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Viewing Collections: **The David Golden Hawaii Collection**

by John F. Dunn

On May 24-26 Robert A. Siegel Auction Galleries offered the David Golden Collection of Hawaiian Stamps and Postal History. One of the unusual aspects of this Hawaii auction is that it does not include any Hawaiian Missionaries, the rare and valuable first issue, Sc. 1-4. In its stead, we have tremendous coverage of everything else, stamps and covers right on up to the final Hawaii issue and back-of-book material—all lavishly illustrated and fully described as only the Siegel Galleries can do it.

As a result, this wide ranging 923-lot auction is just too large and important to present in one “viewing,” so I have opted to break it up into three sections. Pre-stamp postal history will begin in the July issue of our sister publication, *U.S. Stamp News*, stamps on cover will begin in this edition of *Stamp News Online*, and stamps off cover will begin in the June 24 edition of our other sister publication, *Mekeel’s & Stamps*.

The first lot selected for viewing in the stamps on cover section is this 1853 5¢ blue on thick white wove paper (Sc. 5), tied by a red “Honolulu*Hawaiian-Islands*Oct. 18” (1856) circular datestamp. The cover, addressed to the Pension Office in Washington, D.C., was carried on the *Fanny Major* from Honolulu on Oct. 21, 1856, arriving in San Francisco on Nov. 18. The San Francisco post office, recognizing the official status of the addressee, waived postage due and applied its “San Francisco Cal. Free 20 Nov.” circular datestamp.

This cover shows an unusual combination of Hawaiian postage and the U.S. Free franking privilege, and is the



only recorded example of the 1853 5¢ on a cover on which U.S. postage was neither charged nor prepaid by stamps. Estimated at 7,500-10,000, it realized \$11,500. (All prices in this report do not include the 15% Buyers' Premiums that are added on to these hammer prices.)

Next we see an 1853 13¢ dark red on thick white wove (Sc. 6) tied by a red "Honolulu*U. S. Postage Paid*Dec. 13" (1854) c.d.s., repeated at left, also with "PAID/8/SHIP" handstamp and



"San Francisco Cal. 1 Jan." (1855) c.d.s. A rare single usage of the 13¢ 1853 issue prior to April 1855, the auctioneers explain that it paid "the short-lived for which it was created....The April 1855 rate change...effectively increased the Hawaiian rate to the U.S. East Coast from 13¢ to 17¢...which was to pay the 5¢ internal Hawaiian rate, 2¢ ship's fee and 6¢ United States postage."

Only six such covers are recorded, and this is just one of the two on which the stamps are tied. Estimated at \$10,000-15,000, it sold for \$16,000.

Next we have an unusual usage and a wonderful explanation of that usage. The key stamp on this cover from Hawaii, addressed to Miss Almira L. Bartow, in Brooklyn, N.Y.—Miss Bartow being the sister of Lahaina postmaster Cornelius S. Bartow—is the 1853 13¢ dark red on



thick white wove (Sc. 6). It is used in combination with a horizontal pair of the 1857 5¢ blue (Sc. 8) and an 1859-60 10¢ green (Sc. 35) and 12¢ black plate 3 (Sc. 36B).

Without getting involved with the cancellations, the key marking on this cover is that "12" red crayon beneath the 13¢ stamp, because it confirms that this is a rare usage

of the 13¢ as a “mute” surcharge 12¢ stamp. The auctioneers quote from a forthcoming book by Hawaii expert Fred Gregory to explain this unusual surcharge:

“In 1861, supplies of the United States 12¢ stamp were running low at the Honolulu Post Office and were exhausted at some outlying post offices. A problem arose when the postmaster at Lahaina ordered a supply of 200 United States 12¢ stamps from Honolulu. Instead of sending United States 12¢ stamps and risk exhausting the supply at Honolulu, Postmaster General Clark requisitioned more of the [Hawaii] 13¢ stamps from the vault, put them into service at 12¢ and in a letter dated 16 March 1861, instructed the Lahaina Postmaster to sell them at 12¢...Clark’s authorization to sell the 13¢ stamps for 12¢ amounted to a ‘mute’ surcharge....”

Further explanation comes from the Siegel lot describer: “The cover offered here is a double-rate franking: 2 x 5¢ Hawaiian postage (10¢), 2 x 10¢ U.S. transcontinental postage (20¢) plus 2¢ ship fee, for a total of 32¢. The four stamps affixed at Lahaina at upper left amount to 32¢ exactly, if we count the 13¢ as 12¢, which Clark’s correspondence authorized and the “12” notation below the 13¢ stamp confirms. The postmaster in Honolulu was careful not to cancel the United States stamps...” [the 13¢ Hawaii serving as a 12¢ U.S.].

Properly described as “one of the great postal history covers of the United States and Hawaii,” this cover was estimated at \$30,000-40,000 and fetched \$55,000.

Still another rare and unusual usage in the Golden Collection is this Scott 6 tied by a “3” hand-stamp and “Marlboro Mass. Sep. 11” c.d.s. on a cover **to** Honolulu, Hawaii, addressed to “Warren Goodale Esqr., Honolulu, Oahu, Hawaiian Islands,” making this the only recorded example of this issue used on mail from the U.S. to Hawaii.



As explained in detail by the auctioneers, and not repeated here, the Goodale family traces back to the early Missionaries from Massachusetts to the Hawaiian Islands. The addressee, Warren Goodale, was Collector of Customs in Hawaii, and moved back to Massachusetts in 1861.

The auctioneers note, "There is no yeardate on this cover, but since it is addressed to Warren Goodale in Honolulu, it must have been mailed prior to his resignation as Collector of Customs in December 1863. The '3' handstamp could be interpreted as 3¢ U.S. postage, which would mean that the cover was postmarked at Marlborough on Sep. 11, 1863, after the U.S. rate to California was reduced to 3¢ in July 1863. The 13¢ Hawaiian stamp would leave a balance of 10¢ to cover the 7¢ due in Hawaii (5¢ plus 2¢ ship fee)....The Hawaiian stamp was probably sent to or carried back to Massachusetts by a member of the Goodale family. Its use on mail to Hawaii appears to have been permitted by the Marlborough post office, either due to the 'United States 8 Cts.' label on the stamp or out of respect to the Goodale family (or both)....

Estimated at \$10,000-15,000, this cover realized \$12,000.

Moving on, we view the 1857 5¢ on 13¢ dark red (Sc. 7) with Type I numeral, used with U.S. 1851 12¢ (Sc. 17). The cover, also showing a red "Honolulu*U.S. Postage Paid*May 21" (1857)



c.d.s., was sent from Hilo missionary Rev. Titus Coan to his son Titus Munson Coan at Yale College in New Haven, Conn., then forwarded to Plymouth, Conn., both stamps uncanceled at Honolulu, tied by "San Francisco Cal. 20 Jun." c.d.s. It also shows a "New Haven Con. Jul. 13, 1857" c.d.s. and "Forwarded 3" handstamp.

This is one of only two recorded covers with the 1857 Provisional used in combination with the U.S. 12¢ issue. As explained in the lot description, "The 5¢ provisional

surcharge was necessary due to a shortage of 5¢ stamps just after the transition from Postmaster Whitney to Jackson. Most [including this stamp] were made by Jackson's clerk, Alvah Clark, around the start of 1857. New supplies of the 5¢ stamp (Scott No. 8) were received at the end of June 1857."

This rarity was estimated at \$30,000-40,000, and sold for double the high end, at \$80,000.

This next lot shows the only cover with more than one copy of the 1859 2¢ stamp. To add to the appeal, they are two different shades, the light blue at left (Sc. 13) and the dark blue at right (Sc.



13a). The circa 1859 cover to Kailua, Hawaii bears a red "Honolulu Hawaiian-Islands Sep. 27" c.d.s. The stamps pay the double Inter-Island rate from Honolulu to Kailua. (If you magnify the stamps you can see the "Inter Island" inscription at the top.)

In addition to describing the cover, the lot description also gives us this background information: "Before August 1859, Hawaiian inter-island mail was carried free of charge by schooners, and there was no charge for letters delivered locally. With the rise in inter-island correspondence came a greater need for collecting postage. In 1859 the postal laws were amended to include a 2¢ per half-ounce postage rate for inter-island letters (and 1¢ for printed matter)...Drop letters left at and picked up at the same post office were not subject to postage, nor were consignee letters handled by ship captains, as long as they did not go through the post office.

"The stamps available in 1859 were 5¢ and 13¢ denominations that were unsuitable for inter-island mail. In July 1859 the 1¢ and 2¢ Numeral stamps were put on sale...."

"...No example of the 1¢ Blue has been found on cover, and it has been reported that approximately 15 covers

exist with the 2¢ blue (excluding fronts from the Catholic Mission correspondence). Double-rate inter-island covers with any of the 2¢ Numerals are extremely rare...This extraordinary cover is the only double-rate franking with the 1859 2¢ blue Numeral Issue.” Estimated at \$20,000-30,000, it sold for \$35,000.

The 1859-63 2¢ black on grayish paper (Sc. 16) section includes this 1860 cover with the stamp tied by a “Collector’s Office, Hilo Hawaii” oval hand-stamp. As explained, “The



addressee, Liwai (Levi) Haalelea, was an important figure in Hawaiian history. His wife was Princess Kekauonohi, the granddaughter of Kamehameha I. She was one of the five wives of Kamehameha II and was present on the occasion of the famous meal at which the eating kapu was overturned and with it the entire kapu system in 1819....The distinctive Collector’s Office marking, used as a cancellation in Hilo during the Numeral Issue period, was struck in a brownish-black ink that is rarely found with a clear impression. Estimated at \$3,000-4,000, it went for \$5,250.

This next lot bears a pair of the 1865 5¢ blue on blue “Hawaiian Postage” inscription in the side panels (Sc. 21). It also bears another 5¢ single and singles of the U.S. 1861-63 3¢ rose (Sc.



65) and 5¢ brown (Sc. 76). One of only two recorded pairs of the 5¢ “Hawaiian Postage” on cover, it was estimated at \$7,500-10,000 and was hammered down for \$8,000.

On page 7 we view the 1861 2¢ pale rose on vertically laid paper (Sc. 28) tied by a square grid cancel to a 13-Star United States Flag patriotic cover form Honolulu to Hilo. The auctioneers note, “While many patriotic covers

are known used from Hawaii during the Spanish-American War period, Civil War era patriotics used from or within Hawaii are extremely rare. Our records contain just five examples..." Estimated at \$2,000-3,000, this cover realized \$3,000.



Now up for viewing is a combination cover with the Hawaii 1866 5¢ blue (Sc. 32) and the U.S. 10¢ 1869 Pictorial (Sc. 116), each tied by negative "HI" oval cancels. One of only nine covers with the 10¢ Pictorial used from Hawaii, it bears a black "Honolulu Hawaiian Islands Apr. 21" (1870) c.d.s and "San Francisco Cal. May 5" receiving datestamp. Estimated at \$5,000-7,500, it went for \$5,000.



This next cover shows a rare bisect of the 1864 2¢ rose vermilion Kamehameha IV issue, diagonal half used as 1¢ (Sc. 31b), along with an 1866 5¢ blue (Sc. 32), the two stamps tied together by a negative "HI" oval on cover. The cover to New London, Conn., also bears a red "G.P.O. Honolulu. Paid All. Oct. 25" (1870) double-circle datestamp.



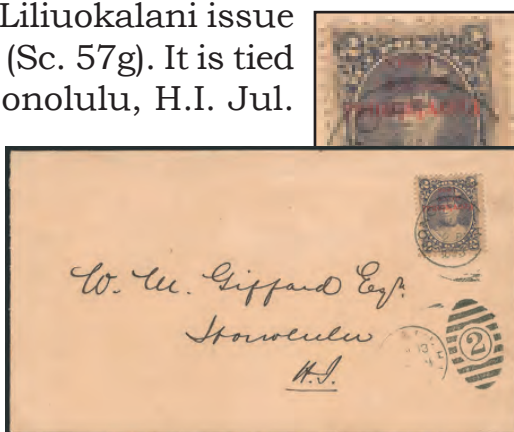
As explained by the auctioneers, "In July 1870 the 6¢ single-letter rate to the United States was established. The 6¢ stamps were not available until late Spring 1871, and so the rate was made up using three 2¢ stamps. As the supply of 2¢ stamps dwindled, the post office permitted some bisects to be used with 5¢ stamps for the 6¢ rate. With an SCV of \$8,500, this cover fetched \$3,750.

This next lot bears a pair of the 1866 5¢ blue (Sc. 32) tied by a “Late Letter. Mail.” double-circle hand-stamp, also with a second strike at the left and a red “Honolulu Hawaii Feb. 1” (1884) c.d.s. The scarce “Late Letter. Mail.” marking was used to indicate payment of the extra fee for a letter that was brought to the Honolulu Post Office after the posted closing time for a mail shipment—similar to the U.S. Supplementary Mail markings. Estimated at \$750-1,000, it realized \$1,700.

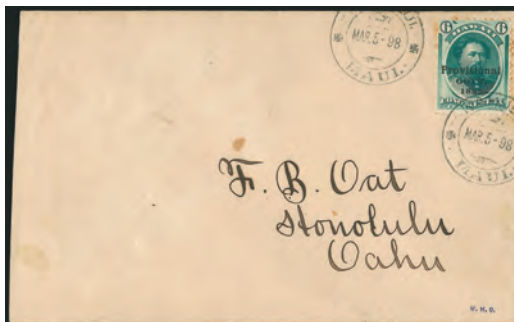


This next cover bears an extremely rare usage of the 1893 2¢ dull violet Queen Liliuokalani issue with inverted red overprint (Sc. 57g). It is tied to this local cover by a “Honolulu, H.I. Jul. 13, 1893” duplex cancel.

Per the lot description, “Only two sheets of this 2¢ overprint were printed upside down, and this is believed to be the only example known on cover. Estimated at \$1,500-2,000, it sold for \$4,500.



Another rare overprint error is the 1893 6¢ green overprinted in black (Sc. 66C). Shown here is the unique cover with this error, tied by a “Kahului, Maui, Mar. 5-98” double-circle datestamp.

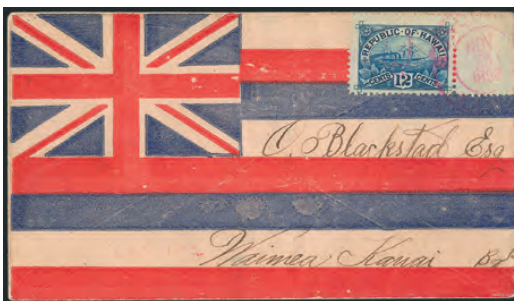


The lot also includes a photocopy of an affidavit from Postmaster Jos. M. Oat certifying that there was one sheet of the 6¢ error produced. Estimated at \$20,000-30,000, it sold for \$20,000.

This registered cover shows the 1893 10¢ red brown with black overprint (Sc. 68) used in tandem with an 1894 issue 10¢ yellow green (Sc. 77), both stamps tied by a magenta “Honolulu Hawaii Aug. 22 1896” double-circle datestamp. The cover to Newburyport, Mass., unclaimed and returned to Honolulu, as indicated by purple straightline handstamps. The cover also shows at bottom center a “Honolulu Sep. 24, 1896” double-circle receiving datestamp. Estimated at \$300-400, it realized \$225.



As mentioned earlier, many Spanish-American Patriotic covers are known from Hawaii, but few are this spectacular. It is an overall Hawaiian Flag Patriotic cover to Waimea, Kauai with an 1894 12¢ blue (Sc. 78) tied by a “Honolulu Hawaii Nov. 25, 1898” double-circle datestamp. The Hawaiian flag design is especially appropriate as it manifests Hawaii’s annexation to the U.S. as well as the Spanish-American War. Estimated at \$500-750, it realized \$900.



The next lot selected for viewing is a cover with four-corner hole punches, as part of the fumigation process against bubonic plague. It bears a strip of four of the 1899 1¢ dark green (Sc. 80), also with a block of six affixed to the back, all tied by “Honolulu H.I. Mar. 14, 1900” duplex datestamps. It is addressed to Washington, D.C., and forwarded to Newcastle, England, endorsed “U.S.S. Albany,” with “Care of U.S. Consul”



straightline handstamp and a purple B. F. Stevens Despatch Agent oval handstamp. Fumigated covers most often have corners clipped; this four-punch cover was estimated at \$400-500 and realized \$600.

Moving into the back-of-the-book section of this vast collection, we come to an 1896 5¢ black brown Official (Sc. O2) tied by a “Honolulu H.I. Jun. 9, 1898” duplex datestamp on a red and blue “Remember the



Maine” Spanish-American War Patriotic cover to San Francisco, endorsed at the top “Soldiers Letter” at top, with the soldier’s name and regiment designation at the side and a purple “Foreign Office Honolulu H.I.” double-circle handstamp.

As explained, “The Hawaiian government allowed soldiers en-route to the Philippines to send letters home with the postage paid by Official stamps.” Estimated at \$750-1,000, this example did not sell.

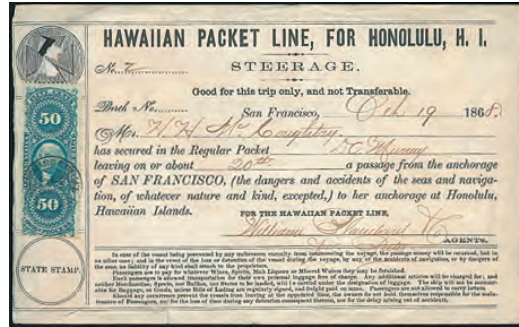
This next eye-catching cover is the 1884 10¢ black entire (Sc. U5) cancelled by a “Kahului Maui Feb. ? 1892” double-circle datestamp with “Honolulu H.I. Feb. 23 1890” duplex, used to Yokohama, Japan, where a pair



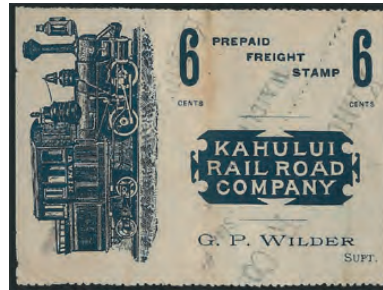
of Japan 10s brown orange stamps (Sc. 79) were affixed for forwarding postage. The cover also shows numerous Japanese handstamps and writing on both the front and the back, as well as San Francisco transit and Yokohama receiving backstamps. Estimated at \$500-750, it sold for \$1,200.

On page 11 we view a “Hawaiian Packet Line, For Honolulu, H.I. / Steerage” ticket from San Francisco dated

Oct. 19, 1868, bearing a U.S. 50¢ Original Process revenue stamp (Sc. R60c). I am not certain if this fits within the scope of a Hawaii usage, but it's part of the David Golden Hawaii Collection, so it is part of our viewing. Estimated at \$300-400, it realized \$1,600.



Finally, we view a 6¢ blue on white wove paper, Kahului Railroad stamp, 68 x 51mm, perf 14 at top and bottom with natural side straight edges. It depicts a locomotive at left and “Prepaid Freight Stamp”, “Kahului Railroad Company”, and “G. P. Wilder Supt.” printed at right—Wilder being the superintendent from 1884-1896. It is cancelled by a Wailuku Station railroad handstamp and shows a Kahului handstamp—Kahului being the terminus of the line. As described by the auctioneers, it has “light crease and couple edge nicks of no consequence since this is the only known example, very little is known about this fascinating stamp though it is believed to predate the 1894 American Bank Note Co. Kahului Railroad stamps, accompanied by several articles from the 1970s and 1980s announcing the discovery of the stamp and speculating as to its origin, as well as a report from the Hawaiian Philatelic Society, unlisted in Scott.” Estimated at just \$750-1,000, it realized \$4,250.



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