

Viewing Collections:

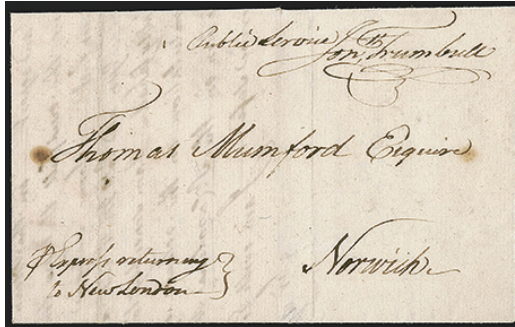
Viewing United States Postal History

by John F. Dunn

Last December 14-15 the Robert A. Siegel Auction Galleries conducted an extensive postal history auction. We viewed the Gordon Eubanks Collection of the California Penny Post in our *USSN* April 2023. In this edition of *StampNewsOnline*, we will view the rest of this extensive U.S. Postal History auction.

The usual reminder: prices quoted here do not include the 18% Buyer's Premium that is added on to these hammer prices, and the descriptions are those of the auctioneers; my comments, if any, are in brackets. JFD.

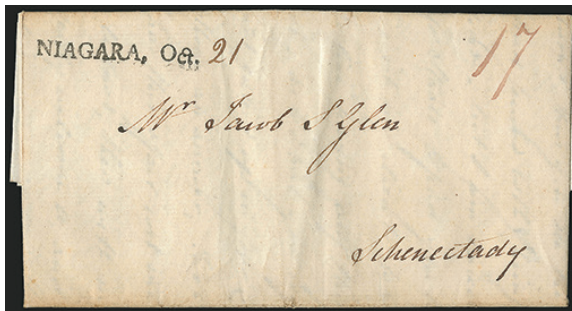
The first lot selected for viewing is this 1781 folded letter with "Public Service Jonth Trumbull" manuscript endorsement with his distinctive signature as Revolutionary War Governor of Connecticut (1769-84), addressed in his hand to Thomas Mumford (a prominent Connecticut merchant involved in the War) in Norwich Ct., Trumbull's



directive "per Express returning to New London", letter is datelined at Lebanon Ct. on Sep. 29, 1781 (Lebanon was a "War Office" established by Trumbull due to the vulnerability of Hartford and New Haven)—written three weeks after the Battle of Groton Heights, where Mumford's house and stores were set ablaze—interesting content related to procuring supplies, also expresses thanks for Mumford's congratulations on the release of Governor Trumbull's son, the artist John Trumbull, who was imprisoned in London in retaliation for the hanging of Major John Andre.

Estimated to bring \$1,500-2,000, it soared to a \$4,750 hammer price.

Next we view an 1802 folded letter showing a usage of the Agency of the American Post Office at Niagara,



Canada with a "NIAGARA, Oct. 21" straightline datestamp with day in manuscript to Schenectady N.Y., manuscript "17" rate for 150-300 miles. The Agency of the American Post Office at Niagara-on-the-Lake, Canada, was established in 1797 as a convenience to handle U.S. bound letters on the newly established mail route to Canandaigua. The Agency office forwarded mail on a bi-weekly basis to Fort Niagara in United States territory less than a mile away across the Niagara River.

Estimated at \$500-750, it sold for \$800.

I selected the lot in the next column for the informative lot description: Steamboat St. James. Well-struck red oval handstamp with red "New Orleans La. Jan. 4" circular datestamp and two strikes of "2" handstamp on cover to Mr. T. F. Crawford at street address in New Orleans, Very Fine and rare, the "2" represents either a drop/carrier rate or advertised fee (the addressee was named in newspaper list of letters held at the post office), after arriving on the St. James, which had sailed from Yazoo City, this was not treated as normal steamboat or way mail (3¢ plus 1¢), illustrated in Vessel Named

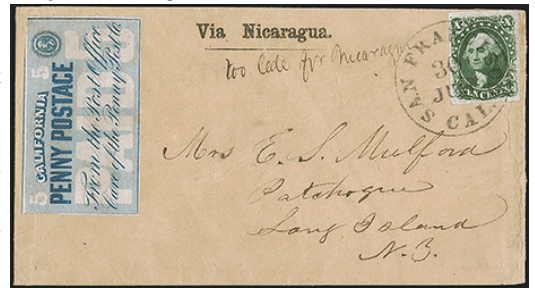


Markings by Dr. Milgram on p. 661.

Estimated at \$400-500, it realized a hammer price of \$1,100.

From our coverage of the Eubanks Collection of the California Penny Post, I also show here one lot with a remarkable lot description—the sort of description you only find in Siegel auctions.

We view here the California Penny Post Co., San Francisco, 5¢ Blue (Sc. 34L4) alongside a 10¢ Green Type II (14) tied by a "San Francisco Cal. 30 Jun." (1855)



circular datestamp on a light buff cover to Patchogue, Long Island, N.Y., imprinted "Via Nicaragua" at top (prepared by the California Penny Post Co.) with manuscript "too late for Nicaragua" applied by the company agent, indicating this missed the Vanderbilt Line sailing via Nicaragua. The California Penny Post Co. 5¢ prepaid the 5¢ rate for delivery to one of the Vanderbilt Line steamers. Docketing on back confirms 1855 use.

This is the earliest use of a 10¢ 1855 issue stamp from California and one of the finest of the five recorded intact covers bearing this rare San Francisco Local Post stamp, of which four are used with the 10¢ 1855 issue.

[What follows is an example of the extensive research that is brought together in these Siegel Galleries auctions and lot descriptions. JFD.]

This remarkable cover is the earliest recorded date of use of the 10¢ 1855 Issue from the West Coast. Depending on the date the first supply of 10¢ 1855 stamps arrived in San Francisco, this June 30 date might be the earliest possible use of the 10¢ on mail bound for the East Coast via Panama. An analysis of the stamp production dates and sailing data follows.

The date of issue of the 10¢ stamps has been reported as May 4, 1855 (Luff book) or May 10, 1855 (A Description of U.S. Stamps and Postal Cards, published by the Post Office Department). The Travers Papers indicate that the stamps were ready for delivery a few days after the intended May 1 issue date.

The earliest reported use of the 10¢ stamp from any post office is May 12 (Type II) from Eastport, Maine. It would have taken 25 to 30 days for the first supply of the new stamps to make their way to the West Coast via Panama.

There are two possible sailings. The USMSC *George Law* sailed from New York on May 5, 1855, and arrived in Aspinwall on May 16. The PMSS *Golden Gate* left Panama around May 18 and arrived in San Francisco on May 30. If the stamps were available as early as May 31, then they could have been used on mail carried on two PMSS steamers from San Francisco: the *John L. Stephens* on June 2 and the *Golden Gate* on June 16; however, no 10¢ covers are recorded for those sailings.

It is more likely that the 10¢ stamps were on the May 21 sailing of the USMSC *Illinois*, which arrived in Aspinwall on May 30. The PMSS

Sonora left Panama around June 1 and arrived in San Francisco on June 15. The stamps were probably not in circulation by the time the *Golden Gate* sailed on June 16.

The sender of this cover paid 5¢ for the California Penny Post Company to bring it to the wharf for mailing aboard the next outbound steamship on the Vanderbilt Line's route via Nicaragua. The manuscript notation "too late for Nicaragua" indicates that this missed the June 30 sailing of Vanderbilt's *Cortes*, which arrived in San Juan del Sur on July 13. This Nicaragua sailing would have left early in the day to beat the PMSS sailing via Panama. Had this cover been on the *Cortes*, it would have been postmarked on arrival at the New York City post office (Frajola census no. 702, lot 3054 in this sale, was carried on the *Cortes*). Instead, the Penny Post Co. brought the cover to the San Francisco post office, where it was postmarked on June 30, then bagged for the same-day departure of the PMSS *Sonora*, which arrived in Panama on July 15 after a stop in Acapulco. It was then carried from Aspinwall to New York on the USMSC *George Law*, which departed July 16 and arrived on July 25.

The California Penny Post Co. charged 2¢ for carrying a letter to the post office for an ocean-mail departure via Panama, which explains why a company agent wrote "too late for Nicaragua" on this cover.

Illustrated in Neinken 10¢ book (p. 13). Ex Eno, Jessup, Pearce, Haas and Dr. Kapiloff.

Estimated at \$20,000-30,000, this cover fetched a top bid of \$32,500.

Western Express lots included, "From the Celebrated Crittenden Correspondence", this Wells, Fargo & Co. Pony Express, 25¢ Blue (143L8) tied by a blue "Wells,



Fargo & Co. Express Aurora" oval handstamp on a 3¢ Pink entire (U34) to Mrs. C. C. Crittenden, San Francisco, with Wells, Fargo & Co. printed frank.

This cover was sent to Clara C. Crittenden by her son Howard, from Aurora. Clara's husband, Alexander Parker Crittenden, was a prominent West Coast attorney, who also resided in Virginia City. The move to Nevada became necessary after California passed a law prohibiting the practice of law by anyone who would not take the loyalty oath. "Parker" Crittenden was a pro-Southerner who chose to relocate to Virginia City, rather than swear allegiance to the Federal government. His wife stayed in San Francisco for some time, and the two corresponded frequently while he was away. A few years later he was shot dead by his mistress in front of his wife and son. Estimated at \$2,000-3,000, it went for \$2,700.

Here we see an 1867 cover to Lisbon Falls, Maine, posted at Williams Creek, British Columbia, with a U.S. 10¢ Yellow Green (68) tied by a cogwheel cancel, also with a strip of four Brit-



ish Columbia & Vancouver Island, 1860, 2-1/2p Dull Rose (2), tied by barred "10" cancels (of Williams Creek), also with a "San Francisco Cal. Aug. 26" double-circle datestamp that ties the strip, a blue "General Post Office British Columbia 17 Aug." double-circle datestamp struck on back.

The BC&VI 1860 2-1/2p stamps had been retired in November 1865, but some were sold during shortages of 3p stamps in 1867. In this case they are used provisionally as 6-1/4 cents. A rare mixed franking, the cover was estimated at \$1,500-2,000 and realized \$3,500.

Next up is this buff cover to Schenectady, N.Y. with an 1865 5¢ Blue on Blue "Hawaiian Postage" (Sc. 21). Plate 9-A, Type I (Westerberg Position 9) with bottom border dropped



more than usual, tied by a square grid cancel, used with a U.S. 1863 5¢ Brown (76), tied by cogwheel cancel, red "Honolulu U.S. Postage Paid Oct. 7" (1865) circular datestamp and "San Francisco Cal. Oct. 28, 1865" double-circle datestamp. An attractive and high quality Hawaiian and U.S. Five and Five Numeral mixed franking, it sold for the top of its \$4,000-5,000 estimate range.

Here we see a 10¢ dark green (68a) tied by a propeller cancel and trace of San Francisco circular datestamp struck off top edge of cover to W. H. Foster Esq., Hong Kong, China, sender's directive



"Per steamer from San Francisco", also with red "San Francisco Cal. Paid Mar. 5" (1868) circular datestamp and matching large "PAID ALL" double-line circle handstamp, carried on PMSS *Great Republic*, with partly readable Hong Kong receiving backstamp, missing backflap, a beautifully struck example of the rare San Francisco large "PAID ALL" in circle.

Estimated at \$750-1,000, it soared to \$5,000.

Moving to Locals and Carriers, we start with an 1842 folded printed invitation to officers of "Artillery and Infantry of this City" to attend a meeting of the Committee of Arrangements for a Grand Military Fete in honor of Washington's Birthday, the invitation with a City Despatch Post N.Y. Feb. 18, 9 O'Clock Type I double-line circular datestamp with "N.Y." inverted, struck in deep carmine, the first type of datestamp used by the City Despatch Post, which started delivering regular mail about one week earlier, examples of this short-lived datestamp with inverted "N.Y." are rare. Estimated at \$750-1,000, it sold for \$750.



Next we view a (Greig's) City Despatch Post, stamp, a New York N.Y., 3¢ black on grayish (40L1) with manuscript "X" cancel, the folded letter folded letter to East Hartford,



Ct., with a "New-York Apr. 30" (1842) circular datestamp, also with a manuscript "12 -1/2" cents due. This dates from the two-month period (April-May 1842) when letters carried by the City Despatch Post to the mails for delivery outside the city were cancelled in manuscript and received no local post markings—fewer than six City Despatch Post 40L1 covers to other cities are known. Estimated at \$750-1,000, it realized just \$50

One of the interesting aspects of these independent mail, or Locals, is how they cooperated in the movement of mail from one company's territory to or through another's. Here we have a cover with an



American Letter Mail Co. (ALMCo) (5¢) Black on Gray (5L2), uncanceled but tied by gum toning, used on this Sep. 22, 1844 folded letter from Boston to Troy N.Y., with a small red "PAID." straightline handstamp applied by Wm. Wyman, a rare conjunctive use involving Wyman's and American Letter Mail Co. for transportation from Boston to Troy. This cover is comparable to the Wyman-ALMCo.-Pomeroy triple-conjunctive usage from Boston to Buffalo, in this case, only two firms were involved. Because the American Letter Mail Co. maintained offices in Albany and Troy, the sender gave the letter to Wyman, whose main office was located in Boston and whose principal route was New York-Boston, because Wyman did not serve Troy, the letter was given to ALMCo. in Boston for transmission to its Troy office via Albany, the stamp prepaid the ALMCo. postage, we can speculate that Wyman, who did nothing but convey the letter to ALMCo. within Boston, probably applied the stamp after collecting 5¢ from the sender. Estimated at \$750-1,000, it went for \$1,000.

Here we view a cover bearing a Letter Express (Wells) 10¢ black on scarlet glazed Type II (96L4), black printing a bit rubbed at top, bright color with mild oxidation, conjunctive use



with Pomeroy's Letter Express 5¢ black on yellow (117L1), each stamp cancelled by manuscript "X" on the Oct. 5, 1844 folded letter from the Bank of River Raisin at Monroe Mich. to New York City street address. This cover is illustrated in Gutman Independent Mails book and has been accepted as genuine by Elliott Perry and Richard Schwartz, but in recent years some question about the Pomeroy stamp originating has been raised by Larry Lyons in his *Penny Post* articles, therefore now offered on its own merits, and our estimate is based on the rare 10¢ Scarlet stamp used alone.

Estimated at \$1,500-2,000, despite being estimated based on the accepted-as-genuine usage of the Wells stamp alone, it realized just \$1,000.

Here's a conjunctive use of a different combination. The folded letter bears an East River Post Office, New York N.Y., (1¢) black on green glazed (62L4), tied by gum toning through the paper,



used on the Feb. 9, 1858 folded letter to the Russian Consul at 260 4th Avenue. The writer is looking for work as an engineer or machinist in the "Rusuan Service" (sic) and gives his address "near Avenue D". Someone subsequently added a message regarding the application and forwarded the letter, first address crossed out and pencil "try 7 Broadway" written below, "Burns" [name] below stamp, "U.S. Mail City Delivery/1/Feb. 10" double-circle carrier datestamp with corresponding "U.S. Mail/4

P.M./Delivery" timestamp with pencil "D" above (Station D), second 11 A.M. Station F timestamp. An extremely rare use of the East River Post Office stamp on cover—and an unusual combination of local-post and [U.S. Mail City Delivery] carrier service, it was estimated at \$750-1,000 and sold for \$1,100.

An exceptional section of Robert E. Lee covers to family members opened with this small envelope addressed to "Mrs. R. E. Lee, Arlington, near Alexandria D.C., U.S. America" in Lee's hand—his wife's name is written exactly the same as Lee would write his own name as a free frank or field signature—clear strike of "VERA CRUZ/MEXICO MARCH 20" (1848) boxed datestamp, pencil ship notation "1848 City of Mexico 15 March 1848" at top, repeated inside the boxed handstamp, manuscript "10" due, blue crayon notations (likely filing notes for Lee family correspondence).



The cover was sent by Lee when he was a U.S. Army Colonel during the Mexican-American War. Covers from Lee during his active service in the Mexican War are extremely rare—in fact, prior to this sale we have never offered another, nor do we recall any other being offered in a different venue. Estimated at \$4,000-5,000, it fetched a top bid of \$9,000.

Next we view a Robert E. Lee. Clear signature "R. E. Lee Genl" at top of a cover addressed in Lee's hand to "Mrs. R. E. Lee, Care Genl. G. W. Custis Lee, Richmond Va.," with a 10¢ Blue Die A (11), huge margins all around with portion of adjoining stamp at right, tied by Army of Northern Virginia 10-Bar Open Grid cancel, blue crayon notation written over pencil docketing of Nov. 13, 1862 (likely filing notes for Lee family correspondence applied later).



Robert E. Lee's letters sent from the field were enclosed in envelopes signed "R. E. Lee Genl". The letters and other important papers were often carried by military courier, and sometimes through the Confederate postal system. Letters sent through the postal system with postage affixed are scarcer and more desirable. This cover, with the stamp tied by the Army of Northern Virginia 10-Bar Open Grid, is truly exceptional.

The bidders agreed. Estimated at \$10,000-15,000, it sold for \$22,000.

This next lot shows an example of the "FREE./For the Regiment/ADAMSEXRESS CO./Per HOEY" four-line handstamp in greenish blue, boldly struck on a red and blue "Uphold Our Flag" Eagle and Flag Patriotic cover to Louis Schermerhorn, Private 7th Co. 7th Regt, N.Y.S.M. in Washington D.C. The Adams Express "Free for the 7th Regiment" and "Free for the



ings were used briefly in April-May 1861 on mail carried free of charge between New York and regiments guarding the capital after Lincoln's call for volunteers to suppress the Southern rebellion. Prior to the emergence of this cover, only eight examples of the "For the Regiment" version (without "7th") were recorded. This is the only recorded Patriotic use of the "For the Regiment" marking.

The cover was accompanied by the original letter from Schermerhorn's brother with the same Eagle and Flag Patriotic design. This is the letter that was enclosed in this envelope.

Estimated at \$4,000-5,000, the lot went for \$14,500.

The next lot shows a "FREE./ For the 7th Regiment/ADAMS EXPRESS CO./ Per HOEY" Four-line handstamp in greenish blue (without period after "Hoey"), clear strike on red and blue "Union and the Constitution" Flag and Verse Patriotic cover to Louis Schermerhorn, care of Commander 7th Regiment, Company 7, N.Y. State, expert restoration including painting in the last "E" in "FREE".



Prior to the emergence of this cover and example offered in lot 3198, only six examples of the "For the 7th Regiment" version were recorded (with and without period after "Hoey"), a this is the only recorded Patriotic use of the "For the 7th Regiment" marking.

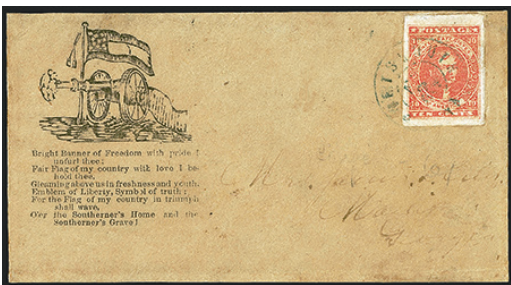
The cover was accompanied by two letters from Schermerhorn's father. One may originate with this cover as it is datelined April 27, 1861. The other, with a red and blue Patriotic Flag and Eagle design at top, dates from May 1862 and does not originate with the cover.

Estimated at \$3,000-4,000, the lot realized \$8,500.

This next cover is another example of the "FREE./ For the 7th Regiment/ADAMS EXPRESS CO./ Per HOEY" Four-line handstamp in greenish blue (without period after "Hoey"). I selected it for viewing because the auctioneers inform us, "This example is unusual because it is one of the few showing the use of a 3¢ stamped envelope (Sc. U27), a requirement according to the published notices and postal laws, but apparently often ignored."

Estimated at \$2,000-3,000, it sold for \$2,700.

In the Confederate States section we find this brown 12-Star Flag with Cannon and Verse Patriotic with Elongated Flag (CN-3, Verse 5) cover to Madison Ga., with a 10¢



Carmine (5a) tied by a blue "Portsmouth Va. May 9, 1862" double-circle datestamp. One of the few Patriotic covers with the 10¢ Carmine issue, described as an outstanding exhibition item, with some modest restoration improvements, it has a Scott value of \$5,000 for an ordinary cover, and is listed but unpriced for a patriotic cover.

Estimated at \$3,000-4,000, it went for \$4,250.

One other lot I selected from this section featured Mobile Stamp Money, two items, approximately 49 x 27mm thick glazed cards, first white with printed "Post Office, Mobile. Good for 1 Cent." with light strike of Dec. 7 double-circle datestamp on back, second orange with printed "Post Office, Mobile. Good for 3 Cents.", with Oct. 11 double-circle datestamp on back, very unusual and rare examples of stamp money from Mobile.

Estimated at \$300-400, the lot realized \$850.

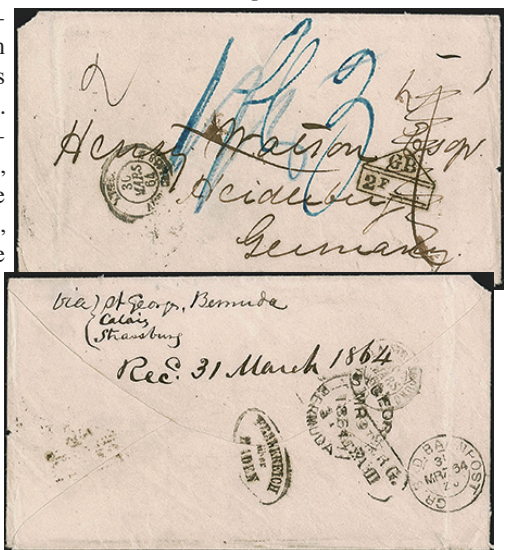


In CSA Blockade Run Mail, we see an example of incoming mail, a Liverpool, England to Petersburg Va. via Hamilton, Bermuda and Wilmington N.C. June 3 1864 folded letter datelined at Liverpool and addressed to Messrs. Thos., Branch & Sons, Petersburg, Va., carried on the Cunarder *Africa*, departing Liverpool June 11, 1864, arriving Halifax June 22, then by the *Alpha*, departing Halifax June 23, arriving Bermuda June 28, forwarded from Bermuda with "Forwarded by R.S. Musson & Co. Commission Merchants, Bermuda" oval stencil-style handstamp, carried through the blockade from Bermuda to Wilmington N.C., with "Wilmington N.C. Aug. 16" arrival datestamp and manuscript "22" cents rate (double 10¢ plus 2¢ ship fee).

The Special Routes census lists only one example of the R. S. Musson handstamp, on a blockade cover traveling in the opposite direction, to London via Hamilton. This cover was unknown when the census was published. It is one of only two examples recorded and is an outstanding artifact of Civil War postal history.

Estimated at \$3,000-4,000 it fetched a top bid of \$7,500.

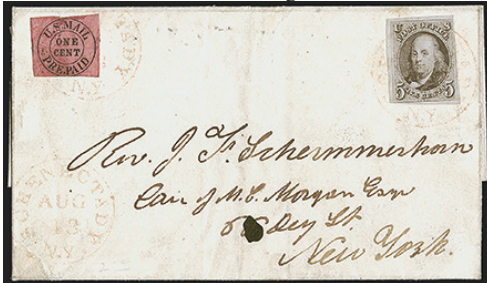
For outgoing Blockade Run mail, we view this Wilmington N.C. to Heidelberg, Germany via Bermuda, England and France outbound cover, sender's directive on back "via St. Georges, Bermuda/Calais/Strasbourg", "St. Georges Bermuda MR 9 1864" circular datestamp on back, transit datestamps applied at Calais (Mar. 30), Paris (Mar. 30) and Heidelberg (Mar. 31), framed "GB/2F__" Anglo-French accountancy handstamp, various rates for transit to Germany, Mar. 31, 1864 receipt docketing on back. Estimated at \$1,500-2,000, it sold for \$4,250.



A small Postmasters' Provisionals section included this Providence R.I., 5c Gray Black (10X1), large even margins all around, usual manuscript check cancel, used on a blue folded cover to Norwich Conn., with red "Providence R.I. Mar. 3" circular datestamp, matching straightline "PAID" and "5" handstamps, stamp with tiny margin flaw, vertical file fold barely affects stamp. With a Scott value (SCV) of \$7,000 and presale estimate of \$3,000-4,000, it sold for \$2,300. [This, in my opinion, is a healthy percentage of Scott considering that the file fold goes through the stamp. Even if only barely, you can see it at the top center of the stamp above the letter O into the margin.]



The 1847 section featured a folded cover addressed to Rev. John F. Schermerhorn at Day Street address in New York City with a 5c brown (1), intermediate impression, tied by lightly inked red "Schenectady N.Y. Aug. 13" circular datestamp, two additional strikes of datestamp, one at lower left and another at upper left tying U.S. Mail, New York, N.Y., 1c black on rose (6LB9), receipt docketing "Rev. J. A. Yates DD, Aug 13th 1849", a few pinholes at top of lettersheet not affecting stamps, carrier stamp with surface scrape at top and small crease.



This is the only recorded cover showing use of the New York Carrier Department stamp from a post office outside of New York City—an extraordinary use in combination with the 5c 1847 Issue. This cover was included in the "Cleveland Album," a collection of United States covers formed during the 1890s, and it had not been previously recorded by students of carrier mails before it was sold in a 1994 Siegel sale. Reverend Schermerhorn was an active correspondent in New York City during the 1849 period, and, based on other known covers, he used local posts to carry his letters to the post office. Estimated at \$4,000-5,000, it sold for \$3,000.

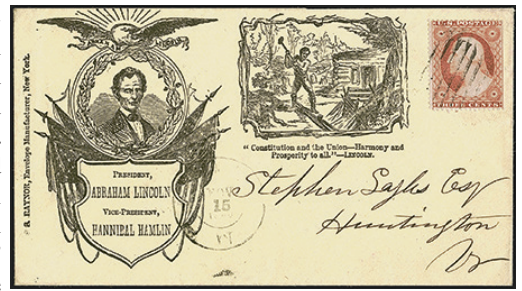
The 1851-57 section was led by this blue folded lettersheet to Madisonville, Tenn. with the 1c Blue Type Ib-Ib (5A-5-5A), Positions 6-8R1E, horizontal strip of three, large margins to in at bottom but showing almost the entire plume at bottom right of the center stamp (Scott 5), tied by manuscript tic-tac-toe patterns on each stamp, with a red "Benton Tenn. Feb. 28" circular datestamp. The left and right stamps (Scott 5A) have pre-use creases, but the center stamp—the key stamp—is sound (Scott 5/



The published census compiled by Jerome S. Wagshal (available at the website at <https://siegelauctions.com/census/us/scott/5>), contains at least 98 unduplicated records of Scott 5. There are probably no more than ten examples existing outside of the Wagshal census population. Therefore, the 1c 1851 Type I is the rarest of all United States stamps issued regularly prior to the 1868 Grills. The census lists a total of 23 examples of Position 7R1E on cover, of which eleven are used to pay a circular rate or drop-letter rate.

Estimated at \$20,000-30,000, it sold for \$24,000.

A nice selection of Campaign Covers included this 3c dull red Type III (26). Bright color tied by a grid cancel with a "Brandon Vt. Nov. 15, 1860" double-circle datestamp on a cover with a Beardless Lincoln-Hamlin two-part Rail-splitter campaign design with "Constitution and the Union—Harmony and Prosperity to all" (Milgram AL-89), S. Raynor imprint.



Estimated at \$750-1,000, it fetched a top bid of \$5,000. Union Patriotics included some imaginative designs, one example being this cover with a 3c dull red Type III (26) tied by a Providence R.I. "Secession is nearly played out, so I will go back to my h_ole" caricature Patriotic depicting the devil holding a trident with Confederate flag, New York Union Envelope Depot imprint, to Cambridge Mass.



Estimated at \$1,000-1,500 it garnered a winning bid of \$8,000. Another example is this cover with a 10c green tied by a "Shasta Cal. Dec 29, 1861" c.d.s. with a red and blue Union Caricature with Jeff Davis and Circus theme, a whimsical design depicting Davis with a noose around his neck on the gallows, jumping through a Union shield above an ass, text reads "Positively the last appearance of Jeff DAVIS, upon which occasion he will introduce his wonderful feat of balancing himself on a single string", especially desirable used from California. Estimated at \$400-500, it also exceeded all expectations, with a realization of \$3,750.



1861-68 Issue covers included this buff cover with Putnam's Improved Spring Bed illustrated design to Washington, D.C., bearing a 3c Pink (64) and a 1c Blue (63), straight edge at right, each tied by "PAID" in oval, also with a red "Boston Mass. Apr. 28" c.d.s. Estimated at \$300-400, it realized \$400.



On page 6 we view a cover with printed address to Rosario, Argentina, with a 2c black F Grill (93), used with a 3c red F Grill (94) and two 10c green F Grills (96), tied by circle of wedges cancels with a Boston Mass. Feb. 22" (1869) c.d.s. The sender's directive was "pr steamer 23rd inst" but the "TOO LATE" handstamp and French April 22 packet datestamp indicates this waited a long time for the next sailing. The cover also bears a red "15" credit handstamp, blue crayon "5c", 3c also tied by docketing,

sent at the 25¢ rate via American Packet to Rio and then by French Packet to Buenos Aires, this missed the Feb. 22 sailing from New York of the *South America*, carried on the



Mississippi from New York to Rio, then on the CGT Ligne K steamer *Aunis* to Buenos Aires. Estimated at \$750-1,000, 400

Next up is a Nov. 30, 1868 docketed folded cover to Lima, Peru, with a 24¢ Gray Lilac F Grill (99) used with a 10¢ green F Grill (96), tied by matching segmented grid cancels, the 10¢ also tied by "A



panama DE 9 68" transit datestamp also with New York forwarder's oval and sender's ship directive "Arizona," red "24" credit handstamp, and Lima arrival backstamp (Dec. 17), part of one internal panel torn away into the docketing but the date is very clear. The earliest documented use of the 24¢ F Grill, it was estimated at \$2,000-3,000 and realized \$2,100.

1869 Pictorials included a 12¢ green (117) used with a 10¢ green F Grill (96), tied by quartered cork cancels and "New Bedford Mass. Jul. 30" (1869) duplex circular datestamp



on cover to ship captain at Bay of Islands, New Zealand, red "12" credit handstamp and matching "New York Paid All Br. Transit Jul. 31" backstamp, red London Paid datestamp (Aug. 10), an array of New Zealand transit backstamps including Auckland and Russell. Of particular interest is a red manuscript "Ship sailed, not known whither" and a backstamp "two years later" (evidently sent to Dead Letter Office), horizontal fold causing tear and defects in bottom of 10¢ stamp but not very noticeable, otherwise Fine, an extremely scarce destination and combination with an unusual post office "Not Known" marking.

Estimated at \$1,000-1,500, it sold for \$3,750.

Next we have a lot with every Columbian issue, 1¢ through \$5—including vertical pairs of 1¢, 8¢ and 30¢ on the four Columbian Exposition entires (U348-U351) plus the 10¢ Orange Special Delivery (E3) stamp, which



was also issued for the exhibition, all tied by oval registry cancels to H. Platen & Son in New York, purple "New York N.Y. Aug. 12, 1893" with registry numbers in sequence from 43612 thru 43615, each with light vertical file

fold affecting some stamps including 50¢ and \$4.00.

Estimated at \$4,000-5,000, the lot went for \$3,000.

Below the Columbian covers we view a 1¢ Pan-American (294) tied by a "May 1, 1901 Pan-American Exposition" First Day machine cancel on a multicolored post card depicting the exposition, to New Haven Conn., a very fine 1¢ Pan-Am First Day Cover.

With an SCV of \$5,000 and a pre-sale estimate of \$1,500-2,000, it sold for \$1,500.

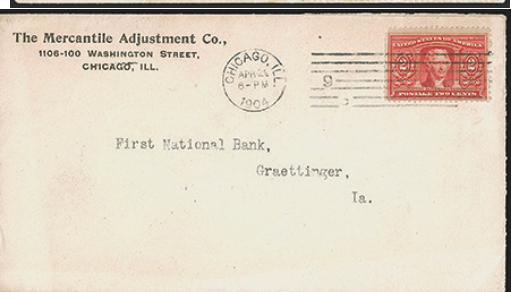
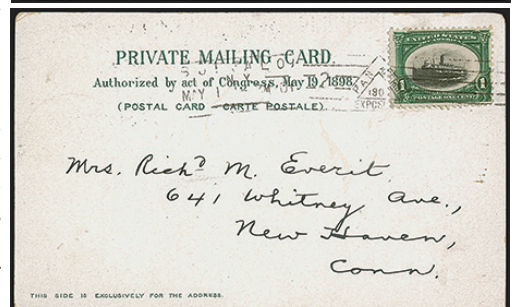
And then, below the 1¢ Pan-Am FDC is a Pan-Am set (294-299) tied by target cancels, "Heusler Ind. May 22, 1901" circular datestamp on a cover to Rubigen, Switzerland, receiving backstamp, Very Fine and choice set used on cover during the first month of issue.

Estimated at \$300-400, it sold for \$750.

From three similar examples, we see a cover to Graettinger, Iowa, with a 2¢ Carmine Louisiana Purchase (324) tied by a pre-First Day "Chicago Ill. Apr. 29 6-PM 1904"

machine cancel. There are only 24 known First Days and nine pre-First Days for the 2¢ Louisiana Purchase issue. With a \$5,000 Scott value as a First Day, and a \$2,000-3,000 estimate it, and the other two, went for \$1,100 each.

On page 7 is the 2¢ Carmine Louisiana Purchase (324) tied by "St. Louis Mo. Apr. 30 2-AM 1904 World's Fair St. Louis" First Day machine cancel on a World's Fair illustrated cover to Fremont Nebr., receiving backstamp, Very Fine and attractive, rare on the World's Fair illustrated cover, only 24 First



Days and nine pre-First Days for the 2¢ Louisiana Purchase issue are known. With a Scott value of \$5,000 and an estimate of \$1,000-1,500, as with the pre-first days, it sold for \$1,100.



Meanwhile, in that same section, this 1¢-10¢ Louisiana Purchase set (323-327) tied by three strikes of “St. Louis Mo. Exposition Sta. Oct. 13, 1904” duplexes on legal-size cover with a Massachusetts State Building, World’s Fair corner card, to Springfield Mass., sold for \$275 against a \$500-750 estimate.

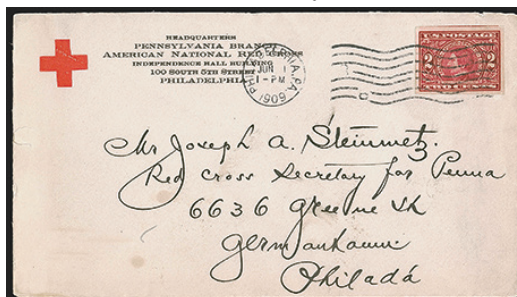
Next we view a 10¢ Louisiana Purchase single, but not just any single. It was one of two used stamps in the lot, each with Apr. 30, 1904 First Day cancels, one with Madison Square Station N.Y. (shown) other with Boston registry division oval, both clearly show the date. First Day cancels are extremely rare, the covers catalogue \$24,000.00 apiece, this lot was estimated at \$750-1,000 and went for \$475.



Here we view another complete set on cover, this one the 1¢-5¢ Jamestown (328-330) used with 3¢ bright violet (302) on registered 2¢ Carmine on Oriental Buff (U364), all with target cancels, to Ancon, Canal Zone, purple with a light “Milwaukee Wis. Sta. 23 Registered May 27, 1907” double-circle datestamp, manuscript “receipt demanded”, New York and receiving backstamps, also seal on back from Metropolitan Correspondence Club, estimate \$300-400, hammer price \$300.



Next we view a 2¢ Carmine Alaska-Yukon Imperforate issue (371) tied by a “Philadelphia Pa. Jun. 1 1-PM 1909” First Day machine cancel on a Red Cross corner card cover to Joseph Steinmetz in Germantown Pa.. This is the only recorded First Day cover with the imperforate Alaska-Yukon issue, unlisted in



Scott which notes the earliest documented use is June 7. Although the auctioneers note, “with 1977 P.F. certificate as Scott 370,” they described it as 371, but they only estimated it would bring between \$1,000 and \$1,500. In any event, at least two competing bidders believe it is Scott 371 as it sold for \$22,000.

The very next lot also produced a surprising result. This cover to Melrose, Mass., bears a 5¢ rose error (505) tied by “Reading, Mass. Oct 25, 1918” flag machine cancel, also with a 1¢ Postage Due (J61). It was illustrated in the October 2012 issue of *The United States Specialist*, where author Kevin G. Lowther notes this is the only 5¢ error cover with a postage due stamp. The Scott value is \$2,250, and the pre-sale estimate was \$1,000-1,500, but the realization was a lofty \$21,000. [One possibility is that the bidders are Postage Due collectors/exhibitors, and both would want the one and only cover with a Postage Due stamp... just speculation on my part. JFD.]



Here we view the 1¢-5¢ Pilgrim Tercentenary (548-550), including two of the 1¢ and 2¢, tied by purple “Washington D.C. Dec. 21 PM” First Day cancels, additional strike of “Washington D.C. Dec. 21 12:30PM” circular datestamp



on a cover with printed address to The Stamp Shoppe in Washington D.C., with instructions for “Special Delivery” and a receiving backstamp. Scott value for a set on cover is \$3,000.

Estimated at \$750-1,000, it sold for \$375.

Next we view a set of Kansas-Nebraska overprints, each set (658-68; 669-79) on a matching First Day Cover, stamps tied by strikes of “Washington D.C. May 1, 1929” duplexes and both addressed to George Gordon Jr. in Bridgeport, Conn., each



with red “Fee claimed by Office of First Address” handstamp, a fresh and Very Fine matched set of first day covers, Scott value \$3,000, estimate \$1,000-1,500, realization \$500.

This completes our viewing of this Siegel Galleries Postal History auction. Please go to https://siegelauctions.com/sales.php?sale_no=1272 to view the complete auction.