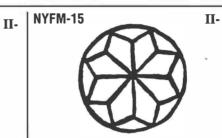
(Black, Red, Claret)
Dec. 12, 1873-At least 1875



(Black, Red) Mar. 27-May 12, 1875

II-

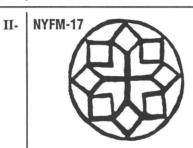
II+



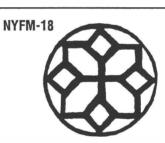
Oct. 31, 1874-Oct. 24, 1875



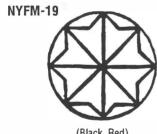
(Black, Red) Jan. 11-Mar. 20, 1875



(Black, Red) Feb. 27, 1875-Aug. 19, 1881



(Black, Red) Oct. 20, 1873-Nov. 14, 1875



(Black, Red) Aug. 13-Dec. 16, 1874



(Black, Red) Dec. 19, 1874-Jan. 3, 1875



(Black, Red)
Dec. 9, 1874-June 22, 1875



(Black, Red) Sept. 8-Oct. 31, 1874

NYFM-23



(Black, Red) Jan. 21-Feb. 17, 1875

III- NYFM-24



Π+

II

(Black, Red) Apr. 1-May 20, 1875

NYFM-25



June 22-Sept. 30, 1875

II+ NYFM-26



(Black, Red) Aug. 2, 1873-May 20, 1875

II+ NYFM-27



Mar. 10, 1877

NYFM-28



(Black, Red) Feb. 3, 1873-May 15, 1875

NYFM-29

I+



(Black, Red) Feb. 26-Apr. 23, 1875

II+ NYFM-30



(Black, Red) Apr. 21-June 21, 1875

NYFM-31



Dec. 9, 1875-Dec. 23, 1876

II- NYFM-32



(Black, Red) May 29-June 14, 1875

NYFM-33

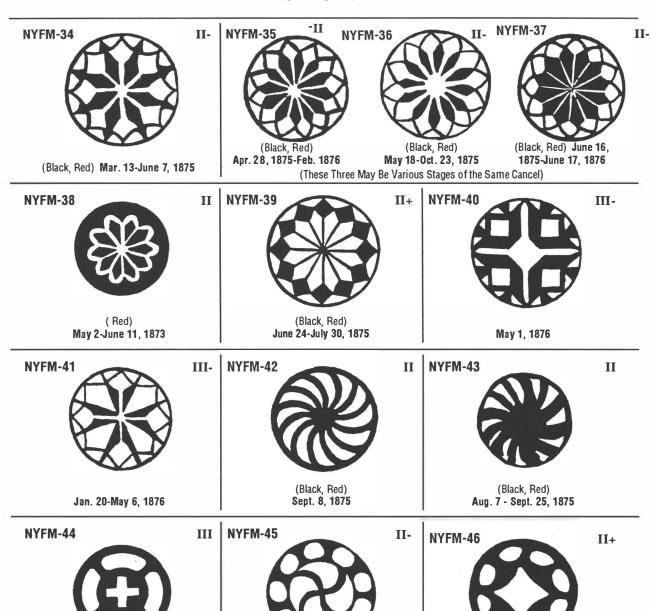
II



(Black, Red, Claret & Red Brown) Sept. 1-2, 1875

II+

III-



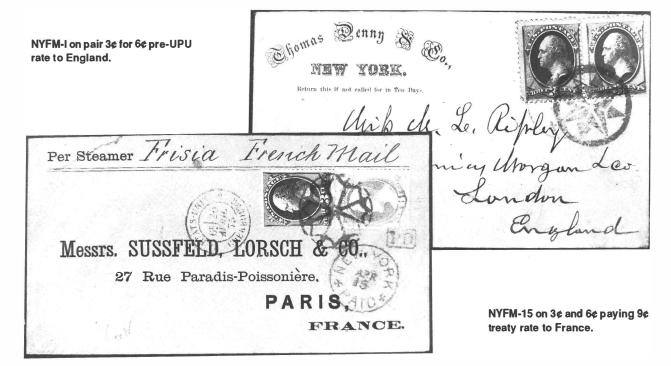
(Black, Red)

Feb. 12, 1874-Oct. 16, 1876

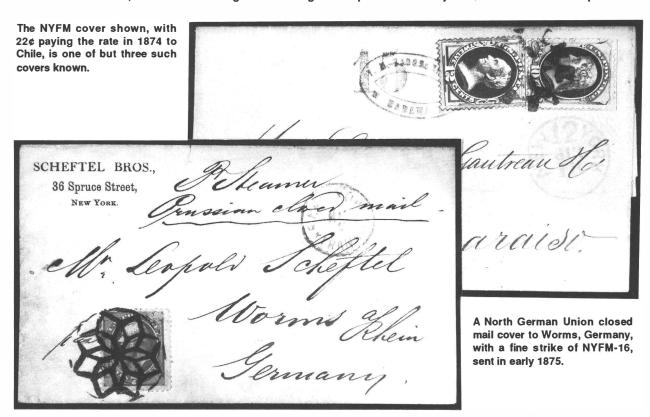
July 16, 1872

(Black, Red)

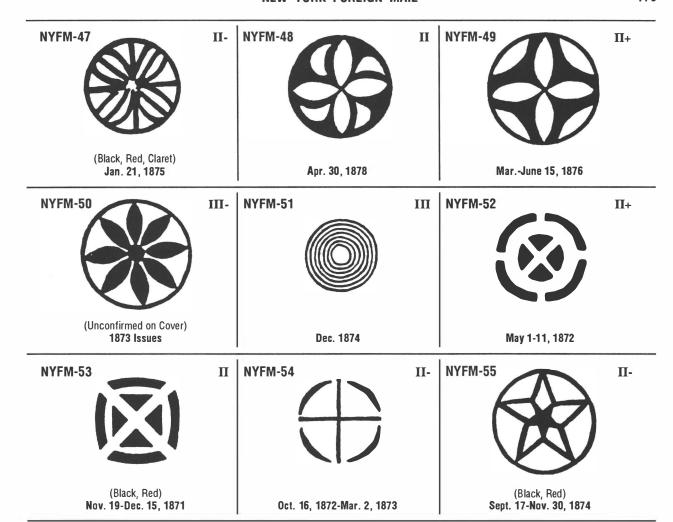
Aug. 21, 1873

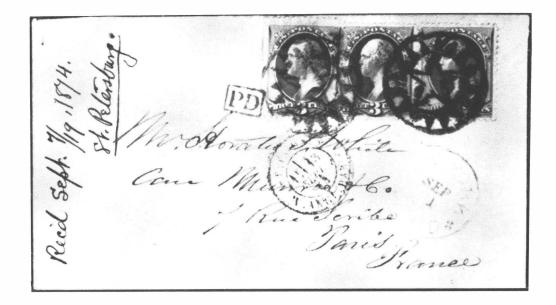


Most of the covers sent from New York via the New York Foreign Mail exchange section in the 1870s were to England or to destinations via England in the Banknote period prior to August 1874, as there was no postal treaty with France until then after 1870. Thus, the New York Foreign Mail markings of this period are usually on 3¢ or 6¢ Banknote stamps.



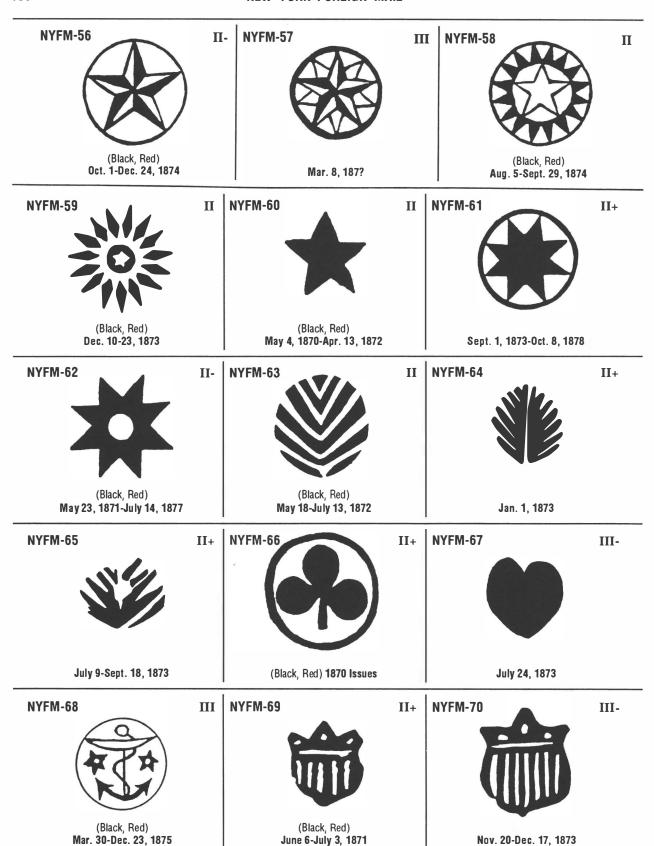
New York Foreign Mail covers, as demonstrated by these two covers, are collected by destination and also because many bear higher value stamps. The upper cover not only is to a rare destination but bears high value stamps. The lower cover bears the 7ϕ stamp, which was issued especially to cover the rates by PCM. The stamps on both covers are the Continental printings. The cancel on the upper cover has been identified as NYFM-45, but an example from a badly worn canceler.





NYFM-58 on a cover sent to France in Sept. 1874 at the 9¢ treaty rate, prepaid by a pair and a single of the 3¢ green Continental Banknote Co. stamp. The cover was sent on from France to St. Petersburg, Russia, per a private forwarder.

"Fouled Anchor"

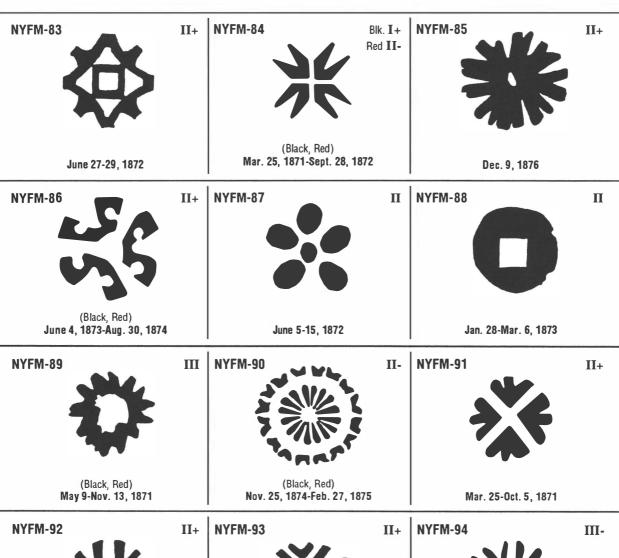


NYFM-73 NYFM-71 III-NYFM-72 II+ II+ (Black, Red) Apr. 30-May 14, 1872 Sept. 5-Oct. 7, 1873 May 1-July 10, 1873 NYFM-75 Ш-NYFM-76 NYFM-74 III-П+ (Black, Red) Jan. 9, 1873 (Black, Red) Feb. 8-Nov. 16, 1873 Jan. 29-Feb. 12, 1873 NYFM-77 III-NYFM-78 II+ NYFM-79 II+ Mar. 1-4, 1871 May 8, 1872 Jan. 19, 1871-May 18, 1872 NYFM-81 NYFM-82 NYFM-80 II+ II II+

Feb. 19-Mar. 15, 1873

Sept. 14, 1871

Dec. 16, 1871

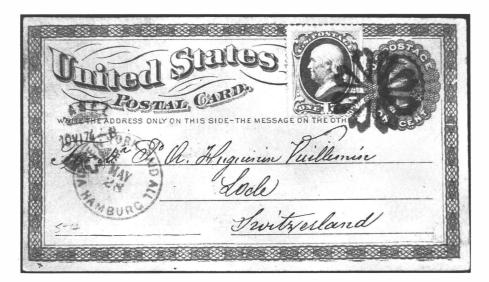




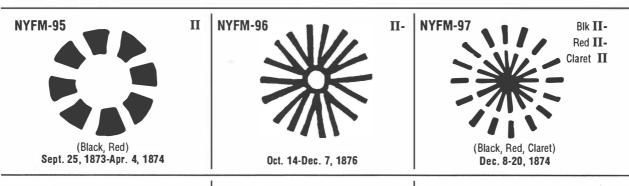
(Black, Red) July 1870-Oct. 29, 1871

(Black, Red) June 11-18, 1870 NE NE

(Black, Red) July 1870-Aug. 29, 1874



NYFM-99 on a postal card to Switzerland in May 1874. Postage was two cents on postal cards sent via Hamburg or Bremen, so a l¢ Banknote stamp had to be added.



NYFM-98



(Black, Red) Mar. 5-July 27, 1870 II+ NYFM-99



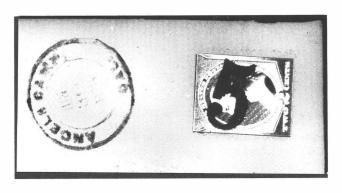
(Black, Red) Mar. 30-Sept. 1874 II- NYFM-100



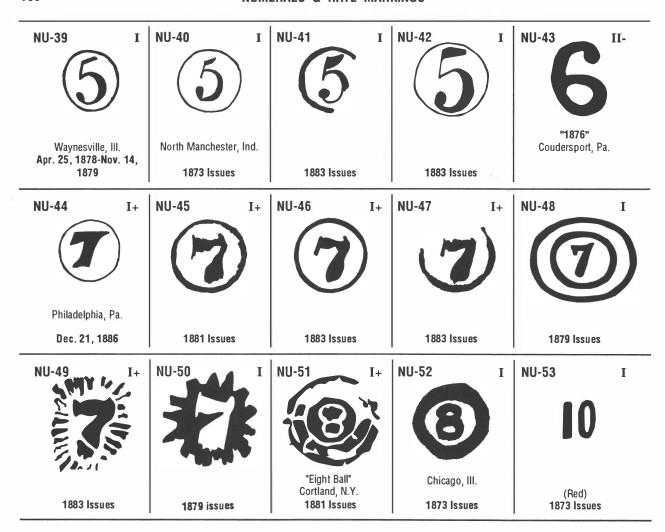
(Black, Red) Oct. 10, 1871-Feb. 10, 1873

Many of these were never intended to be used as cancels, but were remnants of the prestamp period. In most cases, their use was sporadic.				NU-1 I	NU-2 II	NU-3 I	
					1890 Issues	Frankfort, Ky. 1883 Issues	
NU-4	I	NU-5	I	NU-6	NU-7 I	NU-8 I	
1883 Issues		Official Issues		1873 Issues	1883 Issues	1887 Issues	
NU-9	I	NU-10	I	NU-11 I	NU-12 I	NU-13 I	
(Purple) 1879 Issues	1873 Issues		1870 Issues	1881 Issues	(Purple) 1887 Issues		
NU-14	I	NU-15	I	South Woodstock, Vt. (Black)-1880-Feb. 18,	NU-17 I	NU-18 I+ Flanagan, III.	
1873 Issues		1870 Issues		1881 (Magenta)-June 11, 1881	1883 Issues	1881 Issues	





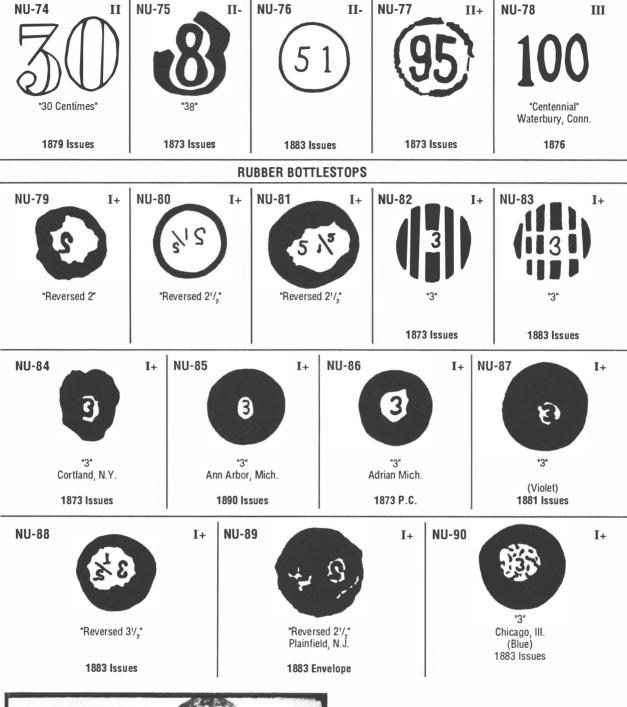
A "5" rate stamp, left over from an earlier era, used at Angels Camp, Cal. used to cancel a 2¢ brown of 1883.





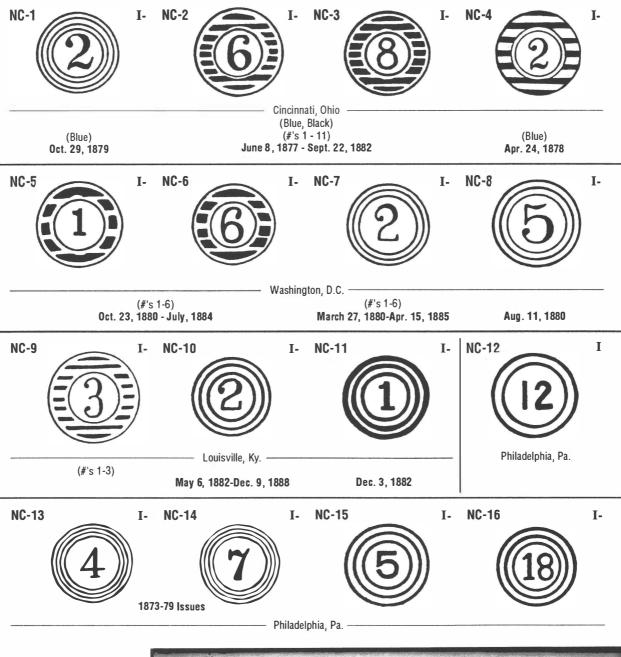
The Cortland, N.Y. "eight-ball" cancel appears to be deplexed on this example, but if so, the "8" is inverted as the small loop is at the bottom. Perhaps the inverted eight ball reflects the idea of being "behind the eight-ball."

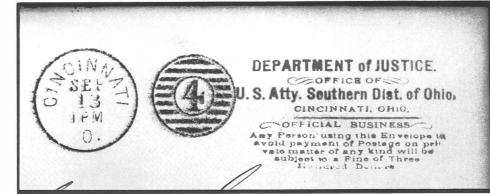
NU-54	I	NU-55	I	NU-56	I	NU-57	I	NU-58	I
10)	10		10)	1	0	1	0
1881 Iss ue	es	Macedon, N.Y		Cumberland		1881	Issues	1873 l:	ssues
NU-59	I	NU-60)	NU-61		NU-62		NU-63	0)
Arkport, N.\ May 9, 187		1879 Issues		Boston, I (Red Feb. 18	1)		keag, Me. Issues	Sardinia, N.Y. 1873 Issues	
NU-64		15	I+	NU-66	3	NU-67	8	NU-68	9
Boscawen, N.H.		Factoryville, ?		Westminster, Md. July 18, 1873		1887 Issues		(Red) 1873 Issues	
NU-69	I+	NU-70	I+	NU-71	I+	NU-72	II-	NU-73	II-
24		24)	2	5	Westmin	Sister, Md.	2	8
1870 Issues		1873 Issues		1875 Issues		1873	Issues	1870 Issues	





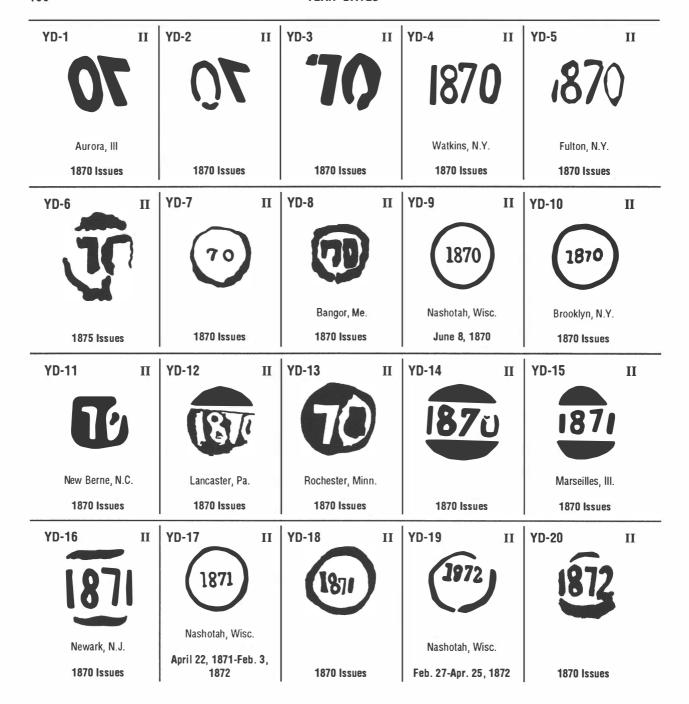
A rubber bottle stopper, with molded size number of "21/2" used as a cancel at Plainfield, N.J.



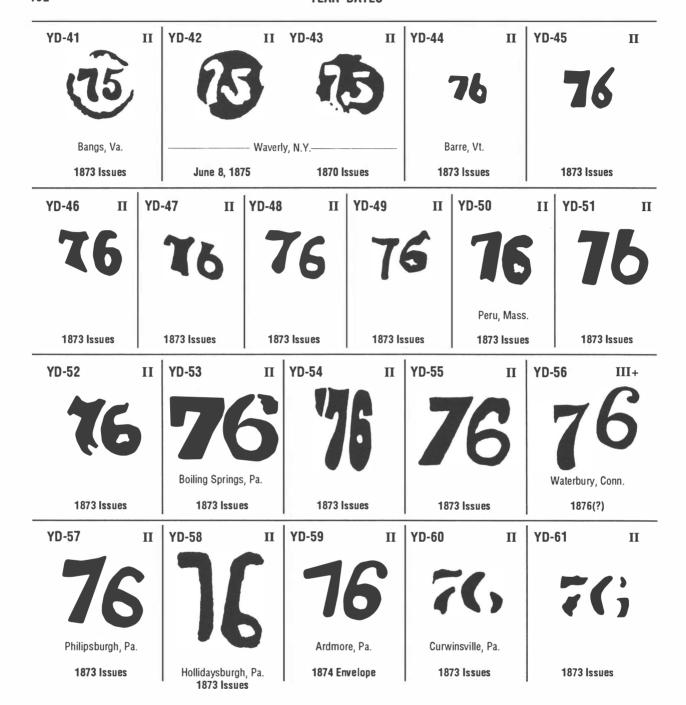


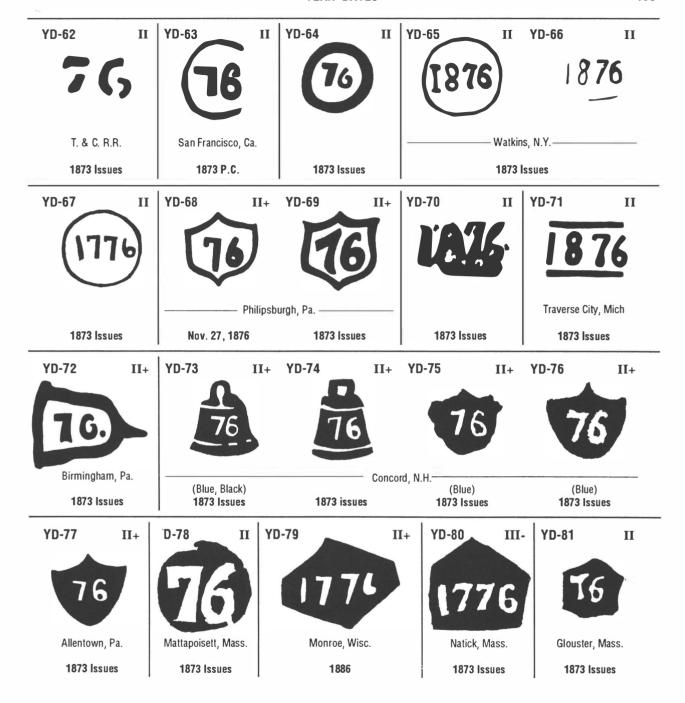
(NC-1A)

Blue, duplexed numeral "4" in round grid with Cincinnati postmark, circa 1880s on a bright yellow envelope. The accompanying penalty handstamp of the district U.S. attorney is in purple.

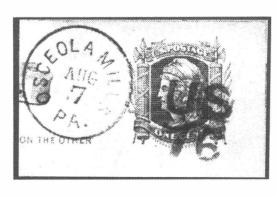






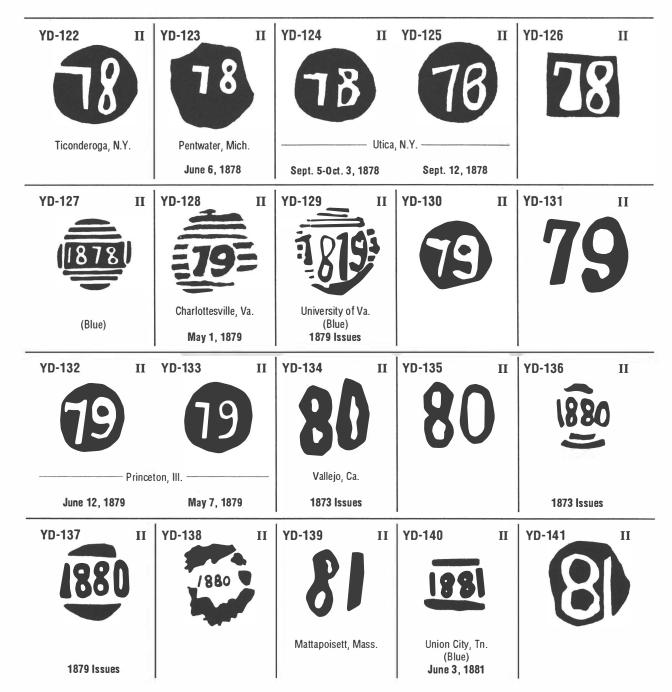


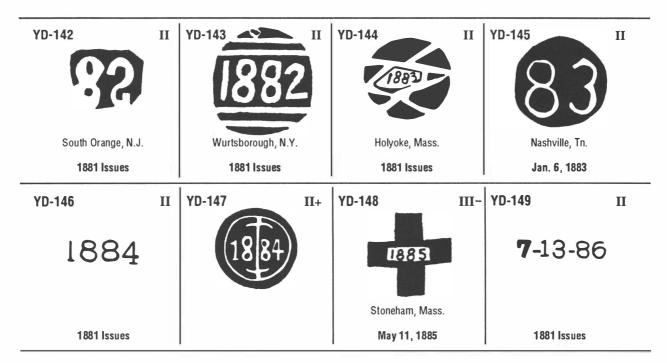


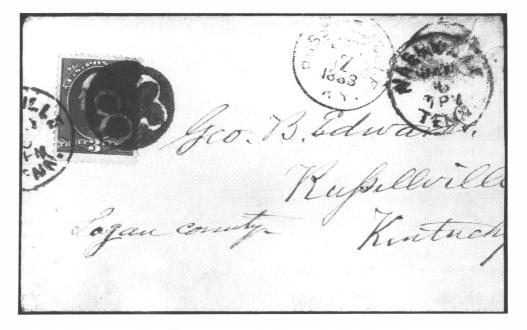


Year date cancels were a popular subject of postal clerks' carvings, as witness this "U S/ 76" meaning 1876, of Osceola, Pennsylvania. The cancel thus provides us with a year date for the August 6 postmark on the cover.

YD-102 YD-103 YD-106 П П **YD-104** П **YD-105** П П Mattapoisett, Mass Duncannon, Pa. 1873 Issues Mar. 19, 1877 1873 Issues 1873 Issues 1873 Issues **YD-107** II **YD-108** П **YD-109 YD-110** П **YD-111** П \mathbf{II} Glouster, Mass. Traverse City, Mich Mar. 8, 1877 Jan. 4, 1876 1873 Issues 1873 Issues 1875 Issues **YD-112 YD-113 YD-114** II YD-115 П **YD-116** П П New Britain, Conn. -Newton, N.J. (Purple) 1890 Issues Nov. 5, 1877 **YD-118 YD-119** YD-120 II **YD-121 YD-117** II II II П South Orange, N.J. Mattapoisett, Mass. 1873 Issues

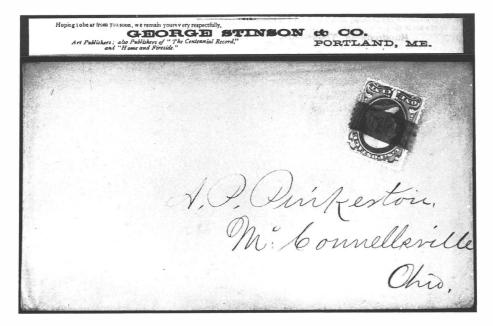




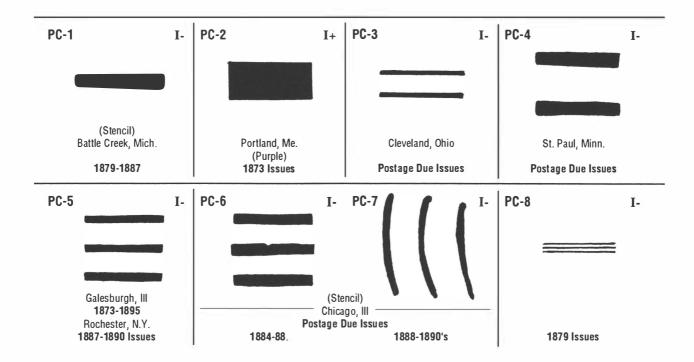


With this 3¢ re-engraved banknote stamp of 1881 placed on the left end of the cover, two strikes were required of the Nashville, Tennessee negative "83" year date duplexed device to both cancel the stamp and clearly postmark the letter. The January 6 Nashville postmark date has the "83" year date cancel confirmed by the Russellville, Ky. postmark with 1883 year date, used as a receiving mark on the cover front.

198 PRECANCELS



The purple Portland, Me. bar precancel was used on printed circular mail mailed with a $l\phi$ stamp and otherwise not postmarked, just like modern bulk mail. The portion of the printed enclosure with the return address is shown above the cover.



PC-11

PC-9 St. Louis, Mo.

1879-95 Issues

PC-10



Omaha, Neb. Postage Due-1879 Issues



1873-1895

PC-12

Black II Green, Red III-



Glen Allen, Va. (Black, Green, Red) (Used by the Cussons, May & Co of Glen Allen, Va.) July 31, 1876

PC-13



Springfield, Mass.

1883 Issues

PC-14

BURLINGTON

Burlington, Vt. (Used on circulars by Wells, Richardson & Co.) 1882-1895

PC-15

II

II

II-



(Precancel?)

1887 Issues

PC-16

II-

II-

III

I

II-



"I cure you" Harshaville, Pa.

1883 Issues

PC-17



Glastonbury, Conn. (Used by J.B. Williams & Co). 1870-1882 Issues

PC-18

II+



Chicago, III. (Black, Magenta) Postage Due Issues-1881-84 **PC-19**



(Manuscript) Weston, Mass. (Used as a provisional precancel from 1857-81.)

PC-20



New York City (Black, Blue) Postage Due issues-Aug. 1, 1879-1884

PC-21



Bridgeport, Conn.

1879 Issues

PC-22

II-



Glouster, Mass.

1879-81 issues

It would seem likely that PC-21 & PC-22 would be

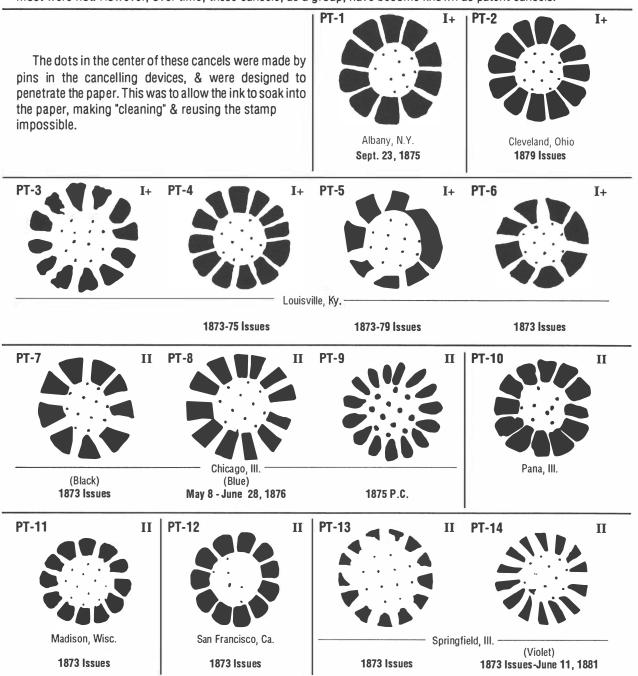
used by the same P.O., but have been reported as being used by different ones.

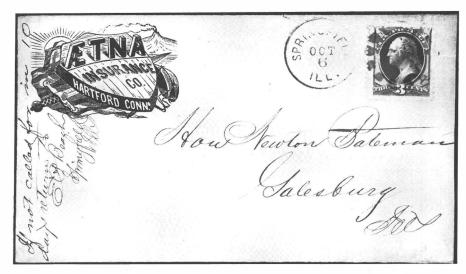
PC-23



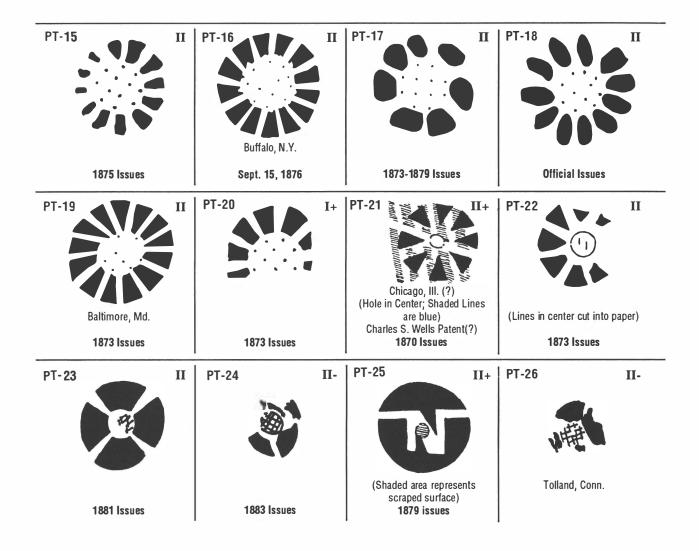
Chicago, III. (Purple) 1880

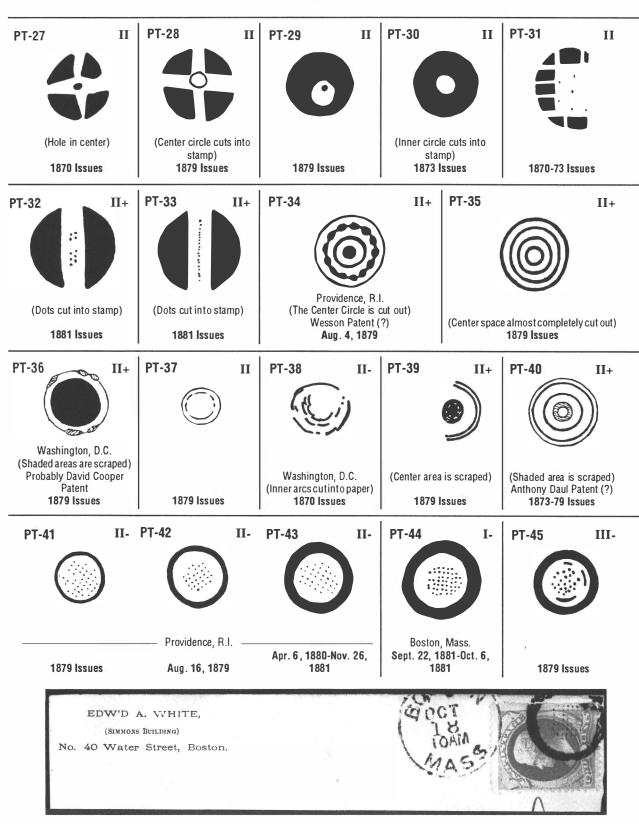
Soon after the introduction of the postage stamp, the U.S. Post Office became concerned with the "washing" and reusing of stamps, and the loss of revenue that would result. This led to a number of devices being invented, whose purpose it was to render it impossible for the stamp to be used again. While a few of these were awarded patents, most were not. However, over time, these cancels, as a group, have become known as patent cancels.



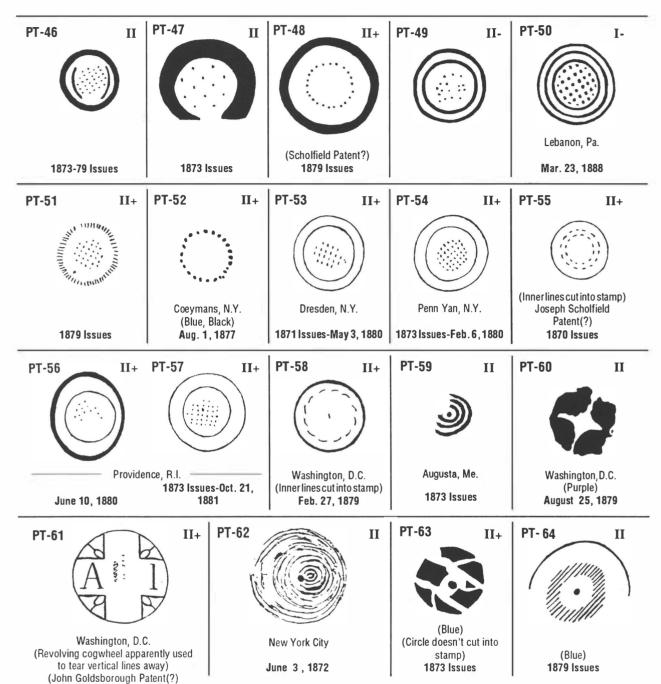


An example of the Springfield, III. patent cancel, PT-13, on a cover with a 3ϕ Banknote showing the inked dot punched pattern of the pins in the center of a circle of wedges.

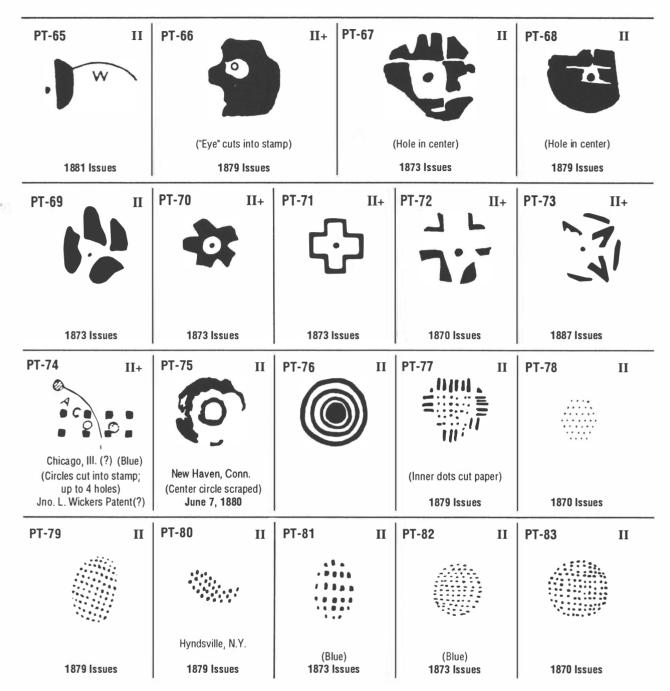




This variation of the Boston patent cancel, PT-44, shown above, used on Oct. 18, (probably) 1881, appears to be slightly larger and have a more regular arrangement of the pins. The pins, intended to piece the surface of the stamp and permit the cancelling ink to better penetrate, are in a roughly rectangular pattern arrangement in rows with over fifty pins cancelling the 2¢ vermillion stamp of 1879.



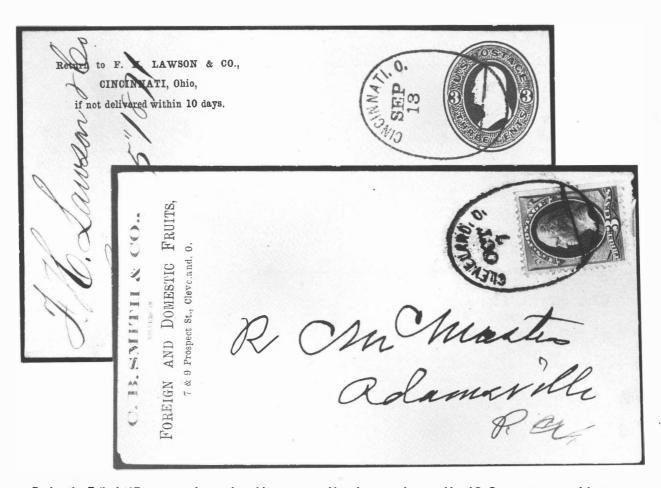
1879 Issues





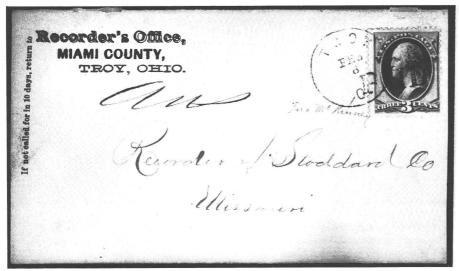
Used successively in Cincinnati, Columbus and Cleveland, Ohio in 1871.

Cincinnati-Sept. 6-Sept. 14, 1871. Columbus-Sept. 27-Oct. 2, 1871. Cleveland-Oct. 4-Oct. 7, 1871.



During the Fall of 1871, postmarks produced by a patented handstamper invented by J.C. Gaston was tested for a few weeks each in Cincinnati, Columbus and Cleveland. The bar across the end of the large oval marking was comprised of a line of tiny pins, intended to only penetrate through the stamp and not damage the letter content.

PA-1 PA-2 PA-3 These cancels were remnants of the Ι I stampless period, when they had been PAID PAID PAID used to indicate payment of the postal fee. Their use during this period was sporadic. West Randolph, Vt. Milton, Mass. 1883 Issues 1873 Issues 1870 Issues PA-4 I PA-5 I PA-6 Ι PA-7 I **PA-8** PAID PAID PAID PAID PAID Farmington, III. (Blue) (Blue) 1870 Issues 1873 Issues 1879 Issues 1875 Issues 1870 Issues I **PA-11 PA-12** PA-9 **PA-10** Ι **PA-13** I I+ PAID PAID PAID Oswego, N.Y. Troy, Ohio West Point, III. (Violet) 1870 Issues 1870 Issues 1879 Issues





Troy, Ohio used their PAID markings of the pre-stamp era to cancel stamps well into the Banknote period.

I

PA-14 I **PA-15 PA-16** I **PA-17** I **PA-18** I+ (Blue) 1883 Issues 1883 Issues 1873 Issues **PA-19** I **PA-20** I **PA-21** I **PA-22 PA-23** I+ II Burton, Ohio (Violet) 1873 Issues 1875 1879 Issues **PA-26 PA-28 PA-25 PA-27** II **PA-24** I+ II-II-II 1873 Issues

PA-29



Dedham, Mass

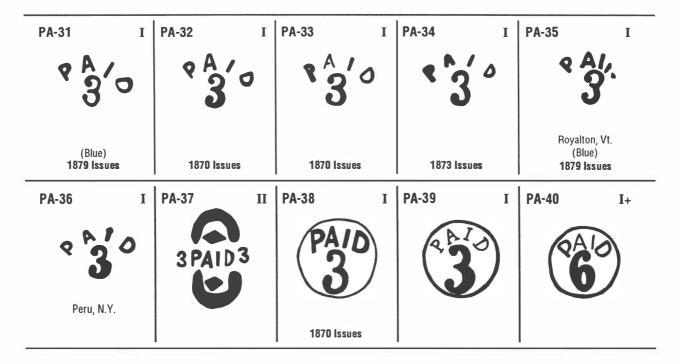
1870 Issues

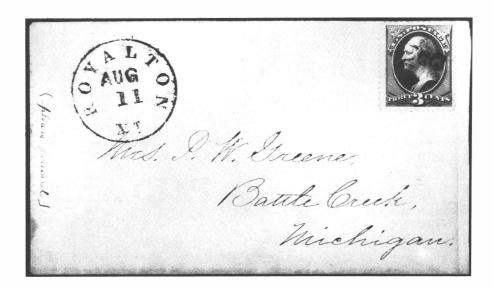
PA-30

II

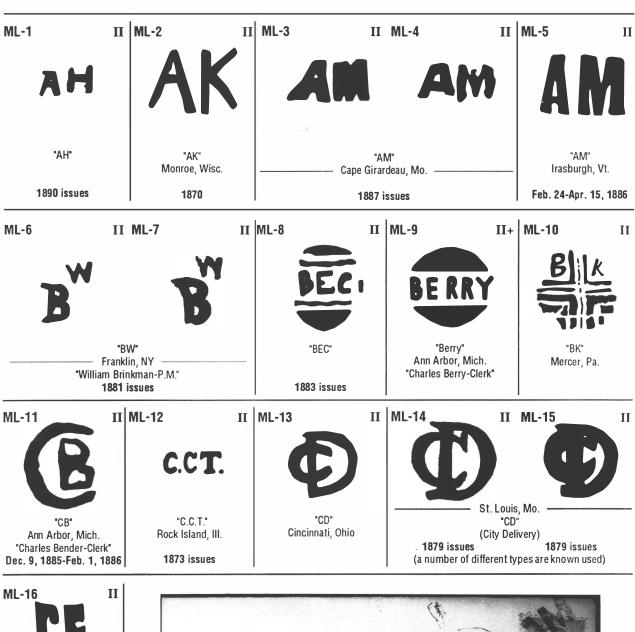
PAID ALL

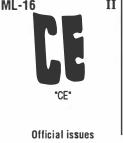
(Used to indicate full postage paid under postal treaty) New York City (Red, Black)

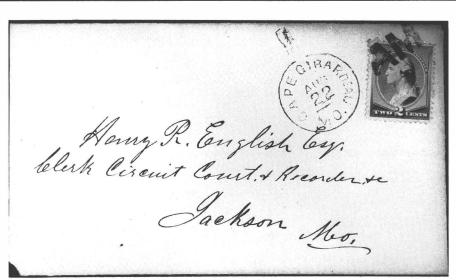




The Royalton, Vermont arced PAID/ 3 stemmed from the beginning of the 3ϕ rate period that began on July 1, 1851. Such markings made an effective canceling device after there was no other use for them.







One of the Cape Girardeau, Missouri "AM" cancels, duplexed, on a 2¢ green of 1887.

II

ML-17



"CHP" Waterville, KS.

July 30,1871

 Π ML-18



"DEAD"

1870 issues

ML-19

II



"DEC"

1890 issues

ML-20

"DR" Deer River, N.Y.

ML-21 II |

Bridgeport, Conn. 1870-73 issues Dont Use Me or Dont Use 'Em (A warning not to reuse the stamp)

ML-22

II ML-23 II ML-24

II ML-25

II ML-26

II

II

II

II

"EAH" Richfield Springs, N.Y. "Eugene A. Hines-P.M."





1873 Issues

July 28, 1883

II

1879 issues

1879 issues

ML-27

"EB" East Braintree, Mass. (Blue) 1873 issues

II ML-28



"ED" Coldwater, Mich. "Ed R. Root-P.M." 1883 issues

II ML-29



"EI" Ellisville, III.

1881 issues



(magenta) 1881 issues

ML-31



"EWR"

II ML-32

FAM.

"FAM" Meridian, N.Y. Nov. 3, 1879-Nov. 26, 1879

II ML-33



"FC" Manhattan, KS. May 15, 1871

II ML-34



"FEB"

1890 issues

II | ML-35



Bangor, Me. 1873 issues



The Bridgeport, Connecticut "Don't USM" cancel, seen here on a 3¢ green of 1873, is a large marking not often found completely and clearly struck on either loose stamps or on cover.

II

ML-36

П **ML-37** II ML-38 ML-39

II

II ML-40



"GWH" Burbank, Ohio (Blue) May 16, 1878 "George W. Holloway-P.M."

"GB" Green Bay, Wisc.

1884

ML-41

III ML-42

- Fort Howard, Wisc. -

II ML-43

Ш-

II ML-44

II ML-45

HAYES

"Hayes" Waterbury, Conn. March, 1877

"Used to honor President Hayes"

1873 issues

"HB"

1870 issues

1870 issues

"HP" Sturgis, Mich.

1873 issues

"HP" Hyde Park, Mass.

Apr. 18,1878

II

Holland Patent, N.Y.

July 10,1886

ML-46 III+

> Carmel, N.Y. (Blue) August 24, 1876

ML-47



"Hayes & Wheeler" Carmel, N.Y.

1873 issues

The Hayes and Wheeler campaign handstamp is one of the most spectacular of that group. Both the cancel and the Carmel, N.Y. postmark were struck in blue on Aug. 24, 1876 while the presidential campaign was coming down to the wire.

ML-48

III-

ML-49

III-

ML-50

Ш





"I AM Harry Nichols"

Ann Arbor, Mich. The P.O. of Ann Arbor, Mich. used several different cancels consisting of the initials of Harry C.Nichols, Clerk

1883 issues

1883 issues

ML-52 II ML-53 II ML-54 ML-55 ML-51 II II II "IKE" "10" "JAN" "JNC" Indian Orchard, Mass. Philadelphia, Pa. 1883 issues 1884 1883 1873 issues II ML-57 II ML-59 **ML-56** II ML-58 II

"JHT"

1873 issues

"KC"

1873 issues



"KK" Chicago, III. (Blue) 1874 Envelope



"KNOT" Waverly, Iowa

ML-60



II- ML-61

II- ML-62



II- ML-63



II- ML-64



"MB"

A number of different cancels using the initials of the town Mystic Bridge, Conn. appeared during the 1880's.

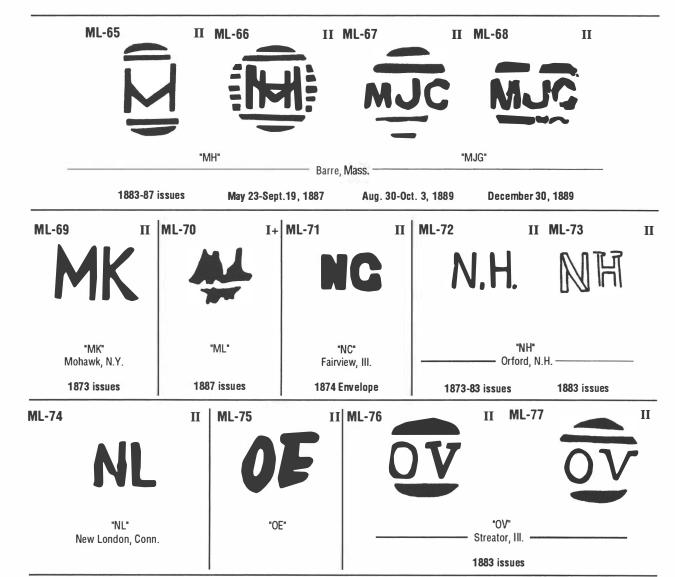
1883 issues

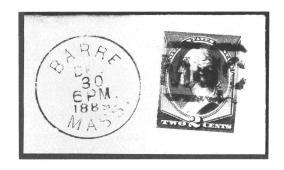
1879-81 issues

1887

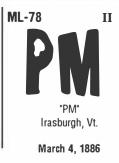
1881 issues

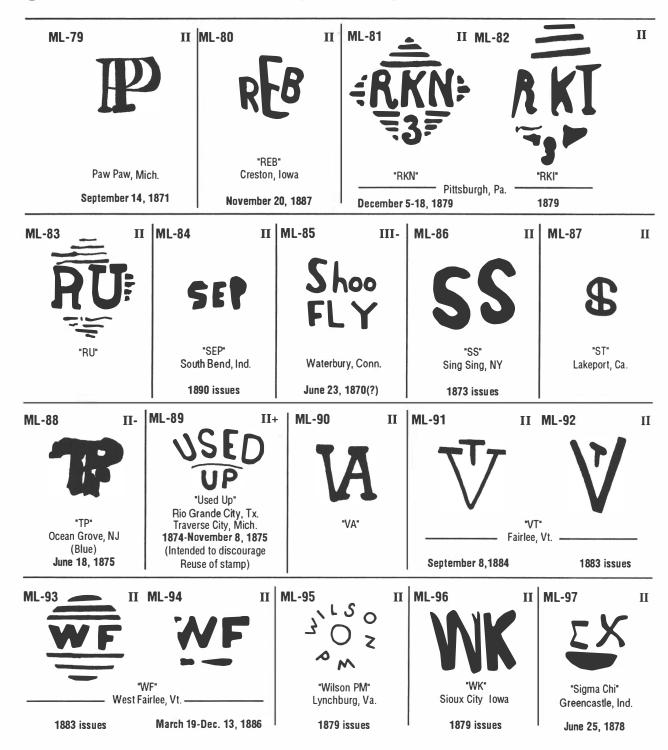
1881 issues



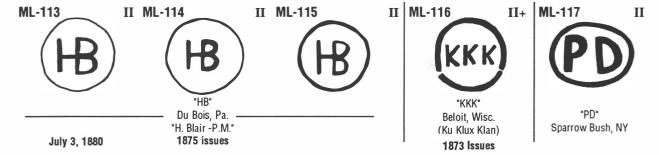


The Barre, Mass. MJC monogram cancel, ML-68, was probably the initials of a postal clerk or small town postmaster.

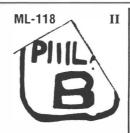




II ML-99 II ML-102 II ML-101 ML-98 II ML-100 II "5 PM" "ANB" "AVS" "Clay" Weatherly, Pa. Columbus, Miss. September 6, 1886 **1890** issues 1873 issues 1890 issues May 22, 1887 II |ML-104 II | ML-105 ML-106 ML-103 II II | ML-107 II "CD" "CD" "W.R. Libby" "F.P.P.M." "ES" Lee, Mass. St. Louis, Mo. W.R.L., Clinton, NY Elyria, Ohio (city delivery) (Blue) 1879 issues **1873 issues** 1873 issues 1879 issues ML-108 II ML-109 II | ML-110 II | ML-111 III | ML-112 II "ET" "G. Bailey, P.M." "Jehovah" in Hebrew "J.R.C." Cadillac, Mich. Sherwood, Wisc. Roselle, NJ Putnam, Conn. "Edward Tweedie,-Clerk" March 9.1885 -"J.R. Clark" 1878-79 May 11, 1875 March 10,1886 October 17, 1884 **1883** issues



MULTIPLE LETTERS



"Phil. B" Philadelphia, Pa.



Reversed "PHV"



Reversed "Rubber Diamond" (made from trademark of rubber boot) McIndoe's Falls, Vt. (Magenta) 1870 Issues

Π



ML-122 II



"S.F. Cal." San Francisco, Ca. 1879 Issues



"SLOO" Cairo, III. (W.A. or T.J. Sloo-Postal Clerks.) 1873 Issues



"S.S. P.M." 1883 Issues



III-

"TIME"



"TJT" Berkley, Mass. "J.T. Townsend—Clerk" Aug. 15, 1876











The main P.O. & at least one substation of St. Louis, Mo. used a series of cancels consisting of a letter & number on registered mail

ML-132



ML-134 I+

I+



1879

ML-136

ML-131



H





1873-79 Issues



New York City Registered Mail backstamps were occasionally used to cancel the stamps. The small numbers represent the date of use.



"ET" Erie Transport 1873 Issues

1879

"Sherman" Pensacola & Ga R.R.-Rt. Agt. Black—1870 Blue-1874-5



"PINNEY" Chi. & St. Louis RPO Oct. 1882



"SOUTH" Nashua & Worcester Agt. 1873-75 Issues

"LEE" D & St. P. RR—Rt. Agt. (Blue)

II ML-140 П

1879 Issues

III- ML-145

ML-141 П

She. & Fond. RR. E.F. Frank—Rt. Agt. 1874

III-

ML-142



ML-143 III-

III- ML-144

Rut., Salem & Troy Agt.

Oct. 24, 1880

(The cancels were prepared by Andrew J. Morrison, a postal clerk) 1882-July 10, 1892 1883 May 15, 1893 -RPO

Jan. 13, 1883



III- ML-147



OL

Rut. & Troy RPO

III- ML-148 III-

ML-149 III-

1886-1888

June 22, 1883

II

1889

1891

III-ML-150

Rut. Salem & Troy Agt. April 22, 1883-June 12, 1891

ML-151



"IB" In Bounds(?) Omaha & Kearny Agt. 1880's

ML-152



1887 Issues

ML-153

II



"W. Tully" (Mail Clerk) Logan & Keokuk RPO ML-154



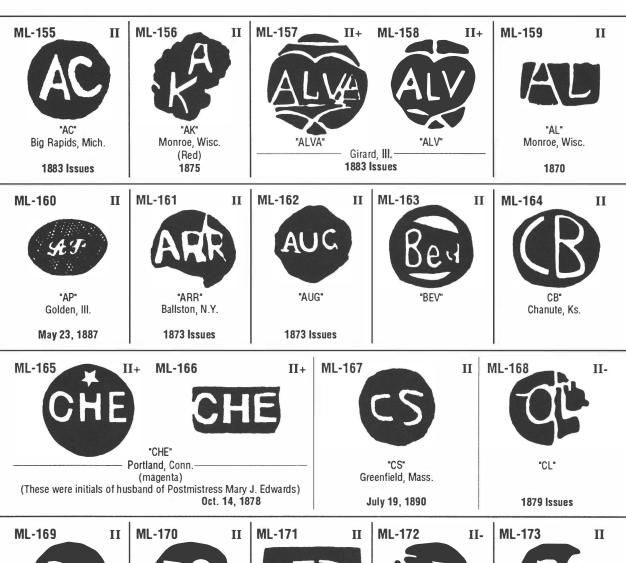
II

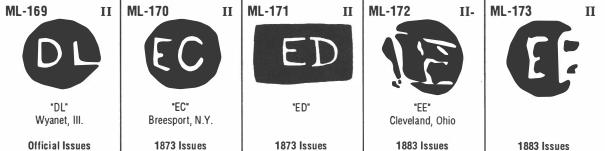
"AB" Alexandria Bay, NY (Magenta) 1870-73 Issues

A variation of ML-150, the "Morrison/North" Rutland & Troy route agent marking,



MULTIPLE LETTERS





II

ML-177

II

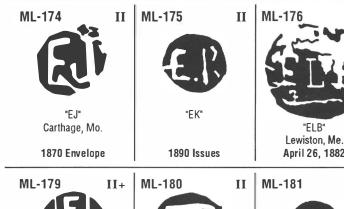
ML-178

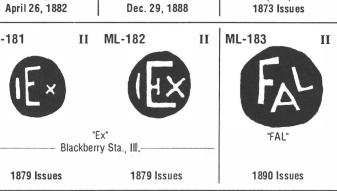
"EM"

Evans Mills, N.Y.

(Blue)

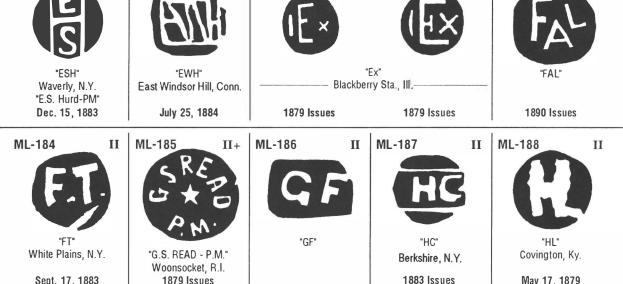
II

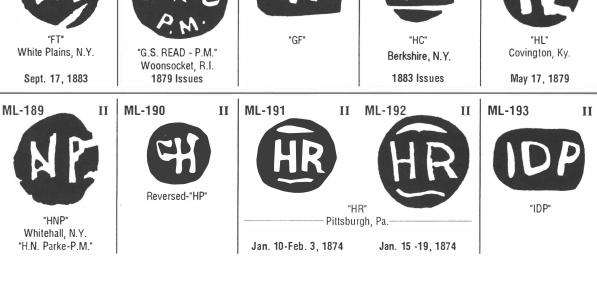




"ELV"

East Las Vegas, Nev.





MULTIPLE LETTERS



Worcester, Mass. Jan. 13, 1882

II

II+



ML-196 II



"IXL" Chicago, III. (Blue) 1870 Envelope ML-197 II



ML-198 II

1879 Issues



"J.H.E." Durham, Me. "James H. Eveleth-P.M." 1874 Envelope



1870

"J.J.K." Geneva, III. "Joseph J. Kesler, P.M." 1870 Issues

ML-201 II

> "J.P." Kankakee, III. 1873 Issues

ML-202 II

> "JR" Slater, Mo.

1883 Issues

ML-203 II+

II

ML-204

ML-199



"JUL" Ballston, N.Y.

July 18-Aug. 6, 1874

ML-205 II



"JY" Whitehall, N.Y. 1879 Issues

ML-206



"Kirk" "E.R. Kirk-P.M." Sioux City, Iowa 1873 Issues

ML-207



II

"LA"

L-208

1890 Issues

ML-209



"LDP"

ML-210



"LOV"

1887-90 Issues

ML-211



"Love & XXX's" Schuylersville, N.Y.

1890 Issues

ML-212



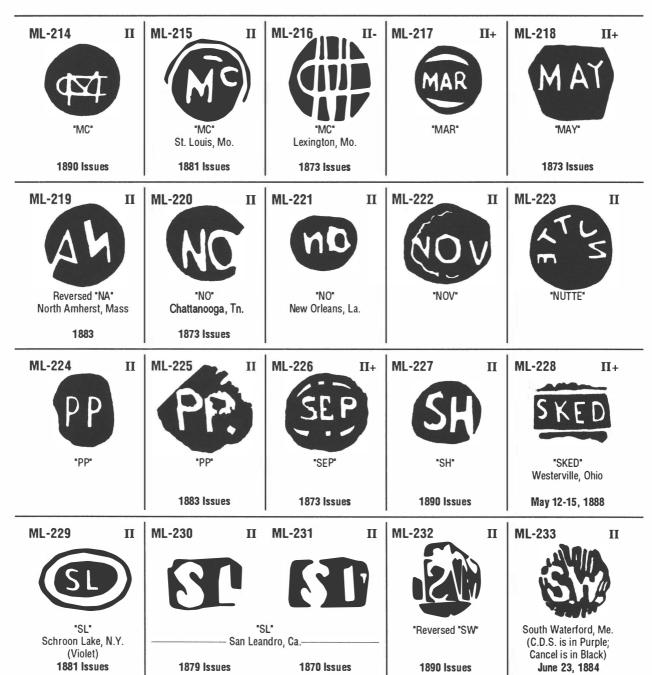
"LP"

1890 Issues

ML-213

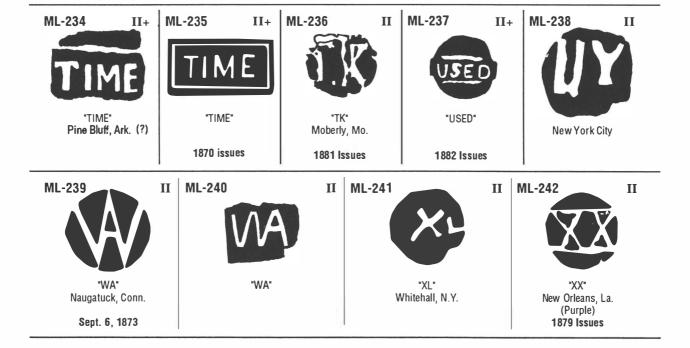
Columbian Issues

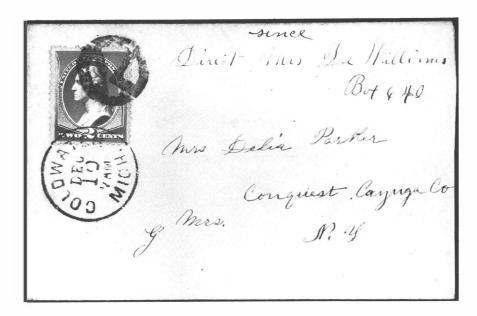
"LR"



Unless the South Waterford, Maine "SW" cancel were found on stamp or cover with the accompanying postmark, it might be thought to mean "south west."







Although the cancel on this 2¢ red brown of 1883 looks more like an "OK" in monogram form, it is actually the letters "ED" for Ed Root, the Coldwater, Michigan postmaster at the time the letter was sent. See ML-28 on page 210.

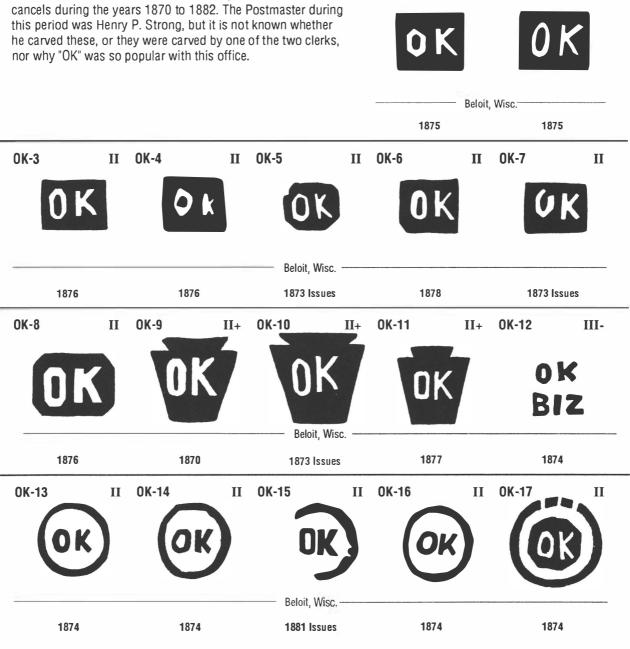
0K-1

II

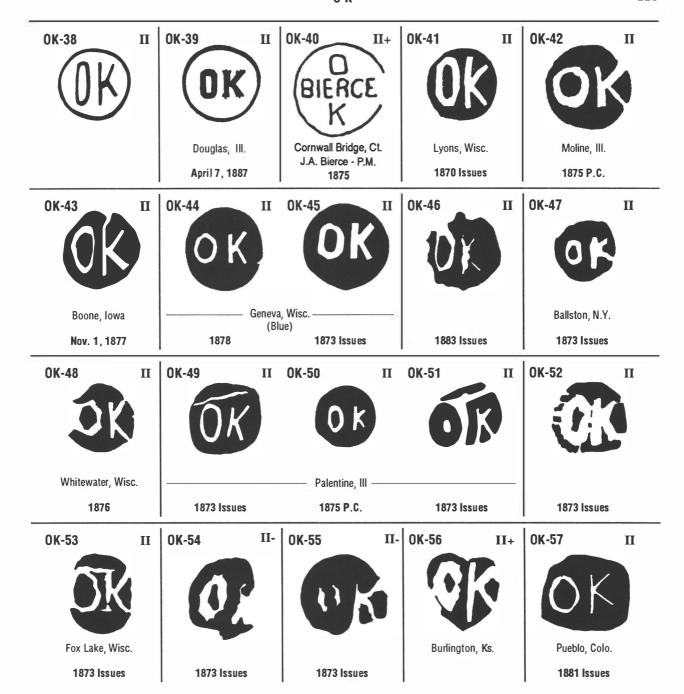
OK-2

II

The Post Office of Beloit, Wisc. was a prolific user of "OK" cancels during the years 1870 to 1882. The Postmaster during



OK-18	II	OK-19	II	0K-20	II	0K-21	II	0K-22	II
O	<	OK		0	K	0	K	0	K
Calais, V	∕t.					Quincy,	Mass.	Memphi	is, Tn.
1883 Issues		1873 Issues		1881 Issues		1873 Issues		1873 Issues	
0K-23	II	0K-24	II	OK-25	II	OK-26	II	0K-27	II
0	K	0.%.		0	K	0	K	0	X
West Springfi	ield, Pa.	(Manuscript) Mitchell, N.Y.		Parks & Bal	. River Agt.	N.Y. & W	ash. RPO	Macon	, Ga.
1873 Issues		(Blue) Aug . 8, 1878		1873 Issues		1873 Issues		1870 Issues	
OK-28	II	OK-29	II	OK-30	II	OK-31	II	OK-32	II
C	K	ck	•	0	K	0	K	0	K
Lee, Ma				1879 i		Law & B			
1870 Iss		1		1		1873		Official	
0K-33	— II	0K-34	II	0K-35	II	OK-36	II	0K-37	II
<u>0</u> F		(K)		6	K	0	K	(0	K)
Lee, Mas	SS.	"O", "K" Olathe, Ks.					Orfor	d, N.H	
		Oct. 15, 1887				1870-1873 Issues			





1879 Issues

OK-59 II

1881 Issues

OK-60

1883 Issues

OK-61

П



Wilcox, Ariz.

Nov. 16, 1883



Geneva, Wisc. (Blue) 1873 Issues

The entwined "POD" (Standing for Post Office Dept.) were commercially prepared cancels, used in a number of towns. Related cancels such as "PO" were also used.

P0-1



Yates Center, Ks. (Purple) 1883 Issues

P0-2



Redden, Dela. 1883 Issues

I+

I+

P0-3



Stephensville, Wisc. (Blue) 1885 Thorp, Wisc. 1885

Mosinee, Wisc. 1886 School Hill, Wisc. 1887-8

P0-4

I+



Stewart, Ohio (Blue) Oct. 26, 1883 (Purple) 1890 Issues

P0-5



Mt. Wachusett, Mass. Sept. 28, 1887 - July 30, 1888 Cleveland, III. - J.H. Slade P.M. 1883 Issues

P0-6

I+



Eden, Wisc. (Blue)

1889

Whittlesey, Wisc.

1885

Bellevue, Idaho

Feb. 20, 1883

Loon Lake, N.Y.

Sept. 7, 1888

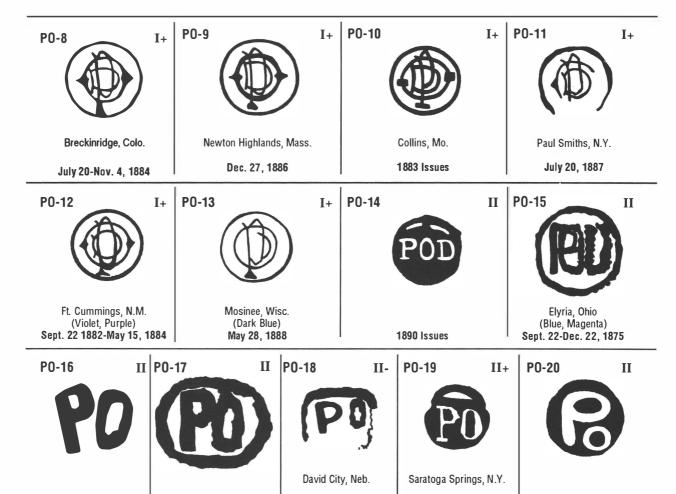
P0-7



Engle, N.M (Blue) Jan. 14, 1882 - July 23, 1883 Hot Springs, N.M. (Magenta, Blue, Violet) July 17 - Oct. 28, 1882



The Mount Wachusett, Mass. ornate monogram style "P.O.D." is typical if not identical with the other similar cancels displayed here. These were undoubtedly rubber stamps, with fine detail that often broke down with use so that cancels with different details may have been produced by the same or other handstamps produced from the same mold.



1883 Issues

1870-79 Issues

1879 Issues

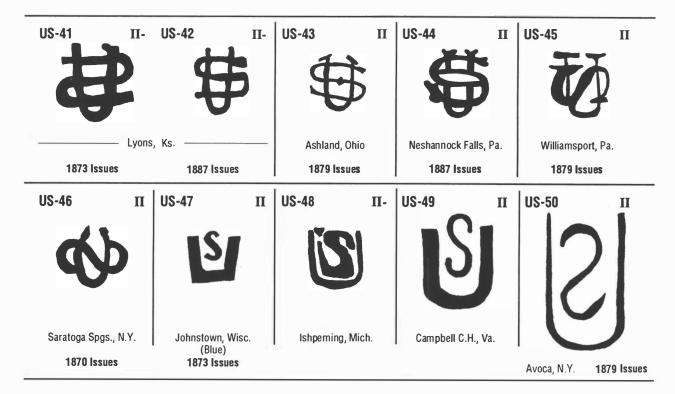
1883 Issues

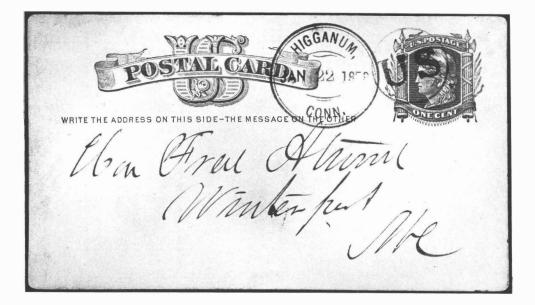
1870 Issues

US-1	II-	US-2	II-	US-3	II-	US-4	II-	US-5	II
U	2		3	U	S	U	5	U	S
Fayette, Iowa		Nov. 30, 1		o, Mo.————————————————————————————————————		Athens, Ala		Norwalk, Ohio (Blue) 1875	
US-6	II-	US-7	II-	US-8	II-	US-9	II-	US-10	II
U.	5	US	5	U	S	V	2	V	5
1873 Issues		Alfred Center, N.Y.		Troy, N.Y. 1882 Issues		1875 Issues		(Blue) 1875 Issues	
US-11	П-	US-12	II	US-13		US-14	II-	US-15	II-
U.	5	U.S) .		5	U	5	U	5
Mt. Pleasan	nt, Mich.			Troy,	N.Y. ———				
April 6, 1876-1881		1879 Issues		1879 Issues		1882 Envelope		1879 Issues	
US-16	II-	US-17	П-	US-18	II-	US-19	II-	US-20	II-
U	S	US	•	J	Ŝ	U	S	U	5
		Waterloo,	III. ——			Lexington, Va.			
1879 Issues		1879 Issues		Jan. 21, 1881				1879 Issues	

US-22 US-23 US-24 II **US-25 US-21** II-II-II-II-St. Louis, Mo. **New York City** Fort Dodge, Iowa (Blue) 1873 P.C. 1879 Issues 1873 Issues Oct. 20, 1881 **US-26** II-**US-27 US-28** II-**US-29** II-**US-30** II-II-Campbell C.H., Va. Williamsport, Pa. Mattapoisett, Mass.-1879 Issues 1879 Envelope 1875 1873 Issues **US-32 US-33 US-34 US-35 US-31** II II II II II-Savannah, Ga. Union Springs, Ala. (Blue) 1873 Issues 1873 P.C. June 14, 1872 1870 Issues 1879 Envelope **US-36** II-**US-37** II-**US-38** II **US-39** II-**US-40** II-Dwight, III. 1887 Issues 1883 Issues 1887 Issues 1883 Issues 1870 Issues

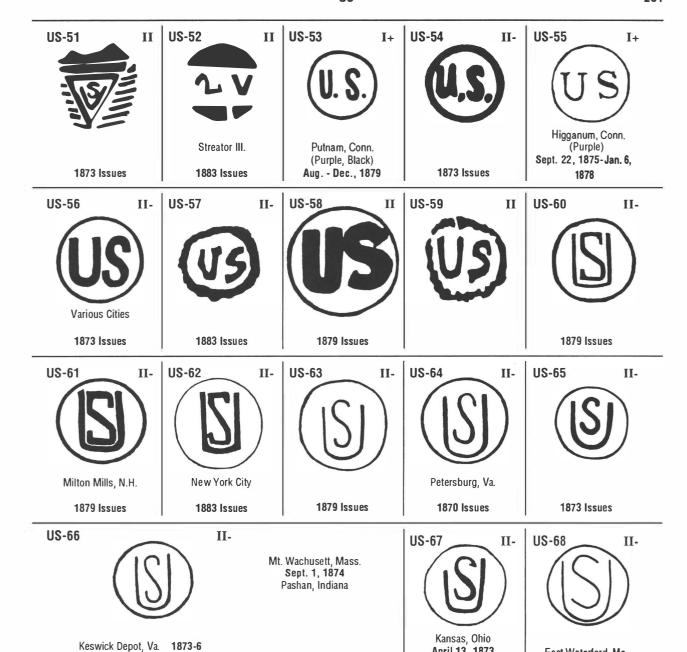
230 US





The "U.S." cancel (U.S.-35 on opposite page) and the Higganum, Connecticut postmark, both in magenta, overlap, proving the markings were produced by separate handstamps. The flourishes in the postmark, dated Jan. 22, 1878, and the magenta ink, frowned upon by the Post Office Department, indicates they were both commercially made rubber stamps purchased by the postmaster.

US



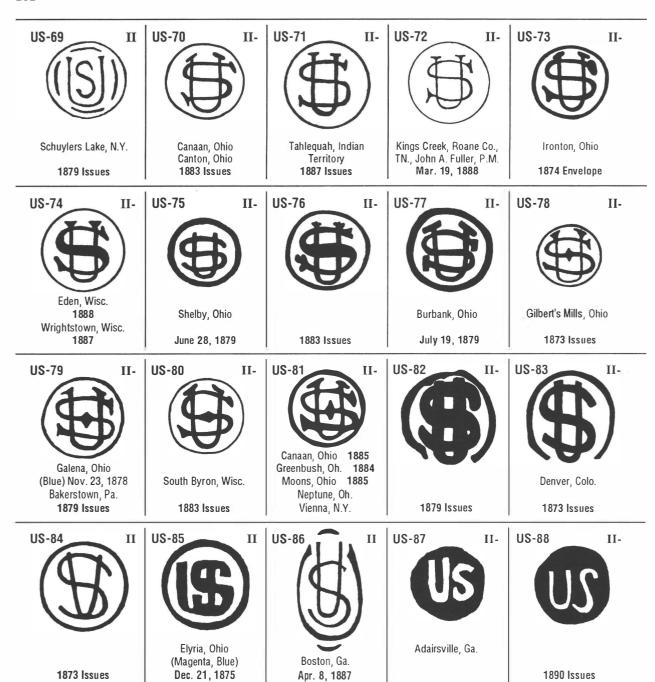
East Waterloo, Me. 1876 Lincoln, Mass. 1870-3 Issues

April 13, 1873

Lakeside, N.Y. Dec. 1873

East Waterford, Me.

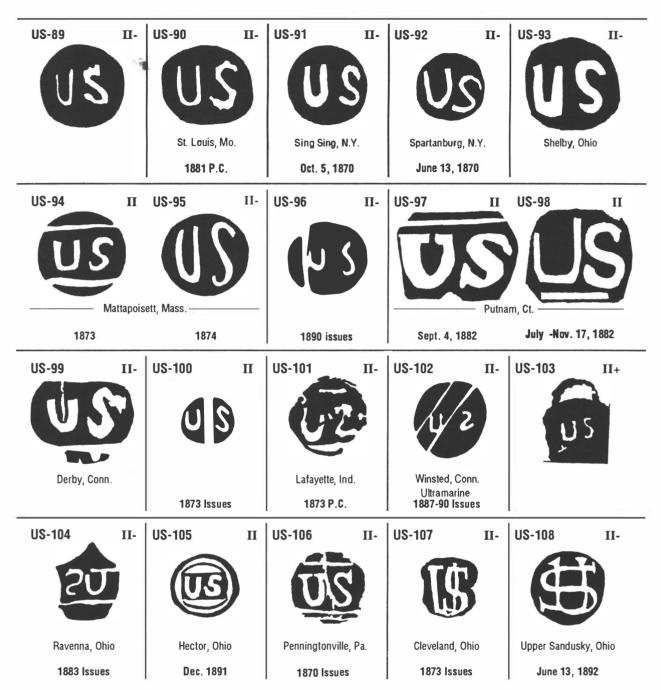
Jan. 23, 1883



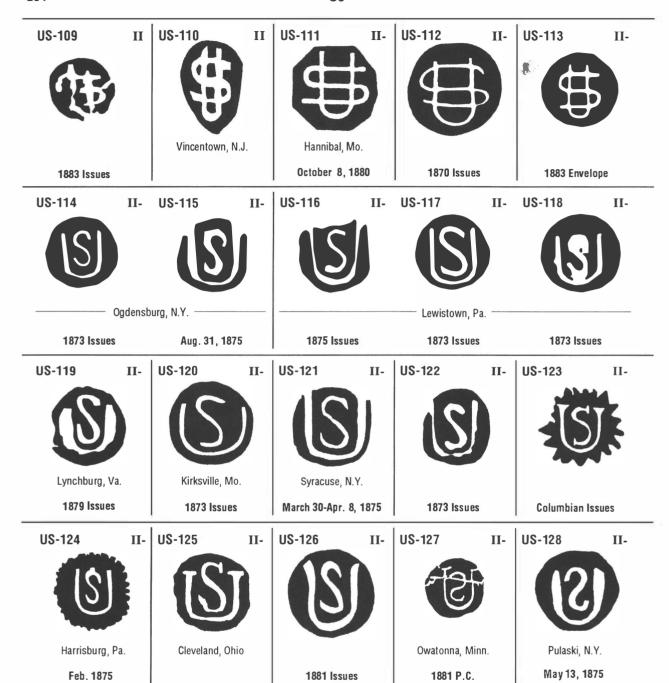


The monogram "U.S." in a circle used at West Salem, Ohio is very similar to cancels used at Ironton (U.S.-73) and Burbank (U.S.-77), also in Ohio.

US 233



234



U.S. MAIL 235

The "U.S. MAIL" cancel was another commercially prepared "killer", which was popular with many different small town Post Offices. It is found in a number of styles.



Lookout, Wyo.

Sept. 12, 1886



Blue Mound, III.

March 12-May 10, 1887



Beach Haven, Pa. Sept. 22, 1891





Winchester, Ks. A.M. Barns, P.M. Mar. 25, 1886



Mt. Auburn, Iowa Fairburn, Ga.



Varysburgh, N.Y. Mar. 26, 1888



Biggs, Wasco Co., Ore. Feb. 12, 1887

US-136





Bloomdale, Ohio Feb. 10, 1887

US-138



Numa, Appanoose Co., lowa Feb. 8, 1887

US-139



Lowell, Mass. 1883 Beach Haven, N.J. 1890-93

US-140



Fonta Flora, Burke Co., N.C. Oct. 11, 1882

US-141 II-

1883 Issues



Murson Sta., Pa. June 14, 1887

US-142



Helena, Ky.-R.M. Harrison, P.M. June 14, 1889

US-143



(Purple) 1873 Issues

US-144



Tahlequah, Indian Territory (Violet) Aug. 22, 1885-Jan. 22, 1887

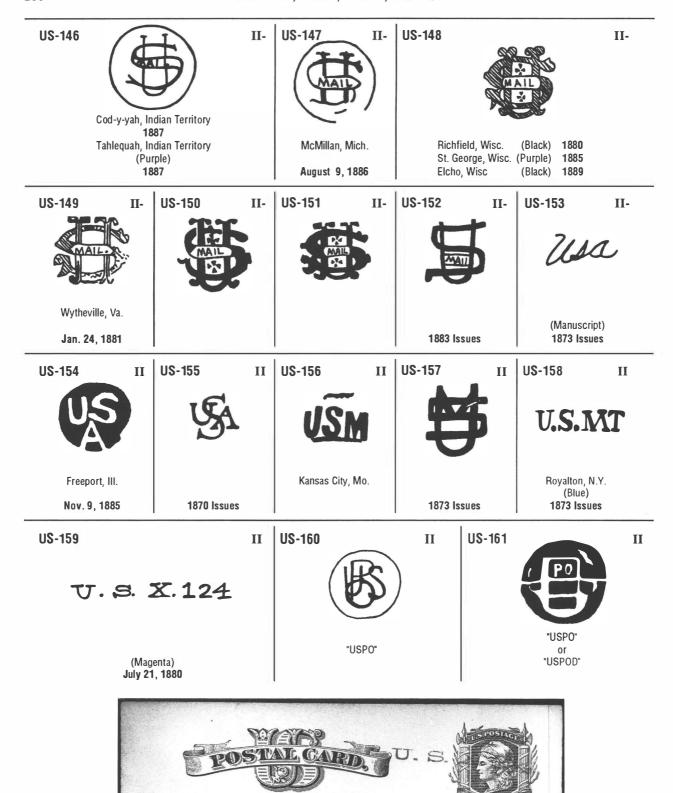
US-145



Zenos, Maricopa Co., Ariz. Apr. 6, 1887-Dec. 12, 1888

Carlisle, Sullivan County, Indiana monogram "U.S. Mail" cancel with accompanying fancy postmark of July 1886, struck in black on a brown Jefferson postal card of 1885. (US-129A) (II-)

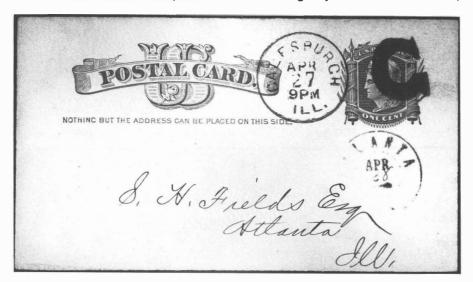




Struck in magenta on a postal card addressed to Alton, Illinois, the origin of this unusual marking, "U.S.X. 124" is unknown.

WRITE THE ADDRESS ON THIS SIDE-THE MESSAGE ON THE OTHER

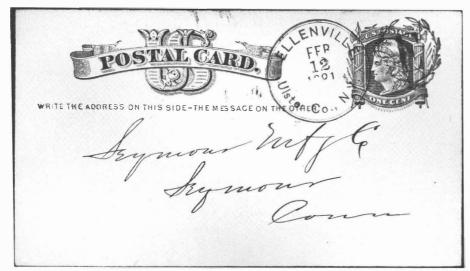
. Single letter markings typically have the first initial of a post office, postal station or branch, or postmaster or clerk's name. Most of these, other than those for large city branch and sub-stations, were hand carved, locally.



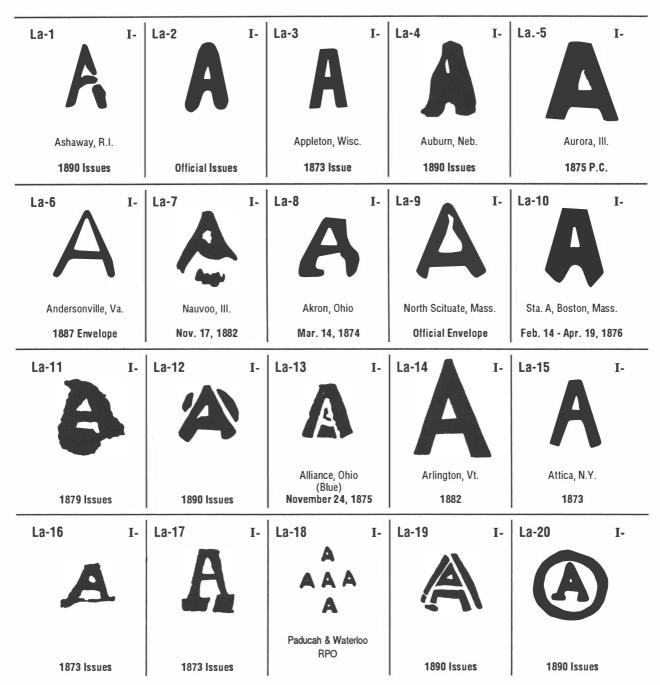
The Galesburgh, Illinois "G" cancel (see page 255) for details) is typical of the single letter style cancels used at smaller offices. (LG-8A)

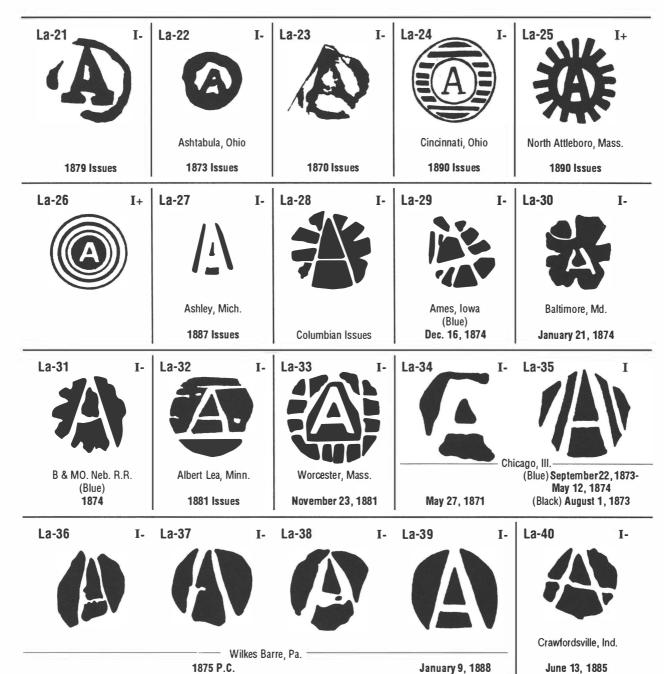
A Minn(eapolis) & Sparta (Wis.) route agent cover with a "W" for "West(bound)" killer. A similar "E" was probably used when the train returned, going the opposite direction. Thus, "E" and "W," "N" and "S," and also "AM" or "PM" (when morning and return afternoon trips were made) are frequently found with railroad postmarks. (See pages 249, 268, 276 and 284-5.)





The Ellenville, Ulster County, N.Y. wreathed "E" was only one of a group of similar commercial cancels, undoubtedly rubber stamps, used in the 1880s. See page 291 for details.





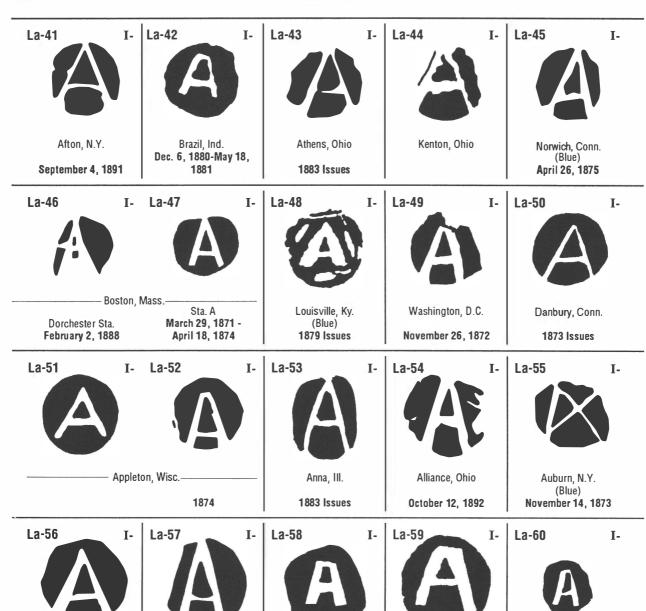
Alexandria, Va.

(Blue)

June 8, 1874

Amherst, Mass.

1880



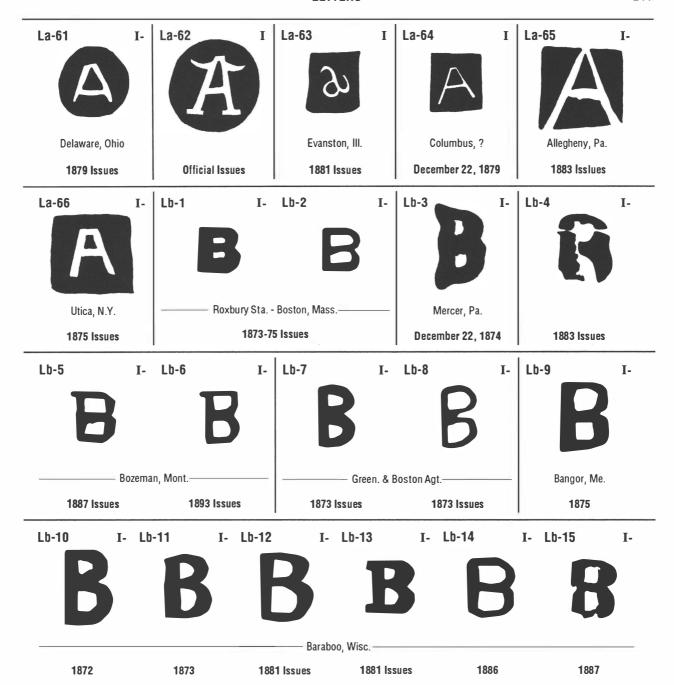
Onarga, III.

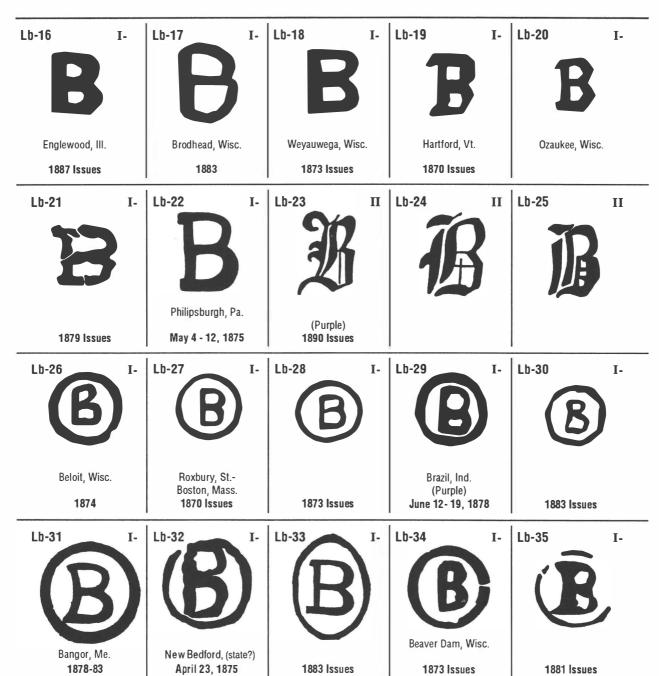
Whitehall, N.Y.

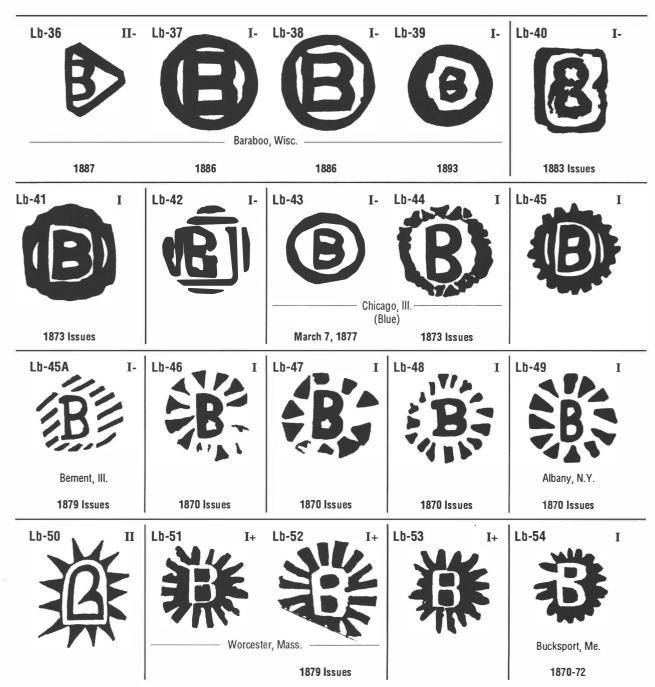
1870

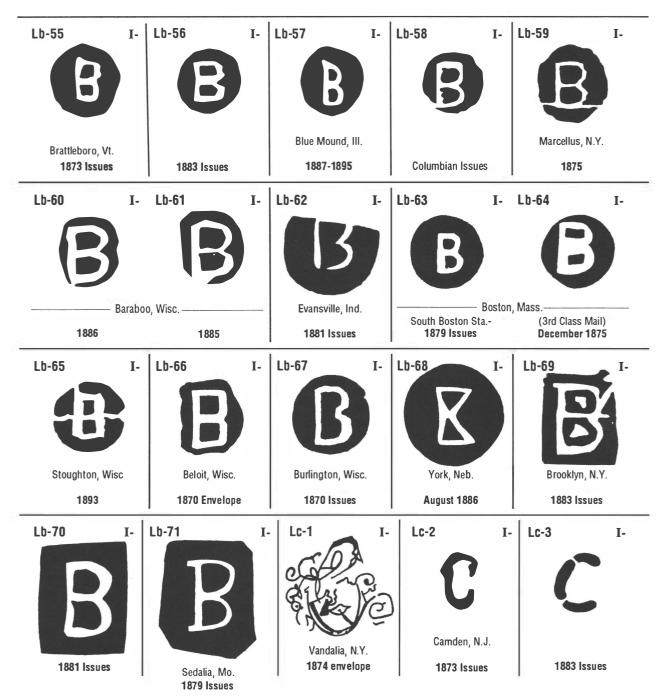
Lafayette, Ind.

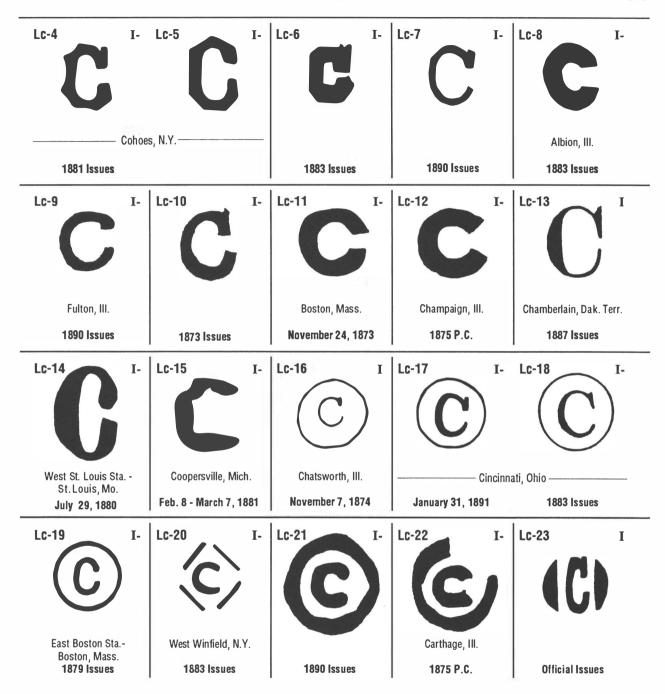
May 14, 1874





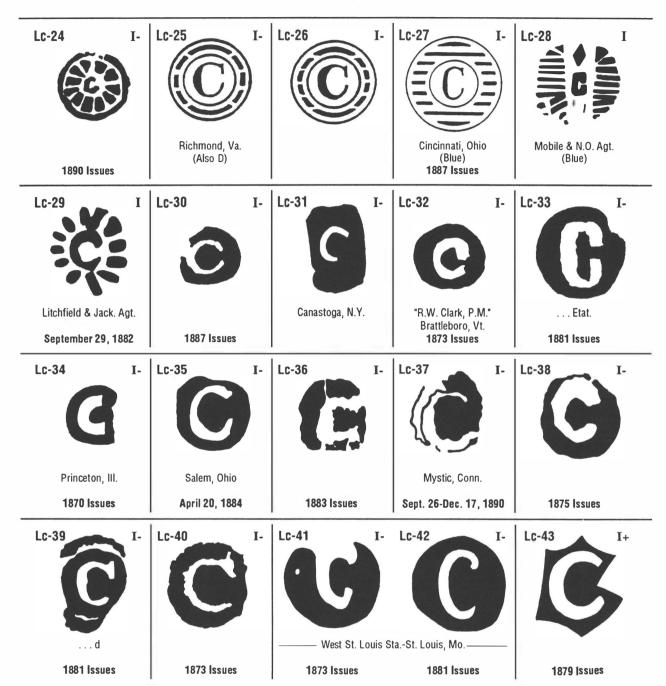


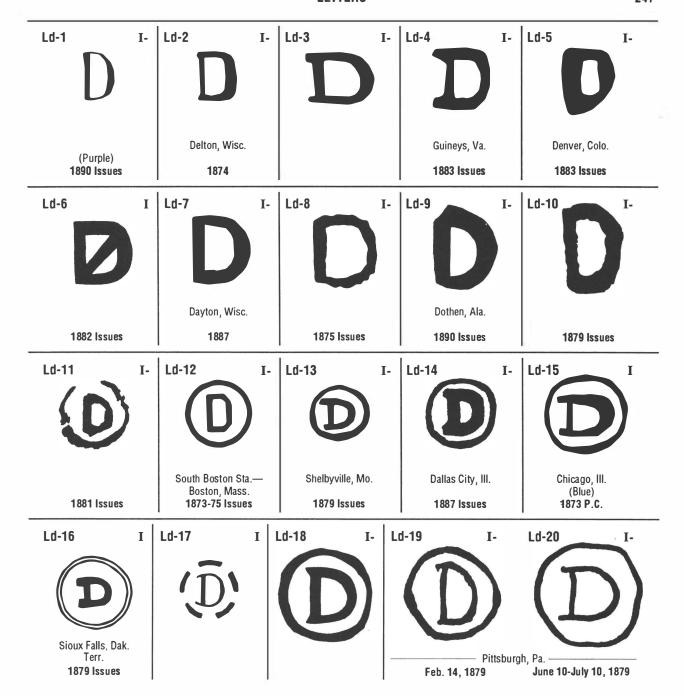


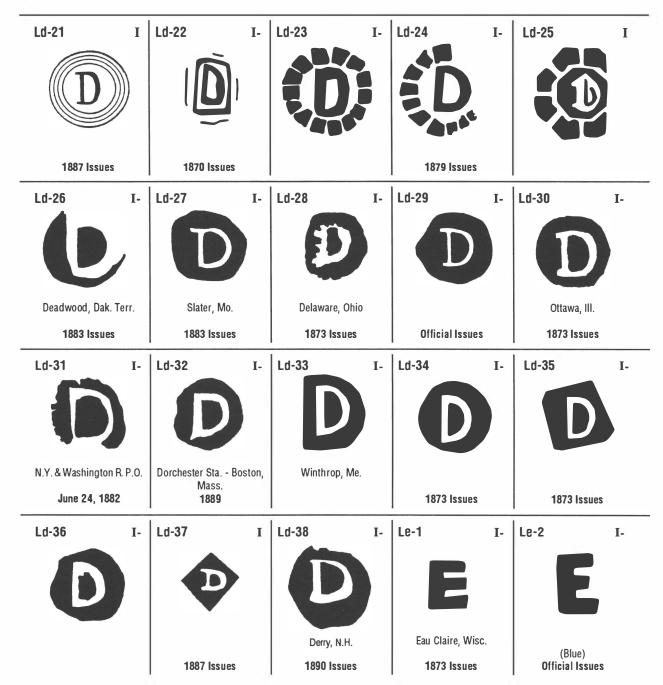


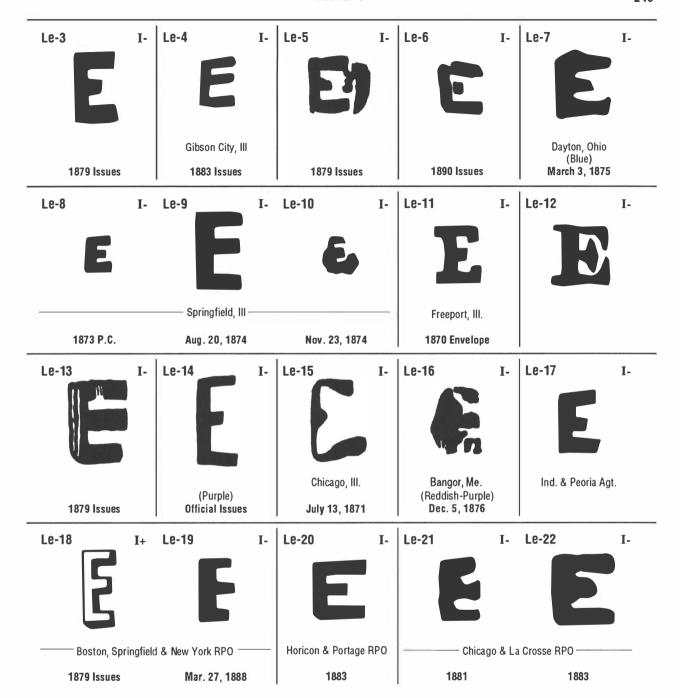
The exact meaning of the "C" in the cancel on this cover with a 2c red brown, probably sent in the late 1880s, is uncertain, but it is probably for just "Cincinnati."

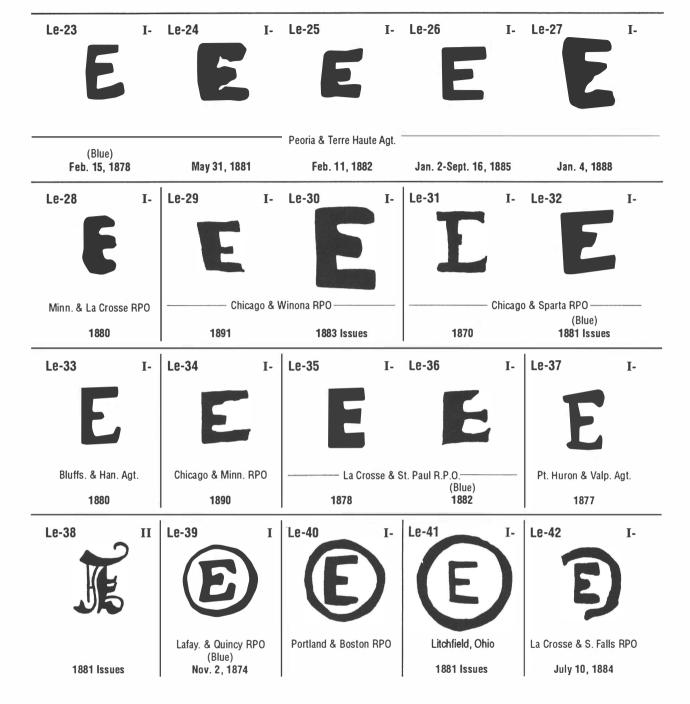


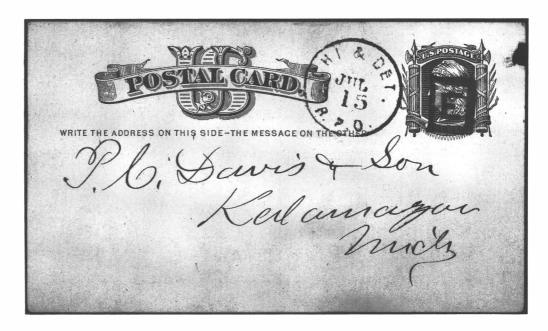






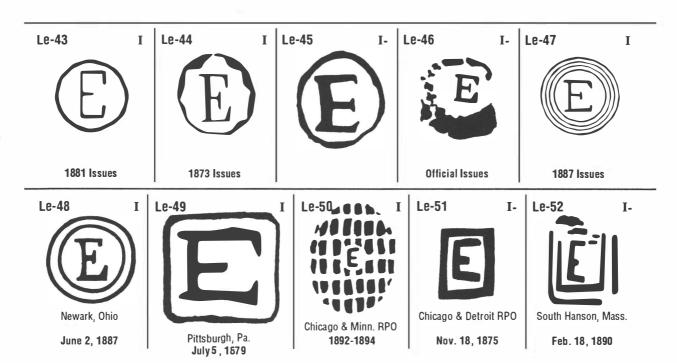


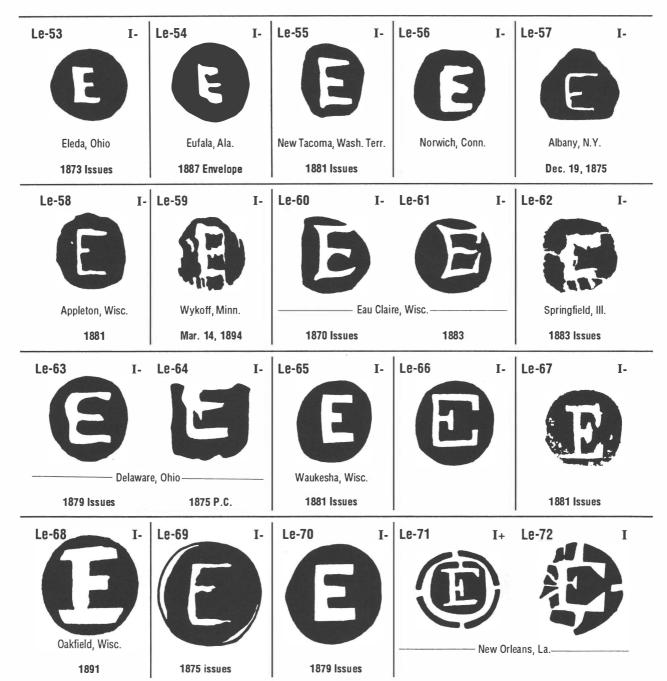




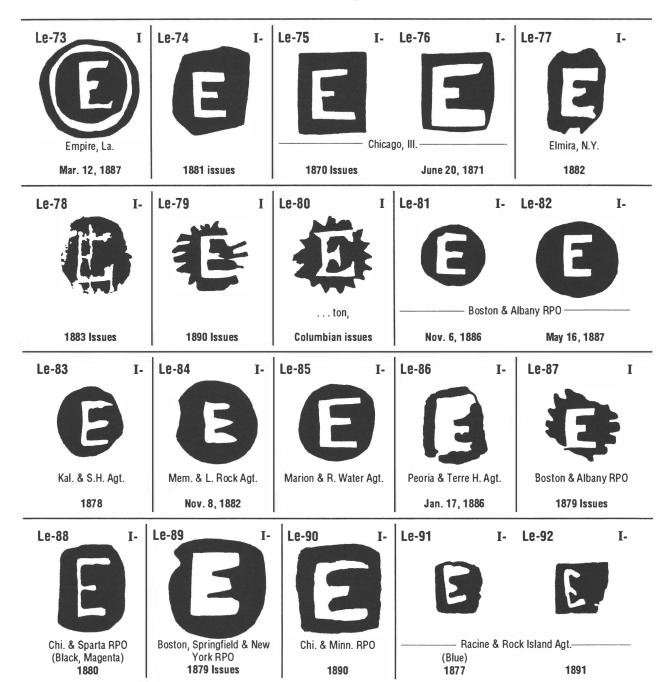


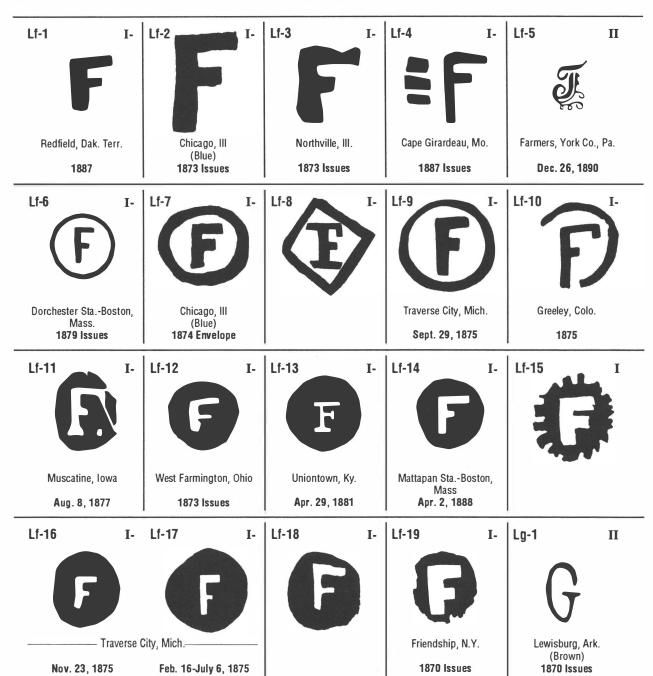
Chicago & Detroit route agent postmark with an "E" for "East(bound)," duplexed, on UX5 postcard, July 15, 1876. A tracing of the counterpart cancel with "W" for "West(bound)" is shown at left.

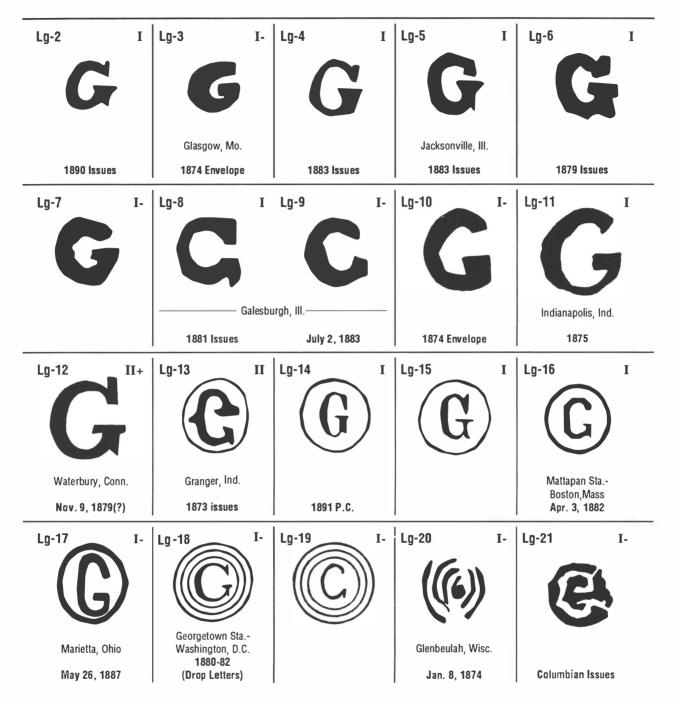


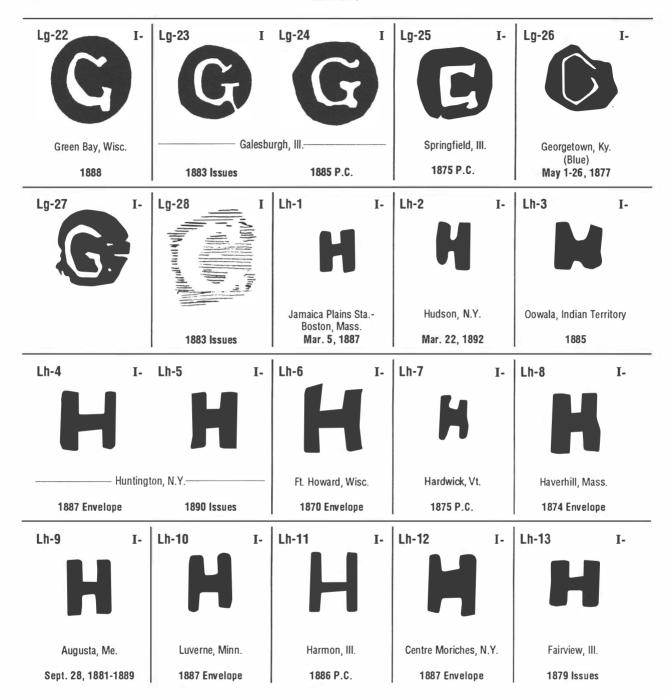


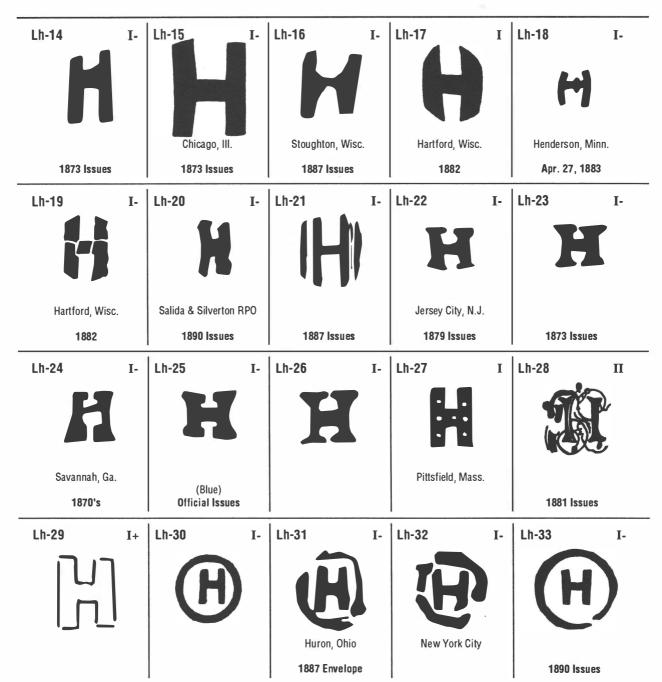
253

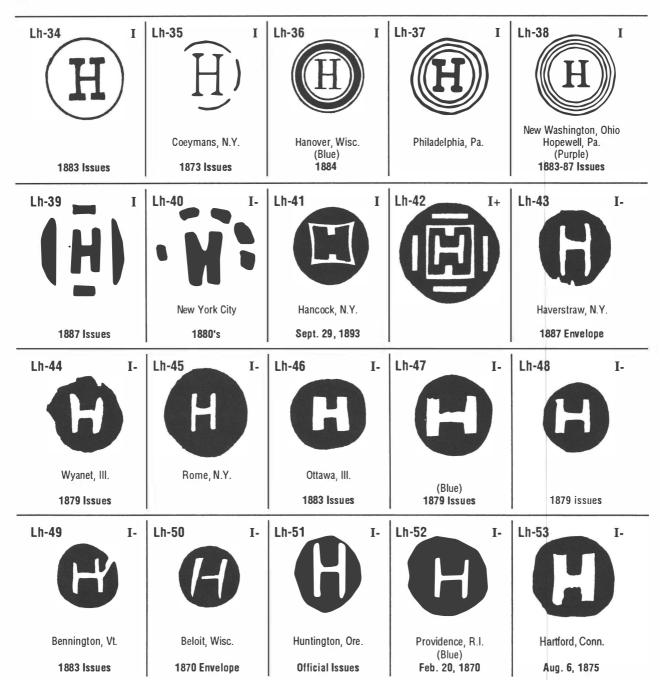


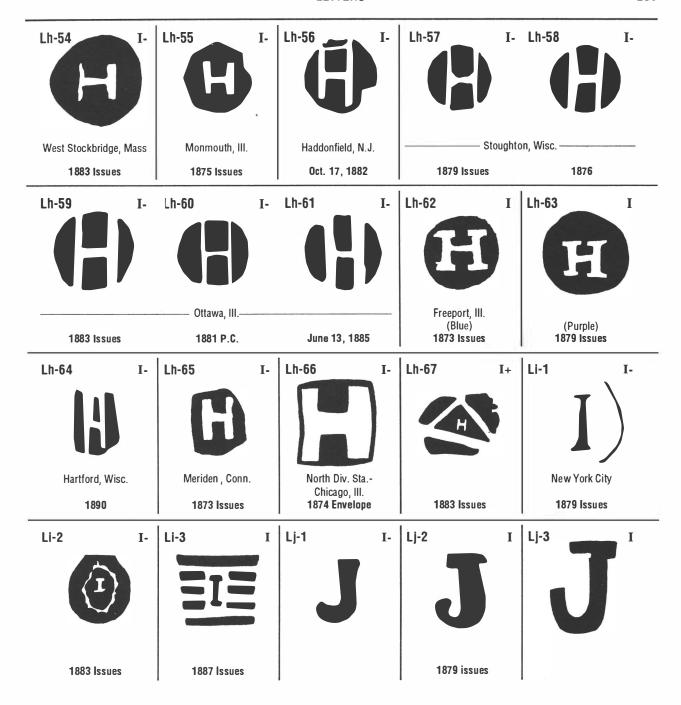


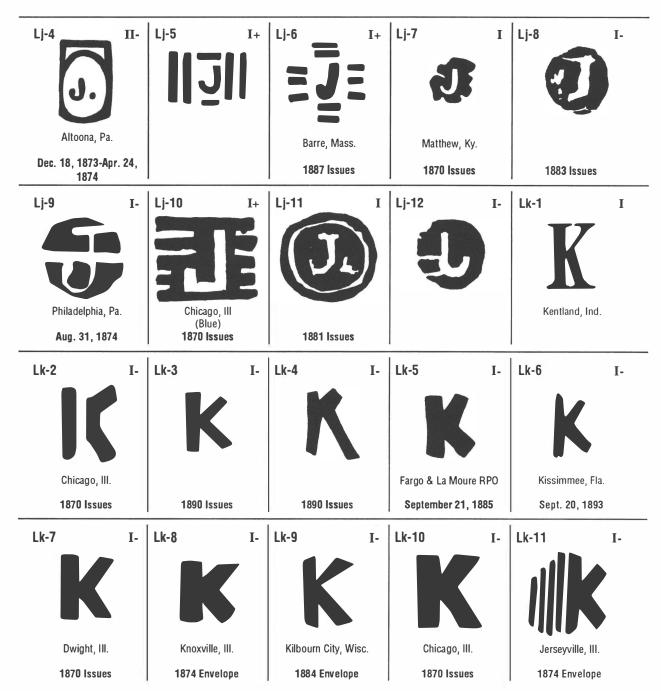


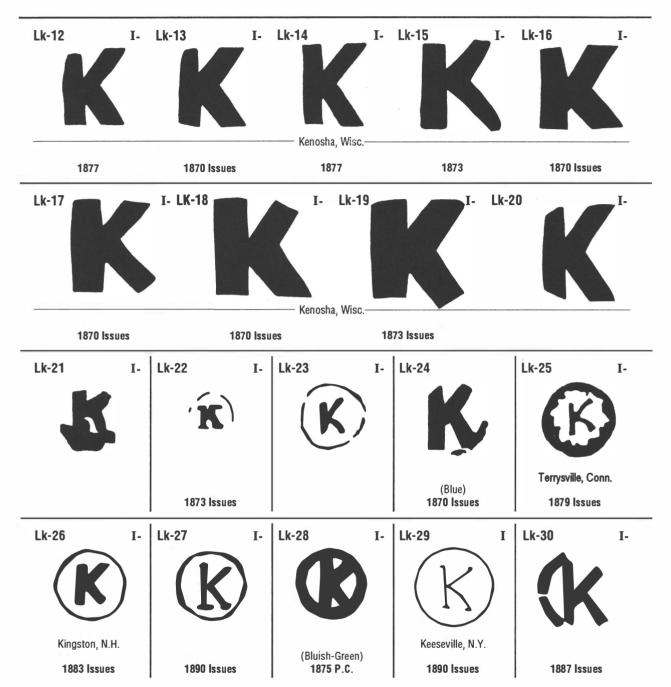


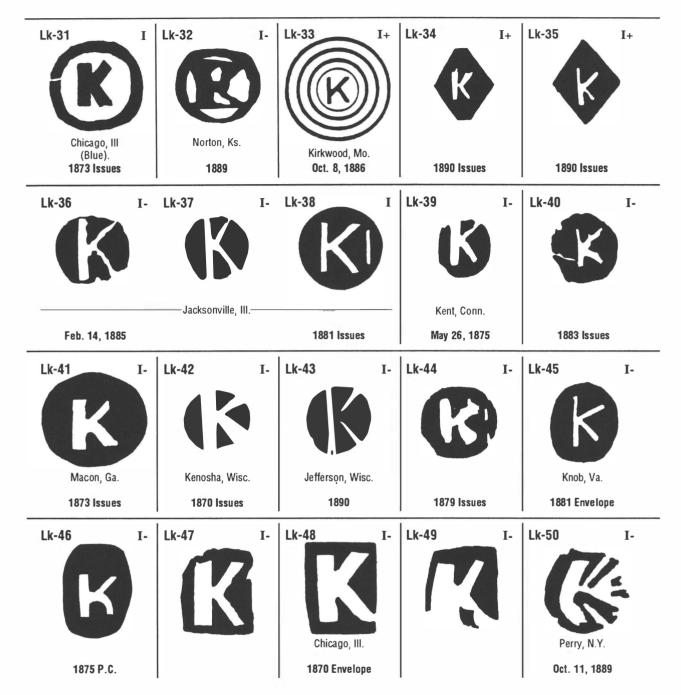


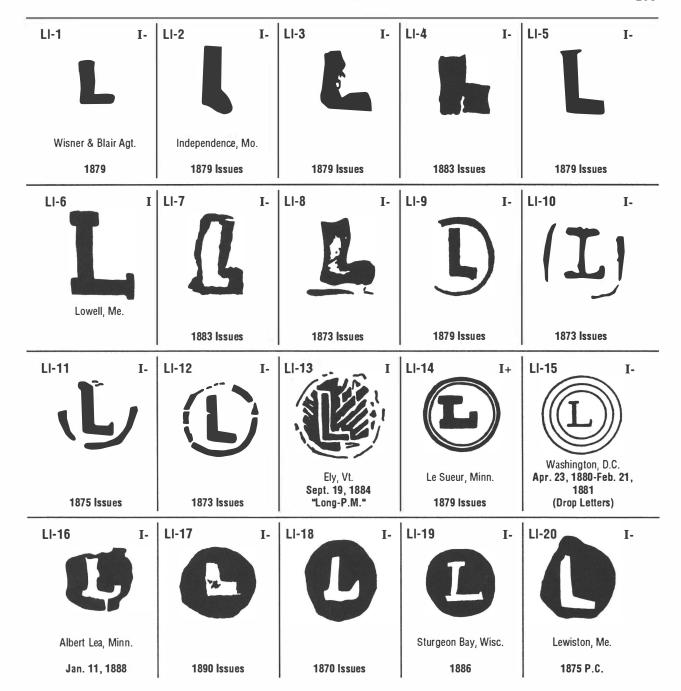


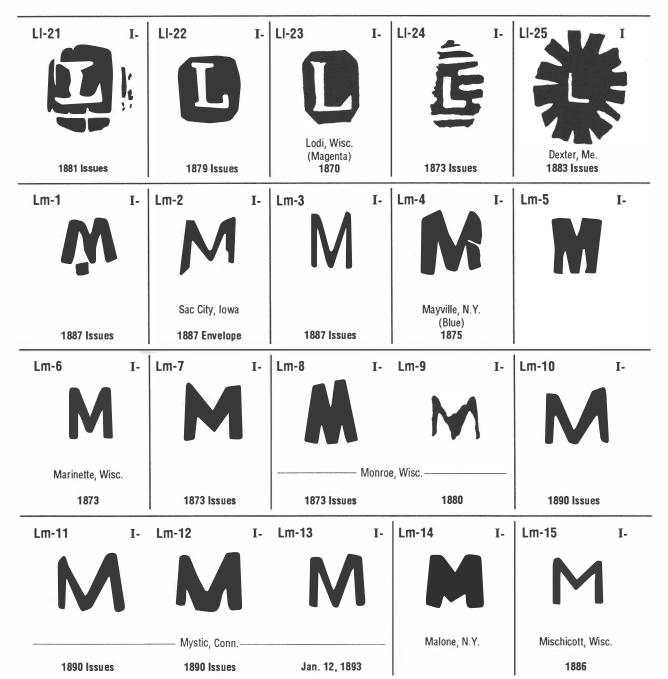






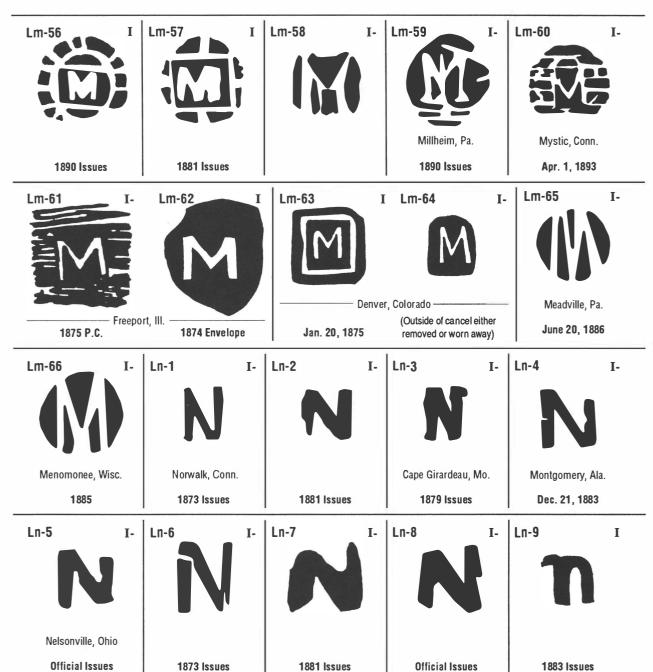


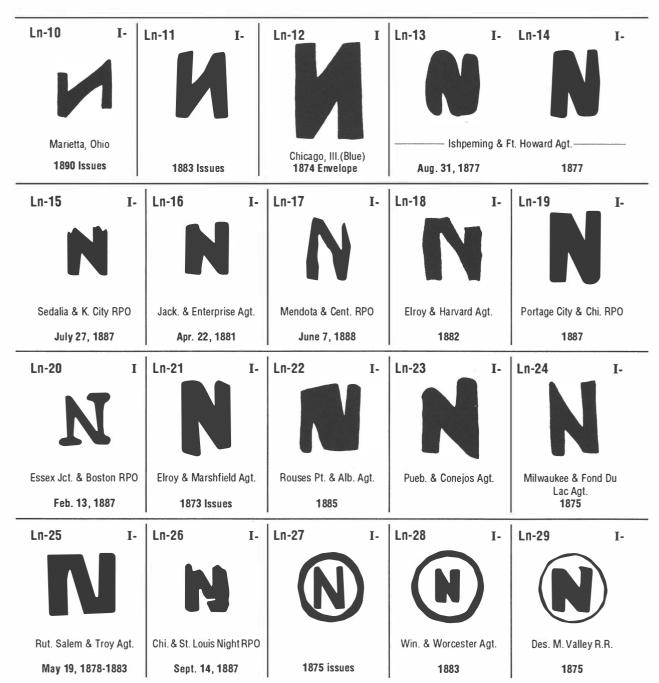


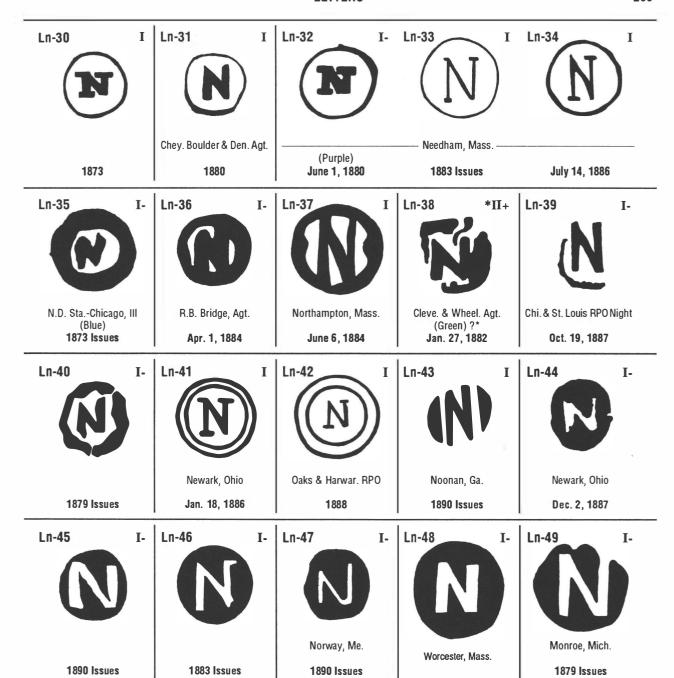


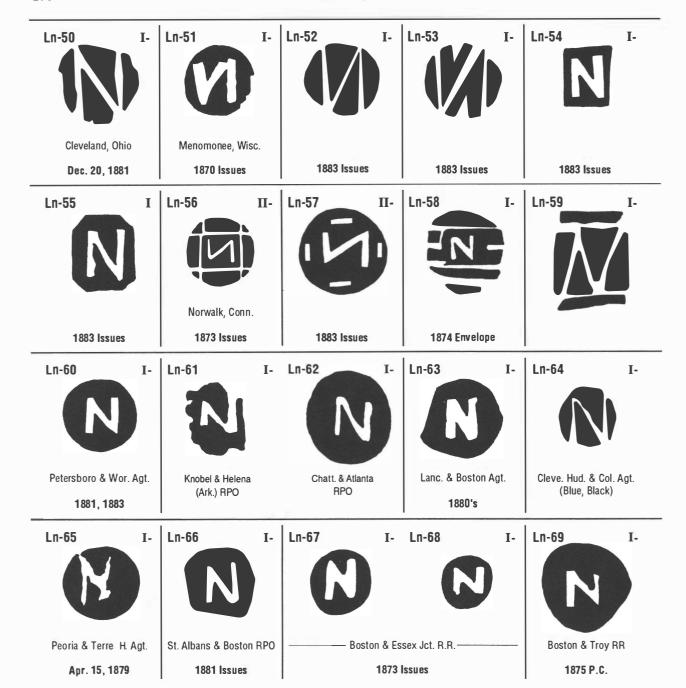
Lm-17 Lm-16 I-I-Lm-18 I-Lm-19 I-Lm-20 I-Bellefontaine, Ohio Vinita, Indian Territory Middletown, Pa. (Purple) Feb. 17-Mar. 3, 1885 187? 1879 Issues Columbian Issues Lm-22 Lm-23 Lm-25 Lm-21 I-I-I+ Lm-24 I+ I+ Mahomet, III.-Pine Bluff, Ark. Mittineague, Mass. (Blue) Aug. 14, 1889 July 20, 1887 Official Issues 1884 Envelope I Lm-26 I-Lm-27 Lm-28 I-Lm-29 Lm-30 I El Paso, III. San Francisco, Ca. Chicago, III (Magenta) (Blue) (Red) 1873 Issues 1873 Issues 1870 Issues **1873 Issues** Lm-31 Lm-32 Lm-33 П II Lm-34 I+ Lm-35 I+ (Purple) 1883 Issues 1883 Issues **1873 Issues** 1883 Issues

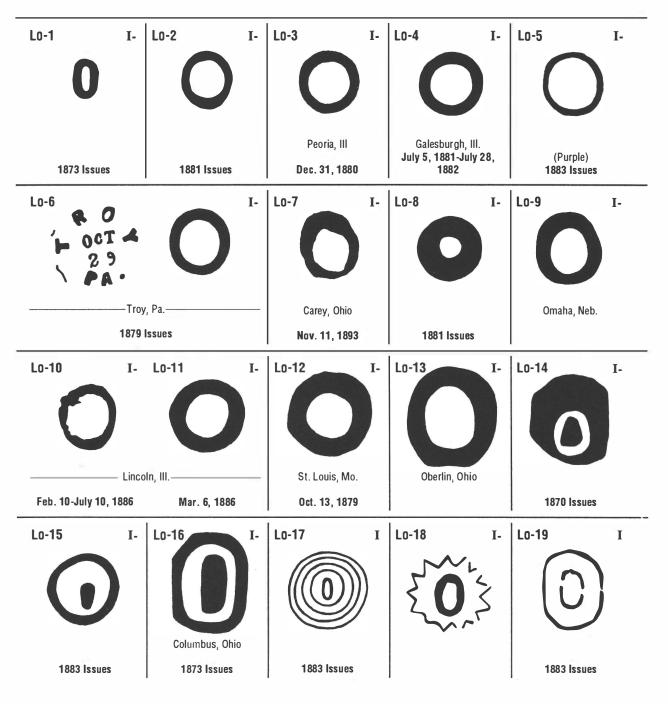
I-Lm-39 Lm-40 Lm-36 I-Lm-37 I-Lm-38 I-I-Cambridge Sta.-Boston, Menasha, Wisc. Marlboro, Mass. Mass 1874 Envelope 1887 1887 Envelope Lm-43 I Lm-44 Lm-45 Lm-42 I-I. Lm-41 I I Mystic, Conn. St. Louis, Mo. Chicago, III. (Blue) Pittsburgh, Pa. 1887 Envelope 1870 Envelope 1870 Issues 1881 Issues Oct. 30-Nov. 6, 1878 Lm-46 Lm-47 I-Lm-48 Lm-49 I-Lm-50 I-I-I-Millfield, Ohio Miles City, Mont. Marietta, Ohio 1887 Envelope 1880 1870 Issues 1879 Issues 1887 Envelope Lm-54 Lm-51 Lm-52 Lm-53 I-I-I-I-Lm-55 I-Providence, R.I. San Francisco, Ca. Middletown Spgs., Vt. Feb. 28, 1883 1890 Issues 1884 1890 Issues





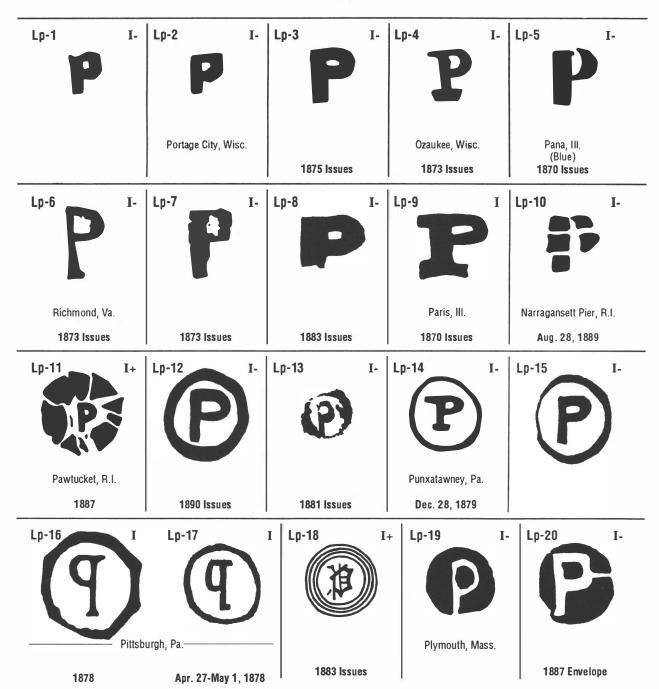


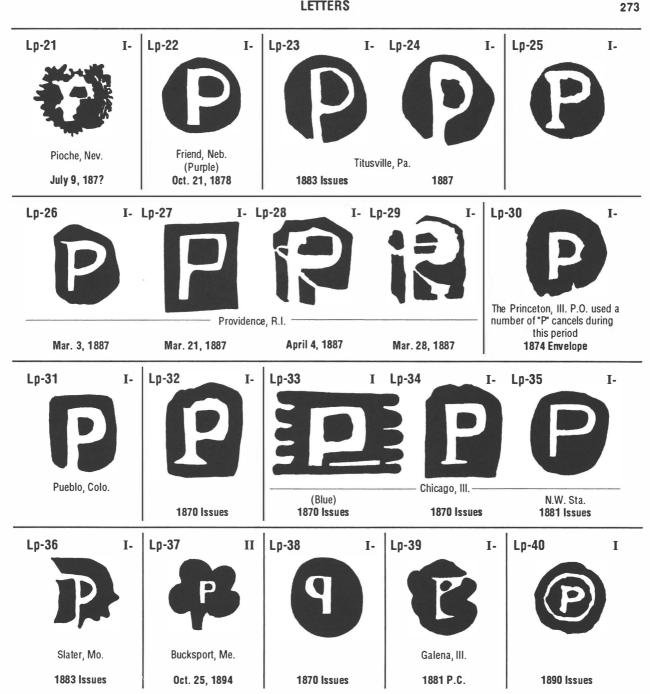


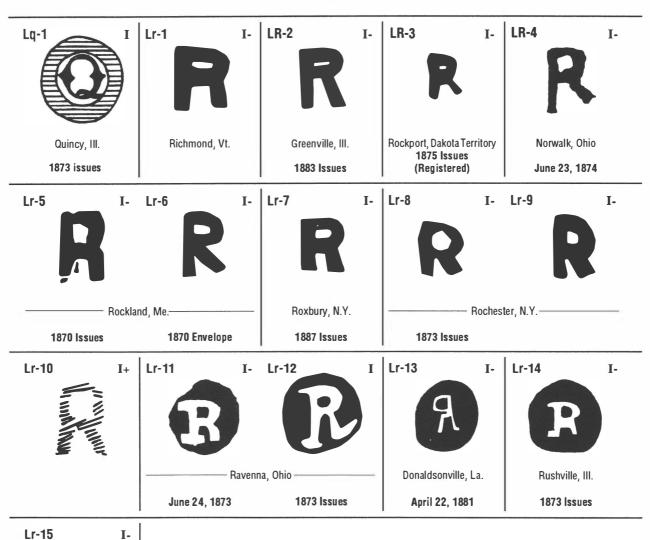


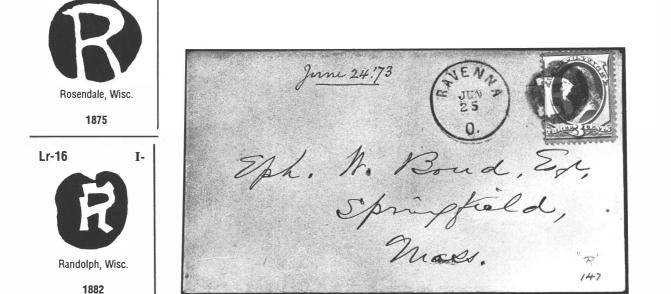
Circular cancels, considered here an "O," were often called a "black eye" by old time collectors. This Troy, Pennsylvania "O," probably a carven cork in a duplexed steel socket of a handstamp, is on a cover that was sent after the 2¢ per half ounce first class rate of October 1883 came into being, the stamp being the 2¢ vermillion of 1879.

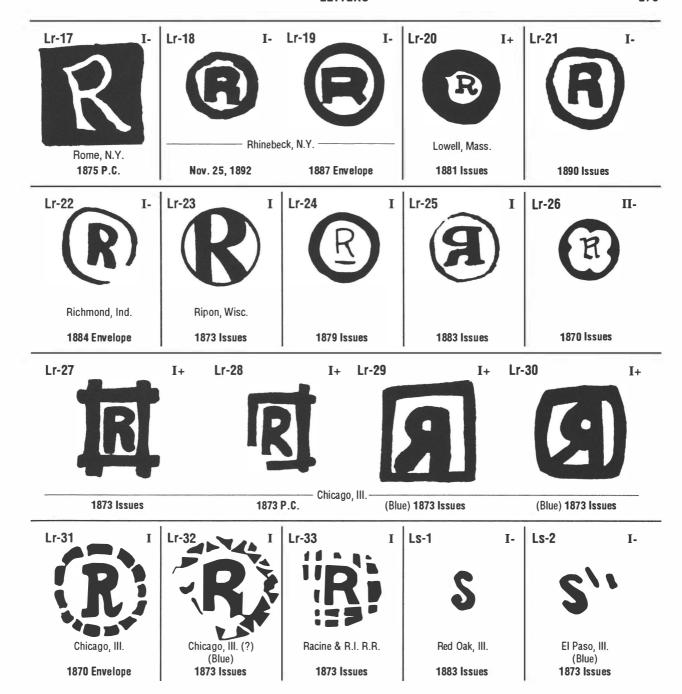


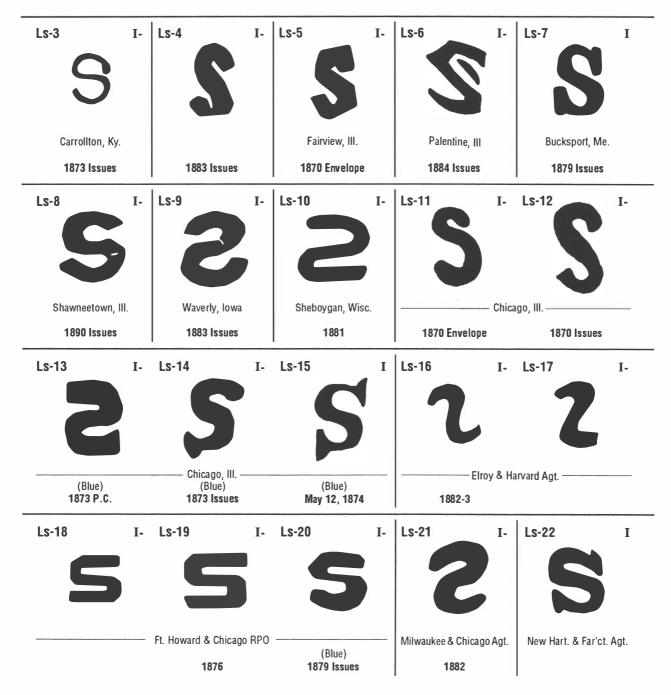


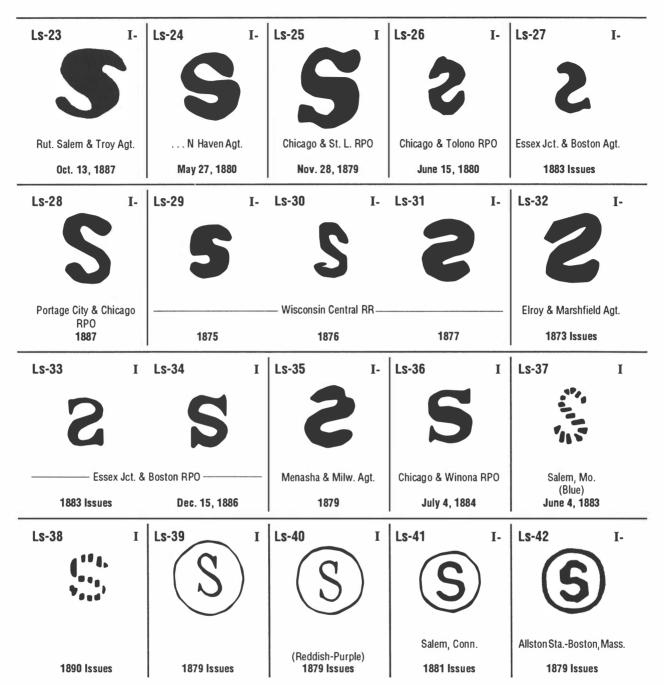


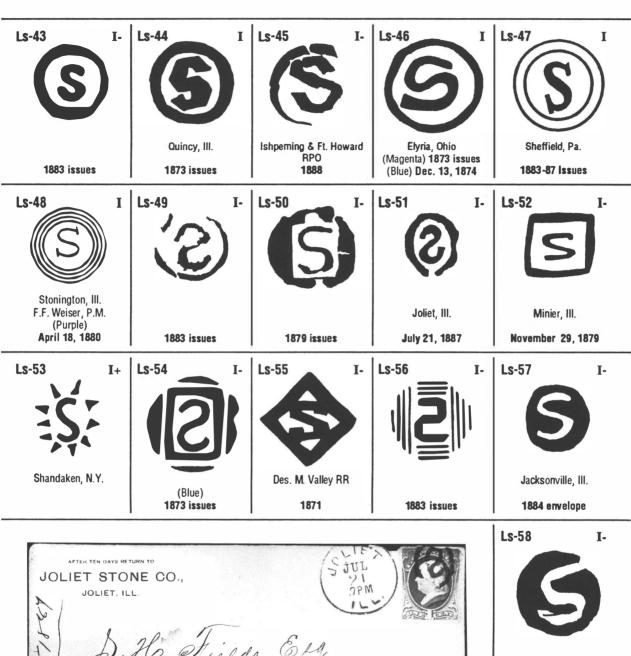






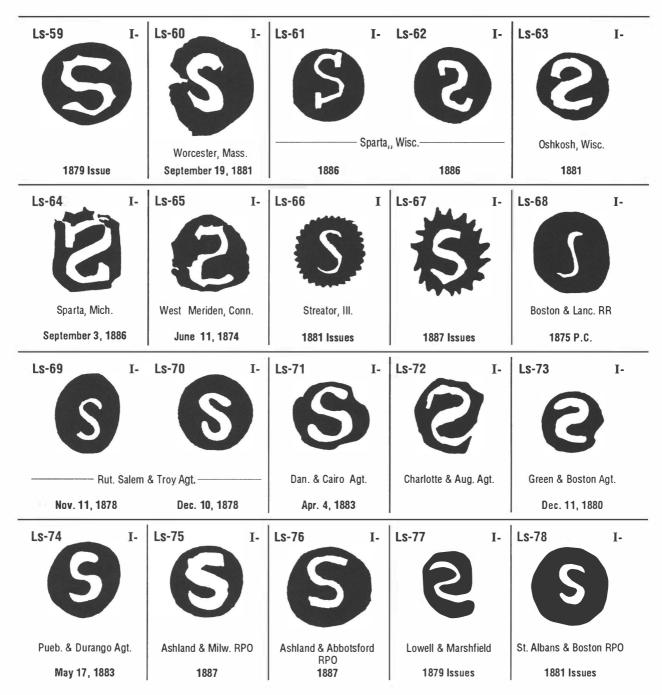


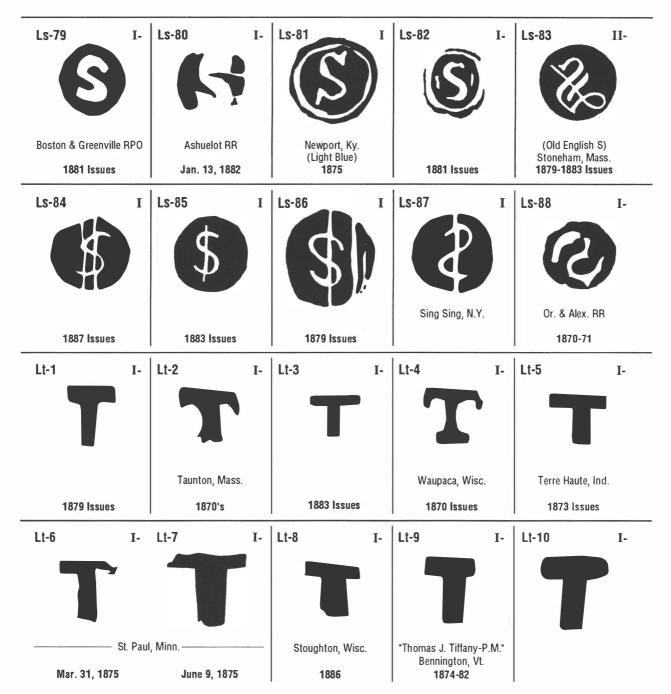


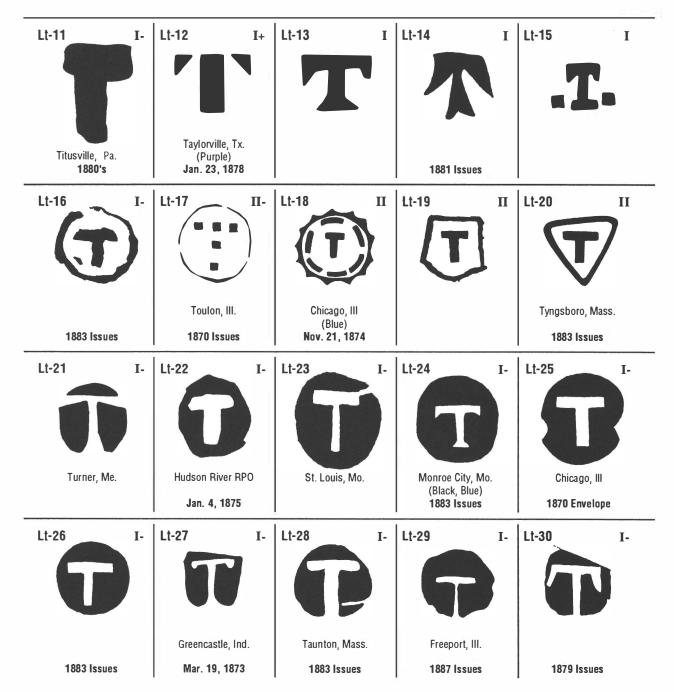


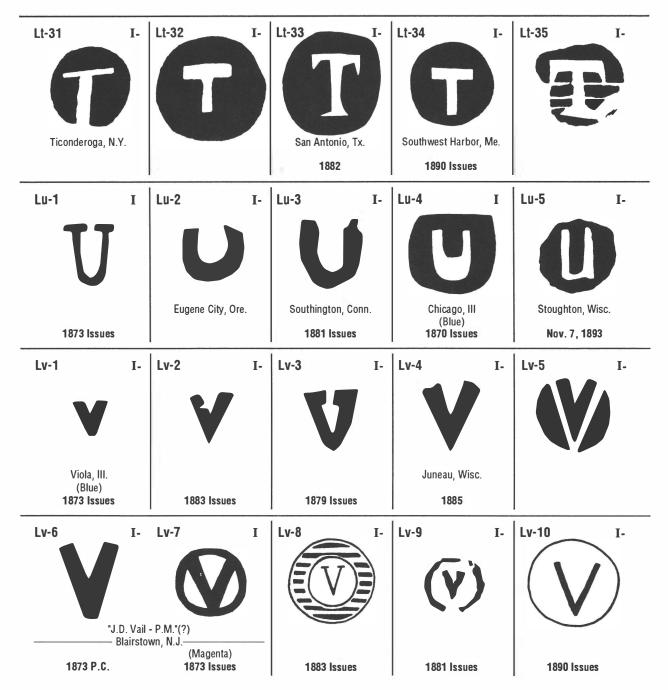
1879 Issues

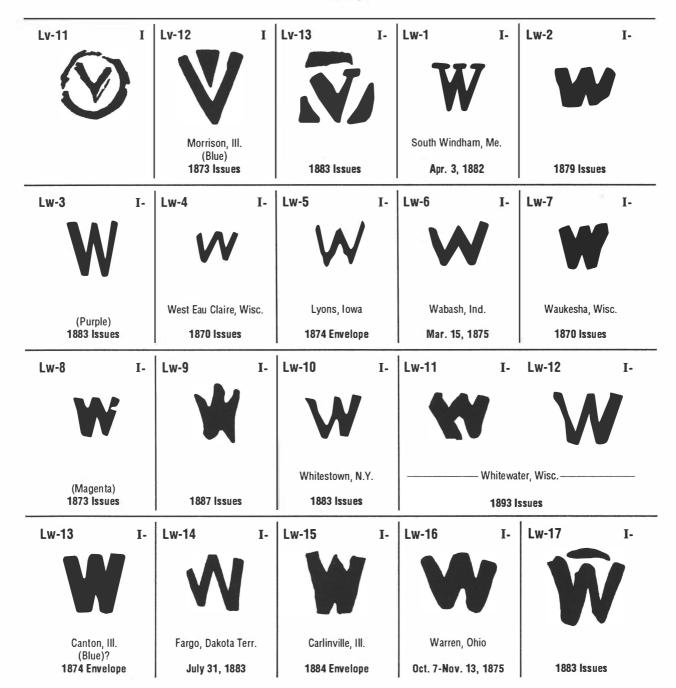
The cancel applied in 1887 on this circular rate cover from Joliet to Atlanta, III. is either a reversed "S" or a pothook in a circle.

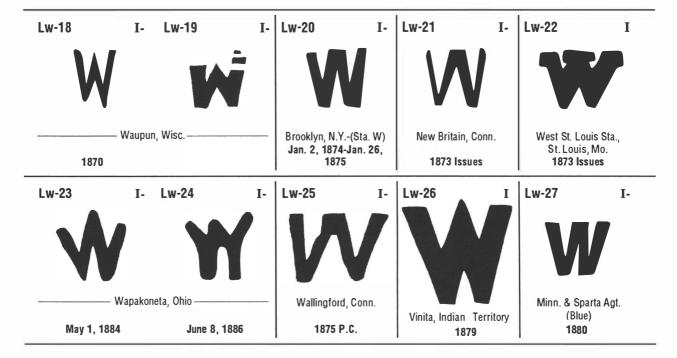


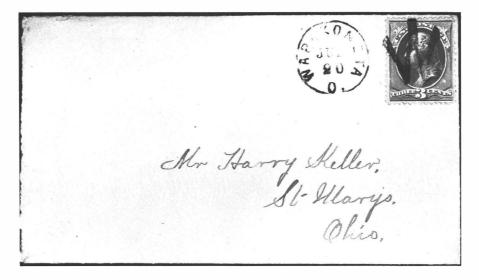




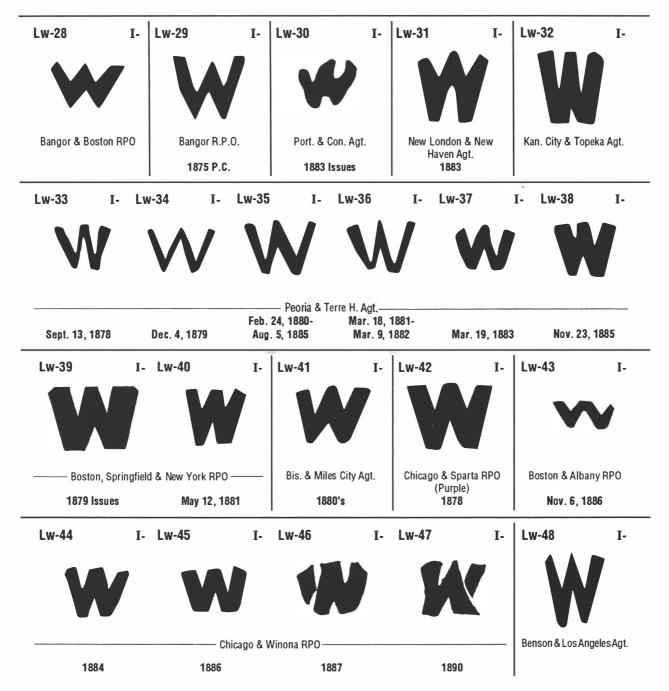


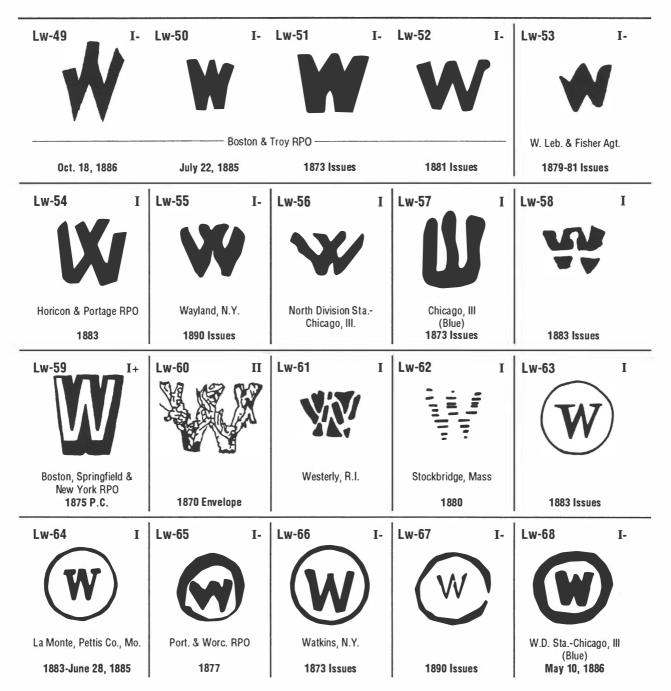


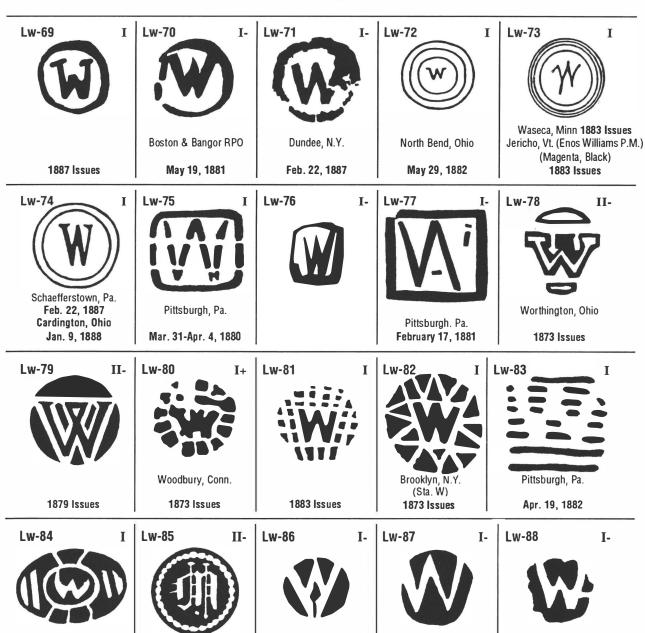




The "W" of Wapakoneta, Ohio exists in several similar types, this being on the reengraved 3¢ green of 1881. As with most such cancels, wear and frequent replacement with similar but not identical carved "corks" caused a proliferation of minor varieties.







Waupaca, Wisc.

1881

Waukesha, Wisc.

1886

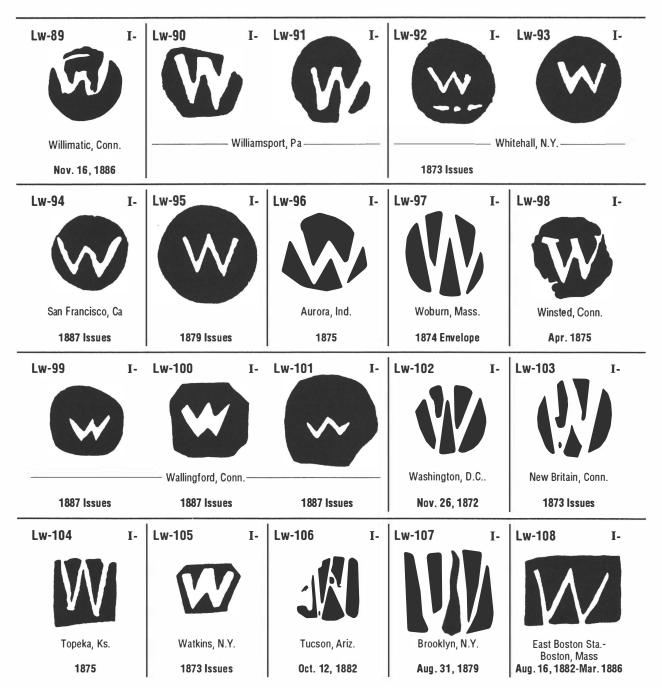
Wenona, III.

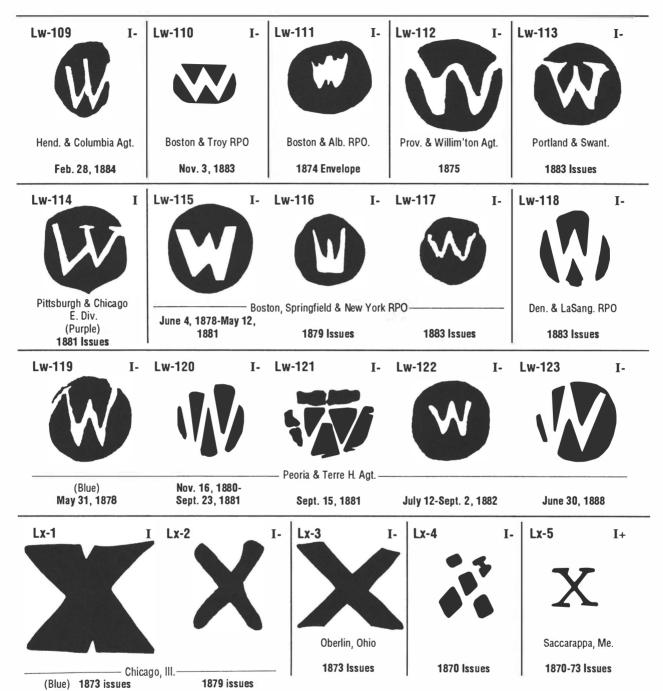
1886 Envelope

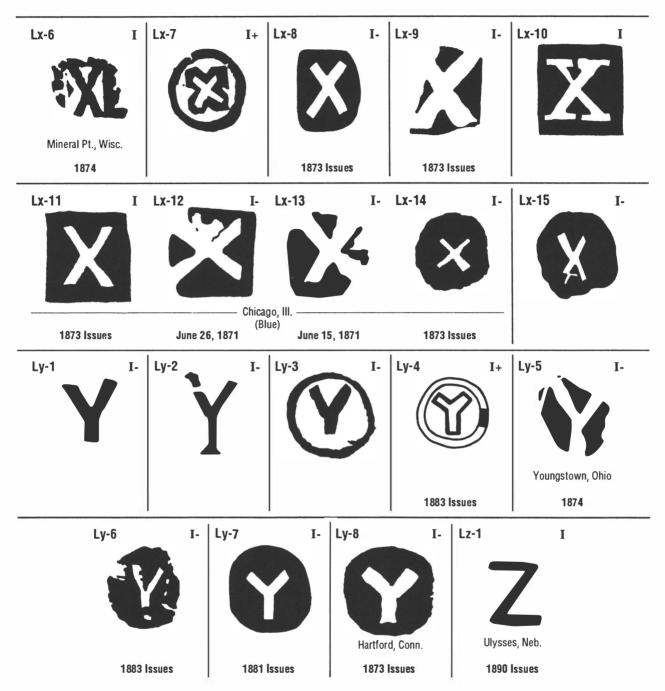
Worcester, Mass.

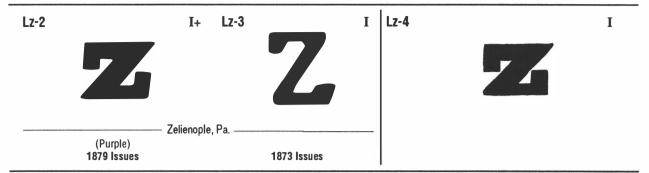
1879 Issues

1879 Issues







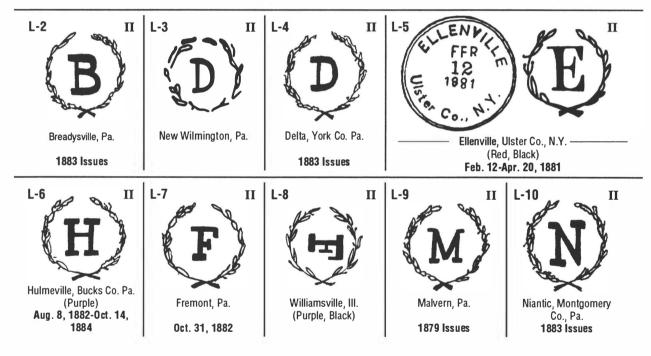


During this period several towns, primarily in Pennsylvania, used cancels consisting of a single letter, usually the first letter of the name of the town, in a finely detailed wreath. It is unlikely that these came from more than one source, though who supplied them is unknown.



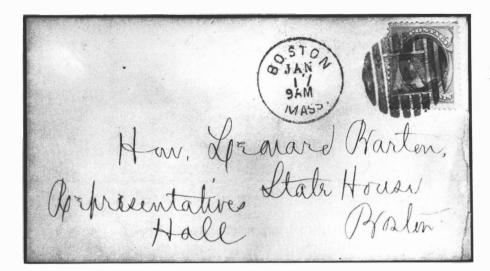
Ashley, Pa.

1883 Issues

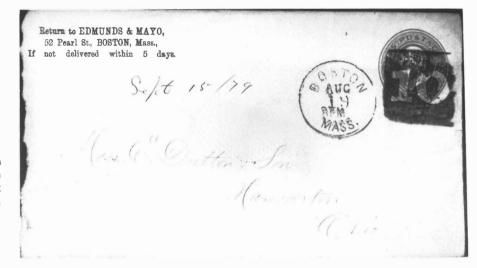




The Quinton, N.J. wreathed "Q" In magenta, used Feb. 10, 1879 on a pair of 3¢ Continental Banknote stamps. (L-11)



Boston, Mass. negative "A" cancel, BOS-14, on a cover with a 2¢ vermillion Jackson Banknote stamp.



Boston negative "10" in a square on a 3¢ green embossed government stamped envelope, sent in August 1879.

(BOS-32A)

As will be seen on pages 296-7, similar negative letter and numeral cancels were used in large post offices in New England during the same period as were the Boston negatives. While some call these imitations of the Boston markings, it is probable that most of them were first produced about the same time.



A Portland, Maine negative "8" cancel, very similar but not identical to some of the Boston negative types.

(BOR-15)

Jan. 10, 1880-

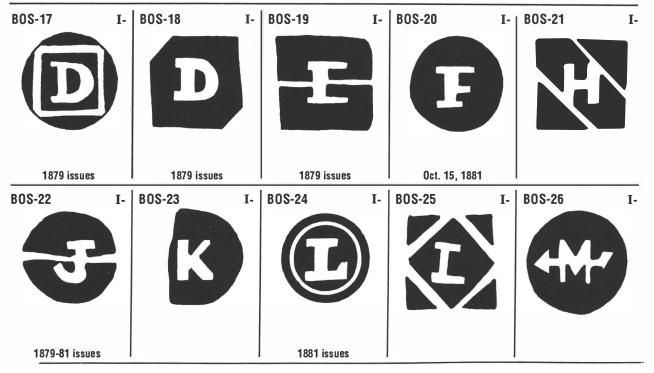
Mar. 22, 1882

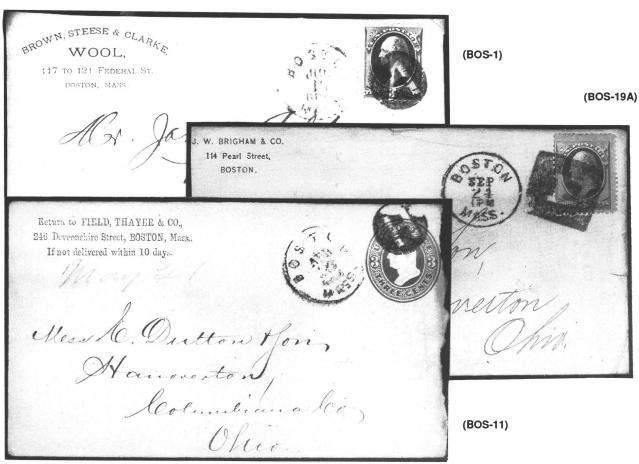
BOS-1 I-The main post office in Boston, Mass. used a series of negative letters and numbers in various geometric designs to cancel mail during the period 1875-1883 . The earlier period (1875-78) saw the use of smaller cancels using letters A-H and O. Some time during 1878, the larger cancels came into use and included both numbers and letters. The different numbers and letters were used to identify the various clerks. (These should not be confused with the markings of stations designated by letters.) 1875 issues **BOS-2 BOS-3 BOS-4 BOS-5 BOS-6** I-I-I-I- | I-1873 issues Nov. 26, 1877 1873 issues Nov. 6, 1877 Nov. 16, 1877 **BOS-11 BOS-7 BOS-8** I-**BOS-9 BOS-10** I-1873 issues Aug. 14, 1877 1873 issues **BOS-12** I-**BOS-13 BOS-14 BOS-15** I-I- | I-I-**BOS-16**

1879 issues

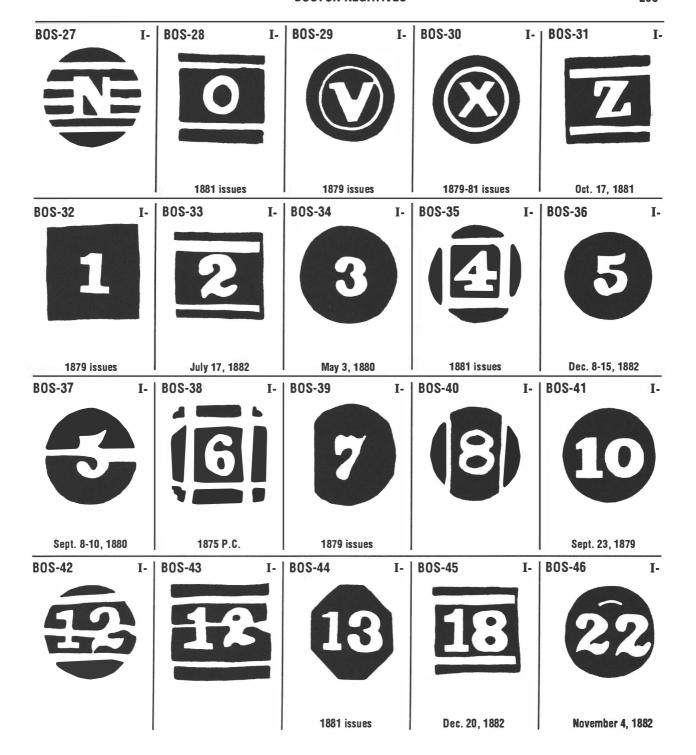
Sept. 28, 1880

1873 issues





Three of the Boston negative letter cancels. Top (A) and bottom (H) are of the small letter series, but the center cover shows the series with square backgrounds.



AUG. 4, 1880

BOSTON RELATED NEGATIVES

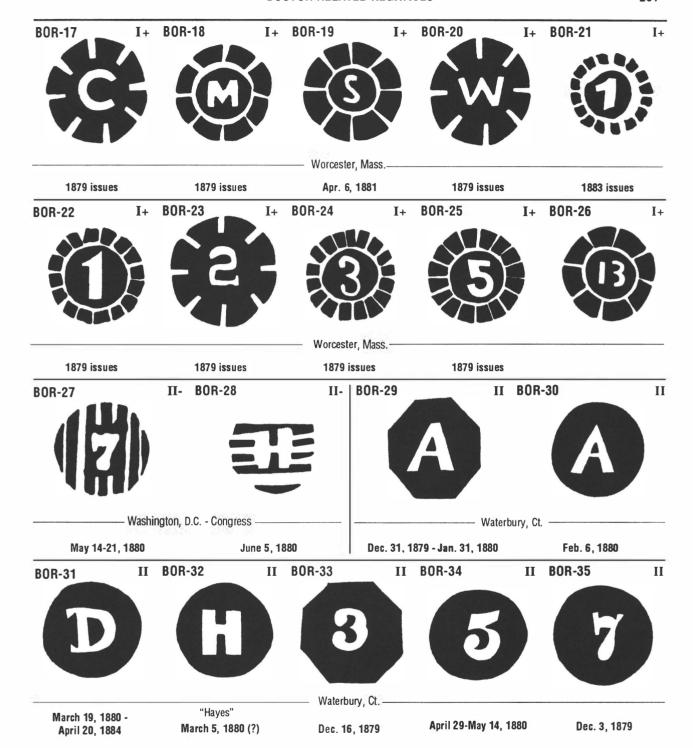
BOR-1 I- BOR-2 I- BOR-3 I-Several other cities used cancels similar to those used in Boston, Mass., during this period. Andover, Mass. 1887 Envelope 1879 issues BOR-4 I- BOR-5 I BOR-6 BOR-7 I- BOR-8 I-I-Andover, Mass. -Feb. 6, 1879 Apr. 10, 1879 1883 issues Nov. 5, 1884 BOR-9 I- BOR-10 I- BOR-11 I- BOR-12 I-Andover, Mass. Apr. 30, 1885 1883 issues 1883 issues **BOR-13** I- BOR-14 I- BOR-15 I- BOR-16 I-

Portland, Me.

1881 issues

1883 issues

1875 P.C.



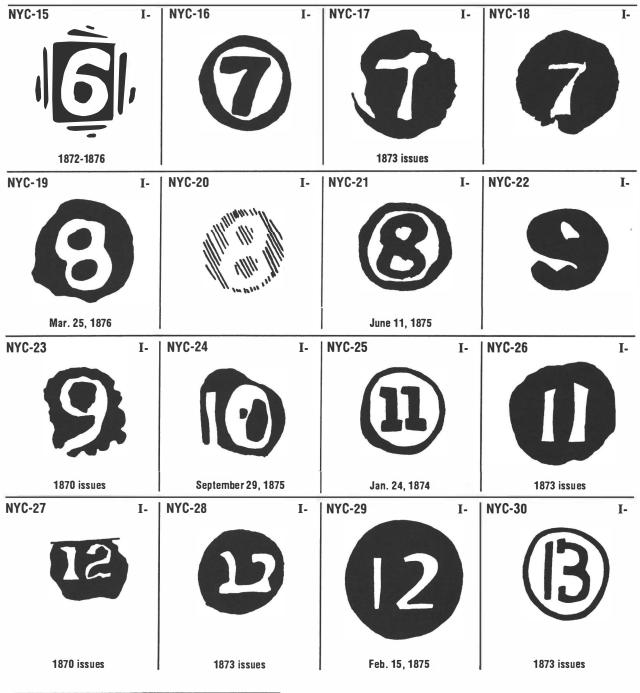
1873 issues

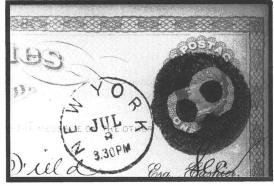
NYC-1 T-NYC-2 I-By 1870, the main post office of New York City was already using a variety of numeral cancellations on domestic mail, intended for points outside the city. The numbers, 1-15 represented the various clerks employed at the time. These cancels were hand carved and wore out quickly. Thus, a variety of types for each number can be found. 1873-79 issues Aug. 21-Nov. 2, 1874 NYC-3 I-NYC-4 I-NYC-5 I-NYC-6 I-July 23, 1873 Mid 1870's Feb. 5,1874 Dec. 22, 1875 NYC-8 NYC-7 I-NYC-9 I NYC-10 I-I-1873 issues Jan. 23, 1876 1870 issues Oct. 22,1874 NYC-11 NYC-12 NYC-13 I-I-I-NYC-14 I-

Aug. 5, 1875

Apr. 28, 1873

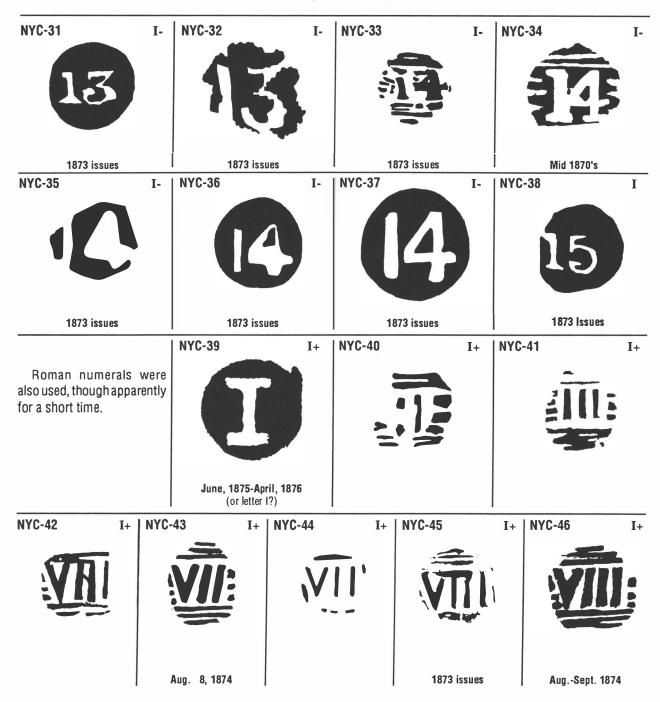
Mar. 25 - Apr. 16, 1875





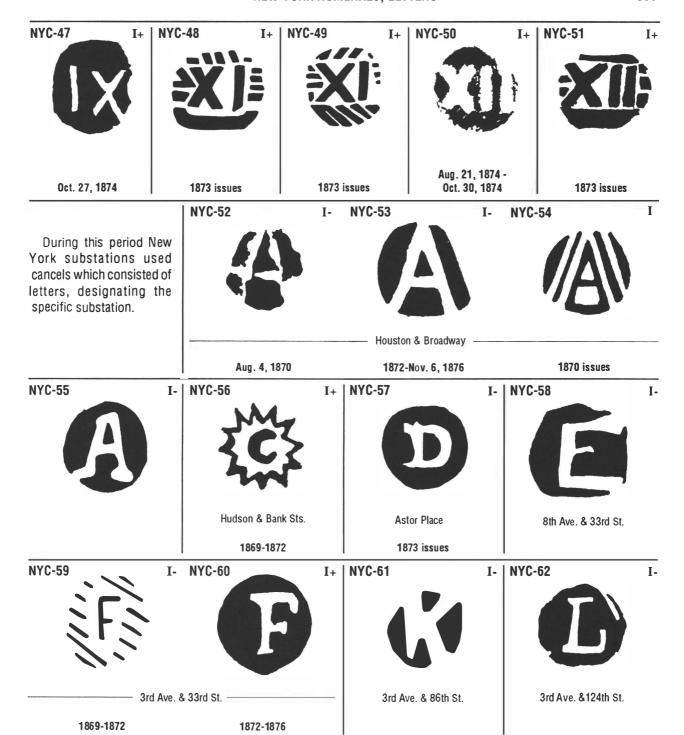
A New York negative "8," used on July 8, 1875. This was probably a cancel with the same handstamp that produced NYC-19, on this page, on March 25, 1876, almost nine months later. The handstamp had apparently crumbled on its edges from use in the meantime.

(NYC-19A) (II-)

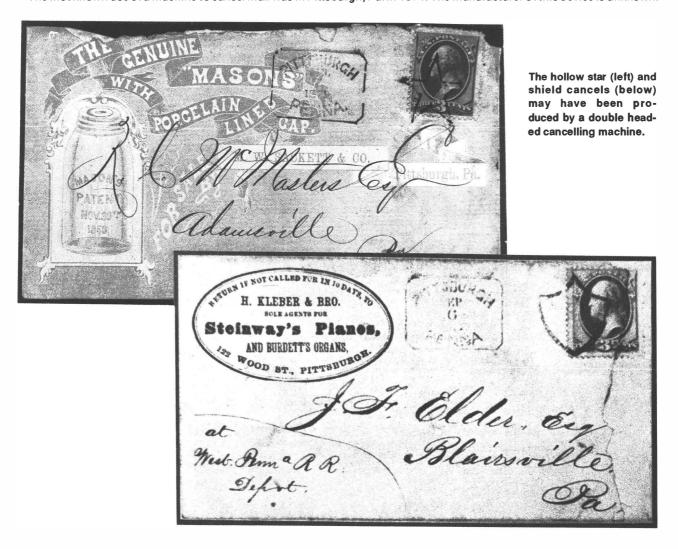




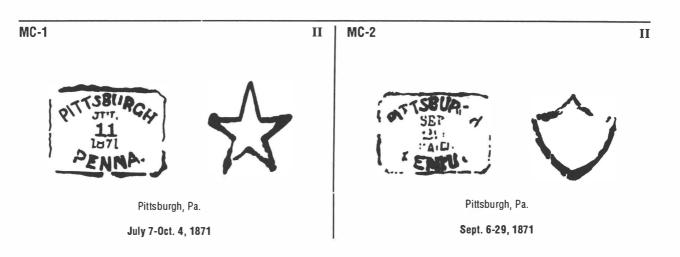
The New York negative "14" used to cancel a 3¢ Continental Banknote stamp. The stamp has been photographically faded to show the cancel.

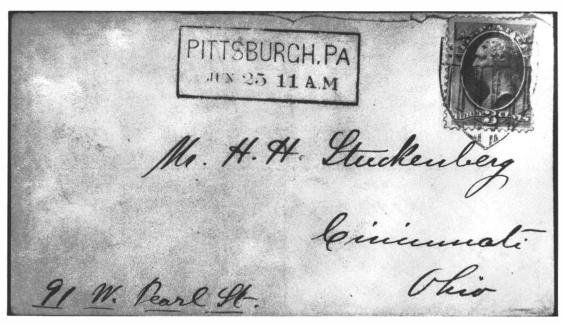


The first known use of a machine to cancel mail was in Pittsburgh, Pa. in 1871. The manufacturer of this device is unknown.

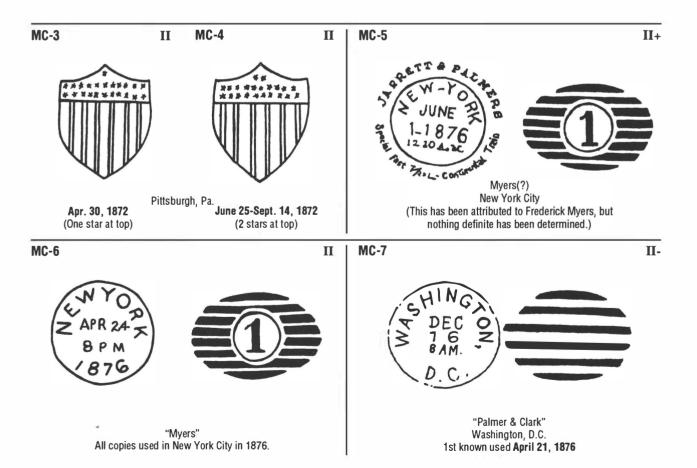


For many years, this cancel was identified as having been made by a cancelling machine made under patents obtained later by Goff and Hursy, but recent research that located the patent has disproved that idea. The MC-1 and MC-2 killers may have been produced by a multi-headed machine, but the MC-3 marking on the opposite page is probably from a different cancelling die.





While only a few examples of either MC-1 or MC-2 are known, about 70 covers with MC-3 have been recorded. It is a very attractive marking, and demand, however, is high. The other markings shown here are both rare and in demand.



Leavitt Cancelling Machines were first used in Boston, Mass. in 1876 and later in a number of different cities. Because they did not adjust well to the varying thicknesses of letters, their use was restricted primarily to Postal Cards.



MC-9

BOSTON

MASS

APR. 18.77

3 P.M.

"Leavitt" Boston, Mass.

Feb. 9, 1876 - Apr. 11, 1878



BOSTON MASS. JAN. 7.76

> "Leavitt" Boston, Mass.

Jan. 6 - June 8, 1876

MC-11

II



"Leavitt" Chicago, III.

June 10 - Aug. 27, 1877

II- | MC-12



II-

"Leavitt" Boston, Mass.

Apr. 7, 1878 - Aug. 14, 1880

MC-13



- MC-14



П-

San Francisco, Ca. (C,D,)
Hartford, Conn. (C,D)
Atlanta, Ga. (C)
Indianapolis, Ind. (C,D)
Louisville, Ky. (D)
New Orleans, La. (C)
Baltimore, Md. (D)
Boston, Mass. (C,D)
Detroit, Mich. (D)

Kansas City, Mo. (C,D) St. Louis, Mo. (D) Newark, N.J. (C) Albany, N.Y. (C,D) Brooklyn, N.Y. (D) Buffalo, N.Y. (C.D.) Rochester, N.Y.(C) Cincinnati, Ohio (D) Cleveland, Ohio (C) Dayton, Ohio (C,D) Toledo, Ohio (D)
Philadelphia, Pa. (D)
Pittsburgh, Pa. (C)
Providence, R.I. (D)
Nashville, Tn. (D)
Richmond, Va. (C)
Washington, D.C. (C,D)

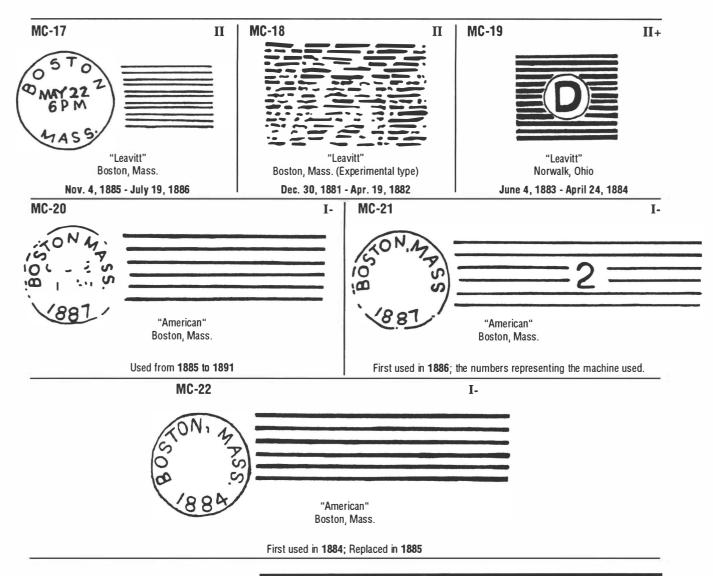
"Leavitt"



"Leavitt" (Experimental) New York City Oct. 14-19, 1881 MC-16



"Leavitt" (Experimental) Boston, Mass. Nov. 1-3, 1882 II



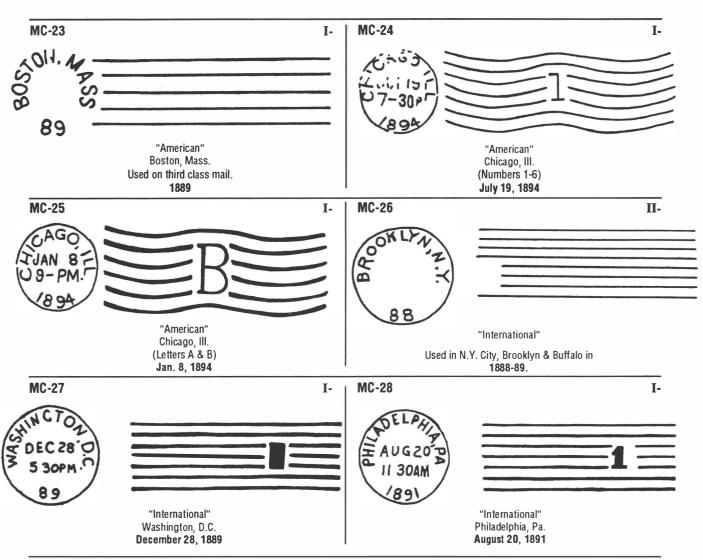
At right: A Leavitt experimental type, used in the inventor's attempts to induce his machine to work well on envelopes of varying size and thicknesses. Leavitt machines were mostly used only to cancel postal cards.

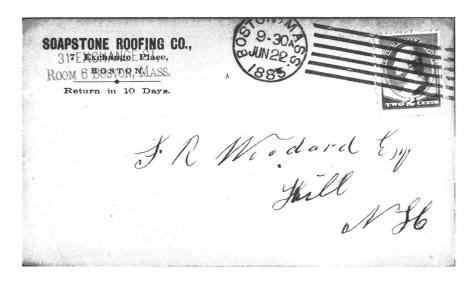


MOTHER BY THE ARBEITS LEAR BE PLANED THE SIDE.

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At left: the rare Norwalk, Ohio Leavitt cancel with a square killer bar section rather than the standard ellipse. This machine was probably moved to Norwalk after being used (infrequently) at Cleveland, where it applied the normal MC-13 cancel shown on the opposite page.





One of the many variations of the Boston American Postal Machine early rapid cancelling machine markings of the 1880s. More of these are shown on the previous page.

(MC-20A)

I-

I-

I-

These were used primarily on 3rd & 4th class mail & are found on the later issues. They usually doubled as both a cancel & town marking.



I- VL-2



New York City

I-

1883-87 issues

1881-83 issues

VL-3



I- VL-4



VL-5



(Probably used on foreign mail.) 1879-87 issues

New York City – (Main Post Office) Nov. 16, 1887

(Circular Room) 1879-87 issues

VL-6



I- VL-7



I- VL-8



(Foreign Division)
1879 issues

New York City –
 (Registered Mail)
 1879 issues

(Registry Division)

Jan. 6, 1886 Feb. 26, 1889

VL-9



Industry Building - New York City

VL-10

I



Rochester, N.Y.

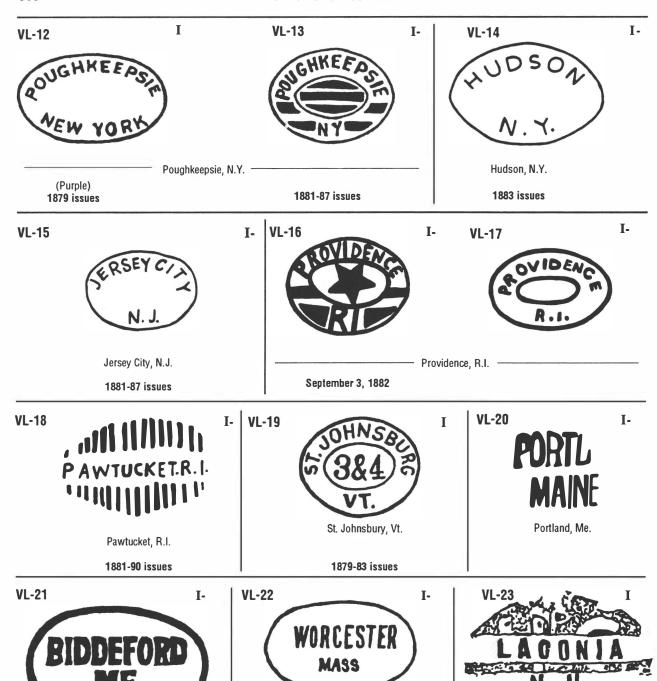
| VL-11

I-



Buffalo, N.Y.

1887 issues

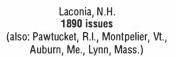


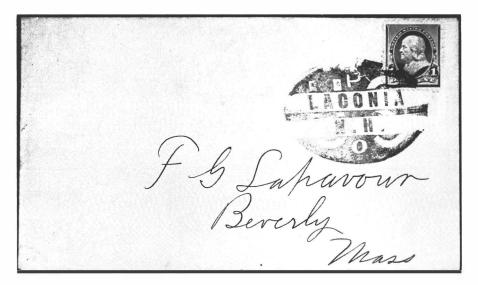
Worcester, Mass.

1883 issues

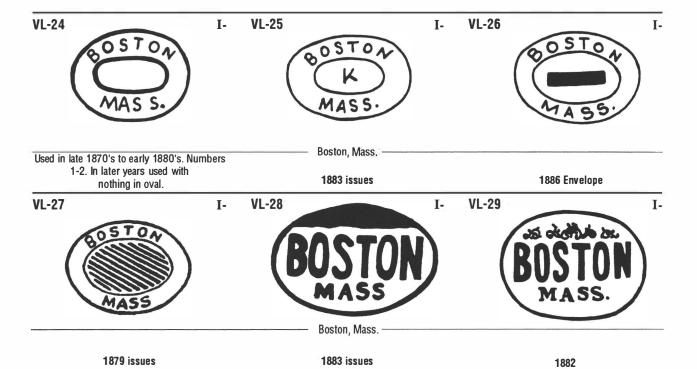
Biddeford, Me.

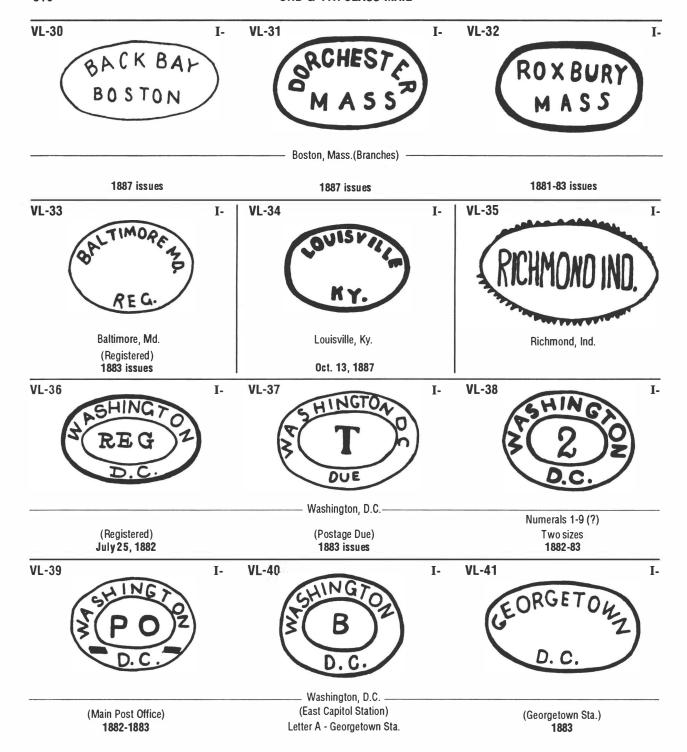
1887 issues





The Laconia, N.H. and other similar (VL-23, page 308) handstamps were probably made from P.O. Department postmens' belt buckles by machining a slot and affixing the town name and state in place.



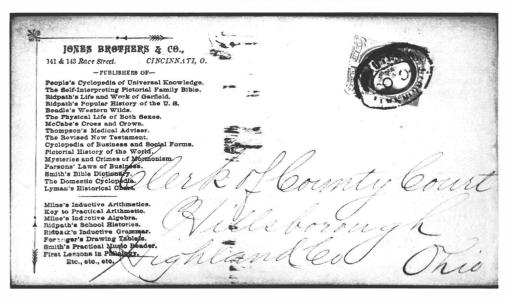


(Registry Div.)
1882 issues

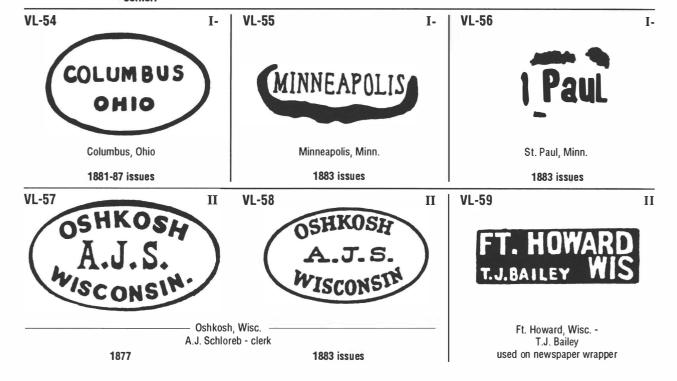
VL-42 VL-44 I-I-**VL-43** I-Philadelphia, Pa. (Circular Division)
1887 issues (Registry Division) (# 1-2 ?) 1881-83 issues Late 1879-Mar. 5,1881 **VL-46 VL-45** I-I-**VL-47** I-Erie, Pa. Pittsburgh, Pa. (Dark Blue) **1887** issues 1881-83 issues 1887 issues **VL-50 VL-49** I-I-**VL-48** I-Reading, Pa. St. Louis, Mo. Milwaukee, Wisc. 1881 issues 1887 issues **VL-51** I-**VL-52** I-**VL-53** I-Cincinnati, Ohio

1883 issues

(Circular Office) used late 1870's to early 1880's.



The double oval style of marking, usually without a date, was developed for use on other than first class mail, and the style existed for many years. This Cincinnati handstamp, VL-51, indicates its usage with the letters "C.O. (Circular Office)" in the center.



I-

VL-60

EVELAND

I- VL-61



I- VL-62



Cleveland, Ohio

(2 sets, Numerals # 1-6)

(Registered)

1883-87 issues

1883 issues

VL-63



I- VL-64



I- VL-65



Chicago, III.

1887 issues



VL-67



I- |



Aberdeen, S. Dak.

1883 issues

I-

VL-69



Tacoma, Wash.

VL-70

Chicago, III.

I-



1879 issues

New Orleans, La.

1883 issues

VL-71

I-



San Francisco, Ca.

1883 issues

An oval Portland, Me. negative cancel on a circular rate cover from a bookseller and stationer to New Gloucester, Maine. Without date, but the stamp is the Continental Banknote issue of 1873. (VL-72) (I+)



John Goldsborough of Philadelphia evidently introduced the ellipse style barred cancel in the United States about 1875. Similar cancels had been used in England, where they are called "barred ovals" since the 1840s, so the idea was not new. Goldsborough's earliest advertisements in the U.S. Postal Guides were for money order business handstamps, appearing as early as the quarterly issue for April 1875. Goldsborough later advertised that he held the contract for the steel government handstamps in the late 1870s-1880s.

The actual devices were probably made on a sub-contract basis by Benjamin Chambers of Lodge, Virginia and his family. Chambers was awarded the contract to furnish handstamps to the Post Office Department as of July 1, 1886, so the ellipse cancel devices were furnished direct from Chambers after that date if not before. By then, Goldsborough had evidently sold his business to Eagle Stamp Manufacturing Co. of Philadelphia, as stated in an advertisement of Eagle in the January 1886 U.S. Postal Guide.

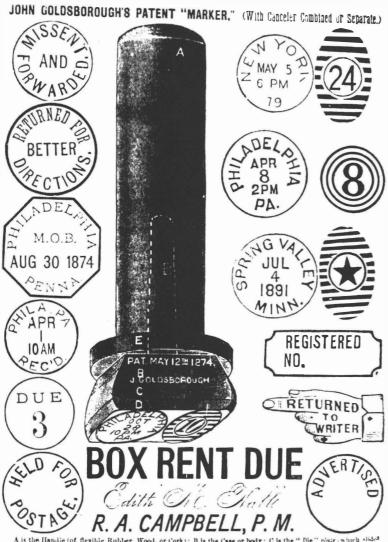


POSTMASTERS AND OTHERS.

Send 3-cent stamp for Circulars and information of STAMPS OF ALL KINDS. FOR BANKS, RAILROADS, etc., and Postmasters' Complete Set.

J. GOLDSBOROUGH, 919 Market Street, Philadelphia. (OPPOSITE NEW POST OFFICE.)

This ad (in the then quarterly U.S. Postal Guide of April 1879) may be one of Goldsborough's first attempts to sell his elliptical cancel duplexes direct to postmasters not entitled to have them furnished by the Department. His address was then 919 Market Street, Philadelphia.



The Goldsborough ad at left, one of two ads he ran in the January 1883 U.S. Postal Guide, shows his patented handstamp with a wide variety of markings being offered for sale directly to postmasters. The Spring Valley, Minn. duplex with a highly anticipatory date of July 4, 1891 (eight years in the future!) is apparently either a record of a handstamp sold to a small postmaster or imaginative advertising. Apparently, the patent number shown on the handstamp of May 12, 1874 is also imaginative advertising, as the only patent found issued to Goldsborough on that date shows a bench type ribbon dater with no resemblance to the handstamp in the ad.

of "Hard Brass" Postmasters choice of any in (10) metal stamps, \$8.000 included.

and thateler, date for 12 years, the and Pad, and Name stamp. \$8.000 included

and thateler, dates for 12 years, the and Pad, and Name stamp. Metal hours. \$2.000 included.

DROHGH 200. Chartelers of Rubber, Ribbon, and San Stamps, etc.

DROHGH 200. Chartelers of Rubber, Ribbon, and San Stamps, etc. Die ": and E is a felt cloth ring on base of handle. also of "Hard Brass" Postmasters' choice of any

JOHN GOLDSBOROUGH, 720 Chestnut Street, Philadelphia, Pa.

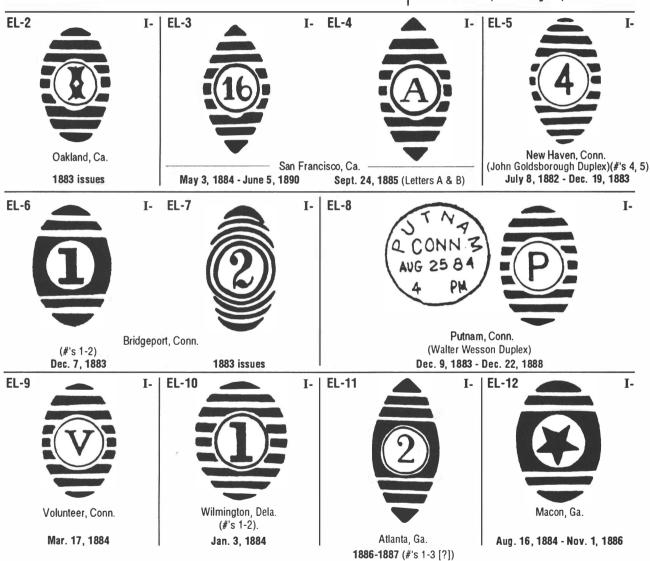
These cancels were part of a duplex device, which consisted of a circular date stamp including the town name, and the killer, in an elliptical shape. They were first used in New York about 1875, and became the most commonly used commercial cancel of this period. Most of these were government issued; i.e., manufactured and furnished under P.O.D. contracts and while the earlier versions differ, they later had great uniformity from one city to another.

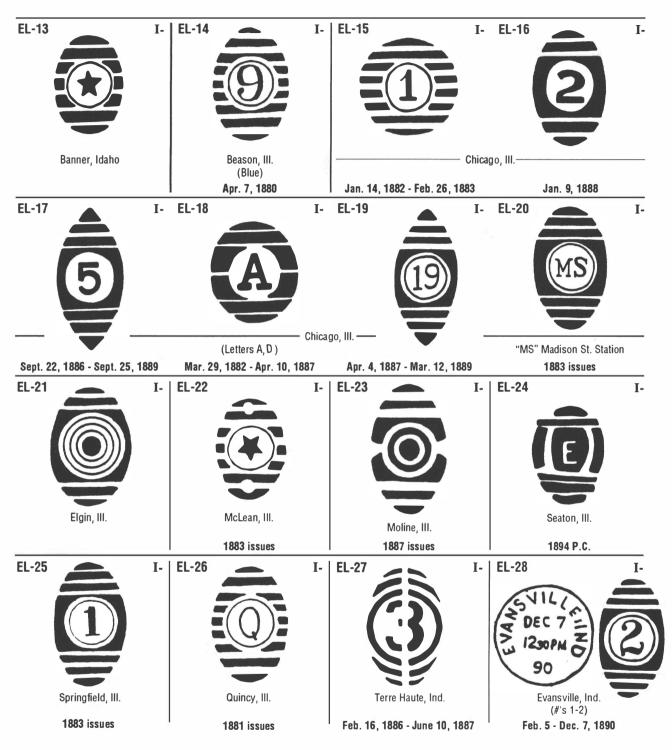


I-

Ft. Apache, Az. Territory

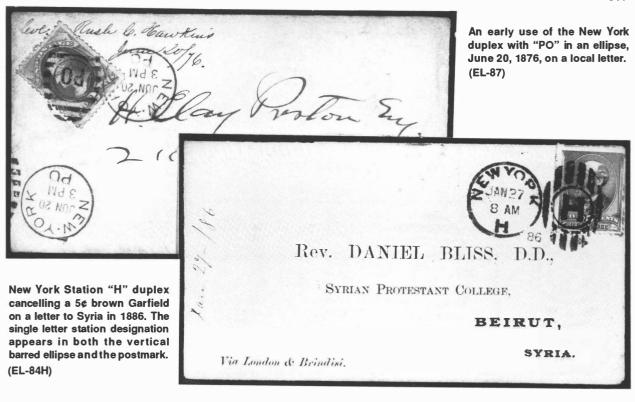
Nov. 7, 1887 - Aug. 25, 1889





TTED STAT

POSTAL

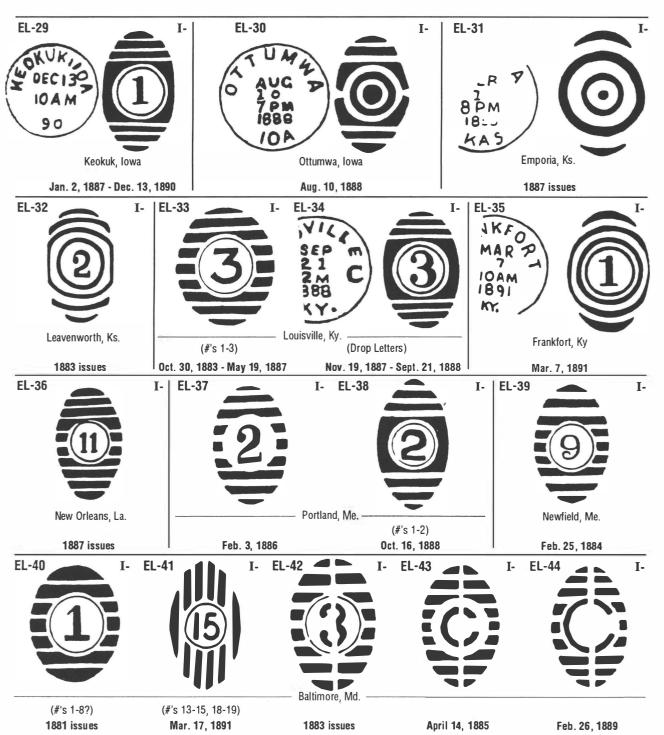


Cincinnati used a series of elliptical killers with a "C" enclosing a number, probably main office clerk individual or window positions' identifications. (EL-101)



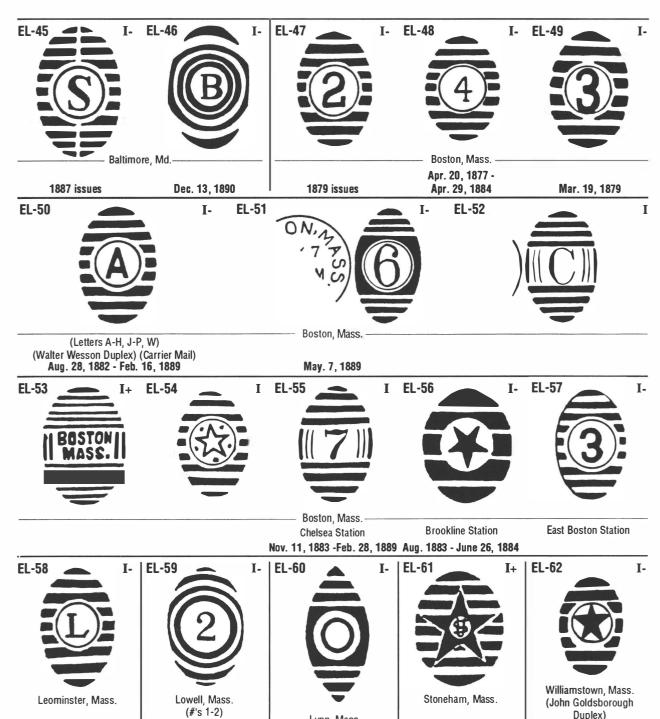
At left: The "MS" (EL-20) in both postmark and ellipse of this Chicago cancel of December 1884 means "Madison Street" station. Thus, a loose stamp with only the "MS" might be difficult to identify as to origin when not accompanied by the postmark.

Akron, Ohio and many other towns used this mute ellipse with concentric circles style, as per EL-72, 108,141-2 and 145.



Duplex)

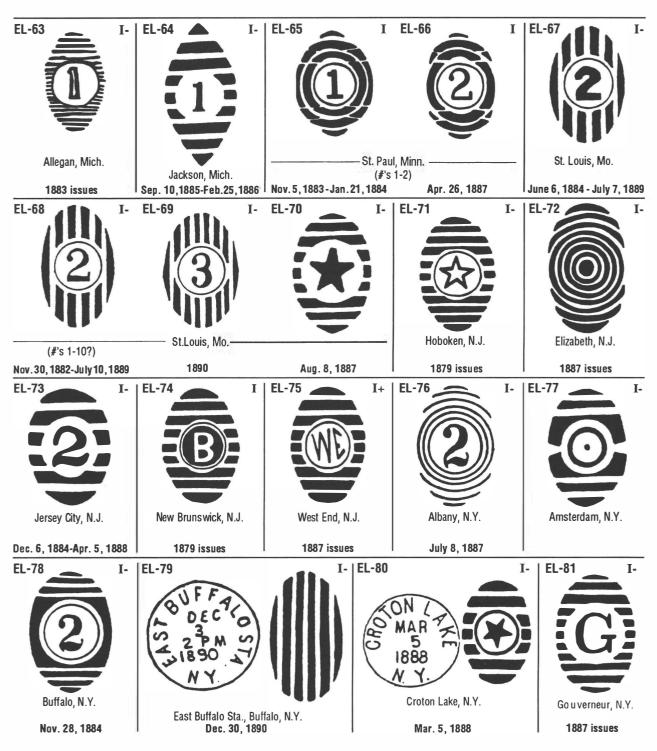
1886-1893

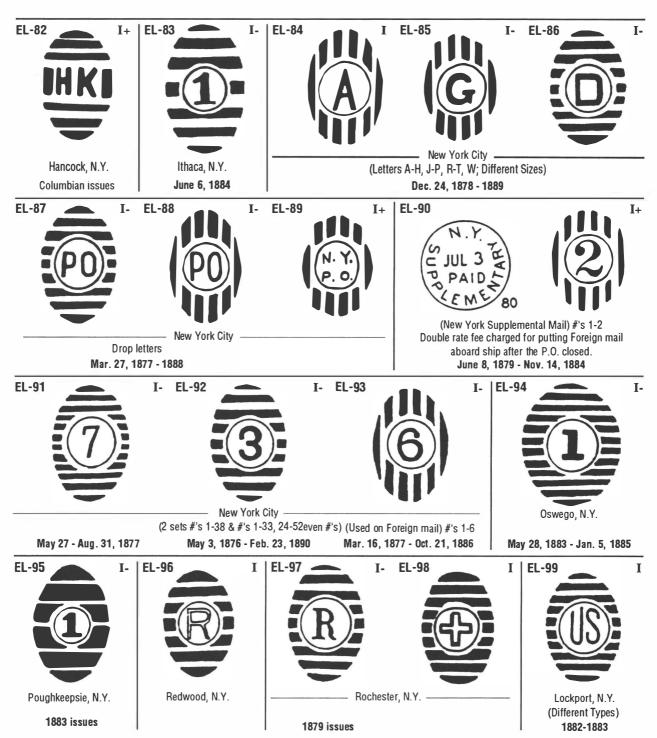


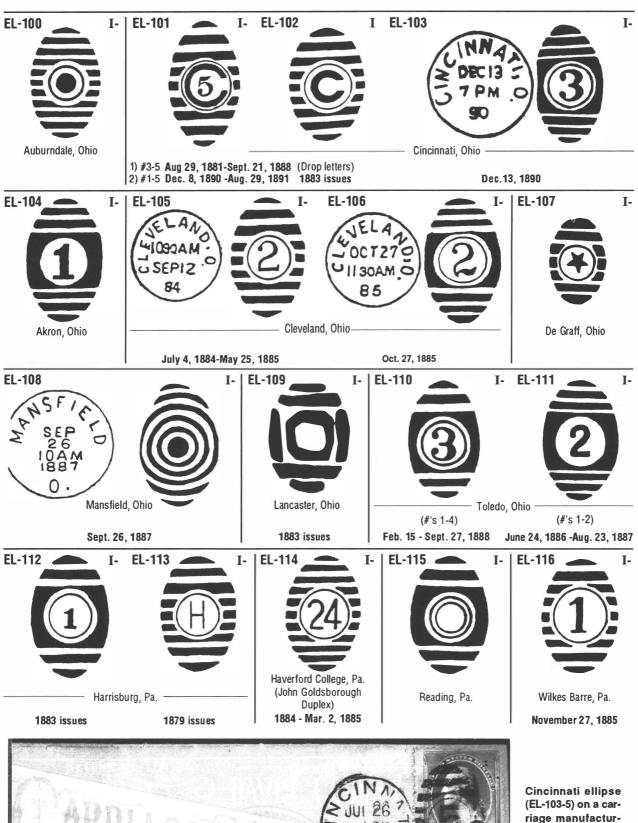
Lynn, Mass.

Mar. 6, 1888

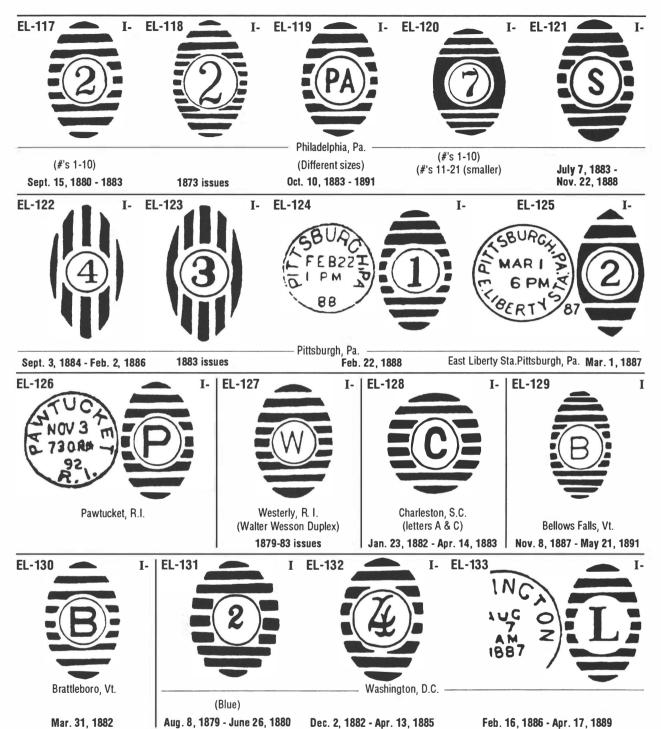
Feb. 27, 188?

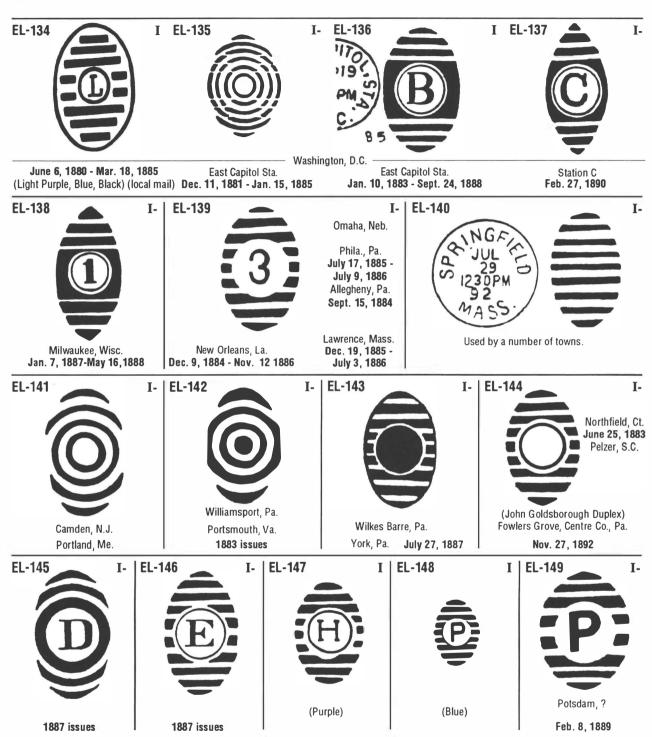


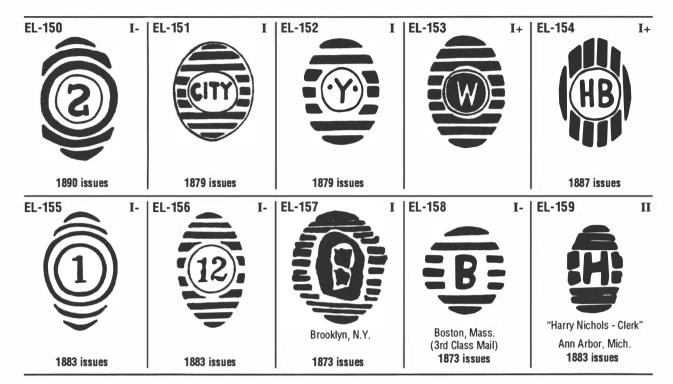


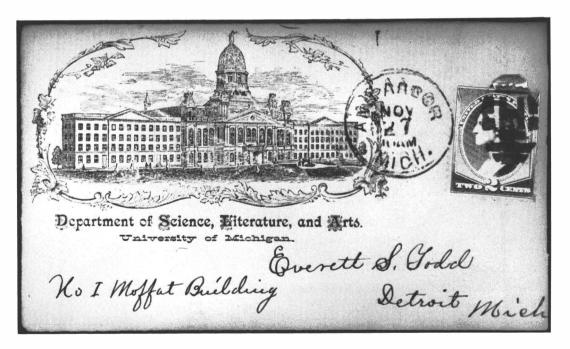


er's overall pink lithographed cover.

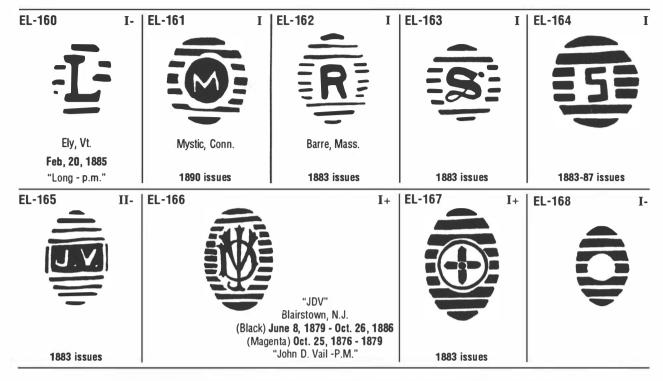








Harry Nichols, of the Ann Arbor, Michigan post office, provided a continuing assortment of cancels with versions of his initials. Also see pages 11 and 211 for other cancels with Nichols' initials.





The elaborate monogram of Blairstown, N.J. postmaster John D. Vail, based upon a barred style ellipse, was in use for over ten years.

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Western Express, Western Cover Society

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U.S. Postal Guides, 1874-1895 United States Registers, 1869-18??

ALABAMA:	Greeley
Athens	Irwin
Dothen 247	Pueblo
Eufala 252	Rifle
Mobile 68	Salida 57
Montgomery 267	Tin Cup 85
Pleasant Hill	Trout Lake
Union Springs 229	Vicksburg 152
ARIZONA:	CONNECTICUT:
Apache Pass 87, 89	Andover 57
Ft. Apache	Ansonia
Gila Bend 152	Bridgeport 66, 77, 99, 159, 199, 210, 315
Holbrook 57	Bristol 110, 133
Mineral Park 57	Clintonville 57
Ochoaville 171	Cornwall Bridge 141, 166, 170, 225
Tucson 45, 288	Danbury 147, 240
Wilcox 226	Derby 62, 233
Winslow 105-6, 150	Derry
Zenos 235	East Windsor Hills
ARKANSAS:	Enfield135
Ft. Smith	Gildersleeve's Landing92
Lewisburg 254	Glastonbury199
Pine Bluff 222, 265	Guilford 156
Poplar Grove 172	Haddam84
Prairie View 57	Hamburgh57
CALIFORNIA:	Hartford
Angels Camp	153, 164, 258, 290, 304
Centreville 57	Hebron
Dixon 156	Higganum 230, 231
Donner 91	Jewett City107
Forbestown	Kent
Gilroy 57	Mansfield Center
Goleta	Meriden
Happy Camp	Middletown 67
Keeny 57	Mystic 246, 264, 266-7, 326
Lakeport	Mystic Bridge
Los Angeles	Naugatuck 52, 74, 136, 146, 153, 222
Marshall 57	New Britain
Montgomery	New Haven
Nelson	New London
Oakland 93, 315	Northfield
Pine Grove	Northford 156
Plymouth	Norwalk
Sacramento	Norwich
San Diego. 92	Pine Meadow
San Francisco24, 28, 65, 74, 85,113, 191, 193,	
200, 216, 265-6, 288, 304, 313, 315	Plymouth
San Leandro	Portland
San Rafael 145	215, 231, 233, 315
Santa Cruz	Salem 277
Stockton	Southford
Susanville 154	
Tipton	Southington
Turlock	South Norwalk
Vallejo. 196	Stepney Depot
West Berkeley	Terrysville
Wildomar 57	Tolland
Yreka 164	Voluntown
COLORADO:	Wallingford 94, 195, 284, 288
	Washington
Alpine 57 Arkansas 57	Waterbury ix. 24, 28-9, 45-8, 50, 64, 67-73
Breckenridge	75-9, 98, 116, 125, 128, 138, 146, 150, 152
	157,159, 188, 192, 211, 214, 255, 297
Buena Vista	West Killingly 106
Colorado Springs	West Meriden 44, 279
Denver	Willimantic 288
Ft. Lyon	Winstead 233, 288
1 to Dyull 5/	Woodbury 287

Macon159, 224, 262, 315
Noonan
Ringgold
IDAHO: Aetna
Albion 80, 114
Atlantic95
Banner316
Bellevue226
Blackfoot57
Rocky Bar57
St. Charles57
ILLINOIS:
Albion
Aledo57
Alton72, 168
Altona85
Anna240
Annawan 57
Arocola x
Arlington
Armstrong57
Ashmore
Assumption54, 103, 115
Aurora
Bath 57, 86, 105
Beason316
Beecher57
Belle Rive57
Belleville 124
Belvidere27
Bement121, 243
Big Foot Prairie119
Blackberry Station57, 219
Bloomington
Blue Mound235, 244
Bluff Springs57
Braceville57
Braidwood82
Brimfield54, 57
Broadwell65
Bunkerhill
Butler57
Byron83
Cairo
Caledonia30
Canton
Carlinville
Carthage245
Cazenovia84
Center Ridge135
Champaign
Chapin113
Charleston152
Chatsworth
Chebanse 103
Chicago 19-20, 29, 31-5, 45-6, 64,
69, 86, 90-2, 96-9, 101, 104, 112,
116, 119-22,128-9, 135, 141, 145-6,
150, 155, 167, 185-6, 188, 198-201
204, 212, 220, 239, 243, 247, 249,
253-4,257, 260, 262, 265-6, 268, 273, 275-6
253-4,257. 260. 262. 265-6. 268. 273. 275-6. 281-2. 286. 289-90. 304. 306. 313. 316. 317

ILLINOIS: Chicago (Continued)	Harmon256
Madison St. Station316	Harrisburgh
North Division Station259, 269, 286	Hebron 57
Northwest Station49, 273	Highland82
West Division286	Hillsboro57
Southwest Station49	Hinesborough90, 102
Chrisman115	Hoopeston168
Clay City92	Hope
Cleveland226	Hume
Clifton57	Hyde Park
Cobden82	Jacksonville53, 87, 104-5
Colehour	140, 255, 262, 278
Council Hill Sta	Jerseyville
Courtland57	Kaneville
Cragin	Kankakee
Dallas City	Kickapoo57
Davis	Kirkland84
Dayton 87	Knoxville
Decatur	Kramm
DeKalb	La Grange 103
Delavan	La Harpe113
Dixon 57, 170	Lanark21
Douglas225	Lanesville57
Dustin92	Leland 57
Dwight229, 260	Lexington
Edwardsville85	Libertyville44
Elgin	Lincoln
Elkhart57	Little Indian106
Elliott	McLean57, 316
Ellisville210	Mackinaw150
Elmhurst 10	Mahomet
Elmwood	Marseilles
El Paso	Meredosia
Englewood	Meriden
Essex	Metcalf
Evanston	Milan57
Fairfield 106	Millersburg105
Fairview	Minier
Farmington	Minonk160
Flanagan184	Moline225, 316
Franklin Grove54	Monmouth259
Franklin Station	Monticello56, 171
Freedom	Morris26, 52, 160, 168
Freeport 122, 159, 236, 249, 259, 267, 281	Morrison
Fulton245	Mt. Morris
Galena65, 273	Mt. Pulaski21, 28
Galesburgh57, 198, 237, 255-6, 271	Murphyboro185
Gallup 107	Nameoki
Galton	Naperville
Galva80	Nauvoo
Geneseo	Neoga 91 Neponset 95
Geneva	New Berlin84
Gibson City249	New Windsor 51
Girard	Normal
Golden	Northville
Goodenow	Nunda
Goodwine	Oconee
Greenville 274	Odell
Greenwood	Olney86
Gridley	Onarga
Hamburg48	Opheim107
Hardin 90	Oquawka 42 137

LLINOIS: (Continued)	INDIAN TERRITORY: (OKLAHOMA)
Orion91	Alex57
Oswego127	Al-Lu-We87
Ottawa	Anadarko
Palentine	Atoka 87 Boggy Depot 52
Pana	Caddo
Pekin	Chelsea
Peorla	Cherokeetown94
Philo	Cod-y-yah
Plano	Coody's Bluff
Platt	Echo
Polo	Eufaula
Pontiac	Fishertown
Prairie City	Flint
Princeton	Gibson Station57
Quincy70, 167, 274, 278, 316	Kaw Agency57
Reading57	Locust Grove80
Red Oak275	McAlester 57
Riggston93	Marlow
River Forest	Oowala
Roberts92	Ponca
Rockford82, 101	Purcell57
Rock Island	Redland88
Roodhouse	Red Oak 66 Rocky Point 94
Rushville	South McAlester
Sadorus	Tahlequah
Sailor Springs57	Tecumsah
St. Jacob	Tulsa 57
Schaumburg82	Vinita
Seaton316	Wau-Hil-Lau
Secor57	White Bead106
	INDIANA:
Shawneetown 84, 276	Aurora 288
Shipman102	Bedford
Sodorus 137 Southampton 142	Brazil
South Evanston57	Carlisle
Springfield 163, 200-01, 249, 252, 256, 316	Claypool
Staunton85	Columbus
Sterling 113	Crawfordsville
Stillman Valley57, 103	Earl Park27
Stonington	Edinburgh84
Strasburg87	Evansville 45, 53, 131, 145, 244, 316
Streator	Frankton
Sumter	Gosport
Tiskilwa25	Granger
Toulon	Greencastle
Tuckee	Greenfield
Upper Alton91	Hadley
Vera	Hope
Virginia	Idaville 114. 115 Indianapolis 255, 304
Voorheis	Kent
Washington Heights82	Kentland260
Waterloo	Kilmore 80
Waynesville186	Lafayette
Wenona287	Laketon
West McHenry57	Monitor
West Point206	New Albany
Williamsville121, 291	North Manchester
Willow Springs111	Orland
Wilmette84	Packerton 173
Winnetka	Pashan 231
W/mmer 919 959	~ · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · ·

INDIANA: (Continued)	Irving59
Pierceton	Junction City191
Rei 80	Kingman59
Richmond	Lane115
St. John	Lansing59
South Bend214	Leavenworth
South Whitley57	Lenora
Spencer57	Leonardville
Terre Haute	Lyons
Vincennes84, 104	Malvern
Wabash283	Norton 262
IOWA:	Olathe
Albia	Onaga
Algona59	Oskaloosa59
Arnes	Pittsburgh
Berlin	Republic 93
Bloomfield	Salem93
Boone	Sherlock
Britt	Strong City59
Cedar Rapids42	Topeka
Center Point 83	Twins Falls59
Clarion	Vining59
Correctionville84	Waterville210
Creston	Wea59
Davenport	Whiting59
Des Moines	Winchester
Dow City	Yates Center226
Emerson	KENTUCKY:
Fayette	Bentonville135
Ft. Dodge229	Cadiz30
Galva88	Campbellsville82
Guernsey30	Carrollton276
Keokuk318	Cloverport
Lacey59	Covington118, 126, 136, 219
Logan171	Frankfort
Lyons283	Georgetown
Mt. Auburn235	Gravel Switch
Muscatine254	Hawesville59
Numa235	Helena235
Orange City89	Louisville45, 66, 97, 143, 189,
Ottumwa318	200, 240, 304, 310, 318 Matthew260
Sac City	Midway85
St. Ansgar59	Newport280
Sioux City214, 220	Owensboro
Spencer59	Paducah
Tabor59	Paris113
Tilton	Peach Orchard83
Waverly164, 212, 276	Powar's Store 82
KANSAS:	Uniontown
Burlington	Warsaw
Carbondale59	White Plains59
Cash City	Winchester
Chanute	LOUISIANA:
Cherryvale	Ashwood
Concordia	Athens73
Emporia	Bullitt's Bayou59
Ft. Leavenworth 80, 166	Dixie130
Fredonia	Donaldsonville274
Gardner	Empire
Girard 127	Jeanerette67
Halstead	New Orleans 29, 36-40, 42, 45, 49, 51, 66,
Independence164	68, 74, 77-9, 101, 106, 108, 116,
Iola	118-20, 124-5, 139, 153, 252
Ionia59	221-2, 304, 313, 318, 324

MAINE:	Boston (Continued)
Auburn	Chelsea Station
Augusta	Dorchester Station240, 248, 254, 310
Bangor 20, 63, 98, 101, 123, 140, 142-3	East Boston Sta86, 93, 114, 245, 288, 319
190, 210, 241-2, 249 Bethel143	Jamaica Plains Sta256
Biddeford	Mattapan Station
Bridgeton	Roxbury Station
Brunswick	South Boston Sta
Bucksport	Station A
Calais	West Roxbury Sta
Dexter	Campello
Dover120	Chelsea
Durham220	Chicopee Falls149
East Waterford231	Cohasset
East Waterloo231	Conway
Garland50	Danversport59
Head Tide	Dedham207
Kenduskeag 187	Dennis
Kennebunk Depot	East Braintree
Lewiston	East Brookfield
Lowell	Fall River
Monroe 59	Fayville
Mt. Desert	Gloucester x, 100, 193, 195, 199
Newfield318	Greenfield
Newport	Hatfield 110
North Lincoln130	Haverhill
Norway	Hingham Center30
Old Orchard161	Holliston
Orono	Holyoke
Portland 198, 292, 296, 308, 313, 318, 324	Hyannis44
Rockland274	Hyde Park211
Saccarappa	Indian Orchard212
South Waterford	Lancaster89
South Windham	Lawrence
Thomaston	Lee
Tilden 94	Lincoln
Turner281	Lowell
West Dresden 59	Lynn
Winterport	Marlboro
Winthrop248	Mattapoisett
MARYLAND:	Milton
Annapolis	Mittineague 129, 173, 265
Baltimore	Montville59
Frederick	Mt. Wachusett
Hillsborough30	Nantucket90
Sandy Spring29	Natick
Westminster	Needham 269 New Bedford 48, 122
MASSACHUSETTS:	Newton Centre 102
Amesbury151	Newton Highlands227
Amherst240	Newton Upper Falls
Andover	Newtonville30
Ватте21, 213, 260, 326	North Amherst221
Bedford59	North Andover130
Berkley216	North Attleboro
Boston 19, 26-9, 41-3, 49, 50, 62-5, 67,	Northampton 28-9, 62, 76, 94-5, 105,
69, 74, 77, 97, 100-1, 114, 119-20, 122,	140, 146, 154, 158, 269
127-8, 137-8, 144, 161, 166, 169, 187, 202, 244-5, 293-5, 304-6, 309, 319, 325	North Scituate
Allston Station	Peru 192 Pittsfield 257
Back Bay Station310	Plymouth
Brookline Station319	Providencetown
Cambridge Station266	Quincy

MASSACHUSETTS (Continued)	MICHIGAN	
Reading 102	Mt. Pleasant22	
Ridge Hill102	Orchard Lake	87
Salem73, 140	Orion	13
South Hanson21, 153, 251	Owosso	
South Lancaster130	Oxford	
Southwick140	Paw Paw21	14
Spencer25	Pentwater 19	
Springfield 62, 113, 152, 199, 324	Port Austin	
Stockbridge286	Riga	
Stoneham85, 133, 139, 141,	St. Clair14	
171, 180, 197, 280, 319	Shelby	59
Sudbury153	Sparta27	79
Taunton22, 142, 280-1	Sturgis21	
Topsfield59	Traverse City 193-5, 214, 25	
Turners Falls161	Woodland	59
Tyngsboro281	MINNESOTA:	
Waban53	Albert Lea	
Wakefield157	Benson	
Watertown70	Bird Island	
West Gardner	Claremont	
Westhampton104	Cooksville	
Weston	Dodge Center	
West Pelham59	Elizabethtown	59
West Stockbridge259	Elk River	
West Wareham59	Fairmont	
West Warren69	Forest Mills	
Williamstown319	Henderson 56, 59, 29	
Woburn	Jordan	
	Lake Benton	
148, 173, 220, 239, 243,	Lake Park	
269, 279, 287, 297, 308 MICHIGAN:	Le Sueur	
Adrian	Little Falls	
Albion	Luverne	
Allegan320	Meire's Grove	
Alipena	Minneapolis	
Ann Arbor28, 47, 54, 86, 104, 111, 121,	Minnetonka	
151, 162, 188, 209, 212, 325	Modella	
Ashley239	Nashville Center	50 50
Baraga	Owatonna	
Battle Creek	Plainview	
Bay City	Preston 1	
Big Rapids	Rochester	
Cadillac	Rockford	
Caseville59	St. Charles	
Clarkston 124	St. James	
Coldwater41, 210, 222	St. Paul143, 198, 280, 312, 32	
Columbiaville59	Spring Valley	
Coopersville245	Stillwater	
Detroit	Torah	
Dexter117	Waseca28	
Dowagiac153	Wykoff2	
Ferndale	MISSISSIPPI:	
Fruitport59	Columbus2	15
Grindstone City115	Тепу16	
Hart137	Vicksburg16	62
Hartwellville59	Westburgh10	
Hastings161	MISSOURI:	
Ishpeming230	Armstrong	59
Jackson320	Barnard	43
Lake Linden59	Beverly	
Lansing26, 70, 78, 84, 155, 173	Bud1	
McMillan236	Cape Girardeau209, 254, 20	67
Mancelona59	Carthage 85, 2	
Manage	- 11:	~=

MISSOURI (Continued)	
Concordia59	Nebraska City 56,87
Desloge59	Norfolk59
Dry Branch89	North Bend82
Fair Grove	Oakdale
Farmington	
Franklin	Pawnee City
Gallatin	Ponca
Glasgow	Syracuse 59 Ulysses 290
Harrisonville84	Unadilla59
Hurdland59	Weeping Water59
Independence	Wood River59
Kansas City118, 127, 159, 170, 236, 304	York
Kirksville234	NEVADA:
Kirkwood262	East Las Vegas
Kruegerville54	Mountain City89
La Monte	Pioche273
Lexington221	NEW HAMPSHIRE:
Lincoln59	Amherst
Lockwood82	Amoskeag
Loose Creek87	Ashuelot85
Louisiana28, 168	Boscawen
Marshall 48	Charleston
Memphis	Concord
Moberly	East Andover 119
Monroe City	East Derry
Oak Hill	Enfield Centre
St. Joseph	Fisherville
St. Louis20, 23, 44, 46, 52, 63, 65,67-8,	Franklin86
78, 86, 90-1, 96, 100, 106, 113, 119-21,125-7,	Hinsdale51
140, 157, 165, 199, 209, 215-6, 221,	Keene 65
, 229, 233, 266, 271, 281, 304, 311, 320	Kingston261
North St. Louis Sta48	Laconia
West St. Louis Sta245-6, 284	Lebanon
Salem	Manchester
Sedalia	Meadows 59
Shelbyville	Milton Mills
Springfield	Mt. Washington
Taylor59	Nashua
Tuscumbia 56	Orford
Union Star91	Paper Mill Village104
Unionville	Profile House 105
MONTANA:	Richmond 12
Bozeman241	South Hampton85
Ft. Assinaboinee	Wilton141
Ft. Benton59	<u>NEW JERSEY</u> :
Glendale83	Asbury Park101, 108
Miles City	Beach Haven110, 235
Valley87	Belmar64
Weber54	Beverly
NEBRASKA:	Blairstown
Arapahoe	Bloomingdale
Auburn	Bridgeton
Bartlett	Camden
David City	Clinton 60
Dawson	Delaware 60
Fontanelle89	Elizabeth 320
Friend	Haddonfield 259
Guide Rock	Hartford 60
Harvard59	Hoboken320
McCook	Jersey City257, 308, 320
Madison 59	Milburn

NEW JERSEY (Continued)	Auburn240
Millville83	Avoca230
Morristown 148	Avon
Mt. Holly92	Ballston 172, 218, 220, 225
Newark	Bangall60
New Brunswick320	Bath84
Newton195	Bayshore60
Ocean City265	Bergholtz 94
Ocean Grove214	Berkshire 219
Pittstown95	Bolton85
Plainfield188	Boonville 11
Quinton	Breesport
Roselle	Brewsters Station
South Orange57, 194-5, 197	Brookfield60
Trenton	Brooklyn47-8, 112, 190, 244
Vincentown234	284, 287-8, 304, 306, 325
West End	Brookton
Westwood60	Buffalo28, 68, 201, 304, 306-7, 320
NEW MEXICO:	East Buffalo Sta
Bloomfield	Burnt Hills
Carbonateville	Cadiz142
Chaves	Caledonia
Chico Springs	Canastoga
Cimarron	Canton
Cranes	Castleton Corners 60
Datil	Catawba on Lake Keuka
Deming60	Cayuga Lake126
Engle	Centre Moriches256
Ft. Cummings	Clayton
Ft. Stanton	Clinton
Ft. Wingate	Coeymans
Georgetown115	Cohoes
Glorietta 109	Cold Spring60
Hot Springs226	Coney Island88
Kingston60, 115	Cornwall 150
La Cinta113	Cortland
Lamy109	Creek Centre143
Liberty60	Croton
Lordsburg85, 109	Croton Falls65, 86
Los Alamos60	Croton Lake320
Los Lunas	Dalton
Nogal109	Danby
Ocate	Deansville 102 Deer River 210
Raton	Delhi
Rincon	Delphi
Roswell 117	Dresden
Sabinal 109	Dundee
San Antonio	Eagle Mills
Springer	Ellenville
Tramperas60	Ellicottville
Watrous60	Elmira28, 253
White Oaks	Elton22
NEW YORK:	Evans Mills219
Accord	Ferenbaugh109
Afton	Fly Creek94
Albany 118, 159, 200, 243, 252, 304, 320	Fly Summit98
Alexandria Bay	Four Mile26
Alfred Center	Franklin
Almond 60	French Pt./Lake George
Ames60	Friendship254
Amsterdam320	Fulton
Andes85	Glen Falls
Arkport187	Gouverneur320
Attica 94 029	Grand Gorge24, 123

NEW_YORK: (Continued)	Oxbow46
Greenwich25	Oyster Bay109
Greenwood121	Painted Post143
Groveland60	Palmyra
Hancock	Patchogue95-6
Hartford60	Paul Smith's
Hastings154	Penn Yan203
Haverstraw	Репу
Highland Falls	Peru
Hillsdale	Phelps
Holland Patent	Pine Hill
Hooper	Portland87
Hoosick Falls 100	Potters Hollow
Hornellsville	Poughkeepsie
Howe's Cave60	Protection 82 Pulaski 234
Hudson 91, 256, 308	Redwood 321
Hulletts Landing105	Rhinebeck
Huntington115,117,256	Richfield Springs
Hyndsville204	Richland Falls 130
Idlewild60	Rochester 27, 118, 124, 198-9, 203.
Ilion109	274, 304, 307, 321
Ithaca321	Rome
Jacks Reef120	Rondout161
Jasper111	Roxbury60, 274
Keeseville159, 261	Royalton
Kenwood119	Sandy Hill
Lakeside	Saratoga Springs23, 47, 94, 100, 227, 230
LaSalle83	Sardinia
LeRoy97	Schodack Landing
Lockport321	Schoharle27
Lockwood	Schroon Lake
Lodi	Schuyler's Lake
Loon Lake	Schuylersville,
Lyons	Scottsburg
Macedon	Shandaken
Malone	Shed's Corners
Marathon	Shiloh 60
Marcellus	Sing Sing
Margaretville	South Bradford
Mayville	South Dayton
Meridian210	South Oxford
Mexico100	Sparrow Bush215
Mill Point	Spartanburg233
Mitchell224	Staatsburgh119
Mohawk213	Stapleton94
Monroe	Stittville60
Mt. Kisco	Syracuse
Mt. Morris	Thompkin's Cove60
New Dorp60	Ticonderoga 196, 282
Newfane Station	Tilly Foster
New York (City) 26, 43-4, 51-2, 54, 62, 64,	Tremont117
66, 68-9, 72, 74-5, 78-9, 86, 90-1,	Troy125, 228
93, 97, 100-01, 104-05, 109, 112,	Turin
116, 119, 121, 123, 144, 157, 163-7,	Utica
174-83, 199, 203, 207, 216, 222, 229, 231,	Vandalia244
257-9, 298-301, 303-04, 306-07, 317, 321	Varysburgh235
Norwich168	Vienna
Odessa60	Walkill
Ogdensburgh153,234	Walton
Oramel60	Warrensburgh
Oswego127, 161, 206, 321	Warsaw
Ovid Centre112	Watkins127, 190, 193, 286, 288
Owasco115	Waverly

POST OFFICE INDEX

NEW YORK: (Continued)	Dayton 137 ,143, 249, 304
Wayland	DeGraff
West Hampton60	
West Winfield245	Delaware 51, 113, 241, 248, 252
Whallonsburgh	Delta 112
Whitehall	Dorset117
whitehail125, 135, 191,	East Liverpool68
219-20, 222, 240, 288	Eber60
White Plains219	Edenton84
Whitestown145, 283	Edon
Willard115	Eleda
Williamsville95	Elery
Wilson 86	
Wurtsborough197	Elyria
Yonkers104, 141	Flint's Mills52
Yorkshire Center	Freeport60
	Galena232
NORTH CAROLINA:	Galion113
Belvidere60	Garth's Ferry60
Bingham School56	Gilbert's Mills232
Danbury60	Glen Ebon
Fonta Flora235	Greenbush
Heilig's Mill60	Hannibal 60
Kittrell 145	
New Berne	Hector233
Thomasville93	H iram 55
	Hooker52
Wilmington79	Huron257
<u>OHIO</u>	Ironton232
Akron 238, 317, 322	Jewett City 117
Alexandria89	Kalida93
Alliance238, 240	Kansas231
Alveda121	Kenton
Ashland230	Lancaster 322
Ashtabula239	Leesville
Athens	Lenox 60
Atwater60	
Auburn	Levering88
Auburndale 322	Litchfield250
	Lower Salem43
Avondale22	McCutchenville60
Bairdstown60	Mansfield137, 322
Baltic60	Marietta25, 54, 151, 255, 266, 268
Bear Creek 19	Martins Ferry60
Bell Brook	Millfield
Bellefontaine64, 265	Moons
Big Plain22	Mt. Gilead 49
Bloomdale	
Bradford94	Mt. Vernon
	Nelsonville267
Brice60	Neptune232
Burbank211, 232	Newark
Burton	New Haven82
Caldwell60	New Jerusalem91
Campbellstown60	New Madison113
Canaan 232	New Washington60, 258
Cannonsburgh102	
Canton	North Bend287
Cardington	Norwalk
	Oberlin
Carey	Pickereltown156
Carthagena50	Pike Station91
Cedar Hill102	Pyrnont91
Chardon60	Ravenna
Cincinnati 107, 189, 205, 209, 239,	Richwood
245-6, 304, 311-12, 317, 322	
Cleveland25, 99, 136, 144, 167, 198, 200,	Salem56, 76, 100, 246
205, 218, 233-4, 270, 304, 313, 322	Scio
Columbus 24, 51, 54, 63, 68, 94, 97-8,	Shanes Crossing56
118, 149, 163, 168, 172, 205, 271, 312	Shelby232-3
Cow Run89	Sidney 62, 119
	Sinking Spring
Cumberland187	0 -10

OHIO (Continued)	Atglen	30
Spencerville	Bakerstown	
Steubenville74	Bartos	
Stewart	Baxter	
Stryker	Bayne	. 60
	Beach Haven	
Troy	Birmingham	
Unionport	Boiling Springs	192
	Breadysville	291
Wapakoneta 108, 284 Warren 283	Buffalo Crossroads	
Wauseon84	Bulger Canoe Camp	117
Weilersville 60	Canton	
Wellington		
Westerville 221	Carbondale	
West Farmington	Chester Springs	
West Salem	Christiana Columbus	113
Wilkesville 126	Conshohocken	105
Willowdell 60	Corry	
Wooster	Coudersport	
Worthington	Covington	
Youngstown290	Curwinsville	03 102
Zanesville42-4, 49, 64	Dangus Mines	
OKLAHOMA: (See Indian Territory)	Delta30,	291
OREGON:	Du Bois	
Adams80	Duncannon	
Astoria155	Erie	
Baker City 60	Farmers	
Biggs235	Fowlers Grove	
Bridgeport60	Franklin	
Brownsborough84	Freeland	
Carlton88	Fremont	
Cascade Locks88	Fuller	90
Coquille91	Gap	
Deer Island109	Greenville	121
Drain60	Harrisburg119, 121, 169, 191, 234,	322
East Portland60	Harshaville	
Echo	Hatboro	
Empire City	Haverford College	
Eugene City282	Hawley	
Forest Grove 60 Ft. Klamath 60	Hellam	
Fossi 60	Hollidaysburg	
Foster80	Honesdale	
Grants Pass	Hopewell	258
Huntington258	Hulmeville Hunlock Creek	
Jacksonville60	Iron Ore	
Lexington60	Jersey Shore	
McCoy60	Juniata	
Medford60, 84	Kane	
Myrtle Creek60	Karns City	
Newport60	Lancaster	
Portland104	Leacock	
Riddles 88	Lebanon	
Riverside 115	Lemont	
Rock Point89	Lewistown	
The Dulles110	Malvern	
Tygh Valley60	Marion	
Union	Meadville	267
Walterville89	Mercer209, 2	241
Weston88	Middletown	265
PENNSYLVANIA:	Millheim	
Allenters 25, 103	Milner	
Alteono 25, 193	Mt. Jewett	
Altoona	Murson Sta.	
Ashley	Nanticoke	
11111cy291	Neshannock Falls	230

PENNSYLVANIA: (Continued)	RHODE ISLAND: Providence (Continued)
Newtown Square60	202-3, 258, 266, 273, 304, 308
New Washington82	Westerly286, 323
New Wilmington111, 291	Woonsocket219
Niantic	SOUTH CAROLINA:
North Warren	Adams Run84
North Wharton	Aiken163
Oil City42	Anderson65
Osceola Mills	Bucksville60
Penningtonville233 Philadelphia62, 100, 128, 132-3, 136, 146,	Charleston323
157, 162, 186, 189, 212, 216,	Easley
258, 260, 304, 306, 311, 323-4	Newberry C.H70
Philipsburgh	Pelzer
	TENNESSEE:
Phoenix	Chattanooga221
Phoenixville	Dayton 82
Pittsburgh	Kings Creek232
64, 67. 83, 85, 90-3,96, 98, 114-15, 120, 122, 128, 139-41, 145, 153,	Lenoirs87
120, 122, 128, 139-41, 143, 133, 156, 164, 172-3, 214, 219, 247,	McMinnville
	Memphis
251, 266, 272, 287, 302-4, 311, 323 East Liberty Sta323	Nashville45, 49-50, 197, 304
Portland94	Palmersville83
Pottsville149	Union City
Punxatawney272	TEXAS:
Reading194, 311, 322	Acme
Red Bank Furnace84	Bexar
Red Lion	Cartersville
Ridgway88	Dupree
Royer	Gainesville
St. Marys56	Georgetown
Schaefferstown	Jefferson
Schwenkville	Lancaster
Sheffield	Nacogdoches27
Smithport85	Rio Grande City93, 214
Springboro	San Antonio
Titusville	Schulenburg83
Tobyhanna 162	Sherman
Town Hill95	Taylorville281
Troutville	Waco139
Troy271	Waxahatchie 139
Turtle Creek156	<u>UTAH</u> :
Utahville130	Park City61
Weatherly215	Slatersville 61
Welsh Run60	VERMONT:
Westport95	Arlington238
West Springfield224	Вате192
White Haven60	Bellows Falls323
Wilcox	Bennington
Wilkes Barre19, 239, 322, 324	Brattleboro 79, 96, 112, 169, 244, 246, 323
Williamsport229-30, 288, 324	Burlington199
York	Calais224
Zelienople	Castleton25
RHODE ISLAND:	Cavendish
Apponaug85	Chester47
Ashaway238	Damons Crossing
Block Island85	East Bethel
Bristol	East Corinth56
Canonchet 60	Ely263, 326 Essex Junction133
Centerville	Fairlee
Narragansett Pier	Hardwick256
Newport	Hartford242
Pawtucket292, 308, 323	Hartland 67
Providence44, 46, 50, 69, 74, 94,	Irasburgh
113, 124, 132, 161, 163, 165,	Jericho
110, 124, 102, 101, 100, 100,	<u> </u>

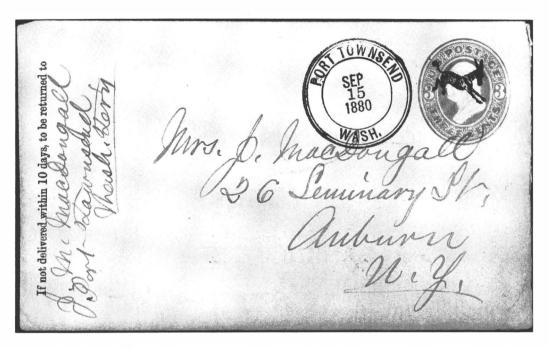
MEDMONTE (Cartianad)	
<u>VERMONT</u> (Continued)	Port Ludlow61
Ludlow91	Port Townsend Frontispiece, 154-5
McIndoe's Falls216	Sidney61
Middletown Springs 102,266	Stella61
Montpelier 308	Sumner61
North Sherburne63	Tacoma
Orwell	Wallula
Pomfret	West Ferndale
Putney49	WEST VIRGINIA:
Reading 66	
	Arbuckle80
Richmond274	Caperton 61
Royalton208	Charleston171
Rutland48, 141, 217	Letart 88
St. Johnsbury191, 308	Okonoko (B.& O. R.R.) 90-1
South Woodstock184	Parkersburg 56, 61
Springfield48	Point Pleasant
Swanton 143	Ritchie C.H
Vergennes150	Simpson
West Fairlee	
	Welcome
Weston93-4	WISCONSIN:
West Randolph206	Addison95
Williston 135, 142	Allenville54, 61
Worcester 125	Antigo44
<u>VIRGINIA</u> :	Appleton 19, 43, 238, 240, 252
Alexandria25, 240	Ashland61
Andersonville238	Avon
Bangs192	Bakerville61
Berkley61	Baraboo41, 52, 64, 93, 241, 243-4
Campbell C.H	Beaver
Cary's Store67	Beaver Dam
Charlottesville42, 156, 196	Deaver Dain125, 242
	Beloit
Culpepper147	Black River Falls61
Fredericksburg24, 26, 145, 148	Blair48
Gala61	Bob Creek115
Glen Allen199	Brandon72, 112
Guineys247	Brodhead242
Homewood61	Burlington
Keswick Depot231	Butternut
Knob262	Cadiz
Lexington 191, 228	Cadott
Liberty106	Columbus66
Lynchburg214, 234	Cooksville117
New River Depot61	Dancy
Petersburg46, 89, 93, 138, 231	Danville 61
Portsmouth	Darien 69
Richmond	
	Dayton
Rutland 56, 61	Delton247
University of Virginia110, 196	Durand82, 115
Wytheville236	Eau Claire53, 248, 252
WASHINGTON:	Eden226, 232
Avon61	Edwards61
Colby61	Elcho236
Covello61	Elkhorn112
Edmonds61	Evansville112
Ellensburg61	Evergreen
Farmington61	Fairplay143
Freeport61	Fall River
Grays River61	Fish Creek
Jackson61	Florence85
Kalama	Ft. Atkinson 41
Kelso 61	
	Ft. Howard
Mt. Vernon	Fox Lake
Neah Bay	Fox River
New Tacoma	Freedom
Old Tacoma88	Friendship83
Olequa91	Geneva29, 51, 78, 225-6

WISCONSIN: (Continued)	
Genoa Junction 56	Sherry 63
Glenbeulah108-9, 255	Sherwood215
Grantsburg61	Shiocton6
Gratiot56	South Byron
Green Bay86, 211, 256	Sparta61, 112, 279
Hanover258	Spring Prairie51, 61
Hartford	Stephensville226
Hingham80	Stevens Point
Houlton61	Stoughton244, 257, 259, 280, 282
Hudson61	Sturgeon Bay263
Janesville51	Sun Prairle
Jefferson	Superior152
Johnstown230	Terrill
Juneau151, 282	Thorp
Kaukauna89	Tomah 61
Kenosha	Tomahawk149
Kilbourn City	Trempealeau150, 160
•	
Lancaster	Watertown21, 96, 101, 127, 150
Ledyard82-3	Waukesha252, 283, 287
Little Suamico70	Waupaca280, 287
Lodi79, 264	Waupun284
Lyons	Wausau47, 52, 115
Madison47, 50, 66, 200	West De Pere68
Magnolia132	West Eau Claire283
Manitowoc67	Weyauwega242
Marinette41, 44, 51, 264	Whitehall 51
Mather's,61, 116	Whitewater 97, 225, 283
Mauston97, 147	Whittlesey226
Menasha53, 266	Wrightstown 130, 232
Menomonee26, 90, 267, 270	WYOMING:
Milwaukee27, 66, 77-8, 122,	Chug Water 169
138, 185, 311, 324	Ft. Fetterman19
Mineral Point	Laramie City100
Mischicott264	Lookout
Monroe193, 209, 218, 264	
Mosinee52, 226-7	RAILROAD
Muscoda117	Ashland & Abbotsford RPO279
Nashotah	Ashland & Milw. RPO279
New Lisbon61	Ashuelot RR
Nicolet68	B(urlington) & Mo. Neb. RR
Oakfield	B(altimore) & O(hio), Okonoka, W. Va 90-1
Ogema56	Bangor & Boston RPO285
Omro92	Bangor RPO285
Ontario106	
Oshkosh	Bay City & Detroit Agt
Ozaukee	Benson & Los Angeles Agt
Palmyra 100	Billings & Helena RPO
	Bis(marck) & Miles City Agt285
Pine Bluff	Bluffs. & Han(nibal) Agt250
Pittsville30	Boston & Albany RPO 170, 253, 285, 289
Portage	Boston & Bangor RPO287
Port Edwards49	Boston & Essex Jct. RR270
Prairie Du Sac52	Boston & Green(ville) RPO280
Racine	Boston & Lanc(aster) RR279
Randolph274	Boston, Springfield & N.Y.
Red River130	RPO249, 253, 285-6, 289
Richfield54, 236	Boston & Troy RPO118, 286, 289
Ripon	Boston & Troy RR
Rosendale274	Bridge, R.B., Agt269
St. George236	Charlotte & Aug(usta) Agt279
Schofleld61	Chey(enne), Boulder & Den(ver) Agt269
School Hill226	Chicago & Detroit RPO251
Schullsburg93	Chicago & LaCrosse RPO249
Shawano112	Chi(cago) & Minn(eapolis) RPO250-1, 253
Sheboygan67, 276	
Sheboygan Falls97, 118	Chi(cago) & St. Louis RPO (Night)217, 268-9 Chi(cago) & Sparta RPO
	CHILDRED OF SURFIX RECT

Chicago & Tolono RPO277	Minn. & LaCrosse RPO250
Chicago & Winona RPO250, 277, 285	Minn(eapolis) & Sparta Agt 237, 284
Cleve(land), Hud(son) & Col(umbus) Agt270	Mobile & N.O. Agt246
Cleve(land) & Wheel(ing) Agt269	Nashua & Worcester Agt. 217
Columbus & Toledo RR	New Hart(ford) & Far(mington) Agt276
D(avenport) & St. P(aul) RR217	New London & New Haven Agt285
Dan(ville) & Cairo Agt279	Newton & Galveston RPO
Den(ver) & LaSang. RPO	N.Y. & Boston RPO98
Des M(oines) Valley RR268,278	N.Y. & Washington RPO224, 248
Elroy & Harvard Agt268,276	Oaks. & Harwar. RPO269
Elroy & Marshfield Agt268,277	Omaha & Kearny Agt217
Erie Transport	Or(ange) & Alex(andria) RR280
Essex Jct. & Boston Agt	Parks & Bal. River Agt224
Essex Jct. & Boston RPO268, 277	Pensacola & Ga. RR216
Fargo & La Moure RPO260	Peoria & Terre H(aute) Agt 26, 250, 253
Ft. Howard & Chicago RPO276	270 285, 289
Grand Rap(ids) & Elk(hart) Agt101	Petersboro & Worc(ester) Agt270
Green(ville) & Boston Agt241, 279	Petoskey & Grand Rapids Agt 158
Hend(erson) & Columbia Agt289	Pittsburgh & Chicago E(ast) Div(ision)289
Horicon & Portage RPO249, 286	Portage City & Chi(cago) RPO268, 277
Hudson River RPO281	Pt. Huron & Valp(araiso) Agt250
Ind(ianapolis) & Peoria Agt249	Portland & Boston RPO250
Ishpeming & Ft. Howard Agt268	Portland & Swant(on) Agt289
Ishpeming & Ft. Howard RPO278	Port(land) & Worc(ester) RPO286
Jack(sonville) & Enterprise Agt268	Ports(mouth) & Con(cord) Agt285
James River Agt90	Prov(idence) & Willim'ton Agt289
Jenny & Tomah Agt61	Pueb(lo) & Conejos Agt268
Kal(amazoo) & S(outh) H(aven) Agt253	Pueb(lo) & Durango Agt279
Kan(sas) City & Topeka Agt285	Racine & Rock Island Agt253
LaCrosse & St. Paul RPO250	Racine & R(ock) I(sland) RR275
LaCrosse & S(ioux) Falls RPO250	Rouses Pt. & Alb(any) Agt268
Lafay(ette) & Quincy RPO250	Rut(land), Salem & Troy Agt
Lanc(aster) & Boston Agt270	277, 279
Law(rence) & Brad(ford) RR224	277, 279 Rut(land) & Troy RPO217 St. Albans & Boston RPO270
Litchfield & Jack(son) Agt246	St. Albans & Boston RPO270, 279
Logan & Keokuk RPO217	St. Paul & Morris RPO
Lowell & Marshfield279	Salida & Silverton RPO257
Maquoketa & Davenport Agt 87	Sedalia & K(ansas) City RPO268
Marion & R(unning) Water Agt253	She(boygan) & Fond (Du Lac) RR 217
Mem(phis) & L(ittle) Rock Agt253	Sioux City & Pacific RPO167
Menasha & Milw. Agt277	T(yrone) & C(learfield) RR193
Mendota & Cent. RPO268	West Leb(anon) & Fisher Agt286
Merrill & Tomah Agt61	Wichita & Pan Handle RPO East172
Milw. & Chicago Agt276	Win(chendon) & Worcester Agt268
Milwaukee & Fon Du Lac Agt268	Wisconsin Central RR277
0	

AN.	Animals 149-153	JO,	Jack-O-Lanterns, Masks, Man-In-The-
AR.	Arrows		Moon, Figures, etc 160-170
Bi.	Birds	L.	La-Lz, Single Letters 238-292
,		LCK.	Padlocks
BOR,	Bost. Related Negative 293-5	MA.	Fraternal 141-4
BOS,	Bost. Negative	MC.	Machine Cancels 302-06
BT,	Boots	ML.	Multiple Letters 209-272
CR,	Crescents, Star and Crescents 139-140	NC.	Commercial Numerals 198
CSC,	Enclosed Crosses	NU.	Numerals & Rate Mkgs 184-8
CSL,	Lined Crosses	NYC,	O O
CSM,	Maltese Crosses 112-14	NYFM	, N.Y. Foreign Mail 174-183
CSN,	Negative Crosses 122	OK.	Okay 223-6
CSO,	Christian and Greek Crosses 118	PA.	Paid 206-08
CSS,	Shaded Crosses 115-16	PC.	Precancels
CSU,	Unusual Crosses 120-27	Pi,	Pictorial 149-153
CV,	Clovers 145-6	PO,	POD, Post Office 226-7
EL,	Ellipses 314-26	PT,	Patent 200-205
FL,	Flags 133-5	RN.	Anchors
GCR,	Circular Geometrics 456	SH.	Shields 123-130
GE,	Geometrics 19-30	SK,	Skull & Crossbones 170-2
GEC,	Chicago Geometrics 31-5	STA,	Solid Stars 82-6
GED,	Diamond Geometrics 43-4	STB,	Shaded Stars 102-03
GEN,	New Orleans Geometrics 46-50	STC,	Stars in Circles 87-92
GET,	Triangle Geometrics 41-3	STG,	Segmented Stars 105
GHC,	Honeycombs 80	STL,	Lined Stars 104
GL,	Leaves 71-9	STN,	Negative Stars 93-8
GR,	Radial Geometrics 62-9	STO,	Open Stars 106-07
GRF,	Floral Geometrics 69-70	STU,	Unusual Stars 107-111
GST,	Rosettes 77-9	STX,	Stars with 4, 6, 7, or 8 points 99-101
HA,	Hats 147-8	US,	"U.S." Monograms 228-236
HE,	Hearts 136-8	VL,	3rd & 4th Class Mail Cancels 307-313
HF.	Hands and Feet 172-3	WOF,	Wheel-of-Fortune Cancels 57-61
IN,	Insects	YD,	Year Dates 190-7

CANCELLATIONS AND KILLERS OF THE BANKNOTE ERA



The well known "kicking mule" cancels of Port Townsend, Washington, also used at a few other post offices, is a fair representative of the attractive cancels of the banknote era—that is, if any cancel can be said to be so. These cancels, either duplexed or singly, were rubber stamps furnished to post offices by C.A. Klinkner of Oakland, California. (see page 154.) Courtesy of Stanley P. Bednarczyk, Jr.