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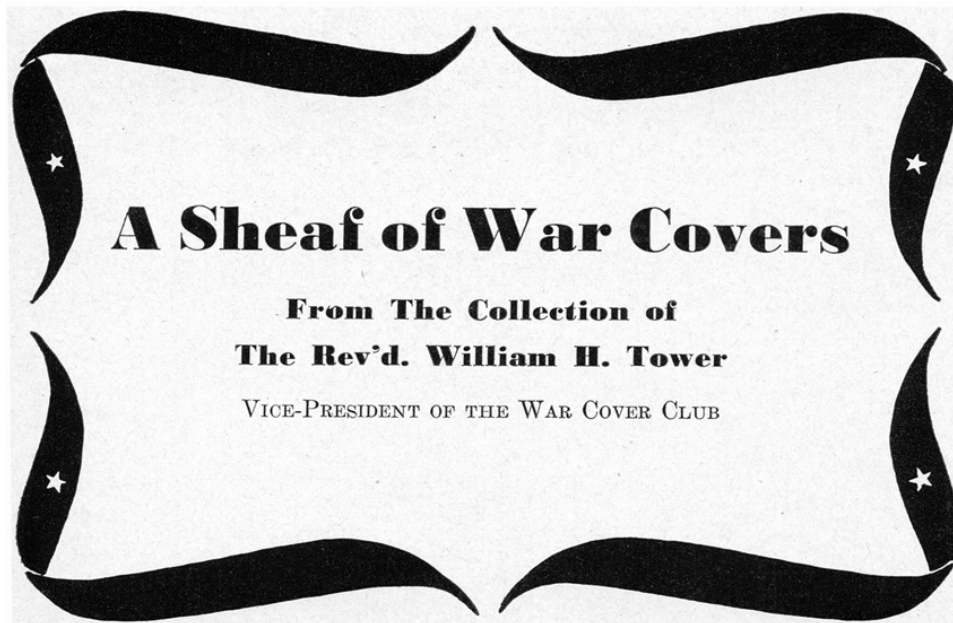
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## *Postal History Place:*

### **From the Stamp Specialist Gray Book, 1943, Pt. 1**

*Especially in this first part, it was difficult to find color illustrations to replace the images in the original article (or to fill in for the covers that were described but not included in the article). Instead, I sought images and information to supplement the text. JFD.*



SO wide and varied is the possible range of War Covers that it would take a large album to hold even a small part of them. A single war may be productive of so many as to make it wellnigh impossible to form a truly representative showing for even that one. He who starts out to collect along this line must be prepared to have many gaps in his collection, but the interest of those he has will more than compensate for those he lacks. This is especially true if he reaches out widely in his search for them. So long as he limits his efforts within time and space he may seem to do well, but let him step over those bounds and his troubles begin. Instead of continuing to find them by tens and scores, he is fortunate if they keep on coming even by twos and threes. Time and patience will be his best helpers, and with them he may hope for notable additions when and where least expected, for it would seem as though there had not been a generation or country that has not been the stage for devastating conflicts.

With my inclination for variety and early dates, my war pages start off with a cover from the "Thirty Years War" back in 1634. With a characteristic front of its period, it is addressed to "The Right Honorable my singular good Lord Thomas Lord Fairfax" and its letter gives an account of the "Battle of Norlingen" between the Swedes and the Hungarians, with quaint spelling and phraseology that make it worth our while to follow a few of its lines: "The King of Hungarye came to beseidge a towne theyr call Norlingen where Duke Barnard off Saxe Weymar and Gustavus Horne did lye; with as greate



*The Battle of Nördlingen by Jacques Courtois.*

For background on this Battle, we turn to Wikipedia:

The Battle of Nördlingen was fought on...6 September, 1634 during the Thirty Years' War. The Roman Catholic Imperial army, bolstered by 18,000 Spanish and Italian soldiers, won a crushing victory over the combined Protestant armies of Sweden and their German-Protestant allies. During the battle, almost anything that could go wrong went wrong for the Protestant forces. This was due to the strong defensive efforts of the Spanish infantry...Fifteen Swedish assaults...were repulsed by the Spaniards with the decisive support of...Italian cavalry squadrons.... On the left of the Protestant line [was] the Swedish wing under Bernhard of Weimar.

The Imperial commanders observed the weakened condition of Bernhard's troops, who had been sending large numbers of reinforcements to assist the Swedish troops. They ordered an advance by the Imperial troops which resulted in the quick collapse and rout of the weakened Swedish left wing infantry brigades. Pursuit of Bernhard's troops threatened to cut off any escape route of the Swedish units, who also promptly broke, turning into a panic stricken mob and leaving their side of the field to the Spanish troops of the Cardinal-Infante Ferdinand.

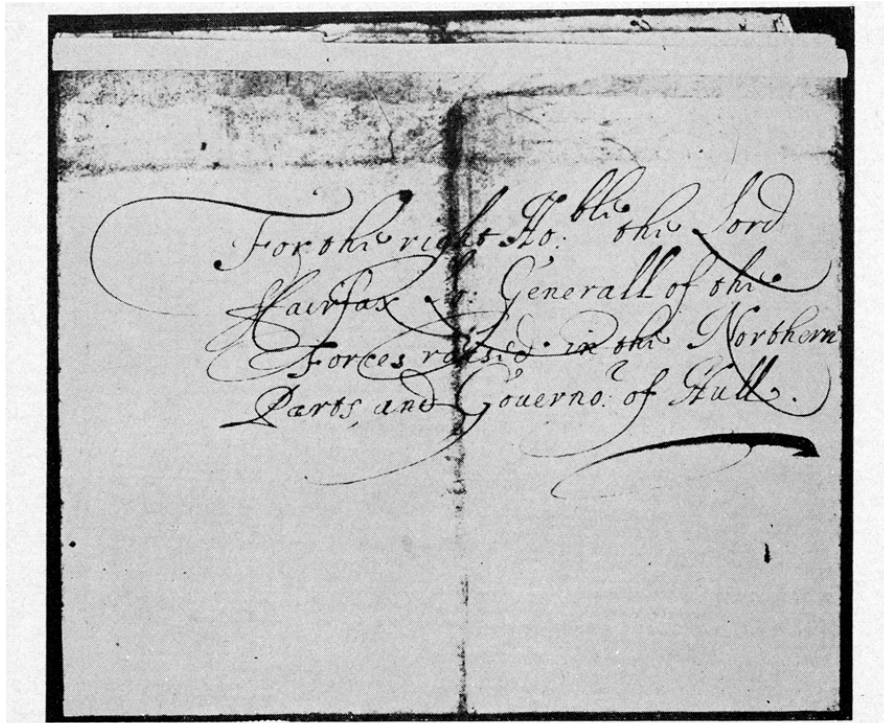
Gustav Horn of Björneborg was captured, his army was destroyed, and the remainder of the Protestants who successfully fled...were only a remnant of those engaged.



To the Rt. Hon<sup>orable</sup>  
 good Lord Thomas Lord  
 Fairfax with his Lordes  
 house at Denton  
 your most  
 humble servant

Cover of 1634, the Thirty Years War, with letter to the "Right Honorable my singular good Lord Thomas Lord Fairfax" giving an account of the battle between the Swedes and the Hungarians at Norlingen, in which 15,000 Swedes were killed.

an army iff not greater than the King had, with whom they ioyned Battell and skirmished two dayes in which time came upp to aide the King of Hungary the Kinge of Spayne his brother with an armye of choyce soldiers, which hee had newly brought outt of Italy and fell soe powerfully upon the Swedes as putt them to flight killed 15,000 and did take Gustavus Horne and divers other commanders & Duke Bernard his standard butt hee escaped." A turn of the page and a lapse of nine years time brings us to the English Civil War between King Charles and his Parliament, which had to do with political and religious issues rather than economic. This civil war extended from 1642 to 1646 and was soon followed by a second, with King Charles being beheaded in 1649. The page in question shows a cover and its letter sent from the Speaker of the House of Commons to "the right Ho'ble the Lord ffairfax Lo: Generall of the Forces raised in the Northern Parts, and Governor of Hull"; an address that must have caused the right Noble Lord to open his eyes since to all his previous knowledge he was not "Governor of Hull" or of anything else, and it was only as he read this letter, expressing "the sympathy of the House with Ferdinando, Lord Fairfax, in the difficulties he had encountered in the North as Commander of the Parliamentary force," and proceeding to inform him that he had been appointed Governor of Hull in the hope that thereby he would be greatly aided in his undertaking, that he was able to grasp its full purport.



Cover from the "English Civil War," 1643. The Speaker of the House writes to Lord Fairfax, Commander of the Parliamentary Forces in the North, expressing the sympathy of the House with him in all his difficulties, and advising him that he has been appointed Governor of Hull.



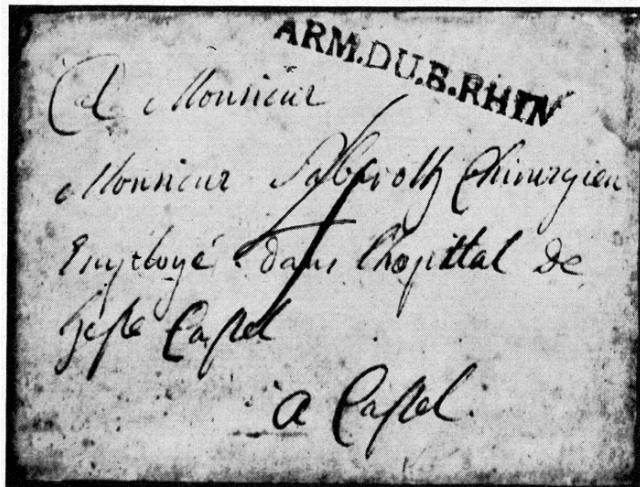
Again from Wikipedia: Ferdinando Fairfax, 2nd Lord Fairfax of Cameron...on the outbreak of the Civil War in 1642 he became commander of the parliamentary forces in Yorkshire.... Hostilities began after the repudiation of a treaty of neutrality entered into by Fairfax with the Royalists....He was driven from York...to Selby; then in 1643 to Leeds; and after beating off an attack...he was totally defeated on 30 June 1643 at the Battle of Adwalton Moor. He escaped to Hull, which he successfully defended...from 2 September until 11 October 1643, and by means of a brilliant sally caused the siege to be raised. Fairfax was victorious at Selby on 11 April 1644, and joining the Scots, besieged York, after which he was present at the Battle of Marston Moor (2 July 1644), where he commanded the infantry and was routed. He was subsequently, in July 1644, made Governor of York.



*(Although described here, a "Postscript" illustration was not included in the article.)*

Following this is a War News Extra, "A Postscript to the POST-MAN," dated at London, September the 5th 1709. Although this Postscript is dated Sept. 5th it proceeds with "the following particulars of the Glorious Victory obtain'd the 11th Instant, N. S. over the French." The English forces, which had gone to the Continent to assist the Dutch against the French, began the attack between seven and eight in the morning, attacking with their "Bayonets at the End of their Fuzees" and "making a terrible slaughter" of the enemy, but not without considerable loss to themselves. "The Prince Nassau of Friesland," with the Dutch Infantry, attack'd the enemy about 9 o'clock, and about 12 o'clock the enemy gave ground everywhere. "About Two the firing abated very much, and at Four the Action was over." On the next page we have a cover from the Seven Years War with its handstamped postmark, "ARM. DU B. RHIN," or the Army of the Lower Rhine, which at that time, 1757, had its headquarters at Halberstadt. Louis XV had formed the League of Nymphenburgh, including Austria-Russia-Sweden-and Saxony, in opposition to Prussia led by Frederick the Great. England came to the assistance of Prussia and took Canada from the French. The war led to the foundation of the British Empire and the, less obvious, basis for the modern Germany.

The Seven Years War, 1756-1763. A cover from the French Army of the Lower Rhine, with headquarters at Halberstadt. France, Austria, Russia, Sweden, and Saxony were fighting against Prussia led by Frederick the Great.

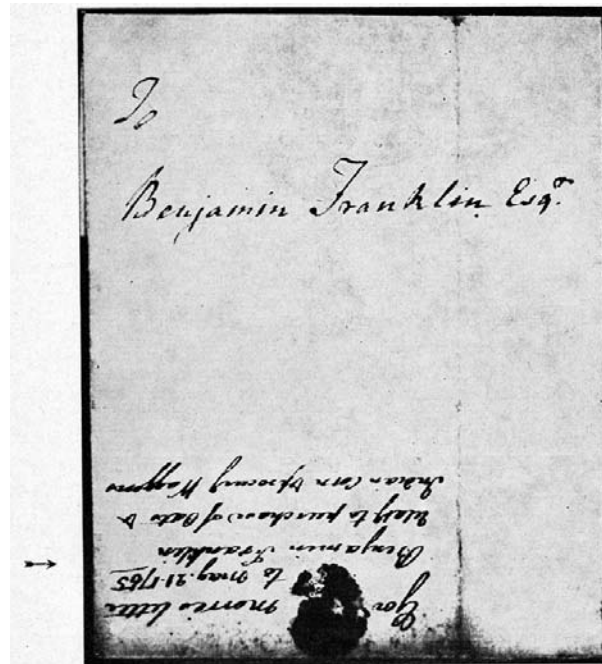


*Prussian soldiers assaulting an Austrian position in a churchyard in the Battle of Leuthen, Saxony, Dec. 5, 1757, during the Seven Years' War.*



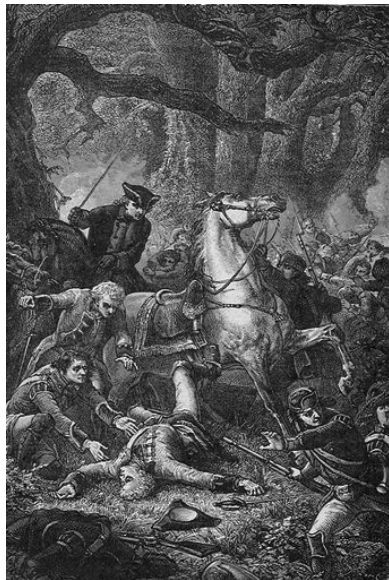
The following pages take us across the Atlantic to the American Colonies which for years past had had troublesome wars with the Indians. Doubting the ability of the untrained militia to carry on successfully, England sent over several regiments of veteran Regulars under the command of General Braddock, with no other thought than that they would promptly and thoroughly make an end of the blood-thirsty Red Men. The Colonial cover that is shown is one with address to Benjamin Franklin Esq., who had been sent down to Maryland to meet Braddock and inform him as to the ability of the Colonists as Indian-fighters. He found Braddock greatly upset and on the point of taking his Regulars back home because of the difficulties he had encountered in securing horses and wagons to transport his supplies. On being told that in Pennsylvania every farmer had his teams, he commissioned Franklin to secure for him what was needed. The cover shown is from Rob't Morris, Governor of Pennsylvania, to Franklin, informing him of contracts in the making for the needed equipment for Braddock's proposed expedition against Fort Duquesne. The cover is of double interest because it has on its face Franklin's precis as to its contents with his name signed in full, "Benjamin Franklin," making it an exceedingly rare cover as it is one of the very few exceptions in which he did not sign his name, "B. Franklin." It is also, in itself, a rarity as very few covers are known relating to the French and Indian War. The seeds of the Revolution were being sown long before the Colonies entered upon real warfare with the Mother-country, and even before its outbreak they had made preparation for what seemed so certain to come.





A French and Indian War cover of 1755. Robert H. Morris, Governor of Pennsylvania, writes to Benjamin Franklin commissioned by Gen. Braddock to secure forage and wagons for his expedition against Ft. Duquesne. Note autograph on cover, "Benjamin Franklin."

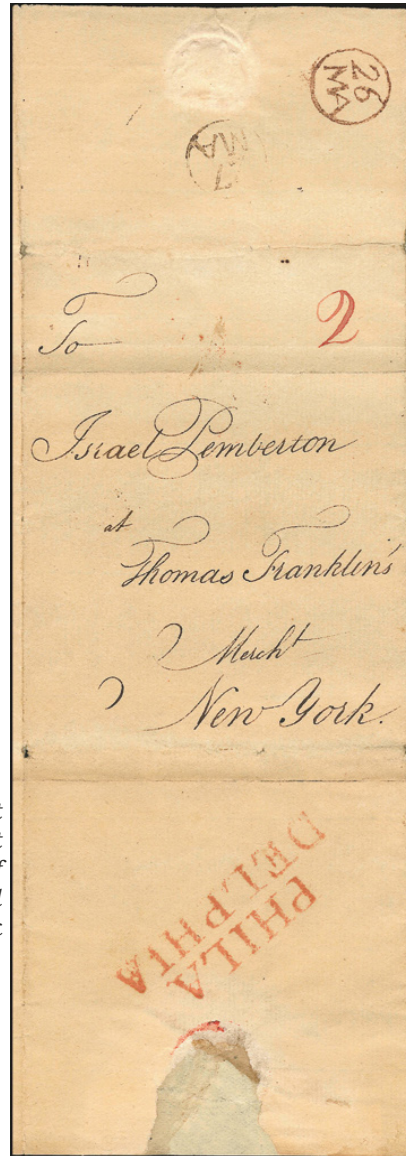
From Wikipedia: The Braddock expedition, also called Braddock's campaign or, more commonly, Braddock's Defeat, was a failed British military expedition which attempted to capture the French Fort Duquesne (modern-day downtown Pittsburgh) in the summer of 1755 during the French and Indian War. It was defeated at the Battle of the Monongahela on July 9, and the survivors



retreated. The expedition takes its name from General Edward Braddock, who led the British forces and died in the effort. Braddock's defeat was a major setback for the British in the early stages of the war with France and has been described as one of the most disastrous defeats for the British in the 18th century.

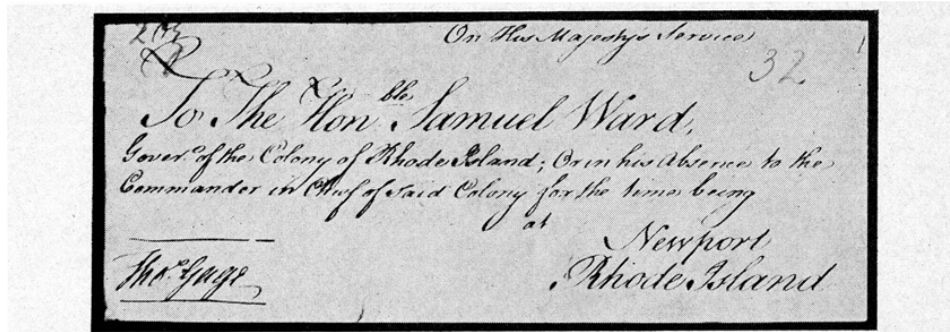
19th-century engraving of the wounding of Major-General Braddock at the Battle of the Monongahela.





*Once again the text below refers to a cover not illustrated in the article, and which we could not locate. We do, however, have an illustration of another cover with the “PHILA/DELPHIA” red two-line handstamp referred to, this one struck on a cover to New York City.*

a cover addressed to “Alexander Hamilton”—the famous Revolutionary leader—and written by John Ross, Commisary of the Pennsylvania Militia, in 1772 or two years after the Boston Massacre, in which two were killed and three wounded by the British Regulars. Note also the double-line postmark, “PHILA/DELPHIA,” the type of the earliest known colonial postmark. Following this are two covers closely associated with the outbreak of actual armed conflict between the Colonists and the British Regulars who had been quartered in Boston. The first of the two was sent on “His Majesty’s Service to the Hon’ble Samuel Ward, Governor of the Colony of Rhode Island,” by General Thomas Gage, whose franking signature it bears, then in command of the British troops in Boston. It was he who sent out a detachment of his Regulars to seize the stores which the Colonists had gathered and secreted in the outlying country. Among the Colonial Minute Men who gathered to resist

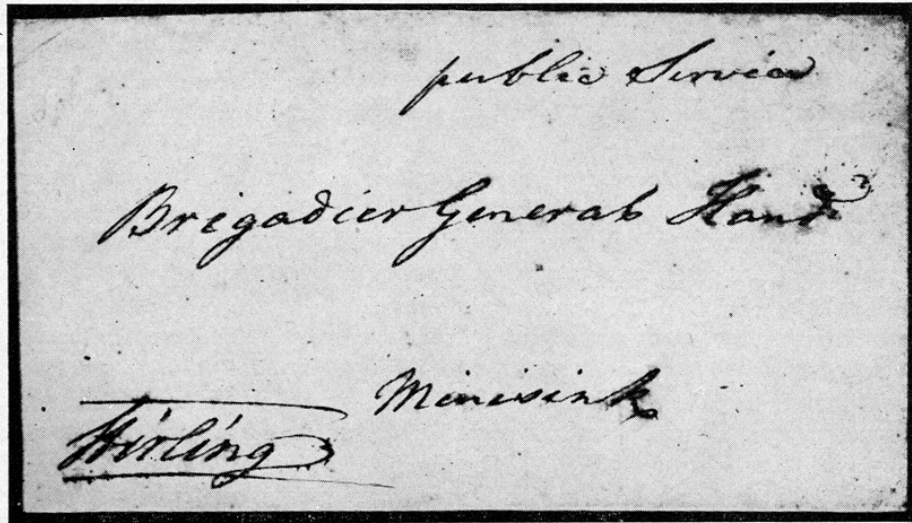


**A cover with frank of General Thomas Gage in command of the British, quartered in Boston, to Governor Samuel Ward of Rhode Island, "On His Majesty's Business," in 1775.**

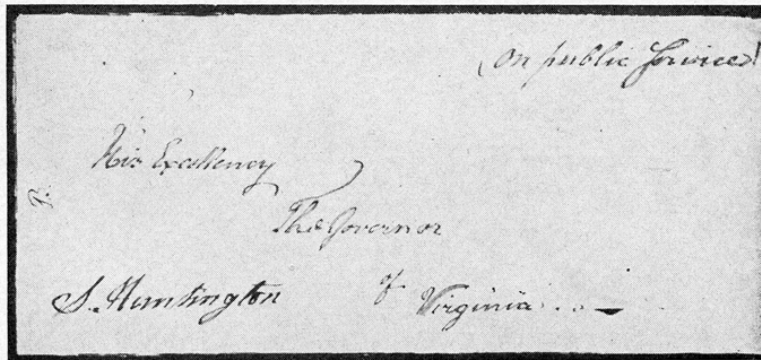
The article mentions Gage's role in sending troops from Boston, an event that led to Paul Revere's ride and the Battles of Lexington and Concord. For an excellent account of the events leading up to that excursion—including the possibility that the New Jersey born wife of Gage gave the colonists the date of the excursion, please go to: [http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Battles\\_of\\_Lexington\\_and\\_Concord](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Battles_of_Lexington_and_Concord)  
 Again, the next cover with the name of Dearborn, is described, but not illustrated.

this attempt of the British was a company which had been raised by Henry Dearborn and led by him to Lexington to join in the fight. His name and "FREE" appear on the second of these two covers, which was sent by him when later he was Secretary of War. Following the fight at Lexington he served as Captain in Colonel John Stark's regiment at Bunker Hill, and then volunteered for Arnold's expedition against Quebec, where he was taken prisoner. He was evidently soon exchanged for we find him again in active service and in 1779 he and his regiment formed part of General Sullivan's army against the Six Nations in central New York. He distinguished himself at Yorktown, and after the war was Major-General of Militia. On another page is a cover franking with the signature of Samuel Patterson, a General in the American army, and sent by him to "His Excellency Caesar Rodney Esquire." It was this Rodney who, as Governor of Delaware, rode all through the darkness of the night of July 3rd 1776 to Philadelphia thus making possible the unanimous vote of the thirteen Colonies in favor of the Declaration of Independence, an unsung Paul Revere! It is interesting to note the number of foreign noblemen who assisted the Colonies in the Revolution. Such men as the Marquis de Lafayette, Baron Steuben, Lord Sterling, and Kosciuszko, who gave invaluable assistance to the American arms. One of them, it is true, was born in New York city but in 1759 he inherited the English title of Earl of Stirling and as "Lord Stirling" fought through the Revolution, taking part with Washington in the battles of Trenton and Princeton, and distinguishing himself at Monmouth. The cover that we have, franked by him "Stirling," was sent to "General Hanks" at Navisink, presumably by regular post as it is marked "Public service." This was the General Hanks who was with the American Army during that bitter winter at Morristown where, to keep them occupied, the men built what was known as "Fort Nonsense." As Brigadier General, Stirling commanded for a time at New York and was taken prisoner in the Battle of Long Island, being soon exchanged. The following cover is franked S. Huntington. He was a signer of the Declaration of Independence, and, at the time the letter was written, President of the Continental Congress. As President of the Congress, he was writing to one scarcely less distinguished than himself, the "Governor of Virginia," the immortal Patrick Henry whose





A cover franked, "Stirling," who was Lord Stirling, a General in the American Army during the Revolution. He was with Washington at the battles of Trenton and Princeton. General Hanks (addressed) was in command of the Americans at Morristown during that bitter winter.



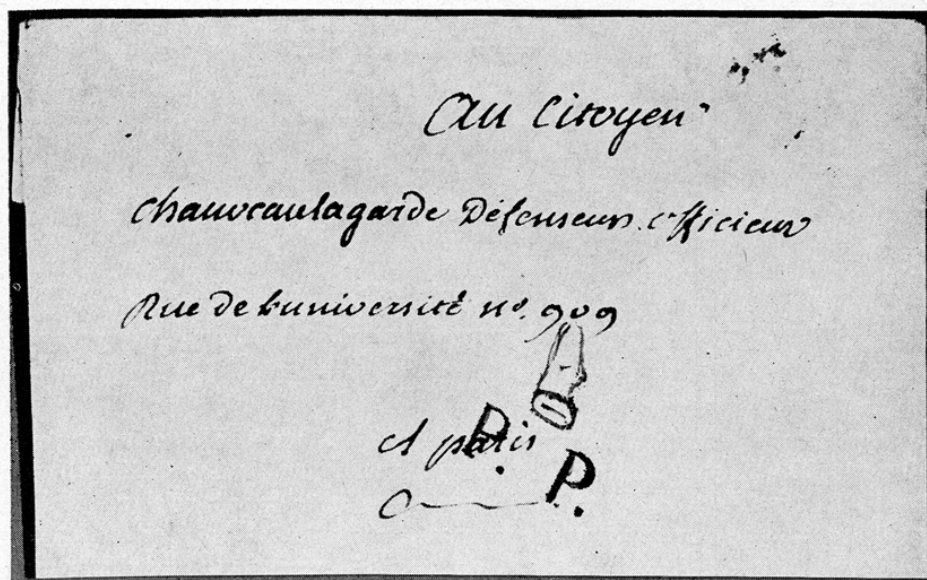
A cover that went on "Public Service" sent by Huntington, President of the Continental Congress, to the immortal Patrick Henry, whose cry, "Give me liberty or give me death," still rings in every true American heart.

cry—"Give me liberty or give me death"—still finds its echo in the heart of every true American and of countless hosts across the sea. Compensating a lack which we shall probably never be able to make good, we follow on with a cover addressed to "Washington, Butler & Nevison, Maddox, Potowmac." Letters written by Washington are very scarce, and even this cover addressed to The Father of His Country when he was retired to private life and was interested in mercantile pursuits is one of none too many still existing.

The American Revolution had its repercussion in Europe. Inspired by the success of America in establishing a modern democracy, the French people took the bit in their teeth and made "Democracy" a militant creed. The fall of the Bastille, which brought from Louis XV the exclamation—"Why, this is a revolt," was recognised for what it was by his "Duc" in his response,



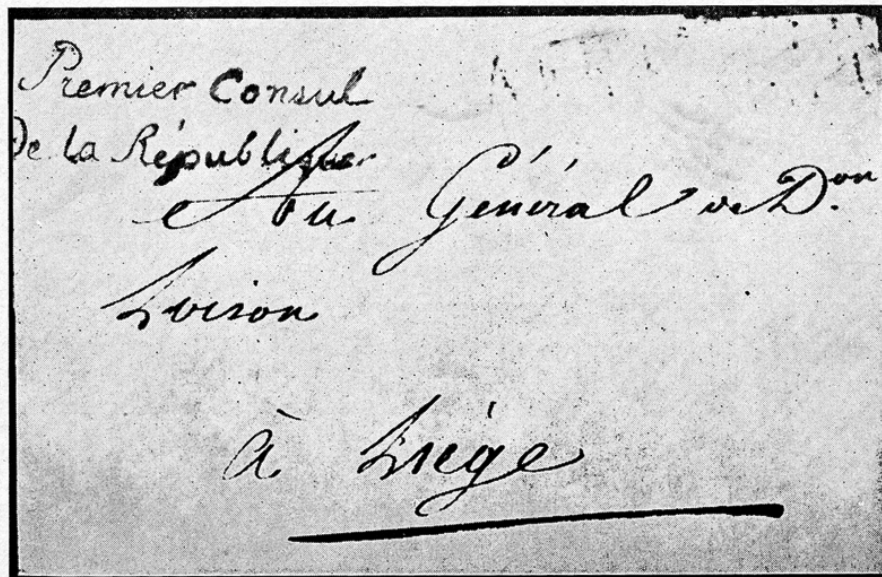
“No, Sire, it is a Revolution.” What the Fourth of July was and is to the United States that the Fourteenth of July meant to France—the overthrow of the old and the setting up of the new. They were too young in Democracy to call it “The New Deal.” So it is that in time and meaning we turn from America to Europe and, without attempting to closely distinguish between its parts and its varied movements, group together some of the militant landmarks of that period. The first to which we turn is a page showing a cover franked with the signature of the Revolutionary leader, “Carnot,” addressed to “Monsieur Struensee, president of police, Magdeburg,” the city in which he died and was buried in 1823 his remains being removed to the Pantheon in Paris in 1889. Carnot was one of the outstanding figures of the Revolution, a brilliant tactician and strategist and largely responsible for the success of the revolutionary armies. He voted for the execution of the King, and later opposed Napoleon’s growing monarchism. His military fame has been perpetuated in the title given to him by the Assembly, “The Organizer of Victory.” As a people’s uprising, the Revolution drew into itself the peasants of the outlying country, and the following page shows a characteristic cover with a handstamped “Phrygian Bonnet” or the red bonnet of the revolutionary peasant. This cover is dated “24 Ventose An 8,” Ventose being the eighth or “Windy” month of the new calendar, and “An 8” being the eighth year of the Republic. After the revolutionary custom, it is addressed to “Citizen Chaucaulagarde, Defense Officer,” “Monsieur” or “My Lord” being considered as too undemocratic.



A cover of the French Revolution addressed to “Citizen” Chaucaulagarde, the use of “Monsieur,”—My Lord—being considered too undemocratic. The odd handstamp in black is the “Phrygian Bonnet” or red bonnet of the revolutionary peasants. It is dated within, “24 Ventose An 8,” “Ventose” being the eighth or “Windy” month according to the new calendar, and “An 8” being the eighth year of the Republic.

While the author describes "two pages" of covers, the only one that was actually included in the article was the Napoleon cover below, which is supported by a better illustration of the *Affranchi Par Etat* (free for the State) handstamp.

We are fortunate in being able to show on the next two pages items of the revolutionary or Napoleonic period whose interest and scarcity it would be difficult to surpass. The first of these, with address to General Loison, who was then at Liege, Belgium, bears on its upper right corner Napoleon's own handstamp, "Premier Consul De la Republique," while on the opposite upper corner is stamped "Affranchi Par Etat," Free for the State. Following this



On the upper left corner is Napoleon's handstamp as "Premier Consul De la Republic." The other corner reads, "Affranchi Par Etat," Free for the State. A very rare cover, much to be desired!

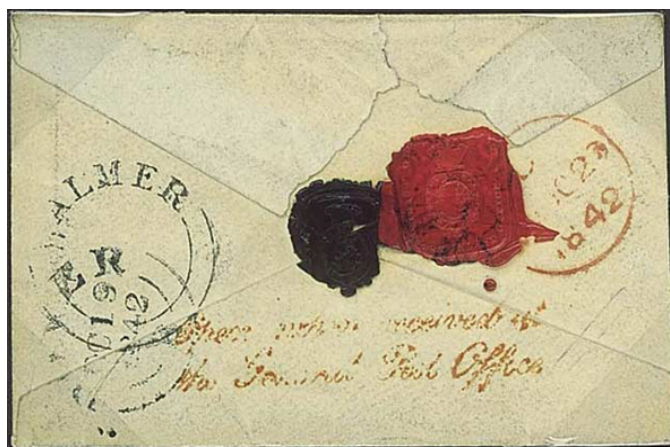
is a military cover addressed, "Sire Votre Majeste Imperiale et Royale." In this letter the famous French General, le Comte Louis Marand, advises His Majesty, Napoleon, that "The enemy are between Auerstadt and Abensburg, and cannon are firing from the mountains." Other Napoleonic covers follow these, each with its own peculiar interest. One contains a passport made out in the period of the Directory, and showing the straight-line postmark, "Nantes"; another from the period of the Empire, addressed to "General Boure of the 7th Division"; and yet another from Colonel Bertrand of the 106th regiment-Fourth Division—"Armee d'Italie," telling his friend, Captain Dulac of the Army in Spain, that he has joined his new regiment and has been received as Colonel; he has "had the pleasure and honor of being twice Cited and Complimented by Prince Eugene, General in Chief of the Army in Italy"; they have "suffered greatly, 23 officers having been killed and 38 wounded, while other officers and soldiers have been killed or wounded to the number of 1485." There is a cover from Napoleon's army at Ajaccio on the island of Corsica where Napoleon was born; and another to "Monsieur the Judge at Chiavari" informing him of the capture of a woman who had been supplying a band of brigands, led by her son, with food and munitions. A fitting finish





Another cover with a clearer image of the AFFRANCHI PAR ETAT handstamp, this one on an 1826 Letter from the French Finance Minister to Angers.

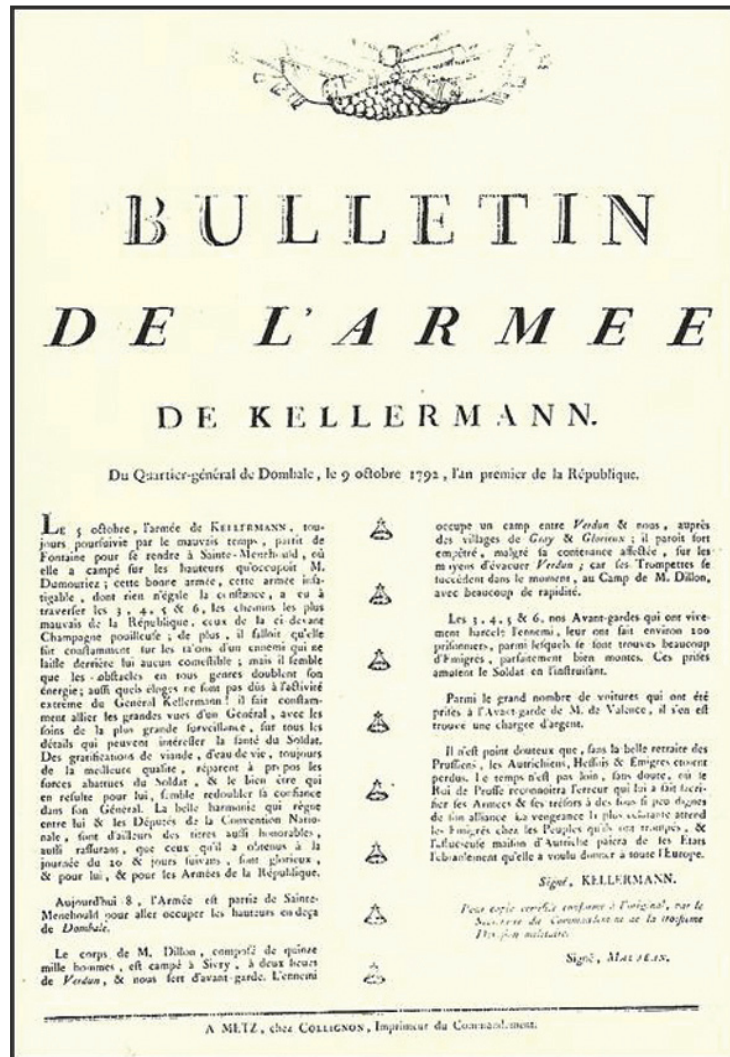
to this particular group of covers is the page showing two, one in the handwriting of Wellington, the victor at Waterloo, and the other addressed and franked by "Le Marechal Kellermann," one of Napoleon's marshals. The page is fittingly headed, "VICTOR and VANQUISHED."



This October 19, 1842 cover was addressed in the handwriting of the Duke of Wellington to the Tower of London franked on the face by 1d Red. It was sealed with wax twice, once by the Duke and once in transit in the Post Office. The reverse was shown because it bears a rare red London "Open when received at/the General Post Office."

See next page for a Kellermann document.





Described as "Vanquished" by the author, Kellermann is regarded as a hero in France for his role in the French Revolution. From Wikipedia: "In 1789 Kellermann enthusiastically embraced the cause of the French Revolution, and in 1791 became general of the army in Alsace. In April 1792 he was made a lieutenant-general, and in August of the same year...He rose to the occasion, and his victory over the Prussians at the Battle of Valmy, in Goethe's words, 'opened a new era in the history of the world'. Napoleon later commented that: 'I think I'm the boldest general that ever lived, but I daren't take post on that ridge with windmill at Valmy (where Kellermann took position) in 1793'.... When Napoleon came to power Kellermann was named successively senator (1800), president of the Senate (1801), honorary Marshal of France (19 May 1804), and title of Duke of Valmy (1808)." The document here describes the period of the French revolution of July 4, 1789 to the 28th.



*For his role in the French Revolution, he was included (lower right) in this 1989 Souvenir Sheet to celebrate the Bicentennial of the Revolution.*



*To Be Continued*