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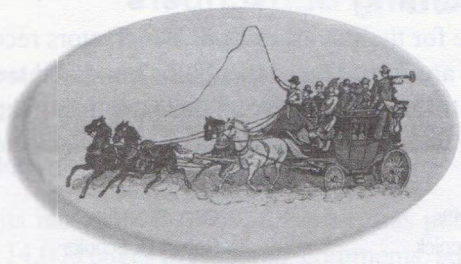
With a Little Help from Our Friends

Air Accelerated Mail to Europe & Beyond

Part 5 Imperial Airways to South Africa, 1931



OUR 38TH YEAR OF PUBLISHING AMERICAN POSTAL HISTORY 1969-2007



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Publisher's Page

La Posta's Body of Knowledge and Social Postal History

OUR BODY OF KNOWLEDGE

Since its inception in 1969, *La Posta* has published nearly 14,000 pages of research, comments, advertising and notices on the subject of American postal history. Over one thousand articles written by scores of talented postal historians have appeared on our pages. Our body of literature long ago exceeded my ability to accurately recall what subjects have been examined in *La Posta*.

Our dear friend and long-time frequent contributor Daniel Meschter prepared a detailed listing of articles published in *La Posta* Volumes 1 through 27 in 1996. He called it a "Cumulative Table of Contents" and, while it was not a searchable index it did feature a "Classified Directory" and an "Author Index." Dan's work has served as our primary means of locating articles published in earlier *La Posta* numbers. We have carried it in its entirety on our website for a number of years and you may access it today at <http://www.la-posta.com/lp-guide.htm>.

Recently we have been in contact with Ellen Peachey, Library Services Coordinator at the American Philatelic Research Library (APRL). The APRL is in the process of compiling a gigantic index of articles contained in its extensive holding of philatelic journals—including a complete run of *La Posta*. For an introduction to the APRL and its many services please visit their website:

http://www.stamps.org/TheLibrary/lib_AbouttheAPRL.htm

I would like to pass along what they have on *La Posta* and how you may obtain copies of past articles from the APRL and/or from Sherry Straley, who maintains our own repository of *La Posta* back numbers. Currently there are 1,000 *La Posta* articles on the APRL database and the listing is current up to Whole Number 224 (Vol. 38, No. 2) April-May 2007.

The key to searching the APRL holdings is called the Inmagic Genie. Direct your browser to: <http://www.stamps.org/InmagicGenie/opac.aspx> and you will see a Catalog Search table with a number of named fields.

In order to see their holdings of *La Posta*, at the "Record Type" field, you should type in the word

"Journal" — or you can click the Browse button beside that field and choose "Journal" from that list.

In the "Title" field, type in "La Posta."

To search for articles from *La Posta* that have been indexed: in the field "Any Word," type in "La Posta."

In the field "Record Type," type in or choose "Article."

Then you can add a word to the Subject field (e.g., "Alaska"); hit the Submit Entry button, and you will get 14 "hits."

If you enter "Helbock" in the Author field, you will get 102 hits.

If you enter "Doanes" in the Title field, you will get 29 hits.

From there, you can click the "Full Display" button to read the entire description of the article.

Ellen offered the following replies to questions from Cath about how to obtain copies of articles and books on loan:

Cath: can a person order a reprint of an article and have it mailed or e-mailed to them?

Ellen: Yes. Our stand procedure is to photocopy articles and send them by mail, but we did recently begin offering scans (either jpg or pdf format) sent by email. (Our scanner actually went kaput at the end of the day Friday, so I don't know when that will resume.) The cost for scans is the same as for faxes: \$4 for the first page, and \$1 for each additional page. i.e., it's not bad for a few pages but it gets expensive for lots of pages. Photocopy fees are noted below.

Cath: Do you have a mail-order loan system?

Ellen: Yes. We will send books directly to APS or APRL members addresses. Non-members of either APS or APRL may order them via Interlibrary Loan (i.e., through their local public or university library.)

Details on Member User Fees and interlibrary Loan are as follows:

Member User Fees

To cover the costs incurred in providing library services through the mail, fees are:

- **Base fee:** \$10 per shipment/request (includes up to 15 minutes of staff time)
- **Books:** \$3 for the first book, \$1 for each subsequent book, and \$.25 per page for any photocopies

- **Photocopies:** (without any books) — 15 copies included in the base fee plus \$.25 per page afterwards
- **Extensive photocopies/research requests.** After the initial 15 minutes included in the base fee, \$20 per hour, billed in half-hour increments.

If we anticipate that a request will require additional time (long photocopy requests, etc.) we will notify the requestor by e-mail whenever possible.

Non-Members are charged a \$5 fee in addition to member fees.

Interlibrary Loan

The APRL also will provide materials to a member through the Interlibrary Loan System. If an item is requested through another library, and prepaid, the APRL will ship the item to that library. However, the borrowing library must make the request. An individual cannot request that an item be shipped to a library. The same user fees apply.

Note: We do not lend books overseas. We sometimes lend books to members in Canada, however, that is usually cost-prohibitive (costs more than the value of the materials), as we require the materials to be sent via Registered Mail both ways.

Availability of back numbers from Sherry Straley

Sherry acquired the entire supply of available *La Posta* back numbers in 1997 and has received multiple copies of almost every number published over the past 10 years. She has faithfully stored this large volume of journals for us as a service to the postal history community. Sherry charges very reasonable fees for both issues and shipping to our subscribers, with rates varying according to numbers ordered. It is our hope that you will use the APRL Index to find articles, then contact Sherry as your first option to obtain original back issues if possible. Her contact details are:

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SOCIAL POSTAL HISTORY

Many of today's historians have come to understand that their field of study is not just about political leaders and military conflicts; cataclysmic natural and man-made events; or even broad sweeping changes in economic, social or religious systems. History is

about all of us, and those like us who have lived before on our little planet. We are all a part of history. How we live, what we value and those things we enjoy, dislike or fear are all important parts of our story.

Unfortunately, the traditional teaching of history has only focused on the big names, dates, events and trends. Those were the pieces of information recorded by story tellers, stone table makers, diarists and latter day recorders of "the news." We see this kind of emphasis on the "big story" continuing to dominate our news today and the result is a meaningless parade of shallow reports concerning the triumphs and disasters in the lives of real and so-called celebrities. Anna Nicole Smith, O. J. Simpson, Tiger Woods, Paris Hilton, Barry Bonds, Alberto Gonzales, Martha Stewart are all names that dominate our TV and print "news". Google any of these names and you will find references such as 3 million entries for Anna Nicole Smith, 7.5 million for O. J. Simpson and over 17 million for Tiger Woods. How relevant are the stories we read and see about these celebrities to our own lives? What does that tell us about the relevance of historical celebrities to the lives of common people—like us—who lived in earlier days?

There is a growing recognition among many of today's historians that an effort should be made to preserve experiences, knowledge and opinions of ordinary people who have participated in "significant historical events." When I was a professor at New Mexico State back in the mid-70s, the History Department launched a project they called the Local Oral History Program. One of the first people that they were able to interview in a series of taped sessions was the wife of Pancho Villa—only 1.8 million Google hits by the way. I thought that was a brilliant idea! No doubt historians working at other universities around the nation were undertaking similar projects.

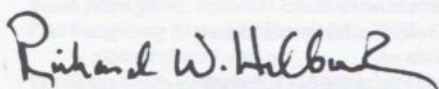
In 1990 Ken Burns produced the first of his epic historical projects for TV using early photographs and letters from the soldiers to tell the story of the American Civil War from a whole new perspective. It earned both critical acclaim and massive public support, and Burns has since gone on to investigate such other American stories as jazz history, baseball and most recently, World War II.

Other writers and story tellers have followed the lead of Ken Burns is using personal accounts from letters and diaries to shed new light on historical events. Clint Eastwood's highly acclaimed *Letters from Iwo Jima*—

the companion piece to his 2006 *Flags of Our Fathers*—tells the story of the Battle of Iwo Jima from the perspective a young Japanese soldiers ordered to defend the island at all costs. Although Eastwood's movie relies less on the actual words of the letter writers than does Burn's *Civil War* and employs more battle action as would be expected in a Hollywood production, his ending is very powerful. A group of modern Japanese archaeologists working in a cave unearth a bag of letters that were buried in 1945 and never mailed. The letters were written by Japanese soldiers defending the island and contain their expressions of love for absent family. As the letters fall from the bag, the voices of the fallen Japanese are heard reading from them.

Richard Martorelli and Tom Clarke—two names familiar to all *La Posta* readers—independently explore social aspects of America's past through the microscope of postal history in this issue. Their approaches and subject matter are vastly different, but both authors provide us with new perspectives on elements of the American character. I hope you will find their work as interesting and enlightening as I have.

Cath Clark joins our honoured list of authors in this issue with the first part of an examination of the postal history of Sequim, Washington. Sequim is one of those wonderful places occasionally found across our nation that can honestly be described as "one of the USA's best kept secrets." I'll not give away the secret here. You will learn more by reading Cath's article, but I am very proud to publish her initial postal history article in our pages.



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Concluded on page 34

With a Little Help from Our Friends

Early Efforts by the U.S. Post Office Department to Accelerate Mail Delivery to Europe and Locations beyond Using Overseas Airmail Services

By Richard W. Helbock

Part 5 1931 Imperial Airways to East & South Africa

France and Belgium had concentrated their efforts to accelerate postal communications with their African colonies from the earliest days of international air carriage of the mails. They had little in the way of important Asian colonies and therefore limited their routes to reach important African destinations—the West coast south to Dakar for France and the Congo for Belgium. The Netherlands had little colonial interest in Africa remaining by the age of air transportation. As described in part 4, they devoted almost all of their effort into establishing a sound air link with the Dutch east Indies. The United Kingdom, on the other hand, was initially preoccupied with speeding up communications to India—the Jewel in the Crown—but the British also had important colonial interests in Africa. Thus, an airmail link to Africa followed close on the heels of the London-Karachi route.

THE BRITISH IN AFRICA

British involvement with Africa traces back to the 17th century and initially it was all about slavery. John Hawkins commanded the first English slave-trading expedition in 1562 and sold his cargo in the Spanish Indies. English slaving remained a minor activity until the establishment of the British colonies in the Caribbean during the reign of King James I (1603–25). The first permanent British settlement on the African continent was made at James Island in West Africa's Gambia River in 1661.

In 1663 King Charles II gave the English slave trade to a monopolistic company—the Royal Adventurers Trading to Africa. It was succeeded by the Royal African Company, founded in 1672 and held the English monopoly until 1698, when all Englishmen received the right to trade in slaves. The demand to supply cheap labor for its North American and West Indies plantations drove Britain to become the world's lead-



Figure 60 This political cartoon known as “Rhodes Colossus” depicts Cecil Rhodes—an outspoken advocate of British colonialism in Africa—astride the continent. It was published in *Punch*, the British humor magazine, in the late 19th century and accurately represented the views of many in Britain who saw Africa as their “American Wild West.”

ing slave trading nation. The British controlled at least half of the trans-Atlantic slave trade by the end of the 18th century.

Slavery's economic incentives were powerful. Plantations relied on a steady flow of slaves from Africa. British merchants and ships profited not only from supplying these slaves but also from the slave trade with other colonies in the Western Hemisphere. The vast sums of money generated by the trade bought political control in the British Parliament and the fortunes of many British families were created on the backs of Africans uprooted from their villages and sent to work on far off plantations. Gradually, however, the influential planter and slave-trade interests came under vigorous attack by religious and humanitarian leaders and organizations, which propelled the issue of abolition to the forefront of British politics

around the turn of the 19th century. The British Act of 1807 formally forbidding the slave trade was followed up by diplomatic and naval pressure to suppress the trade.

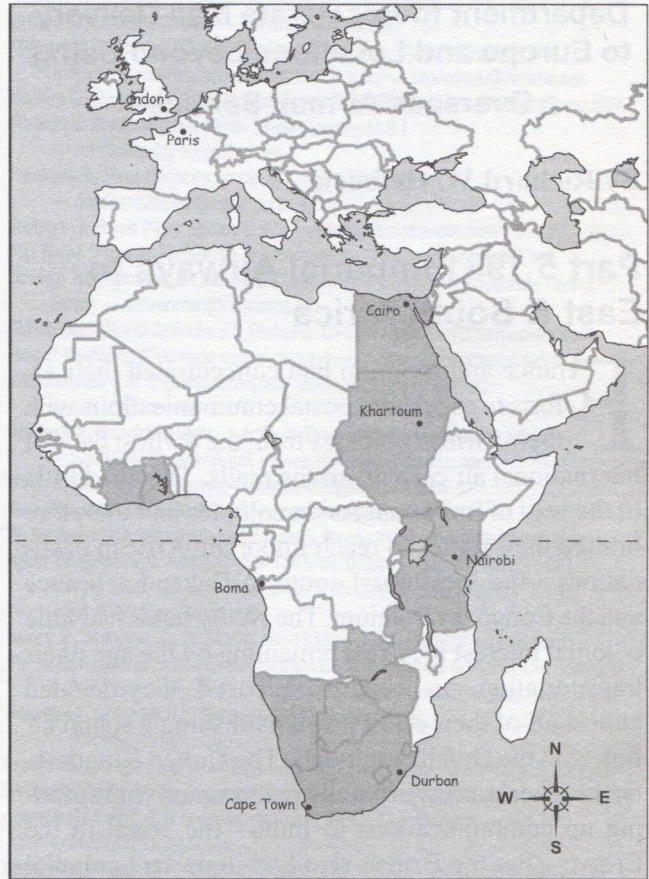
Ironically, some of Britain's earliest colonies in Africa date from the period after it abolished slavery and had sent its naval forces to control the African trade. Sierra Leone (1808), Gambia (1816) and the Gold Coast (1821) were all occupied by British garrisons to serve as bases for suppressing the slave trade and for stimulating substitute commerce. British naval squadrons toured the coast of Africa, stopping and inspecting suspected slavers of other nations. British authorities forced African tribal chiefs to sign anti-slavery treaties, and while these actions did not halt the expansion of the slave trade, they did help Britain attain a commanding position along the west coast of Africa.

British economic and political interests in Africa expanded more rapidly throughout the 19th century. In the far south, Britain had wrested Cape Colony from Dutch control in 1806 and in 1820 a large group of British settlers arrived to take up farming in the region. They formed the foundation of what would eventually become South Africa.

In Africa's northeast Britain confronted and eventually overshadowed French interests that had built the Suez Canal in Egypt thereby linking the Mediterranean and the Red Sea in 1869. The United Kingdom's 1882 military occupation of Egypt—itsself triggered by concern over the Suez Canal—contributed to a preoccupation over securing control of the entire Nile Valley and lead to the conquest of the neighbouring Sudan in 1896–98.

The Royal Niger Company began to extend British influence in West Africa's Nigeria during the second half of the 19th century, and the Gold Coast and The Gambia—two possessions gained earlier—were developed to produce raw materials for the Empire. The Imperial British East Africa Company operated in what are now Kenya and Uganda, and the British South Africa Company operated in Southern and Northern Rhodesia. Britain's victory in the South African War (1899–1902) enabled it to annex the Transvaal and the Orange Free State in 1902 and to create the Union of South Africa in 1910. The resulting chain of British territories stretching from South

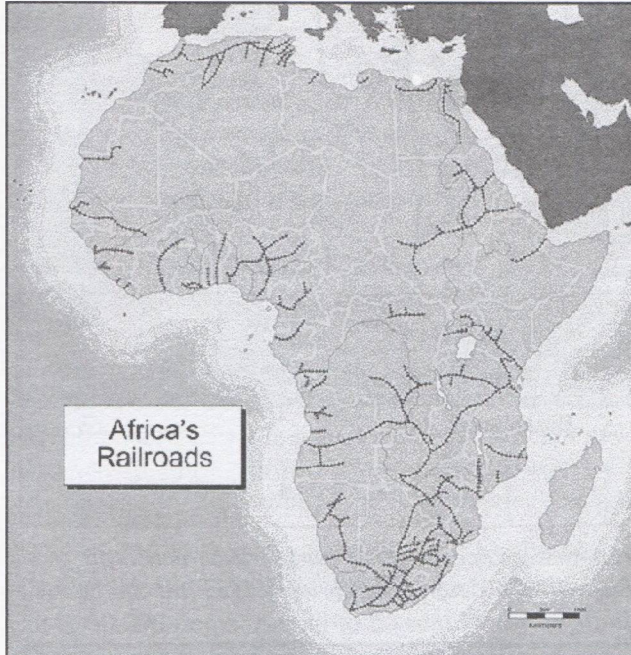
Africa northward to Egypt realized an enthusiastic British public's idea of an African empire extending “from the Cape to Cairo.” (map 15)



Map 15 British colonies and other areas where the British Government was in effective control of affairs in Africa circa 1931.

One of the most influential exponents of the British dream of a chain of colonies from the Cape to Cairo was Cecil Rhodes. Rhodes came to South Africa from Britain in the early 1870s and eventually founded De Beers, the most influential company in the Kimberly Diamond Mines. As a man of wealth he began a mission to build a railroad from Cape Town to Cairo. His overall goal was to encourage his fellow Britons to settle the highlands of east Africa much as the Americans had colonized the West of the United States. Rhodes convinced Queen Victoria to establish the British South Africa Company with the objective of acquiring and exercising commercial and administrative rights in south-central Africa—soon to be known as Rhodesia and now divided into Zambia and Zimbabwe. In 1890 Rhodes became the Prime Minister of Cape Colony. He held the post until 1896.

Rhodes died in 1902. He never realized his dream of a Cape to Cairo railroad although thousands of British settlers did come to farm the rich highlands of east Africa from Kenya south to Rhodesia. Interestingly, as we examine the map of railroads in Africa (map 16) today, there is still no way to travel from Cairo south to Cape Town by rail. Given the poverty, corruption and political fragmentation that has plagued modern Africa, it seems very unlikely we will see such a railroad anytime soon.



Map 16 A modern railroad map of Africa displays a continent where international rail links are few and far between. Only in South Africa does anything more than a rudimentary network exist. Most of the other railroads have a very simple objective—extract resources and move them to the seaports

It is nearly impossible to learn just how many British settlers were actually living in the African colonies during the 19th and 20th centuries. Population censuses were only sporadically conducted and scholars today have deep reservations about their accuracy. Discoveries of gold and diamonds in South Africa attracted thousands of Europeans to the region in the late 19th century. These newcomers, when combined with the Dutch and British farmers already living in the colonies of South Africa, created a nucleus of European population that eventually became the largest in Africa. It remains so to this day with approximately 4.4 million white South Africans making up about a tenth of the modern nation's total population.

British settlers attracted to the fertile highlands of British East Africa—now Kenya and Tanganyika—never achieved numbers comparable to those in South Africa. There are today an estimated 30,000 Europeans—mostly British—still living in Kenya with much smaller numbers of British and Germans in Tanganyika.

Southern Rhodesia conducted a census in 1921 and reported that of the colony's total population of 899,187 there were 33,620 Europeans.¹ The growth of European settlers was restricted by economic depression in the 1930s and World War II, but there were an estimated 75 thousand living in the colony in 1945. Post-war emigration accelerated greatly and by 1960 there were about 270,000 Europeans living in Southern Rhodesia.

The wave of African nationalism that swept across the continent beginning with the transformation of Gold Coast Colony into the Republic of Ghana in 1960 reached Southern Rhodesia with severe repercussions. In 1965 Ian Smith's white government declared independence from Britain and established the Republic of Rhodesia. Britain led the United Nations to declare economic sanctions against the Smith government and guerrilla fighting conducted by various African nationalists—including Robert Mugabe—broke out across the country.

The combination of international sanctions and guerrilla warfare went on for over a decade before Smith finally signed an accord with three black leaders that offered safeguards for white civilians in exchange for African political representation in a democratically elected government. In the free elections of February 1980, Mugabe and his ZANU won a landslide victory. Mugabe has won re-election ever since. The remaining white population of Zimbabwe was estimated at 30,000 in 2006.

The situation in Southern Rhodesia, although more violent and destructive than most, was not unique. Although the subject has received little and quite uneven attention in the mainstream news media of North America and Europe, the decolonization of Africa over the past half century created immense hardships for people of all races. Discussing consequences of the precipitous withdrawal of European colonial governments after 1960, Wikipedia reports:

In keeping with the general trend toward non-European rule evident throughout most of the globe during the Cold War and the abandonment of colonial

positions in the face of American and Soviet pressure, the vestigial remnants of Cecil Rhodes' vision was abruptly ended, leaving British settlers in an exposed, isolated and weak position. Black Nationalist guerrilla forces aided by Soviet expertise and weapons soon drove the colonists into a fortress mentality which led to the break-off of ties with perceived collaborationist governments in the United Kingdom and Commonwealth. The result was a series of wars which eventually led to the utter destruction of the British settlements. Several thousand were murdered, tens of thousands driven off their lands and property, with the majority of those remaining quickly being intimidated and threatened in a low grade genocidal campaign which extinguished most of the remaining settlements. In all, over 2,000,000 White Africans of mostly British descent were killed, pushed out, deported or went into exile from the original British colonies. Nonetheless, in all of these areas, a number of well connected extremely wealthy settlers remained to live following independence and the introduction of black rule in the second half of the twentieth century.²

IMPERIAL AIRWAYS EAST AFRICAN ROUTE TO CAPE TOWN

Two decades after the death of Cecil Rhodes the British finally succeeded in linking Cairo to Cape Town: not with a railroad, but an airline. Experimental flights from the United Kingdom to South Africa began as early as 1927, but it was February 1931 when Imperial Airways launched a scheduled air service from London to Mwanza on the southern shore of Lake Victoria in what is now Tanzania. This route followed the established path from London through Europe to Alexandria, Egypt. From Alexandria the mail was carried to Cairo by train and then flown south along the route shown on map 17. Figure 61 illustrates a cover carried on Imperial's East Africa Route from Nairobi to London in November 1931.

Planning for the extension of Imperial's East African route to Cape Town preceded apace throughout 1931 and the opening of regular service was scheduled to begin January 20, 1932. Map 18 shows the Imperial route south from Lake Victoria to Cape Town. Ser-



Map 17 Imperial Airways opened this East African route as far south as Mwanza on Lake Victoria in February 1931.



Figure 61 This cover flew on the East Africa Route to London in November 1931. The Kenya 65 cent air mail rate to London was equivalent to about 11 cents U.S. at the time.

vice called for planes to depart both England and South Africa flying in opposite directions in the same week, and by late November all aircraft and their crews were in place.



Map 18 Imperial's route south from Kenya to South Africa traveled through Tanganyika, North and South Rhodesia on the way to Cape Town. A weekly feeder service was operated between Kimberley and Southwest Africa.

The flights were well publicized and by the end of November the British post Office had accumulated over 60,000 items of mail to be sent by air to South Africa. In a master stroke of publicity the Post Office announced that there would be a special Christmas Flight to Cape Town on December 9, 1931. *Figure 62* illustrates a cover carried on this special flight posted in London on December 8th and arriving in Johannesburg on December 21st. There was no return Christmas Flight.

values to indicate the relative scarcity of covers. For example, on the Jan/Feb flight from South Africa, covers originating in Cape Town with destinations in London are rated "10". The same number applies to covers destined for Ireland and Northern Europe. Cape Town mail to Cairo and Nairobi is rated "14", but mail destined for Southern Europe is rated "50" and mail addressed to India is rated "120".³

Granted the subject matter for these tables relates specifically to first flight covers—many of which would

likely have been generated by collectors—but the overall pattern suggested by the scarcity numbers argues in favour of common sense, i.e., mail originating in small out the way places or destined for lightly populated localities made up only a small proportion of the total flow. It seems reasonable to assume that such a relationship applies

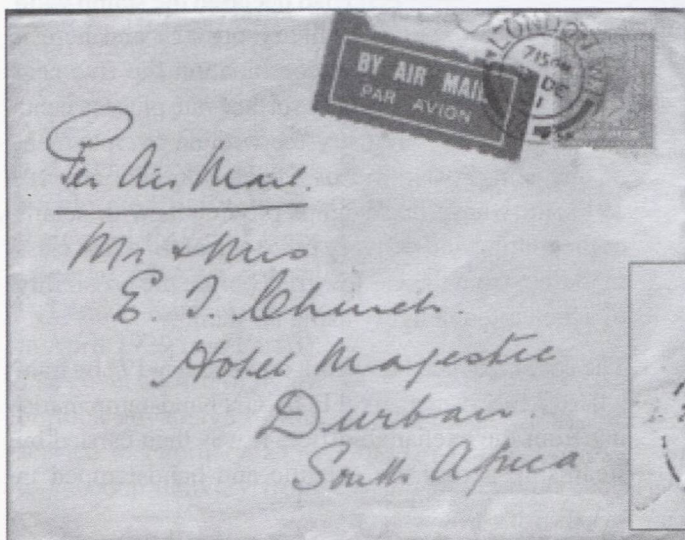


Figure 62 This cover was carried on the special Christmas flight from London to Johannesburg in December 1931.



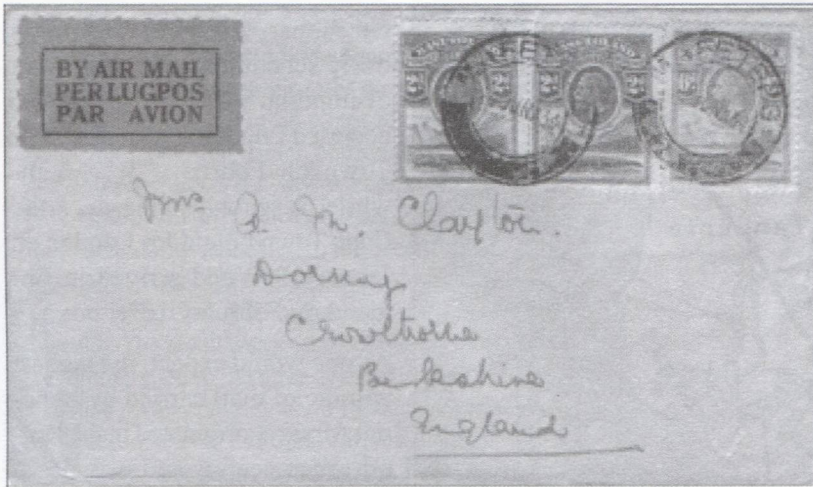


Figure 63 Postmarked in the small Basutoland town of Mafeteng, this cover traveled by truck, train and Imperial Airways in 1934 to England.

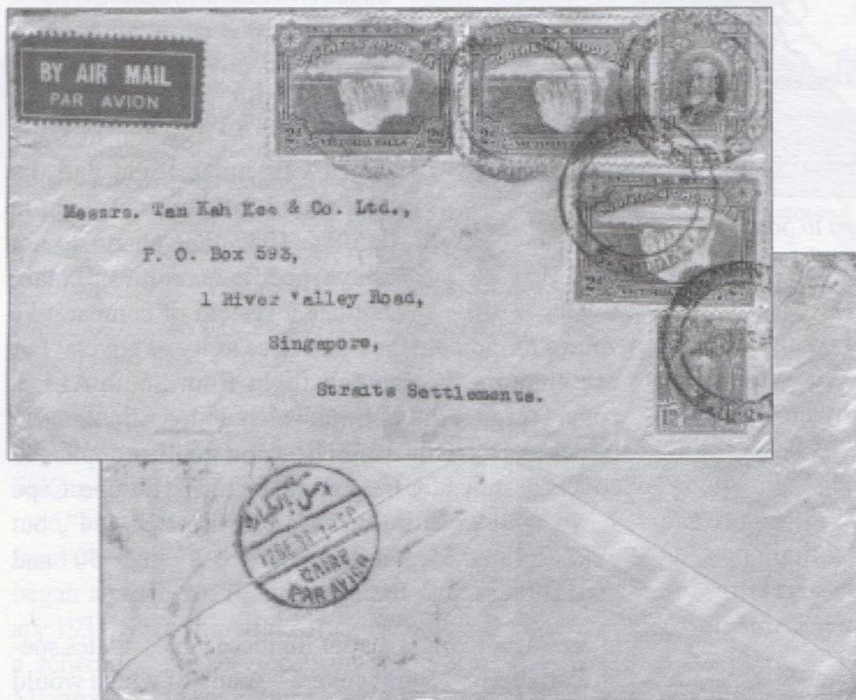


Figure 64 Posted in Bulawayo, Southern Rhodesia, in December 1933, this cover traveled north to Cairo on Imperial's African route and was there transferred to the first Imperial flight to proceed all the way to Singapore. The 17 pence in Rhodesian postage was equivalent to 34 U.S. cents.

not only to air mail carried on the first flights, but all mail transported on subsequent flights.

The cover illustrated in figure 63 was mailed from the town of Mafeteng in Basutoland on June 14, 1934. Basutoland was an African territory under British protection—an enclave within the Union of South Africa. It became independent in 1966 and changed its name to Lesotho. The cover would have been carried by truck to Maseru, the Basutoland capital and then

by train to Kimberly—the nearest point of the Imperial route. Addressed to England, the cover was franked with King George V and crocodile stamps totalling 10 pence.

While on the subject of unusual origin-destination mail, the cover shown in figure 64 was mailed in Bulawayo, Southern Rhodesia, on December 7, 1933. Addressed to Singapore and franked with 17 pence postage, it was carried north to Cairo where it received a CAIRE / PAR AVION handstamp of 12 December. This was the date that the first flight of new Imperial Airways service from London to Singapore made its stop at Cairo, and the cover was undoubtedly transferred to the eastbound flight.

There exists a great opportunity for building a fascinating collection of commercial air mail covers focused on unusual origin-destination combinations, but the material is not abundant and the challenges are significant.

U.S. POSTAL PATRONS INVITED TO USE AFRICAN AIR SERVICE

The registered cover shown in figure 65 was franked with the 16¢ Curtis Jenny (Scott's #C2) and addressed to Gambia in West Africa. It was not carried by air mail on any stage of its journey, but the POD had declared the stamp valid for ordinary postage and here it paid a combination the five cent ordinary surface rate plus ten cents registry fee with an overpayment

of one cent. Posted in Los Angeles on February 10, 1919, the transit backstamps provide us with details of the routing and delivery time typical for a first class mail item from the US to Africa before the possibility of accelerated delivery using air mail.

The cover reached New York on February 17th by train where it received an oval FOR'GN handstamp marking from the exchange office. It was then carried by steamship across the Atlantic and handstamped in

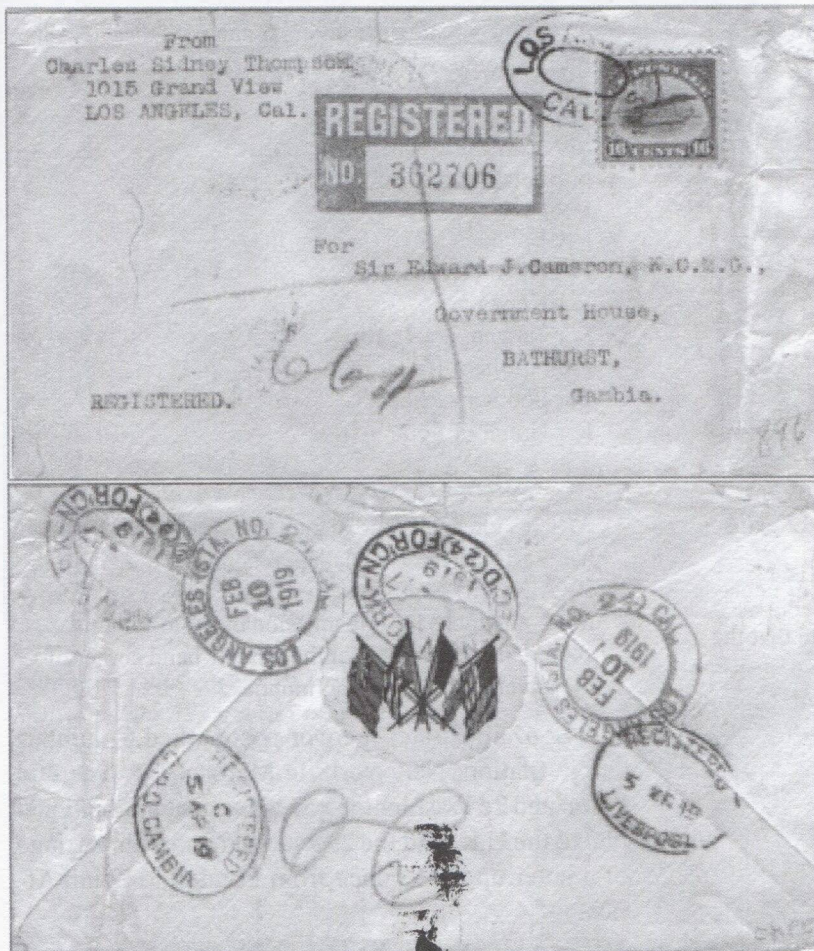


Figure 65 While it is certainly a Jenny bound for Africa, this cover was not carried by any flight and in fact serves mainly as an illustration of just how long surface mail took to travel across the United States, by steamer to England and from there to an destination in Africa.

Liverpool on March 5th. Scheduling and the voyage south to Gambia required a full month. The cover arrived in Bathurst at the GPO on April 5th after a total transit time of 54 days.

American postal patrons had been able to purchase accelerated delivery for their mail to Egypt since Imperial Airways opened its London-Karachi service in April 1929 (see Part 3). The cover shown in figure 66 took advantage of this service in February 1930 to speedup delivery from

Cairo to New York via London, but beyond this service there was no air accelerated mail available to all of East and South Africa. Granted, American interests in this vast region of Africa were somewhat limited in the early 1930s. There were, of course, American missionaries, representatives of the US government and some corporations plus small numbers of intrepid travelers, e.g., big game safaris, but by in large East Africa was a British show with sideshows run by the Italians, Portuguese and French.

March 1931 *Supplement* announced under heading "Air Mail Service—England-Egypt-British East Africa"

The air mail service from London to Mwanza, Tanganyika Territory, may be used for the dispatch of articles in the regular mails, registered and unregistered, posted in this country.

Between London and Egypt the mails will be conveyed by the planes performing the London-Karachi (India) air service (the schedule of the latter service has been modified, because of bad flying conditions, and the mails are now conveyed between Nuremberg and Athens by train).

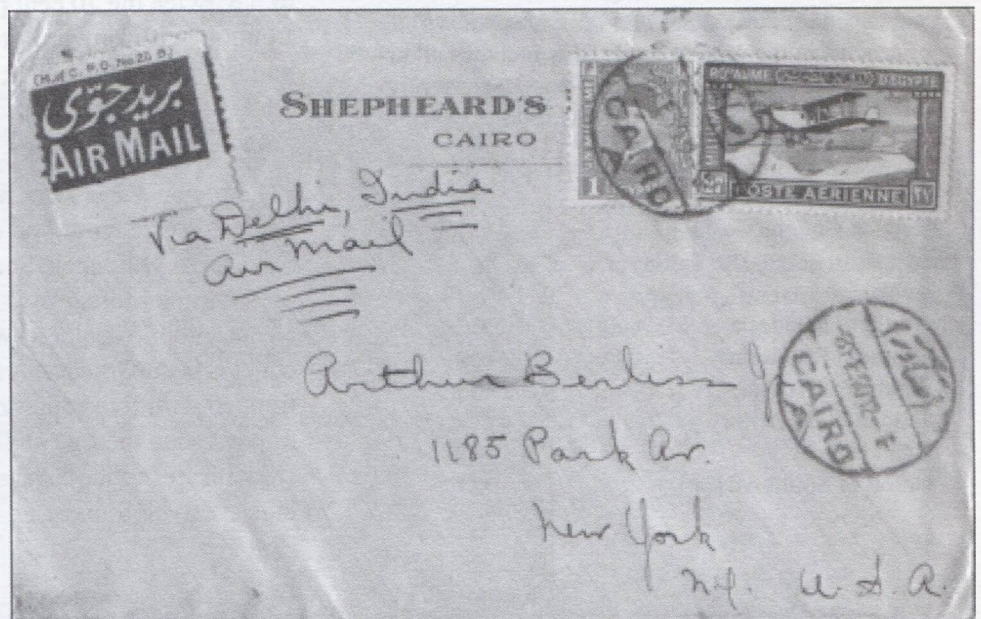


Figure 66 Mailed on Shepherd's Hotel stationery from Cairo in 1930, the cover sought to accelerate delivery to New York using Imperial's London to Delhi air service. It undoubtedly traveled on the westbound Delhi-London flight and not by way of Delhi.

The approximate saving in time is as follows:

To

Egypt (South)	2-4 days
Khartoum and North Sudan	4-6 days
South Sudan	5-16 days
Belgian Congo (North East, via Juba)	15 days
Uganda	11-23 days
Kenya	7-22 days
Tanganyika Territory	8-23 days

The air mail fees, per half ounce or fraction (in addition to regular postage) are as follows:

Egypt	6 cents
Egyptian Sudan	12 cents
Belgian Congo, Kenya, Uganda, or Tanganyika Territory	17 cents

The announcement concludes with the note that the "British Postal Administration announces that it is expected to extend this route to Cape Town, Union of South Africa, later in the year. (page 80)

The "London-Cape Town Air Mail Service" was announced in the February 1932 *Supplement* as follows:

The British Postal Administration has advised this department that the weekly direct air mail route which leaves London every Wednesday for Africa has been extended beyond British East Africa to Northern and Southern Rhodesia and the Union of South Africa..."

The air mail fees (in addition to the regular postage and registration fee, if any) for dispatch by this route of articles in the regular mails (this includes all articles in the mails except parcel-post packages) to the countries served thereby are as follows:

	per ½ ounce
Anglo-Egyptian Sudan	12¢
Belgian Congo (via Juba)	17
Egypt	6
Kenya	17
Northern Rhodesia	22
Southern Rhodesia	22
Southwest Africa	33
Tanganyika Territory	17
Uganda	17
Union of South Africa	27

The approximate time saving for air mail dispatched by this route over mail dispatched by the ordinary means is as follows:

For Egypt	2-5 days
For Khartoum & northern Sudan	5-7
For southern Sudan	6-17
For Belgian Congo (NE via Juba)	16
For Uganda	12-24
For Kenya	8-23
For Tanganyika Territory	8-24
For Northern Rhodesia	13-18
For Southern Rhodesia	9-10
For Union of South Africa	6-10

Articles intended for dispatch by this service should have affixed the blue labels reading "Par Avion—By Air Mail" and be marked in addition "From Europe" and those for transmission by air to Windhoek should also be marked at the top left-hand corner of the envelope "By air to Windhoek."

Figure 67 illustrates a cover postmarked Columbus Circle Station, New York, in March 1935. The 30¢ Bison and 2¢ Washington pay a five cent international rate to the U.K. and the 27¢ surcharge for air carriage of a letter up to ½ ounce from London to South Africa.

The cover shown in *figure 68* was carried from Africa to the U.S. by Imperial's East African air route in the opposite direction. Posted in Nairobi on June 27, 1934, the cover was franked with 140 cents postage to pay twice the 70 cent per half ounce rate for air to London with onward steamer transport. Note the handstamp notation PAR AVION / JUSQU'A LONDON to indicate that the air mail fee applied only as far as London.

The London-Cape Town notice indicated that a weekly feeder service would be conducted by Imperial Airways from Windhoek, Southwest Africa, to Kimberly on the trunk route. *Figure 69* illustrates a cover from an automobile dealer in Windhoek to New York. The cover is postmarked May 2, 1935 (possibly 1936) and franked with five copies of the 6 pence Lüderitz Bay to pay twice the one shilling three pence rate to the US with air service as far as London. No arrival markings are to be found.



Figure 67 Postmarked Columbus Circle station, New York, on March 20, 1935, this cover traveled by steamer to London and onward via Imperial's Air rote to South Africa.

Figure 68 This cover was posted in Nairobi, Kenya in June 1934. Addressed to Minneapolis, Minnesota, it was franked with with 140 cents postage to pay twice the 70 cent per half ounce rate for air to London with onward steamer transport.

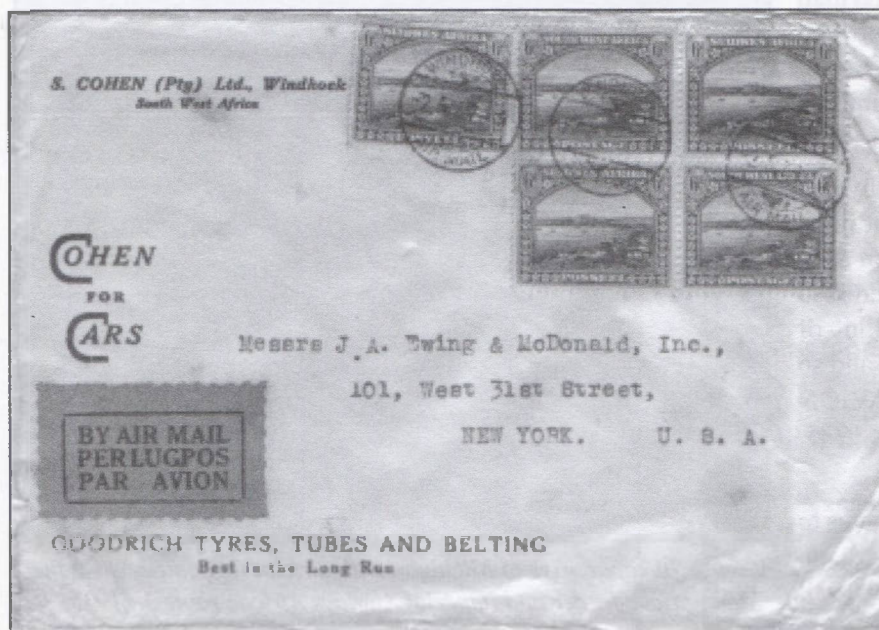
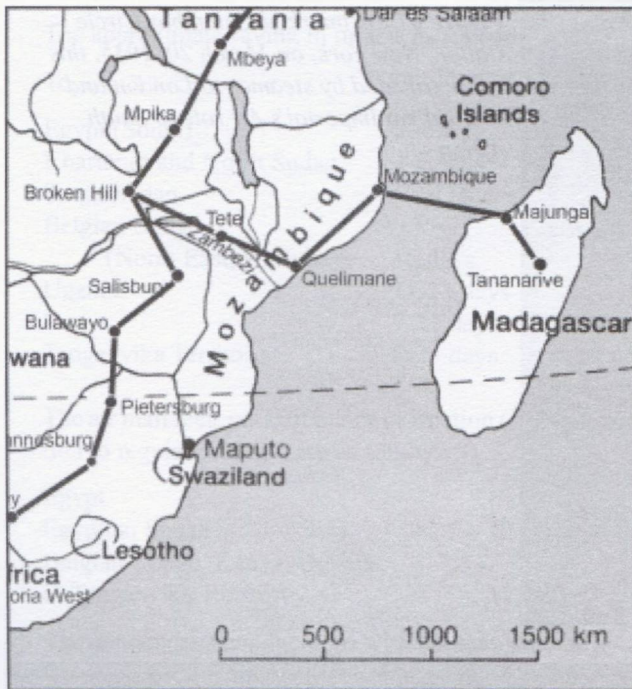


Figure 69 A double rate cover posted in Windhoek, South West Africa, by an automobile dealer in 1935 or 1936. The 2 shilling 6 pence postage paid twice the air surcharge to London and onward transport by steamship to New York.



Map 19 A feeder route from Broken Hill, Southern Rhodesia, to Tananarive, Madagascar was opened by two French aviators in 1934. It also served places in the Portuguese colony of Mozambique.

FRENCH FEEDER ROUTE CONNECTS MADAGASCAR

In August 1934 a feeder service was launched by two French airmen that connected Tananarive, the capital of Madagascar, with Broken Hill, Southern Rhodesia, on the IA trunk route. The route also linked the Portuguese settlements of Mozambique, Quelimane and Tete (*map 19*). The first mail left Tananarive on August 29th and arrived in Broken Hill on September 2nd. Newall reports that the first mail bag contained 1,200 letters.⁴

Figure 70 illustrates a cover carried by this feeder service during the second year of its operation. Postmarked Tananarive on May 26, 1935, this commercial cover is addressed to a company in Michigan. The franking of 5,50 francs was one franc short paid and so noted in manuscript. A PARIS R. / AVION transit machine cancel dated Jun 6, 1935, appears on the reverse.

Examples of mail from the United States to African colonies accelerated by air are not common from the 1930s up to about 1938.

After that date there appears to be a slight increase in the number of surviving covers, but it would be misleading to describe them as readily available from any time prior to WWII and the Pan American direct FAM 22 connection to Africa through Miami.

Mail originating in Africa destined for the United States is somewhat more readily available. I believe there are two reasons for this. First, as the United States economy grew in the years following the Great Depression, more and more African businesses sought parts and supplies from American firms. This generated an increasing flow of correspondence from Africa to the US and significantly a correspondence that was directly benefited by accelerated delivery. Second, the demand by collectors for 20th century African mail to the US has thus far been relatively light when compared to the demand for US mail posted to African colonies or the demand for very scarce 19th century mail from African colonies.

NEXT: France Reaches Out to Indo China

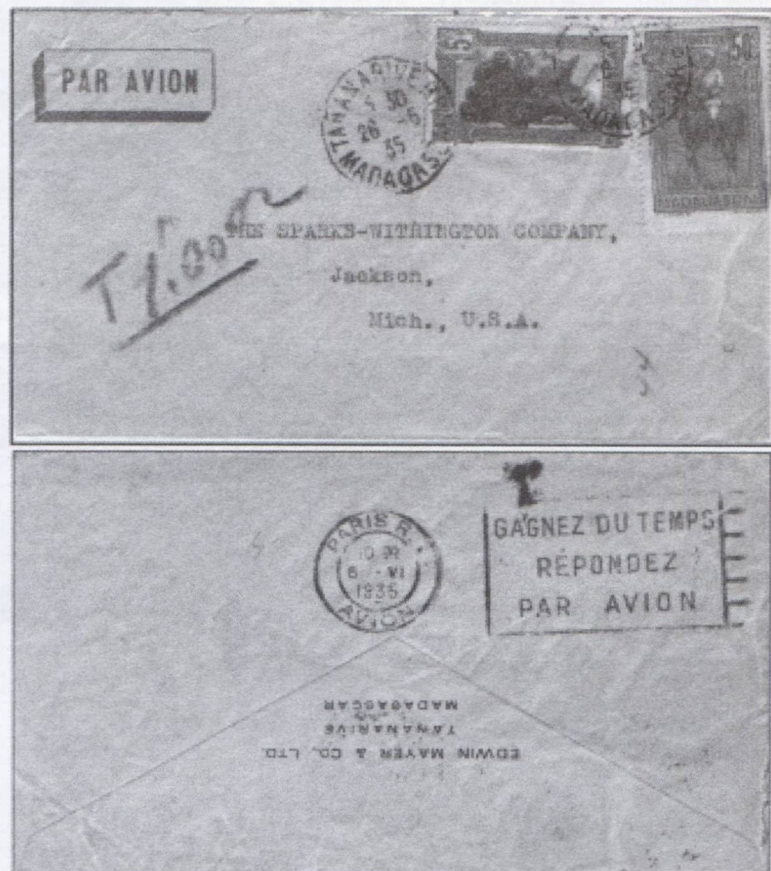


Figure 70 Tananarive to Michigan with air carriage to Paris via the Madagascar feeder and Imperial Airways African route in 1935.

Endnotes


1 http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/User:Necrothesp/Notes_on_Southern_Rhodesia#Population

2 http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/White_African

3 Newall (1996) page 390-391.



4 *ibid.*, page 351.

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POSTMASTERS GENERAL OF THE UNITED STATES

XXXII. Frank Hatton, 1884-1885

by Daniel Y. Meschter

Frank Hatton at 38 had the distinction of being the youngest cabinet member since Alexander Hamilton. He also had the second shortest time in office after Horatio King's twenty-two days and a few days shorter than Robert Wynne's third shortest tenure (1904-05). Like King he came prepared by three years as the First Assistant.

Frank Hatton was born on April 18, 1846 in Cambridge, Ohio, the son of a frontier newspaperman who just then was the owner, editor, and printer of the *Republican* at Cadiz, Ohio¹. His grandparents were Virginians who joined the rush of settlers to the Northwest Territories after the Ordinance of 1787 opened the territories north and west of the Ohio River to organization and settlement. He received his primary education from his mother, the daughter of a Methodist minister.

It was inevitable, of course, that he would follow his father's footsteps in the newspaper business. He began his training at eleven in his father's print shop and worked his way up from printer's devil to editor, mastering all aspects of the business along the way. At sixteen he ran away to enlist as a drummer boy in an Ohio regiment. At eighteen he was commissioned a lieutenant and served with the Army of the Cumberland.

At the end of the War his father moved the family to Mount Pleasant, Iowa where he bought the *Journal*. Frank helped his father run the paper until his father's death in 1869 and for five more years after that. He moved to Burlington in 1874 where he bought an interest in the *Burlington Daily Hawk-Eye* which he made into the most-influential Republican journal west of the Mississippi.

The *Hawk-eye* "made" all the eastern papers when Hatton persuaded U.S. Grant to spend three days in Burlington in 1879 while the General was still considering running for a third term as president. When the 1880 Republican National Convention deadlocked between Grant and Blaine with John Sherman as a distant third, the Convention compromised on James Garfield on its thirty-sixth ballot. The *Hawk-eye* strongly supported the Garfield/Arthur ticket in the

1880 election and succeeded in delivering both the Iowa and Illinois electoral votes to Garfield. As an ardent Stalwart, Hatton's reward was the esteem and future support of Garfield, Roscoe Conkling, and the Iowa Republican Central Committee. Arthur redeemed Garfield's debt by appointing Hatton First Assistant Postmaster General in October 1882 after dismissing James Tyner in connection with the star route fraud investigations.



Frank Hatton

Hatton plunged into his administrative duties with enthusiasm and actively supported President Arthur in the political bloodletting in New York over the upcoming gubernatorial election². He and his wife appeared frequently at the numerous events that marked the Washington social season, exuding gentility and obvious pleasure in the company of the Washington elite among whom they were far from the least prominent. In addition he wrote extensively for Washington's *National Republican* although

there might have been some question of a conflict of interest in his writing for the press while a cabinet member.

Arthur's choice of Hatton as his floor leader at the 1884 Republican Convention in Chicago was a poor one. Hatton's Iowa delegation did not include a single delegate committed to Arthur. While he was influential enough as a journalist, he was out of his depth dealing with professional politicians on their own home ground. Walter Gresham commented afterward: "Hatton will do for some things, but he was out of place at Chicago, the undertaking was too big for him³." On the other hand, Arthur was painfully aware that while Harrison apparently had stepped aside, the Stalwart movement was declining and that Blaine was the only Republican who could succeed against Cleveland. However, Arthur's campaign for nomination was an exercise in futility. He was aware, as were a few of his closest associates, that his debilitating kidney condition and its related complications made it unlikely he could complete a second term even if he was nominated and elected.

There were barely five months left in Arthur's administration when Walter Gresham resigned as Postmaster General to move over to the Treasury. It was too short a time to justify a lengthy search for a po-

litically acceptable replacement, especially now that Blaine's nomination made it clear Arthur would not continue in office. Hatton's appointment was almost obvious with his three years experience as First Assistant and several occasions when he had served as interim Postmaster General. And it seems nobody really much cared who was appointed.

There is no indication Hatton accomplished anything as Postmaster General beyond the routine of the office, especially after Cleveland's election a few weeks after he took office made any policy development or legislative proposals pointless.

Leaving office after Cleveland's inauguration in March 1885, Hatton headed for Chicago where he assisted in reorganizing the *Mail* and took over as its editor for the next three years. His next stop was New York City where he and Robert Porter founded the *New York Press*.

Finally, he returned to Washington for his greatest triumph as a newspaperman when he and Beriah Wilkins, a former Democratic congressman from Ohio, purchased *The Washington Post* from its founder, Stilson Hutchins in the spring of 1889 for \$210,000, less \$35,000 for one of the *Post's* presses they sold back to Hutchins. Hatton and Wilkins managed the paper with such financial success Hutchins admitted later he had made a fool of himself selling the paper.

Hatton and Wilkin's most successful promotion was to commission the "Washington Post" march its composer, John Philip Sousa, the leader of the Marine Band, introduced at a concert on the mall in June.

Although founded as a "Democratic daily journal," Hatton edited the *Post* as an independent paper. As an unreformed Stalwart, he continued to oppose Civil Service Reform. He bitterly fought the reform policies of Theodore Roosevelt, currently a member of the Civil Service Commission. As the editor-in-chief, he was a demanding employer, as quick to reward work well done as to penalize inferior performance.

Unfortunately, his promise of becoming one of America's most famous newspapermen was cut short when he slumped over on his desk in his office on April 24, 1894, paralyzed by a massive stroke. He died six days later, two days after his 48th birthday.

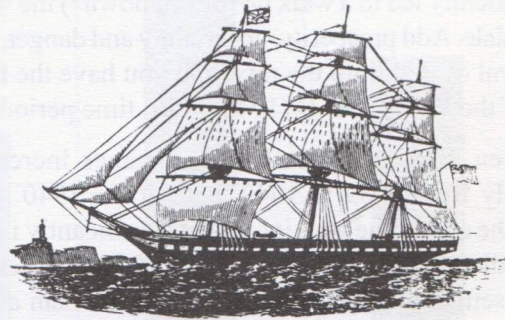
Endnotes

Portrait of Frank Hatton from *The National Cyclopaedia of American Biography*, v. 4, 1895.

1 See Vexler, *National Cyclopaedia, Dictionary of American Biography*, and Robertts, Chalmers, *The Washington Post: the First 100 years*, 1977 for biographical sketches of Frank Hatton.

2 Reese, Thomas C. *Gentleman Boss, The Life of Chester Alan Arthur*, New York, 1975, p. 314.

3 Reeves, *op cit*, p. 374-5.



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“Get me to the church on time”

By Richard D. Martorelli

In the 1st Letter to the Corinthians, Paul wrote “Love hears all things, believes all things, hopes all things, endures all things.” It is a wonderful thing to love someone, and be loved, like this, romantically, joyfully and passionately. I am so very lucky to experience this love with a very special woman (thank you, Joanne). Historically, when two people felt this way, it frequently led to a walk up (or is it down?) the wedding aisle. Add prosperity, uncertainty and danger, and survival of it all into the mix, and you have the feeling of the World War II (1940-1946) time period.

As seen in *table 1*, total US marriages increased steadily from 1939 to 1942, held at the 1940 level until the end of the war, increased significantly in the immediate post war years of 1945-1947 and then by 1950 settled at a level about 20% higher than at the

beginning of the decade. Adjusting for population growth, the rate of marriages per 1,000 people of all ages increased from 10.7 in 1939 to 13.2 in 1943, dipped to an average 11.3 until the end of the war, increased significantly in the immediate post war years of 1945-1947 peaking at 16.4 in 1946 and then by 1950 settled at 11.7, about 4% higher than at the beginning of the decade. The difference in the increase in total marriages (20%) and marriages per 1,000 people (4%) is due to the total increase in population of the US. It rose an average 3% from 1939 to 1945, and then an average 8% a year from 1946 to 1950. *Table 2* groups the 1939-50 marriages in terms of major phases of the WWII period.

There have been a number of articles written discussing the positive and negatives points of the increase in US WWII-era wartime marriages. One of the major reasons usually given for the increase in marriages is as a reaction to uncertainty, to the loneliness or fear

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Table 1, US Marriages & Marriage Rate 1939-1950

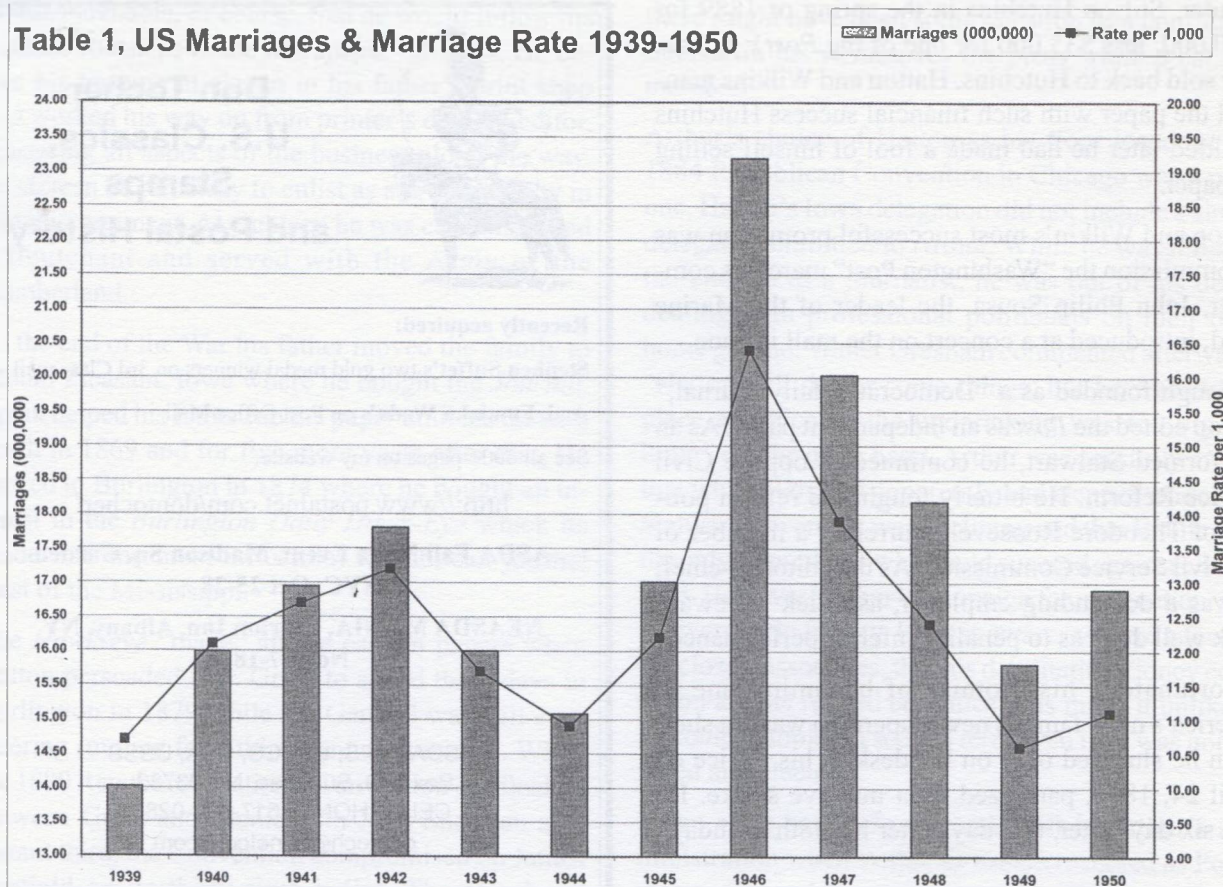


Table 1 reports the annual total US marriages and marriage rate per 1,000 population for the 1939-1950 period, showing pre-war increases and the postwar boom.

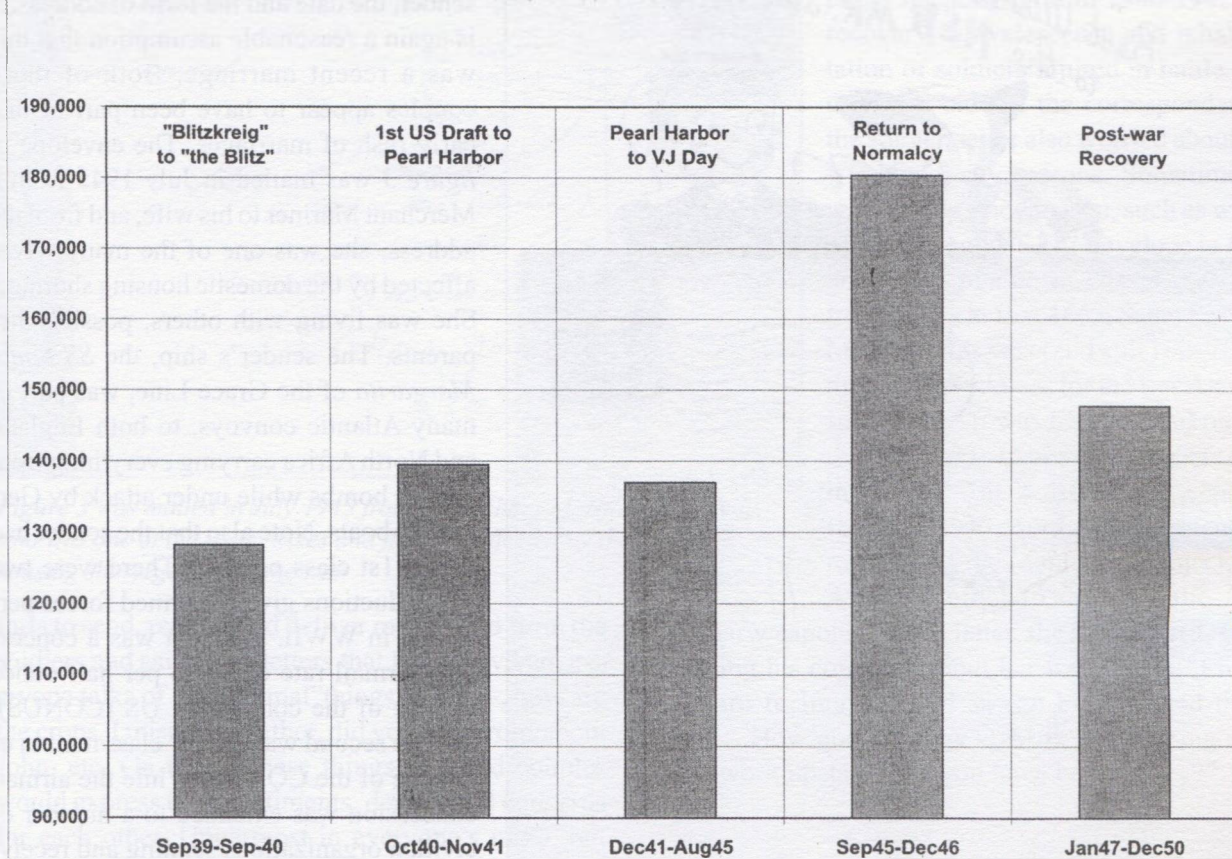
Table 2, Average Marriages Per Month 1939-1950

Table 2 reports the US annual marriages for time periods associated with major phases of the WWII period.

of it, and a feeling of "now or never". In some cases, the draft of 1940 or the identification of overseas war assignments only accelerated plans already made. In others, many people seemed to have decided that a soldier-husband for a few days and then a long separation was better than waiting and possibly having no husband at all. In one survey done by Chicago's Association for Family Living in 1942, about half of the soldiers interviewed thought a quick marriage was not fair to the girl because of separation, lack of a home for the bride, and the possibility of having to deal with babies alone.

These were all valid concerns for the time. To start, there were a total of approximately 4 million marriages where the husbands were soldiers. They served an average of three years in the military, with half of that time overseas. Regarding housing, the increase in defense industry workers led to a shortage wherever the plants were located. In just one example, Consolidated Aircraft Corporation moved from New York to San Diego in 1935, and started manufacturing airplanes with 874 employees and 247,000 square

feet of workspace. With contracts for PBY Catalinas and B-24 bombers, the company grew to 30,000 employees in 1941 and then to 41,000 employees in 1943. The federal government response to the housing shortage was slow and limited by war material that had a priority need for planes, ships, etc. Eventually the government funded \$7 billion of barracks, trailer grounds, mobile homes, dorms, housing projects, and other types of shelter that provided housing for six million of the nine million people who needed it. Finally, there were approximately 3.1 million births in 1943, almost one for each of the 3.3 million marriages in 1942-1943. This often exacerbated the housing problem, as decent family housing was often the hardest to find. Landlords could easily find individual renters who, when added together, paid more rent than a family with children. And yet, still, there were those 4 million marriages.

Figure 1 is an envelope containing a congratulations card sent to a newlywed couple in January 1942. Usually, the December-February period has the lowest number of marriages; it is not unreasonable to theo-

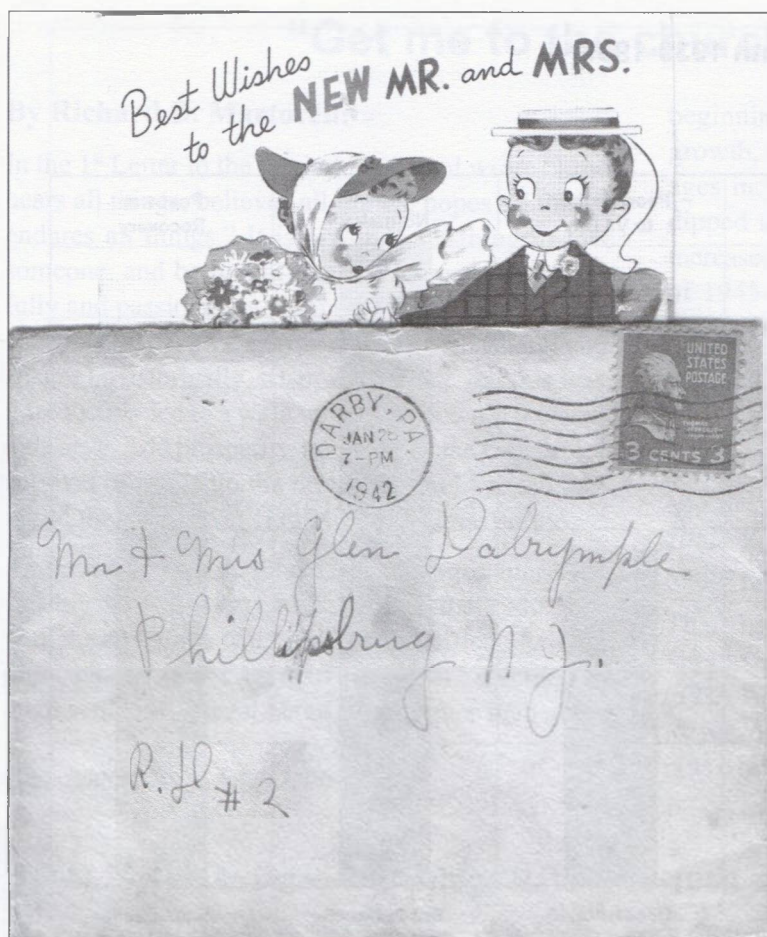


Figure 1 is an envelope and a wedding congratulations card sent to a newlywed couple in January 1942. This wedding may have been a reaction to the groom's military call up and training camp assignment following the US declaration of war.

rise that this wedding was a reaction to the groom's call up and move to a training camp in the month immediately following the US declarations of war on Japan, Germany and Italy. In the first half of 1942, the first wartime deployment of troops to overseas locations occurred, including Great Britain and Australia. The cover in figure 2 was from a husband in the 34th Infantry Division, which was then located in Northern Ireland, to his wife. The 34th Infantry was drawn from several National Guard units that were federalized in early 1941 and had completed basic training before December 1941. It was the first division deployed overseas, starting with sailings from the New York Port of Embarkation (POE) in mid-

January 1942. Looking at the rank of the sender, the date and the form of address, it is again a reasonable assumption that this was a recent marriage. Both of these couples appear to have been part of that early rush of marriages. The envelope in figure 3 was mailed in July 1945 from a Merchant Mariner to his wife, and from the address, she was one of the many wives affected by the domestic housing shortage. She was living with others, possibly her parents. The sender's ship, the SS *Santa Margarita* of the Grace Line, was part of many Atlantic convoys, to both England and North Africa carrying everything from beer to bombs while under attack by German U-boats. Note also that the sender had to use 1st class postage. There were two rate reductions given to armed forces personnel in WWII. The first was a concession airmail rate of \$0.06 per half ounce outside of the continental US (CONUS), and the second was free 1st class mail in or outside of the CONUS. While the airmail concession was extended to a number of civilian organizations sending and receiving mail thru the military postal systems, the 1st class free frank was not given to anyone besides uniformed personnel.

Several surveys taken during the war revealed that the average military person wrote one letter per day, every day. As has been reported elsewhere, the military always has recognized the impact of mail on morale, so there were great ef-

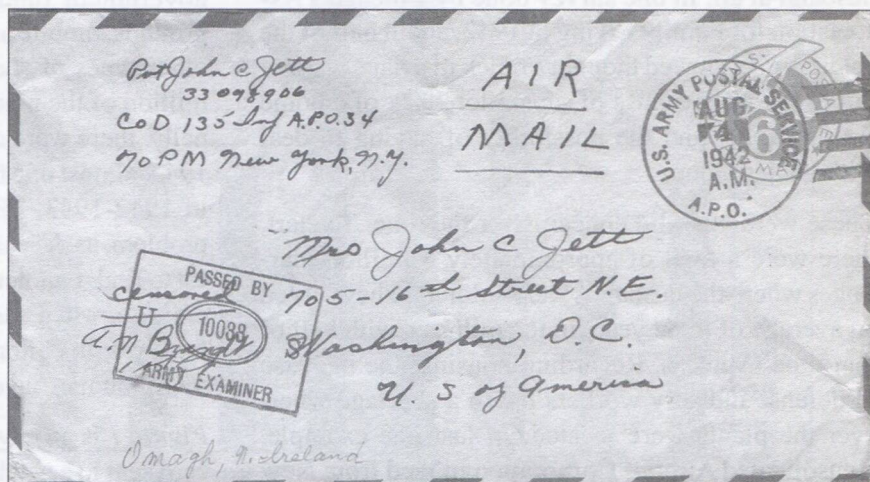


Figure 2 was from a new soldier husband in the 34th Infantry Division, located in Northern Ireland. The 34th ID was the first division deployed overseas, sailing from New York (POE) beginning in January 1942.

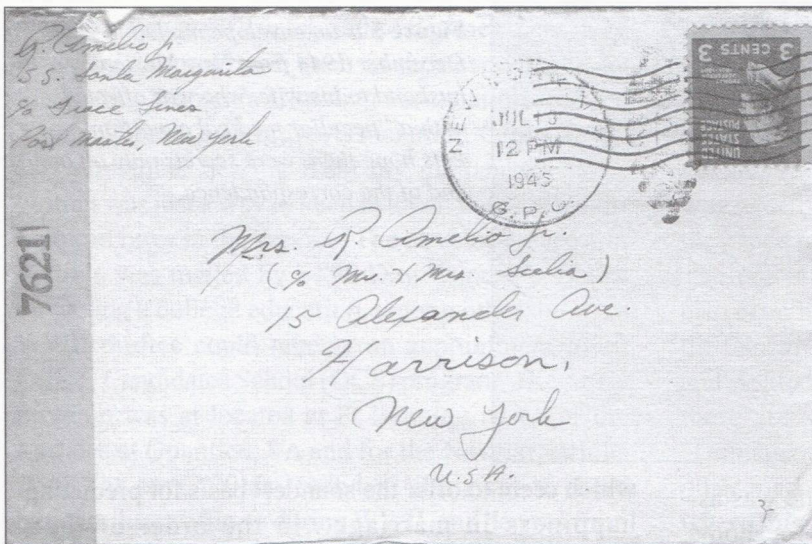


Figure 3 was mailed in July 1945 from a Merchant Mariner to his wife, who was one of the many wives and families affected by the domestic housing shortage during the war.

forts to send, receive and deliver mail to and from the soldiers and sailors. In letters that have survived, everyone talks of the “normal” things in life—, how are the crops, I miss the weather, did you hear from/about John, etc. On top of these things, married couples would express their sentiments, desires and concerns for each other. Uppermost in everyone’s mind, but rarely spoken about unless there was a clear and present need was the physical safety of the spouse. Based on total personnel in service and the total casualties, on average 1 out of 15 GI’s was killed or wounded. Clearly the odds were higher in some branches (submarine service) or locations (any beach landing) than others. *Figure 4* shows an envelope sent from a wife to her husband who had been wounded and was hospitalized in England in November 1944. By the time this surface mail 1st class letter arrived at the military hospital (almost 30 days), the soldier had “Returned to United States ...POE APO New York 17 NY”. After the letter traveled back to the US (another 30 days), the NY Port APO directory service forwarded the letter to Lovell General Hospital, at Fort Devens, MA, about 30 miles from the soldier’s home.

This was one of a number of large hospitals specially built in 1940-1942 for recovery, convalescence and rehabilitation of soldiers injured in battle. On the other side of the correspondence, the soldier/sailor also worried about his wife for many reasons. Sometime, it was a really good reason, such as when she was pregnant. The envelope in *Figure 5* was mailed in December 1944 from a cook at Box 1663, Santa Fe New Mexico. This was (and still is in 2007) the “secret” address for the Los Alamos Laboratory. It was founded and run by the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers during World War II as a secret, centralized facility to coordinate the scientific research of the Manhattan Project, the Allied project to develop the first

nuclear weapons. In this letter, the soldier writes expressing his concerns about her well being, “I hope you are feeling as good as can be expected these days....How about things at work? Still doing nice easy work upstairs like you have been honey?” This

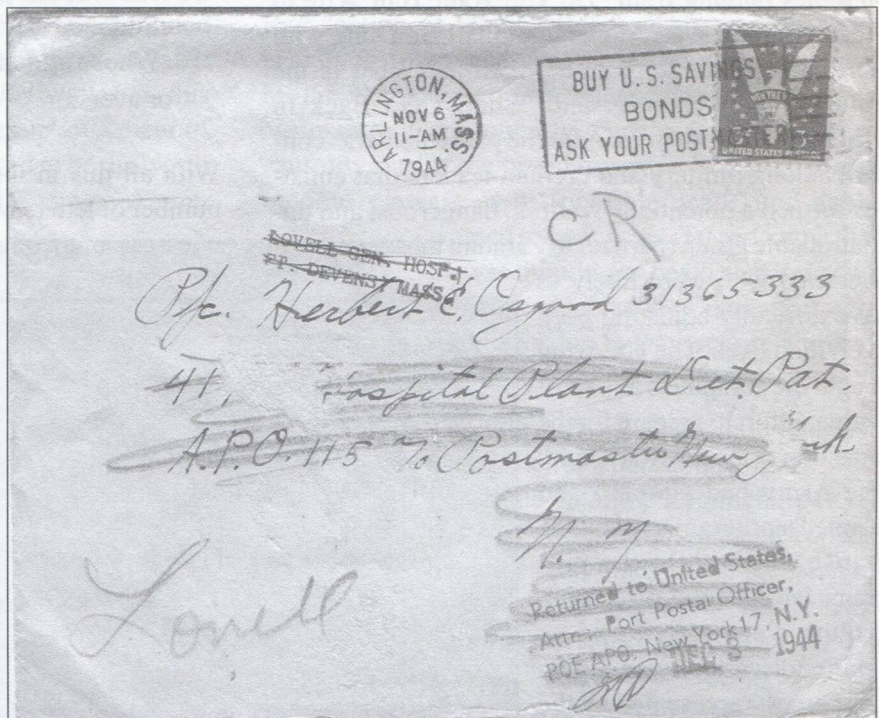


Figure 4 shows an envelope sent from a wife to her husband who had been wounded and was hospitalized in England in November 1944. By the time this surface mail 1st class letter reached the addressee, it had taken 60 days to travel overseas and back.

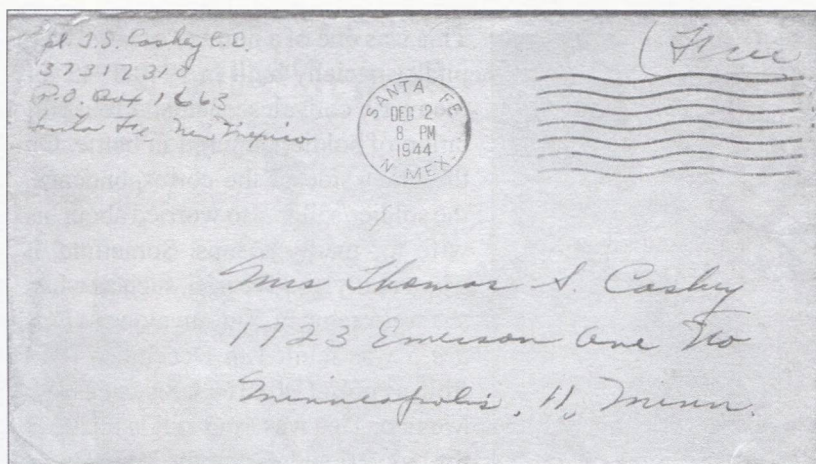


Figure 5 is an envelope mailed in December 1944 from New Mexico by a husband to his wife, who was affected with a "peculiar medical condition". Lets hope there were secrets only on one end of the correspondence.

couple was one of the lucky ones, where he was assigned in the US in a location where he could get home once in awhile on a furlough.

Having already gotten married, the above couples were already focused on what to do after the war—home, work, and children. The same question of "what to do after the war" was also being asked by soldiers and sailors even as they were in the trenches and gun tubs. Between 1943 and 1945, at the direction of the War Department, the American Historical Association (AHA) produced the GI Roundtable series of 42 pamphlets intended to foster discussion among GIs on topics ranging from "Do You Want Your Wife to Work after the War?" to "What Shall Be Done with Germany?" with stops in-between at "What Is the Future of Television?" and "Shall I Go Back to School?" The main reason for the pamphlets was concern among military and civilian leaders that enlistees formed a potentially restless, dangerous, and uncontrollable group (particularly among those stationed overseas) who were likely to have difficulty adjusting back to civilian lives. The US Army sought the pamphlets as part of a larger effort to prepare for the transition to the postwar world. The Army had adopted and adapted a program used by the British military. In the program, leisure-time discussion groups were structured to "guide" discussion into certain topic areas, represented by the pamphlets. One of these was titled "Can War Marriages Be Made to Work?", and offered the following as "qualifications

which seem to offer the soundest basis for predicting happiness in marriage...in the order of their importance....Look for a girl:

1. Whose parents were happily married
2. Who was happy in childhood
3. Who got on with her mother
4. Who experienced home discipline that was firm but not harsh
5. Who was strongly attached to her mother
6. Who was strongly attached to her father
7. Who got on with her father
8. Who had parents who were frank about sex
9. Who was not punished often or severely in childhood
10. Whose attitude toward sex is free from disgust or aversion."

With all this in the background, there were a large number of letters written between soldiers and sailors overseas and women at home. Sometimes the letters

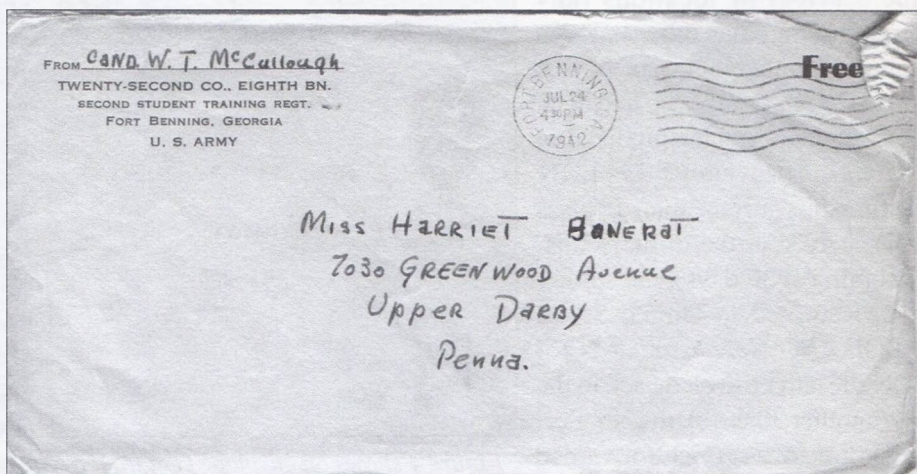


Figure 6 was mailed by a "90 Day Wonder" Officer Candidates School (OCS) attendee. These junior officers completed the officer's training in only 90 days, compared to the four years required for a commission at the service academies.

were to a steady girlfriend, and sometimes there were to organized programs, such as those sponsored by the Young Women's Christian Association and the Young Women's Hebrew Association. Often times, as I remember hearing from my mother, the letter writing was just a way to keep in touch with the neighborhood boys in the service. The envelope shown in *figure 6* was mailed by a "90 Day Wonder". Based on having a college education, among other things, a WWII draftee could receive an appointment to an Officer Candidates School (OCS) program. The Army program was at located at Ft Benning, GA, for the Marines at Quantico, VA and for the Navy at various sites. The term "90 day wonder" was given to these junior military officers during WWII, and derives from the fact that these OCS appointees completed the officer's training school in only 90 days. They were pushed through training because of the heightened need for officers during the war, in contrast to the cadets or midshipmen at the service academies who spent four years being prepared to lead.

Meanwhile, the cover in *figure 7* was a hot one in many ways. It was mailed in January 1944, addressed to a soldier in training at the Desert Training Center California-Arizona Maneuver Area (DTC-CAMA). This facility was created when the War Department realized the necessity for troops to be well trained under harsh conditions to withstand the rigors of battle over rough terrain and in inhospitable climates. At this point in the war, the most imminent involvement of land battle for US troops was expected to be the North African desert. Created by General George S. Patton

Jr., the Desert Training Center ranged from Boulder City, Nevada to the Mexican border and from Phoenix, Arizona to Pomona, California. The average January temperatures were officially reported as near 70 degrees F. According to stories from my father, it always seemed hotter to the troops on the ground as they rode inside tanks or on self-propelled howitzers. The contents of the illustrated envelope must have also been hot, as the lucky soldier's girlfriend closed the flap with "SWAK and SWL" (Sealed With A Kiss and Sealed With Love). It was so hot, in fact, that there are scorch marks and an auxiliary marking "Damaged By Fire/Enroute/Jan 15 1944". With no other markings, it is difficult to determine when and where this damage occurred, whether it was at a station or onboard an RPO.

Figure 8 illustrates two envelopes from just before and just after the largest sea borne invasion in history. Three million troops carried by 6,900 vessels and protected by 12,000 aircraft landed on a stretch of the Normandy coast on June 6, 1944 to begin the attack on "Fortress Europe" held by the German Army since June 1940. The cover postmarked June 5 is from a soldier in the 18th Infantry Regiment, 1st Infantry Division. The "Big Red One" led US invasions in North Africa and Sicily before landing at the Easy Red section of Omaha Beach. This was the most heavily fortified section of the invasion area, manned by the best German Coastal division (the 352nd) in Normandy. Consequently, Omaha had the highest causality rate of the initial invasion. The soldier was obviously aware of his possible death, and likely

wanted to let this special girl know that he was thinking of her. The good news is that he received the Combat Infantry Badge for his D-Day action, and survived.

The other cover, dated June 6, 1944, was mailed to a paratrooper in the 508th Parachute Infantry Regiment, part of the 82nd Airborne Division. Dropped behind enemy lines in the predawn of D-Day, the task of the 508th was to seize the bridge over the Douve River, at Pont L' Abbe. The regiment fought as infantrymen for the next 33 days and blocked off advances of reinforcements for the Axis forces defending the French coast. On July 13 1944, the "Red Devils" returned to England after suffering 1,061

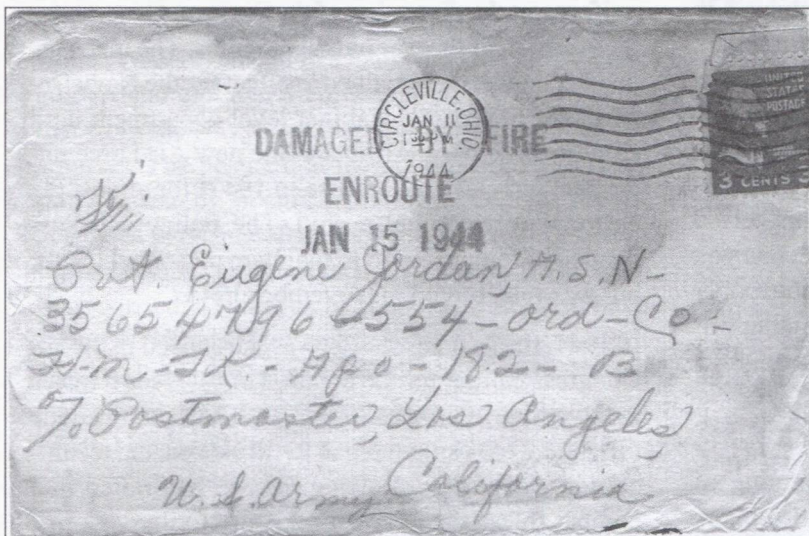


Figure 7 was a hot cover in many ways. Mailed to a soldier in training at the Desert Training Center, it has scorch marks and an auxiliary marking that might be related to its contents.

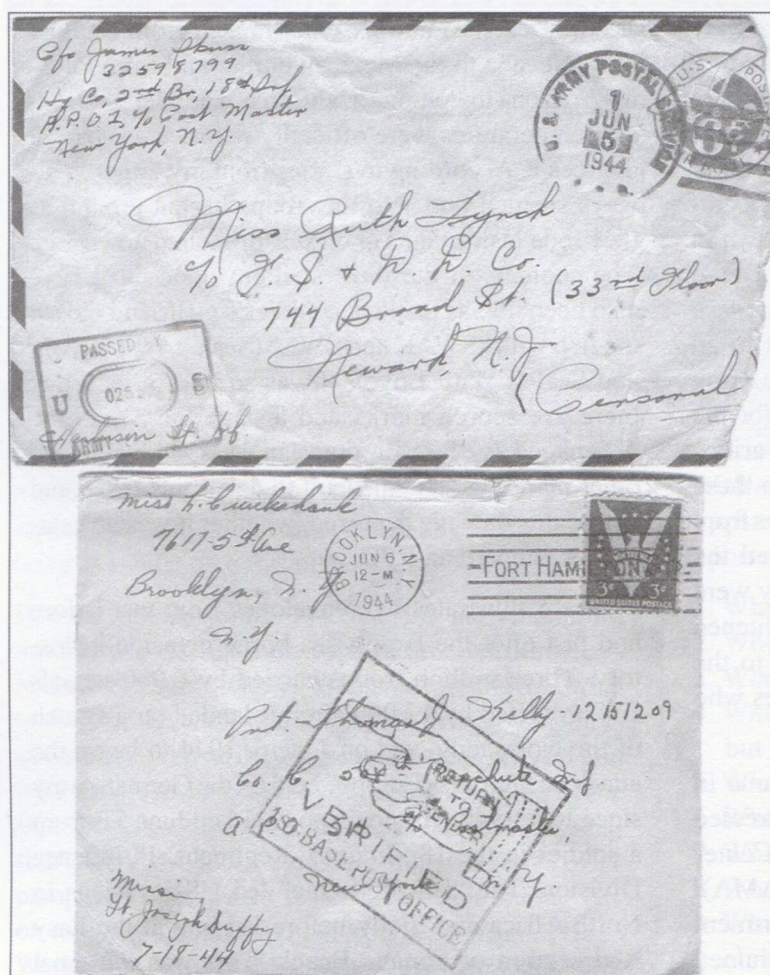


Figure 8 illustrates two envelopes from just before and just after the Normandy invasion of June 6, 1944, as the writers reached out to send messages of love and affection.

casualties out of 2,056 paratroopers of which 307 were Killed-In-Action (KIA). They later participated in Operation Market Garden (Groesbeek-Nijmegen, Holland) and the Battle of the Bulge. The envelope shown was marked "missing" on July 18, shortly after the 508th returned to England, and was sent back to the female sender. Again, thoughts and emotions ran high for both civilians and soldiers at this period of the war, particularly when it involved someone you loved. The good news again is that the paratrooper was captured, spent the rest of the war at Stalag 7B, Memmingen, Germany and was released and returned to the US at the end of the war.

It is not clear if there were any special rules for US marriages for men in uniform at the beginning of WWII that were different from civilian rules. Soldiers married according to the laws of the state where the marriage was taking place after obtaining the appropriate marriage license. In some commands, enlisted

men had to receive permission from their company commanders and might have had to meet with a chaplain prior to the marriage so that the soldier had the opportunity to have a clear and reasonable thought process. Occasionally there were unusual ceremonies, different from peacetime, where the groom was overseas and the bride was at home. These were "absentee" or proxy marriages. They were ceremonies conducted by telephone or radio, occasionally with contracts signed and exchanged by mail, or sometimes with a "stand in" (an attorney or other designated person) for the groom. The legality of these marriages raised questions at both state law levels concerning domicile, children and other issues, and at federal levels concerning government benefits and immigration. For a detailed discussion, see "The Validity of Absentee Marriage of Servicemen" in *The Yale Law Journal* of June 1946.

For reasons more reflective of culture than clear thinking, the military services had different and more restrictive rules for marriage by women in uniform. Originally marriage was prohibited for nurses in either the Army or the Navy Nurse Corps, and in fact the Army required an automatic dishonorable discharge of the nurse. The War Department changed this policy for the Army early in the war to allow married nurses to stay in uniform, at the discretion of the Surgeon General, for the duration of the war plus six months. The marriage penalty, however, remained in effect for the Navy Department (a separate Cabinet level department until combined with the Army and the new Air Force under the Secretary of Defense in 1947) for almost the entire WWII combat period. The policy was suspended in January 1945 to maintain personnel levels, but was reinstituted in November 1945.

In 1941, the first legislation was introduced in the US Congress calling for the creation of roles for females in the military services. The British had already done this, and were using women to fill skilled and technical job categories, allowing men to be drafted into combat roles. The Women's Army Auxiliary Corps/Women's Army Corps (WAAC/WAC) was established in May 1942, followed by the Women Accepted for Volunteer Emergency Service (WAVES) in July, the

US Coast Guard SPARs in November and the Marine Corps Women's Reserve (WR) in February 1943. The War Department ruled that marriage did not disqualify a woman from enlisting in the WAC, nor by itself make her eligible for a transfer or discharge. Obtaining a unit commander's permission to marry was not required by the Army regulations, but Theater and unit commanders could create their own rules. For example, in the European Theater, marriage was permitted, but one spouse was then immediately transferred to a distant station in the command or out of the theater altogether.

In the Navy Department there were multiple policies for the multiple services during the war. Initially, WAVES could not marry any US military man or during their initial training/schooling periods. This was modified within a year to allow military marriages to other than US Navy personnel, changed in 1943 to allow naval marriages after completing initial training schooling, and finally changed again to allowing marriage, with permission, at any time. The Coast Guard and the Marine Corps made simpler rules—marriage was okay, just not to a member of the same service. Additionally SPARs could not marry during initial training/schooling periods, but the Marines changed later in the war to allow the wives of enlisted Marines to volunteer for the WR.

The top cover in *Figure 9* was mailed in early 1944 from a WAVES ensign to a man who could have been a boyfriend, not that there was anything wrong with that from the Navy's viewpoint (after all, she wasn't a nurse). The postcard at the bottom of this illustration was sent by an enlisted rating WAVES in February 1945. In the message, she writes, "Went shopping for bridesmaid's clothes today. Two WAVES are getting married." This was okay too, and it could have even been to another sailor; after all they weren't nurses. (Parenthetically, I can only speculate that the Navy leadership was afraid that intelligent women in official leadership roles might have been better officers than many others.)

As discussed in other histories and articles, V-mail was the microfilming of full-sized letters that were then enlarged to about one-quarter of the original size

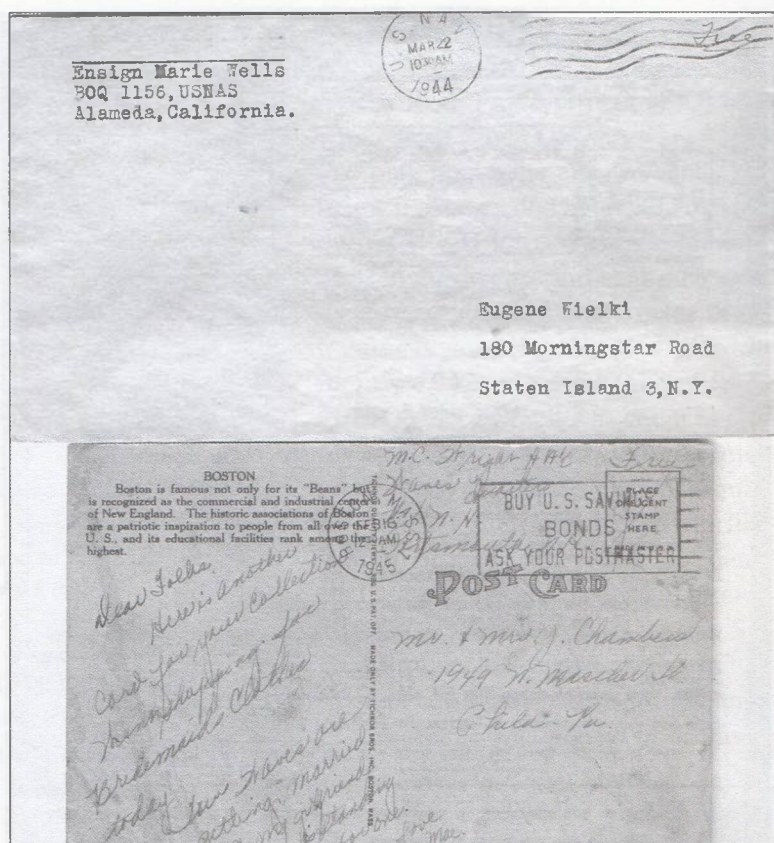


Figure 9 shows mail from WAVES to (top) a man who could have been a boyfriend, and (bottom) discussing shopping for bridesmaid's clothes. The Navy had nothing against marriage, as long as you weren't in the Navy Nurse Corps

for delivery. It was the military's tool to help both speed mail and save weight and space in trans-oceanic shipping needed for critical war materials and troops. For example, a single mail sack of V-mail could replace the 37 mail bags that were required to carry 150,000 one-page letters. In addition, the one V-mail sack could be easily flown, thus speeding up the mail delivery. *Figure 10* presents an enlarged V-mail letter that was used as a wedding announcement. Two Sargents stationed in southern Italy (Mediterranean Theater), were married in December 1944 at the bride's duty station, APO 512 Caserta. The V-mail provides the details of who sang, what the bride wore, and brief information about the reception and honeymoon plans. As the father of the bride could not be there, the local general was asked to the honors. Who was this gallant officer? Censor #69674 had the message edited, obliterating the general's name and replacing it with "the general for whom I work".

By the spring of 1945, it started to become clear that the war in Europe was coming to a close. With the expected invasion of Japan in the fall-winter of 1945,

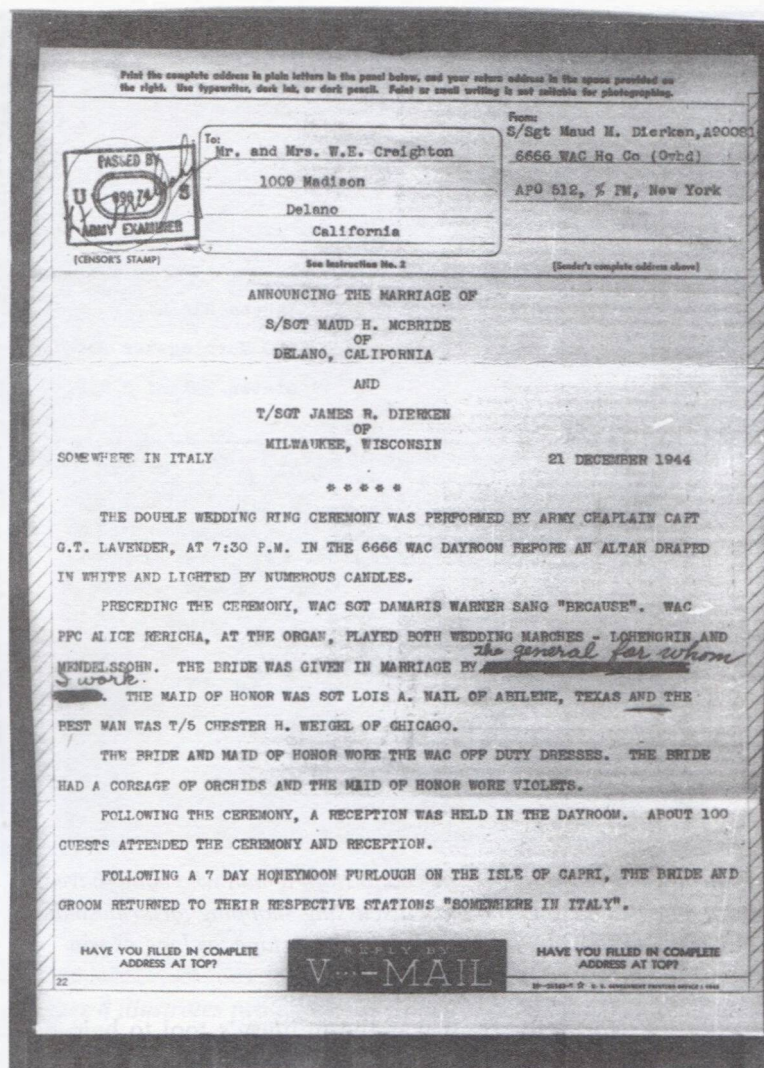


Figure 10 presents an enlarged V-mail letter used as a wedding announcement in December 1944. Most wedding details made it past the censor, except for who gave away the bride.

and the more concentrated efforts in the Pacific Theater, war with Japan was also not likely to last more than another year. With the end of the fighting on the horizon, people wanted to stop thinking about and start actually doing things to achieve their post-war future. For some couples, it

was their first opportunity to plan and make a life together. For others, it was the opportunity to start again. Figure 11 illustrates a free mail cover and its contents. Mailed by the soldier/groom from his stateside training base, it is a wedding announcement sent out by the newlywed couple. The bride is referred to as "Mrs." with a different last name from the groom. It is reasonable to assume that this woman was a war widow and was fortunate to find another chance for romance in her life. For those who had parts of their life postponed by military service, it was also a time of homecomings and reunions. Figure 12 is free 1st class mail from a homebound husband to his wife. The soldier was temporarily located at Camp Lucky Strike, one of the overseas "cigarette" camps. Once France had been liberated in 1944-45, the U.S. Army established a series of staging area camps near Le Havre and combat assembly camps near Reims. The wartime plan had incoming units first pass through staging camps, move to the combat assembly areas, and then to the front. The staging-area camps were named after various brands of American cigarettes; such as Lucky Strike and Chesterfield; the assembly area camps were named after American cities, such as Camp Atlanta and Camp Baltimore. Referring to the camps without an indication of their geographical location was designed to confuse the enemy about loca-

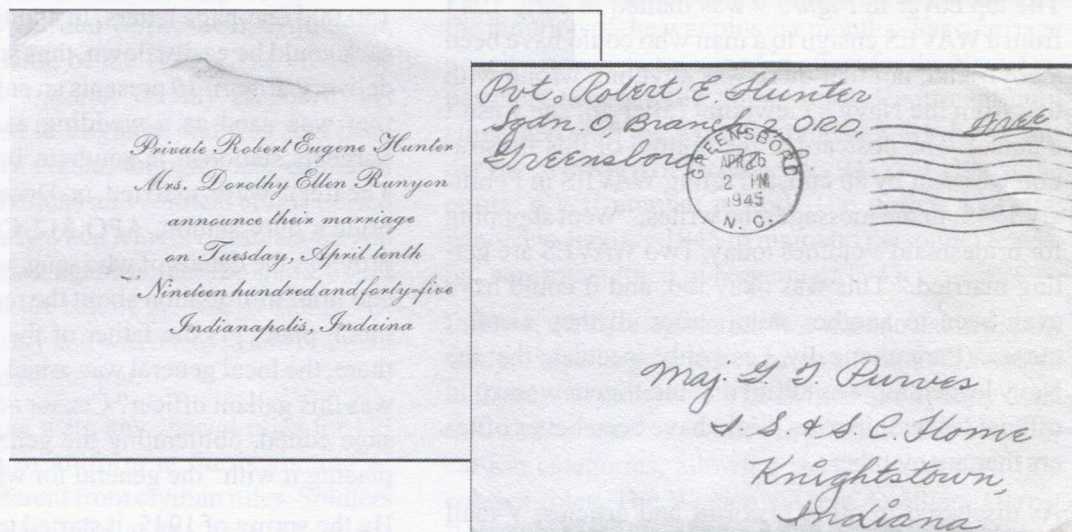


Figure 11 illustrates a free mail cover and its contents of a wedding announcement. The bride is referred to as "Mrs." with a different last name from the groom, and she possibly was a young war widow with another chance for romance in her life.

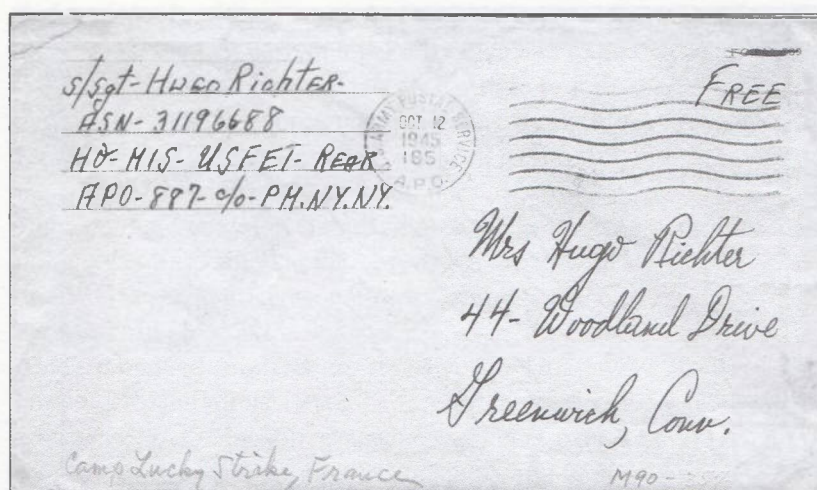


Figure 12 is free 1st class mail in October 1945 from a soldier husband temporarily located at Camp Lucky Strike, France, to his wife. The soldier had accumulated enough "Discharge Points" and was awaiting transport home.

tions. At the war's end, the cigarette and city camps were changed over primarily to handle soldiers to be demobilized based on the "Point System". In this plan, points were awarded for years of service overseas, medals and other commendations received, campaign battle stars earned, and other factors such as dependent children. Initially, the point total needed for being sent home was 85; those with this total or more were the first to be sent home. As the war against Japan ended, the point total was decreased, and my father was demobilized in October 1945 with a total of 82 points (45 months in service, 17 months overseas, and four battle stars).

One commonly heard half-joke, half complaint about American troops in Britain during the war was "Overpaid, oversexed and over here!" While the average British Tommy was serving the Empire around the world, American troops were coming to Great Britain in support of the air war and ultimately for the invasion of Europe. The American (and Canadian) soldiers stationed in the British Isles were like wealthy patricians, dispensing their largess in return for the favor of companionship. This would naturally be attractive to a great number of British women, deprived of material luxuries due to shortages under rationing and social activities due to the lack of men. **Figure 13** illustrates two envelopes used in correspon-

dence between US armed forces personnel and British women. The one envelope is from Flight Officer (F/O) to a young lady. Flight Officers were a special rank above the enlisted ranks but below that of second lieutenant created during WWII to increase the number of pilots available. Enlisted men who were recommended could enter flight training and, after graduation (starting in July 1942) received the grade of Flight Officer which was equal in status to that of warrant officer junior grade. They were to be treated as military officers, and wore colored bars like warrant officers, except that the enameled portion was blue instead of brown. The "T-9122" is the officer's Army Serial Number (ASN). Since he was originally an enlisted man, he already had an 8-digit number. As a Flight Officer, he was placed in different



Figure 13 illustrates two envelopes used in correspondence between US armed forces personnel and British women. The top cover is to a civilian and the bottom is from a WAAF

personnel, privileges and pay categories, and so was assigned a new "Temporary" (T) ASN. The other envelope is from a member of the Women's Auxiliary Air Force, a part of the Royal Air Force to a US serviceman. One of the models for the US armed forces women's services, 180,000 WAAF personnel served in various capacities, including ground crew, meteorology, code work and intelligence.

Sometime the friendships carried on in correspondence developed into romantic attachments. In total, it is estimated that there were 100,000 marriages between British women and American soldiers as well as an additional 45,000 marriages to Canadian troops. Of this total, approximately 70,000 women moved to America and 45,000 to Canada to start a new life with their soldier husbands. In order to marry a foreign national, the American soldier had to get written permission from their Commanding Officer at least two months in advance of the wedding. The Commander's decision would be based on interviewing the prospective bride. Occasionally senior officers disapproved of war marriages and would make a couple wait several months before granting an interview.

Once the war was over, the process of reuniting these war marriage partners had to compete with many other logistical issues. At VE Day in May 1945, approximately 7.6 million service personnel were stationed overseas. With the occurrence of VJ day in September, the military reduced the required total discharge points to 80, and eventually to 50 by mid December 1945. In this same time period, approximately 5 million troops were transported back to the US. Compared to the WWI experience of 18 months to return 2 million troops, this was a great performance. For the remaining 2+ million soldiers, however, it was not good enough. With many millions of men still overseas and shortages of transportation, there were protests in America about efforts to transport the war brides using the limited spaces on ships while U.S. soldiers were still in Europe and the Pacific islands.

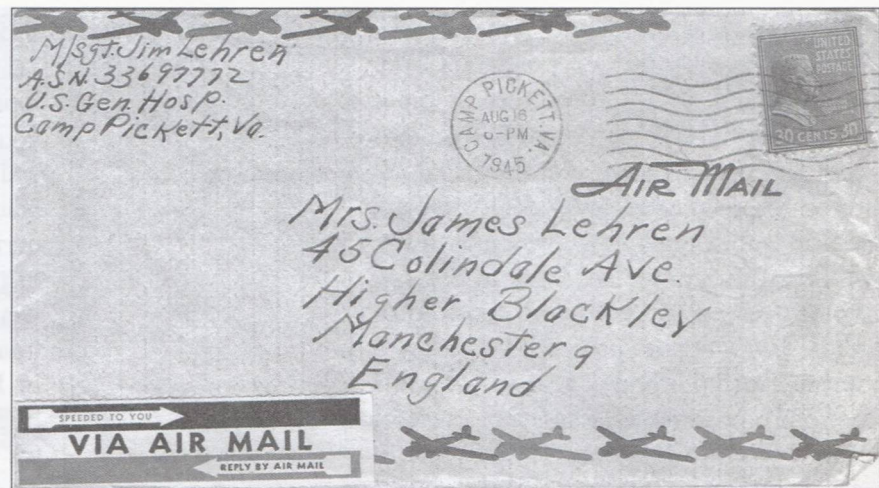


Figure 14 was mailed in August 1945 from a serviceman in the US to his war bride still in England. With documentations, permissions, logistics and laws all arranged, the first official sailing of a 'war bride' ship finally occurred in January 1946.

The garrison town of Tidworth, Wiltshire, is on the edge of Salisbury Plain Training Area. This had been a major military base in the UK since 1897, and throughout WWII at least nine US Army divisions (including four Armored Divisions) were garrisoned at Tidworth, with access to the Royal Artillery Range for artillery and tank practice. By December 1945, the base was converted to Tidworth Transit Camp and was made an assembly point for women and children to be processed prior to leaving for the US from Southampton on a ship temporarily dedicated to this purpose. To sail to America a G.I. bride needed immigration and marriage documentation, as well as a sworn statement from husband that he could support her, with details of his salary and evidence that she would get a train ticket to final destination on disembarking. In preparation for all of this, there would have been much correspondence between the spouses, such as the cover in *figure 14*. This envelope was mailed in August 1945 from a serviceman in the US to his bride still in England. Since he was in the CONUS, and mailing to a civilian overseas, the airmail military concession rate did not apply; the sender was required to pay the standard \$0.30 airmail rate to England. While at Tidworth, the women had a schedule of orientation of what to expect in their new country, the naturalized citizenship process, finger printing, luggage checks, physical exams and limited currency exchange as there was not a large quantity of US currency in Great Britain.

Before these British, or any other nationality, brides could enter the US, certain legal obstacles had to be removed. The immigration laws at that time prohibited the admission of foreigners who were ineligible for citizenship (primarily Asians) as well as limiting the entry of immigrants to 150,000 per year. Women who could not enter the country due to the immigration quotas were stuck in their home countries without their husbands. To resolve this, Congress passed the War Brides Act at the end of December 1945, and which remained in effect for three years. This law provided for the admission of the foreign spouses and minor children of members/former members of the military by giving them non-quota status and eligibility to become U.S. residents. So, even if the maximum number of immigrants had already entered the United States in a given year, the war brides would still be accepted. In mid-1946, Congress passed the Fiancées Act, which granted fiancées of US servicemen three-month visas as temporary visitors. If a couple did not wed during that three-month period, the fiancée would be returned home. With logistics and laws all arranged, the first official sailing of a 'war bride' ship finally occurred on January 26, 1946. The vessel was the *S.S. Argentina*, operated by the Moore-McCormack Line. The ship sailed from Southampton with passengers of 452 brides, 173 children, and 1 groom. The ship's master, Thomas N. Simmons, had radioed ahead to New York and requested that the Statue of Liberty be lit up. The Statue was lit, for the first time since World War II, for the *Argentina's* arrival during the early morning hours of February 4, 1946. Most of the war brides had pleasant experiences. In some cases, stories told by GI husbands turned out to be exaggerated, but for the most part, the war brides adjusted well to their new lives and adopted country. Most war brides blended seamlessly into their new American life that, after a time, they became simply Americans, only one more immigrant in a country of mostly immigrants and descendants of immigrants. Follow-up histories suggest that approximately 80% of these war marriages survived and prospered.

And so, it seems that the words of the Roman poet Virgil—"omnia vincit amor" or "love conquers all", including war and bureaucracy, rang as true in the 1940's as they did in the past. For all of our sakes, I hope it continues to be so.

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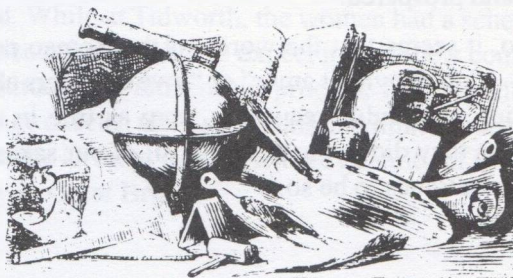
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VERY Modern Postal History

Part 2: USPS Endorsements for Mail Undeliverable as Addressed

By Randy Stehle

The first part of the “VERY Modern Postal History” series appeared in June-July 2006 *La Posta* (Whole No. 219, Vol. 37, No. 3). To recap, this series is made possible due to the author acquiring about 15,500 promotional post cards that were returned to sender. The first part dealt with the variety of labels that were used on some of the returned post cards. This part will deal with the various endorsements the United States Postal Service (USPS) currently uses on mail undeliverable as addressed. (This designation is useful as it excludes other reasons for mail matter to be undeliverable, like improper postage.)

The *Domestic Mail Manual (DMM)* states in section 507 (mailer services), part 1.4.1 (basic treatment of mail), “Mail that is undeliverable as addressed is forwarded, returned to the sender, or treated as dead mail, as authorized for the particular class of mail. The rules for forwarding of mail are found in the same section as above, in part 1.5.1. In the case of the post cards under study, there was no endorsement (directions) printed on them as to how to handle their forwarding. In this case, they will receive the same treatment as if they had the endorsement “Forwarding Service Requested” at no charge (as it is first class mail). If there is no change-of-address order on file, the item is returned to sender with the reason for nondelivery indicated. If there is a change-of-address order on file, then the following is done:

- Months 1 through 12: Piece forwarded (no charge).
- Months 13 through 18: Piece returned with new address attached (no charge).
- After month 18: Piece returned with reason for nondelivery attached (no charge).

For those items that do not have forwarding issues, undeliverable-as-addressed mail is endorsed by the USPS with the reason for nondelivery (as shown in *Exhibit 1.4.1 USPS Endorsements for Mail Undeliverable as Addressed*). All undeliverable pieces are returned to sender.

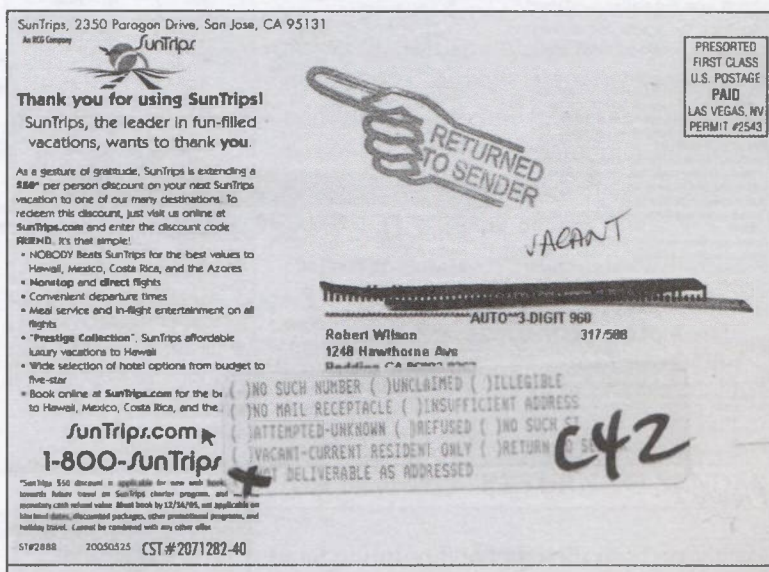


Figure 1

The post card shown in *figure 1* illustrates one way in which the USPS treats mail undeliverable as addressed. It was addressed to a person in Redding, CA, who no longer lived at the address. This post card received four different markings: 1) a red RETURNED/TO SENDER pointing hand; 2) the barcode for the address was crossed out so it would not be sent back to the original addressee; 3) a manuscript “VACANT” was added in black ink, & 4) a yellow multi-use label was applied. This label has eleven different reasons for the return. Even though there was a “VACANT – CURRENT RESIDENT ONLY” choice on the label (whose meaning eludes this author), the generic “NOT DELIVERABLE AS ADDRESSED” choice was marked. There is also the notation “C42” in black felt tip pen, which most likely is the carrier’s number.

The post card shown in *figure 2* shows a similar treatment of such mail matter. This post card has the “old-fashioned” red rubber handstamp pointing finger with eleven reasons for the mail’s return. Below it is a crude dot matrix yellow label with ten reasons on it. The reasons given on the two items are pretty much the same, with a few minor differences. The handstamp marking has the “Forwarding Order Expired” line checked. The label has the “Not Deliverable as Addressed” line checked. These two reasons are not mutually exclusive, and the reasons checked do not

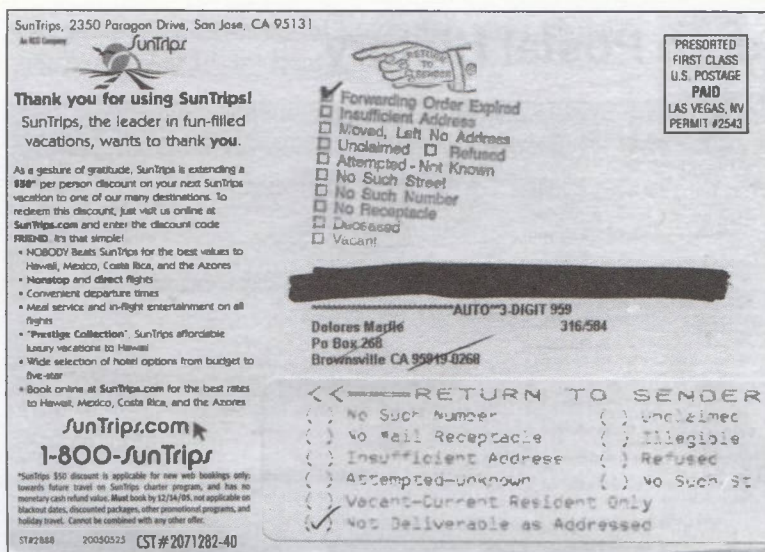


Figure 2

appear on both the label and pointing hand marking. The barcode, once again, has been obliterated with a black felt tip pen.

One trend in these modern markings is the use of initials for the reasons the item is being returned. The post card in *figure 3* has a yellow label with "RETURN TO SENDER" at the top of it. Below it are thirteen reasons for this, all of which are abbreviated. The "UTF" reason is check. Having looked at a number of other similar post cards, the author deduced that these initials stand for "Unable to forward". The average person who receives such a post card

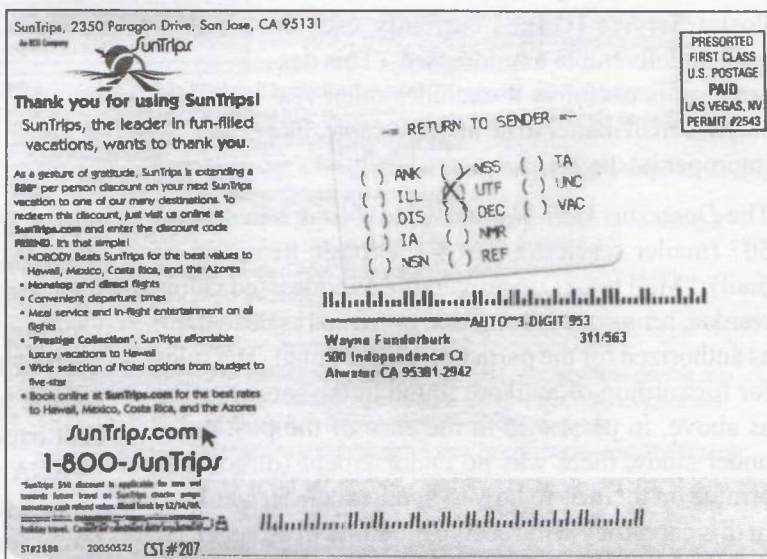


Figure 3

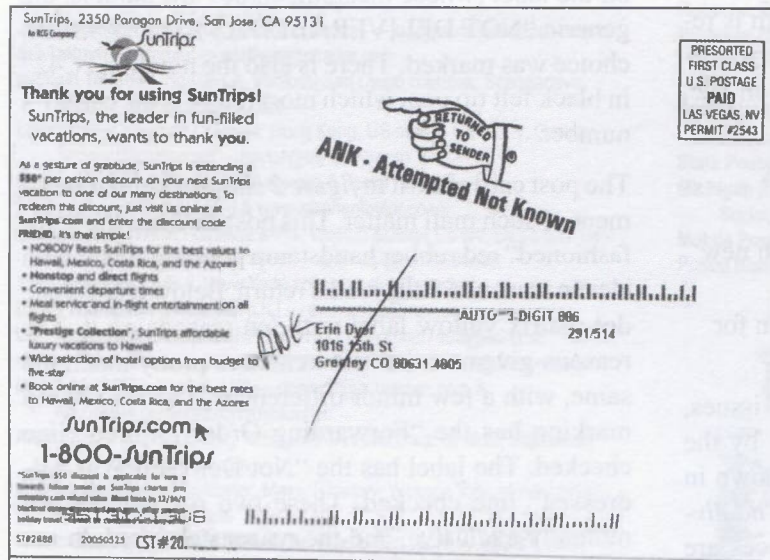


Figure 4

marked in this manner would not be able to figure out its meaning. Let's look at the rest of the reasons on this label:

- ANK = Attempted, not known;
- ILL = Illegible;
- DIS = Disputed;
- IA = Insufficient address;
- NSN = No such number;
- NSS = No such street;
- DEC = Deceased;
- NMR = No mail receptacle;
- REF = Refused;
- TA = temporarily away;
- UNC = Unclaimed &
- VAC = Vacant.

The barcode on this post card was left alone. Instead a new bar code was applied to the bottom of it. This bar code is for the sender's address, and is on a piece of self-adhesive tape.

The DMM lists all the above reasons, and then a number more. To complete the list, we must add the following:

- Box closed – no order;
- Delivery suspended to commercial mail receiving agency (the subject of part three of this series);
- In dispute;
- Moved, left no address;
- No such office in state;
- Outside delivery limits;

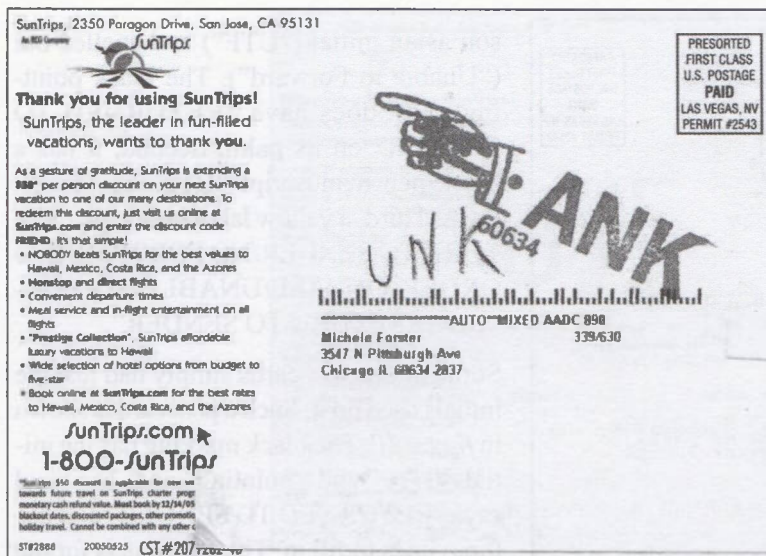


Figure 5

- Returned for better address;
- Returned for postage;
- Returned to sender due to addressee's violation of postal false representation or postal lottery law and
- Undeliverable as addressed, missing PMB [Private mail box] or # sign.

Let us take a look at the various ways these initial markings are being used. The post card in figure 4 has the "ANK" marking on it in both the black pointing hand marking and the black manuscript pen notation. In this case, the handstamp marking at least spells out what "ANK" stands for.

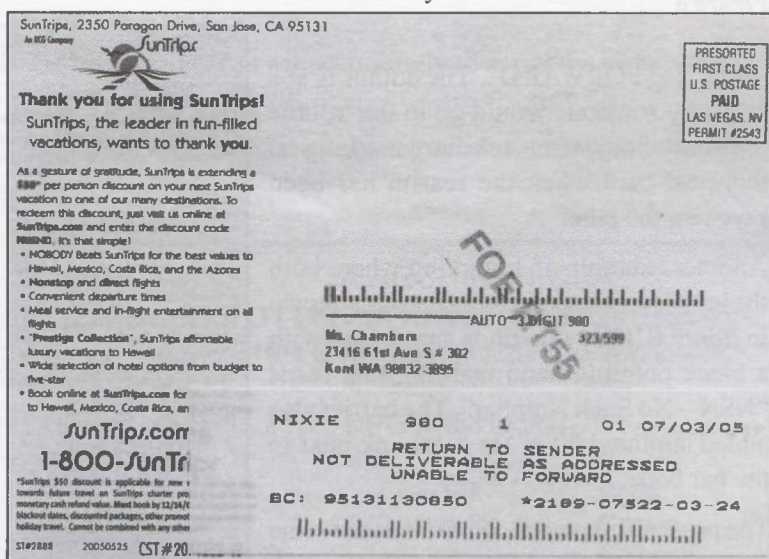


Figure 6

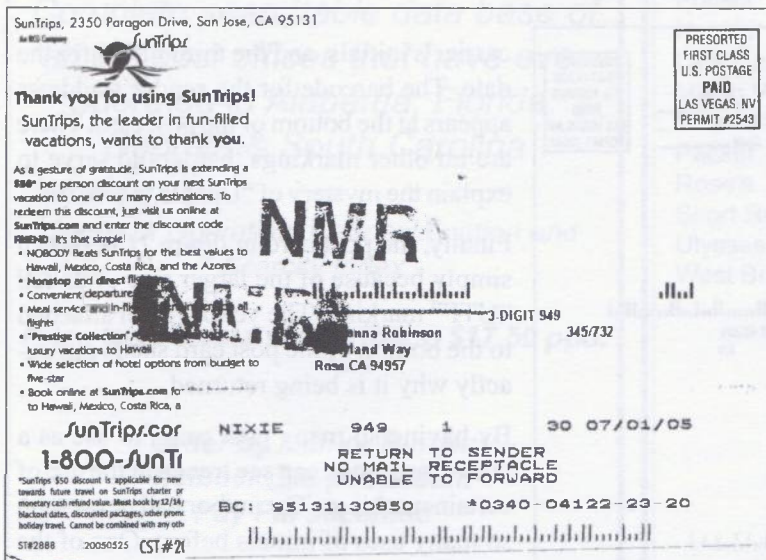


Figure 7

The post card shown in figure 5 was not as lucky as the one shown in figure 4. In this case, the post card simply got a red "ANK" marking with a pointing hand and the number "60634", which is the ZIP Code of the addressee. Someone (probably the carrier) wrote "UNK" in black marker just below the handstamp marking. Instead of using the barcode of the sender's address, this post card got a self-adhesive white strip at its lower edge.

As mentioned above, sometimes the issue of forwarding comes into play. The postcard shown in figure 6 has a black "FOE RT 55" marking, as well as a yellow label. The label says "RETURN TO SENDER/

NOT DELIVERABLE AS ADDRESSED/UNABLE TO FORWARD". The bottom of the label has the ZIP Code and barcode of the sender. The initials "FOE" stand for "Forwarding order expired", and was applied by the carrier on Kent, Washington's route 55. Even though the two markings are not in total agreement as to the reason why the post card was not delivered, they are close enough to make sense.

Sometimes the abbreviated marking will exactly match the label. The post card shown in figure 7 has a black "NMR" marking applied twice to it. It also has a yellow label which reads, "RETURN TO SENDER/NO MAIL RECEIPT/UN-

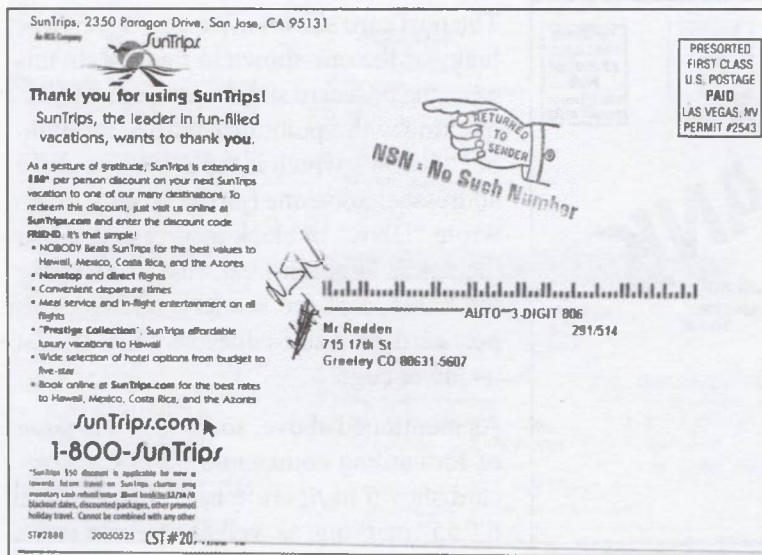


Figure 8

ABLE TO FORWARD". The author is at a loss why someone would go to the trouble of using a handstamp auxiliary marking on this post card when the reason has been given on the label.

Another example of a marking where both the initials and actual reason appear is shown in figure 8. Here one finds a post card with a black pointing hand marking that reads "NSN – No Such Number". The carrier also added another "NSN" in black ink next to the bar code.

The post card shown in figure 9 has the same reason given three different ways. First, it has a black pointing hand with both the rea-

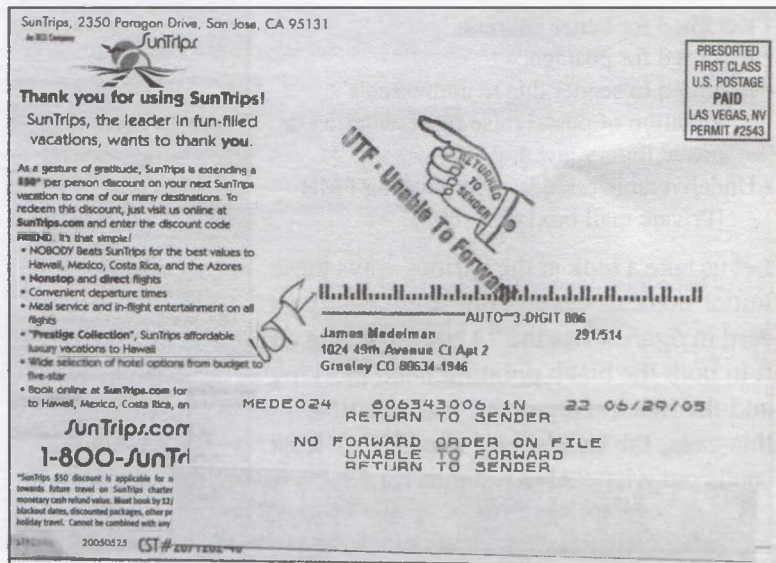


Figure 9

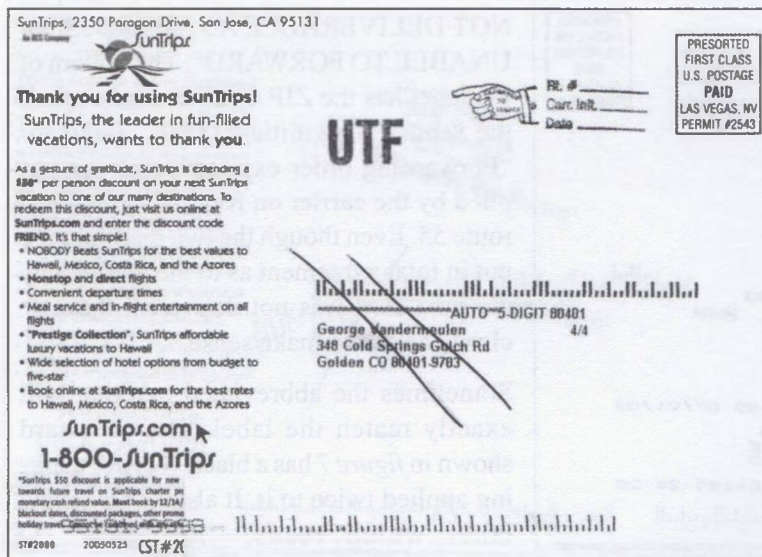


Figure 10

son as an initial ("UTF") and spelled out ("Unable to Forward"). The black pointing hand does have "RETURNED TO SENDER" on its palm. Second, it has a black pen manuscript "UTF" by the address. Third, a yellow label says it all, "RETURN TO SENDER/NO FORWARDING ORDER ON FILE/UNABLE TO FORWARD/RETURN TO SENDER".

Some of the post cards simply had just the initials used on it. Such a post card is shown in figure 10. The black marking has the initials "UTF" and a pointing hand. The hand says "RETURNED TO SENDER" and has three lines to fill in. The first line is for the route number. The second line is for the

carrier's initials, and the third line is for the date. The barcode for the sender's address appears at the bottom of the post card. There are no other markings that would serve to explain the mystery of "Unable to forward".

Finally, the post card in figure 11 is shown simply because of the larger size of its red "UTF" marking. The yellow label attached to the bottom of the post card spells out exactly why it is being returned.

By having so many post cards to use as a "data base", one can see trends in the use of certain markings. The author had never seen so many uses of initials before. One of the main functions of auxiliary markings is to inform the sender, recipient or postal worker

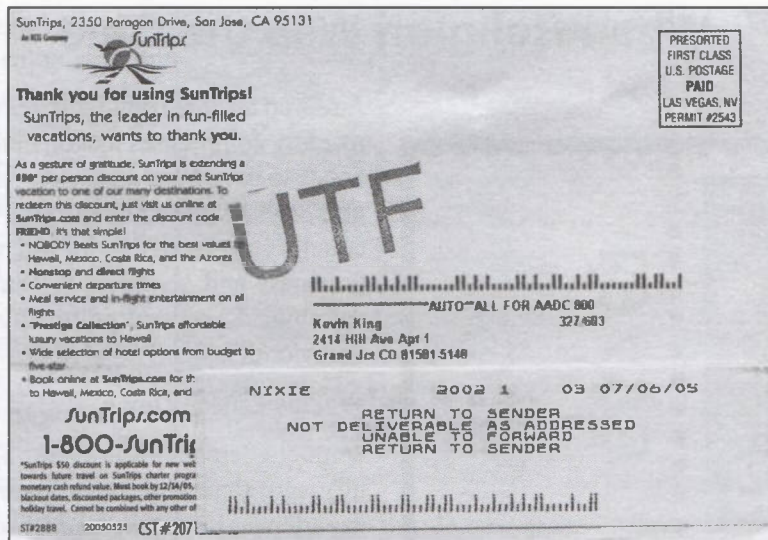


Figure 11

of the reason why a piece of mail is being returned. Then they can act accordingly to avoid the same pitfall in the future. The use of just initials makes this task much more difficult.

Next time: Modern markings that deal with private mail boxes and the proprietors of the stores in which they are found.

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When Religion Was the Glue

by Tom Clarke



Figure 1 'Washington praying at Valley Forge', a fantasy invented along with other mythical stories by the religious Parson Weems in his 1806 eulogy, George Washington.

The story of religion in America and its effects is complex and shrouded by the fact that the country that has taken such pride from the beginning in free religious expression reveres it for its ethical contributions but wants it kept personal. Religion in one way or another covers many bases, maybe all bases, depending on your view.

In a country as democratically wide open as ours has always been, especially in the age of terrorist warfare, and in a scientific and increasingly secular society at that, with some letters to illustrate, it is interesting to mention a few of the effects of our religious journey.

The same country that has a sacred (but fanciful) picture of George Washington praying in the snow at Valley Forge for Divine Guidance, today forbids prayer in schools. We hear on the History Channel Franklin Roosevelt's various radio admonitions to Almighty God for aid in the war, but are split on George Bush's attempt to use public money for poor relief through religious charities. Whichever side one is on, there is no doubt that religion has molded our nation from the beginning, and simultaneously has been a troublesome thorn in our political side.

Rich Martorelli's latest *La Posta* contribution elsewhere in this issue focuses on marriage during WWII. Those who lived it are convinced that the wrenching experience and our forbearance during the Great Depression of the 1930's, plus the ordeal of fighting the World War's evils, created the 'Greatest Generation', those roughly of the 1910's to 1960's.

A retired teacher friend, Ed, born shortly after the war, recently commented that on hindsight he felt very fortunate to have lived during the peak of America's greatness, influence and character. At the same time he is equally convinced that the old motivation to strive for greatness and goodness is gone and we are quickly spiraling downward politically, culturally, ethically, and morally.

Worlds Upside Down

Samuel Clemens (Mark Twain) felt similarly a century ago, that while very grateful for the wonderful experience, he felt he had lived too long (he died in 1910 at 76). Twain saw the multitude of changes that were tearing apart his beloved 19th century, and he didn't care for the new America that was being rebuilt



Figure 2 Deplorable health conditions in the 19th century, like those 5,000 years previous, meant frequent death, especially of the very young. The average life expectancy was about 42 in 1800 (and 1900 too, and in less developed nations today) when taking into account all the stricken babies. This pre-Civil War Daguerreotype shows a distraught though stoic mother, with a resigned mouth and eyes, holding her dead baby for the camera-man. These are not uncommon mementos for the time. Consoling grief kept church attendance high. Because death was so close then, folded letter writers reacted to it in an almost casual manner.

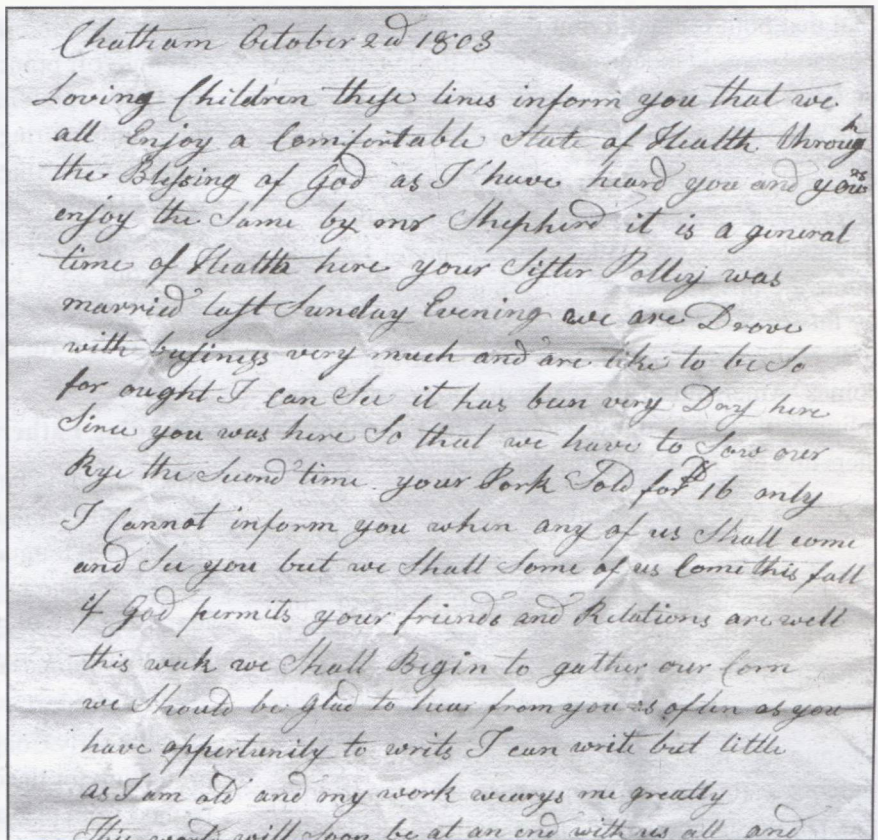
in its place. "Clemens' America had had a uniform value system and its growth into the country that was the envy of the world had taken place with breathtaking speed before his eyes. But he attacked the price America was paying, the vulgar greed, the political and corporate corruption, and not least, the disruptive swarm of immigrants, largest in our history. The rural charms of agrarian America had been eclipsed he felt by social breakdown and impersonal, foul-smelling, crowded urban streets.

Has today's America, formerly naive and willing to lend a hand to anyone any time, also become too arrogant and self-absorbed? We pursue trivialities; we and our kids are dangerously overweight through laziness and lack of imagination—everything comes too easy, work is a bore, yet we're pre-occupied by material goods. Corporate greed is headline news in healthcare, energy, housing, and banking. According to recent figures, American CEO's take 260 times their average worker's wage, whereas by comparison, Japanese CEO's earn 40 times. Distracted parents let strangers bring up their kids at the most critical period, early childhood, and are too tired to discipline them after work.

Those 'soulless' media personalities who lead sleazy, amoral, yet glamorous public lives, are offered to children as role models. Ed further sees America splintering more and more into racial and ethnic groupings instead of joining with a single voice, one identity and language. All tolled, he bitterly adds we've lost the ability and the right to inspire, let alone lead the world.

'Melting Pot' or 'Salad Bowl'

The traditional construction of America was the homogenous 'melting pot'. Today, the politically correct view is America as 'salad bowl', rich in chunks of individuality and 'doing your thing', a blend no longer. In schools today it is required to tout the salad bowl



Chatham October 2d 1803
 Loving children these lines inform you that we all enjoy a comfortable state of health. Through the blessing of God as I have heard you and your enjoy the same by our Shepherd it is a general time of health here your sister Polly was married last Sunday Evening we are Drove with business very much and are like to be so for ought I can see it has been very Dory here since you was here so that we have to sow our Rye the second time. your Pork sold for \$16 only I cannot inform you when any of us shall come and see you but we shall some of us come this fall if God permits your friends and Relations are well this week we shall begin to gather our corn we should be glad to hear from you as often as you have opportunity to write I can write but little as I am old and my work wearies me greatly This world will soon be at an end with us all and

Figure 3 An 1803 hand carried letter from an elderly Chatham MA father to his son in Suffield MA, conceding he is "old and my work wearies me greatly This world will soon be at an end with us all and it ought to be our greatest concern to prepare for a better world...in that Righteousness that Jesus Christ has wrought out for guilty Repenting Sinners." Maybe a Congregationalist church goer? A later letter (1806) says the father was near death from dysentery.

view with months divided among various groups whose individual praises are glorified on bulletin boards and announcements.

Between 1890 and 1910, Theodore Roosevelt and Samuel Clemens witnessed the greatest percentage influx of immigrants with their new faiths, languages, and manifold cultural elements unsurpassed till our day. Both were very wary of this overwhelming rush of humanity and their new ways.

Roosevelt particularly disliked the habit of some groups to retain their former status by describing themselves as 'Italian-Americans', or 'Jewish-Americans', etc. He said, "When America becomes a country of hyphenated Americans, it will cease to be America". He felt that you come to America to change yourself, not to change America, and that without assimilation, we shall begin to fight among ourselves, but to a country this is death.

Sad that both missed it, but ultimately, this wave of humanity would indeed adapt, learn the language and customs, and assimilate into the greater culture, for this was still the era of the melting pot.

Currently, we stress over foreign languages (a key determinant of culture), and peculiar (to us) dress. We definitely anger over “please press one for English”. Some are upset when sections of a town are flooded by this or that new group, and their ‘funny’ food at first is joked at, though if it’s good, it quickly becomes ‘American’. But we usually do not stress over religion, thanks to the wisdom of the Founding Fathers and our First Amendment guarantees.

Wither Those Core Values?

Where are the core values that brought America to prominence? Immigration or not, is the original American fiber and values dying away? What was the primary mechanism, the glue, which seemed to hold us together for almost 200 years?

Despite the magic bond of patriotism forged among fighters against a common enemy, and victory over them in Washington’s day, the sanctified Declaration and Constitution, there were even older principles common to most every American.

The Founding Fathers’ fathers obeyed the 10 Commandments as best they could and the Sermon on the Mount’s injunction to ‘love thy neighbor’, with unquestioned understanding that neighbors shared the same beliefs and attitudes. Churches educated our character long before we had benefit of an education system or Jefferson’s righteous words.

No boundaries?

We still share some of the aspirations of Revolutionary America: a life free from interference, personal liberty, and an unhindered though not guaranteed opportunity to secure happiness. However, we are worlds apart from the decent American character of the 1950’s, 60’s and even 70’s, as my friend believes, let alone that of the 16 or 1700’s, because today few of us accept that there are ethical and moral boundaries. Ed says, liberty has become license without restraint. But this is the definition of chaos.

Martorelli’s reference to 1940’s marriage is a good stepping off point. The revolution to easy divorce in the 1970’s, children notwithstanding, inter-racial and inter-faith marriage (disruptive to some), the quest for same-sex marriage, pre-nuptial agreements, blatant White House extra-marital philandering, child custody battles, wholesale illegitimacy per group ranging from 25% to 70%, the glorification of single parenting . . . All would be mystifying and alien to Martorelli’s rugged hometown heroes of World War II.

Founding Father’s Faith

Most Founding Fathers were well-schooled in Greek, Latin, and Hebrew so they could read Holy Writ in the original tongue. But were they really believers as had been *their* fathers? Some had a profound problem accepting unquestioning religious belief and requirements. It was the Age of Reason and Science after all.

Still, the early Congress prayed and invoked Almighty protection for the cause. But General Washington refrained from using the word ‘God’. He chose instead ‘Divine Providence’ or ‘Divine protection’ to make a point. These terms are *deist* vocabulary (*deist* and *deity* stem from ‘God’ in Latin), and Deists saw God

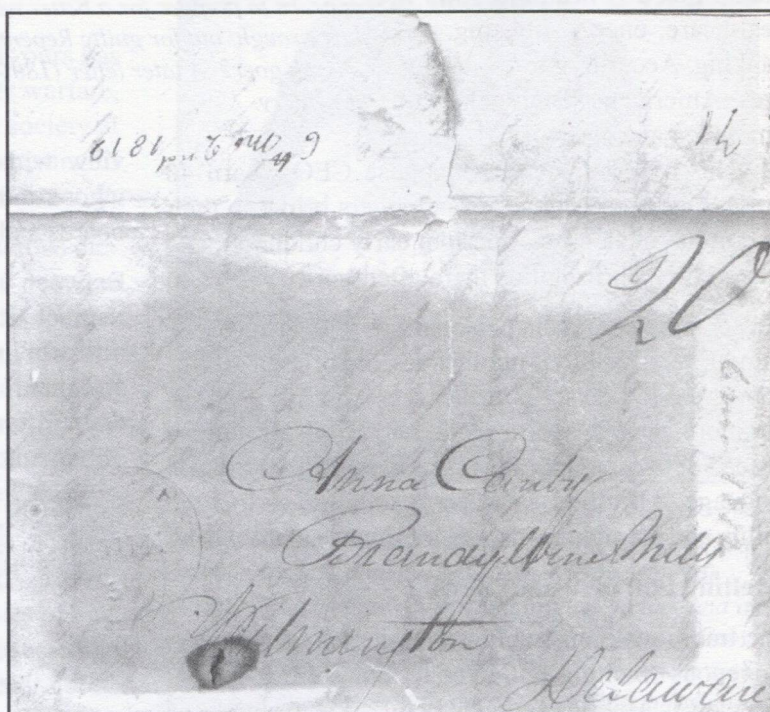


Figure 4 A faint Pittsburgh dial lower left for JUN 3 1812, and a typical Quaker docketing, reminding that the letter was written the day before on 6th month 2nd [day] 1812. Does mail go to Wilmington DE from Pittsburgh in one day today?

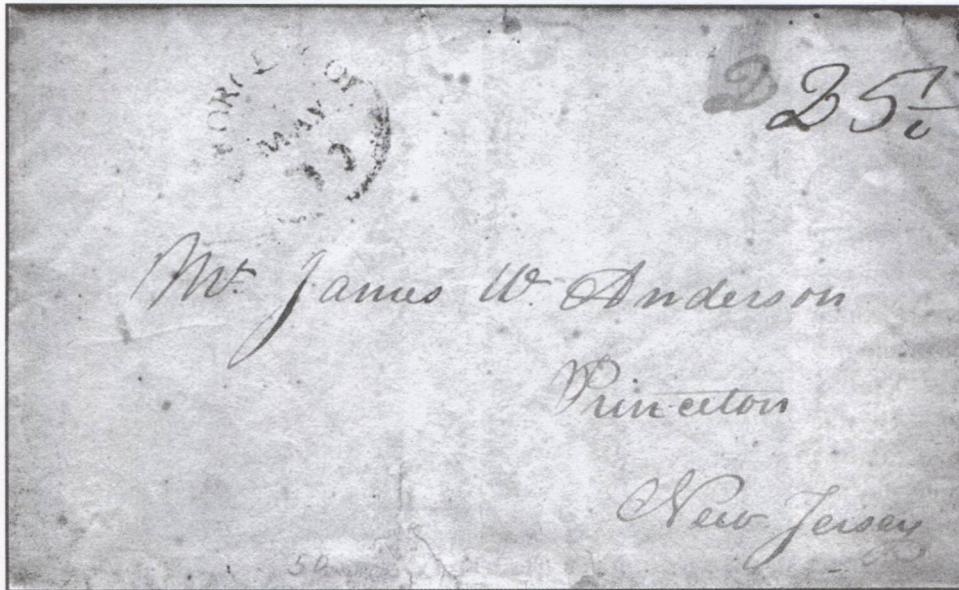


Figure 5 An 1815 war rate cover from Georgetown DC: a friendly tongue in cheek letter between college friends, one in Princeton NJ who recently converted and Lewis A Cozens, who is "not myself one of the elect" [not yet converted]. He refers to the 'prevailing mania' of religious fervor and seems to suggest his friend converted "to reinstate himself in the good opinion of a damned Presbyterian faculty." You'd have to have been there to understand all the nuances.

in a dispassionate way, through experience not through emotions, miracle stories, and supernatural revelations. Washington's friend, Dr. Abercrombie, in answer to a query about Washington's religion replied, "Sir, Washington was a Deist."

"Parson" M. L. Weems in his influential book, *Life of Washington* (1806), tells apocryphal tales of young George chopping the cherry tree, and throwing a silver dollar across the Potomac. He also states unequivocally that Washington was a Christian. All this was patriotic fabrication for the instruction of children, written soon after Washington's death in 1799. The Washington diaries show he rarely attended any church at all (as with Lincoln). Still, this fact informs us of the strong beliefs of the reading public, and what they wanted to hear to comfort them after the passing of the Father of their Country. A country is after all, the sum total of its inhabitants experience, not just those of its founders.

Also, don't forget that in 1814, lawyer Francis Scott Key penned the *Star Spangled Banner* victory poem with words that met with extreme popularity, with key phrases (italicized) in the fourth and last stanza:

Oh! thus be it ever, when free men shall stand
Between their loved homes and the war's desolation,
Blest with vict'ry and peace, *may the Heav'n-rescued land*
Praise the Power that hath made and preserved us a nation!
Then conquer we must, when our cause is its just,
And this be our motto: "In God is our Trust"
And the star-spangled banner in triumph shall wave
O'er the land of the free and the home of the brave.

The reference to 'Heaven-rescued' probably acknowledges the devastating rain (hurricane?) that helped persuade the British, following the burning of Washington DC, to give up their attempt to take Baltimore (and then Philadelphia), and instead retreat south toward safety. Key also suggested we 'Praise the Power [God]', for preserving us from defeat, and coined a near-familiar phrase.

Faith in spite of Their Leaders

With today's War on Terror, initiated by the Radical Muslim view that America is hostile to Islam, it might be useful to repeat endlessly the words from Article XI of the 1797 *Treaty of Tripoli*, initialed by Washington himself late in 1796. It underscores Washington's, Adam's, and Congress's view on religion's role in government:

As the Government of the United States of America is not in any sense founded on the Christian religion; as it has in itself no character of enmity against the laws, religion, or tranquility, of [Moslems]; and as the said States never have entered into any war or act of hostility against any [Mohammedan] nation, it is declared by the parties that no pretext arising from religious opinions shall ever produce an interruption of the harmony existing between the two countries.

In the *Declaration of Independence*, Jefferson declared that we were free thanks not to man but the "Laws of Nature". Interestingly, he had to be encouraged by Congress Member and Chaplain John Witherspoon of New Jersey to add the words "and of Nature's God".

Jefferson also was a Deist, as were many of the hardheaded philosopher, lawyer, trader, farmer, scientist, and politician Founders. This fact is influential in the decision to word the First Amendment's religious freedom clause.

If he wasn't as 'religious' as the man on the street, Jefferson still was a supreme moralist. In his *Jefferson's Bible*, he edited from the Gospels any instance of the miraculous and saved only Jesus' 'correct moral philosophy' as he called it. He was not anti-religious, only in favor of free thought, "... it does me no injury for my neighbor to say there are twenty gods or no God. It neither picks my pocket nor breaks my leg."

In 1802, he coined a famous phrase in a letter: "... I [revere the First Amendment] which declared that the legislature should 'make no law respecting an establishment of religion, or prohibiting the free exercise thereof,' thus building

a wall of separation between church and State." He insisted on strict separation, which has existed thus until very recently.



Figure 6 Miss Manifest Destiny / Liberty was a popular motif and American 'saint', and stirred a combined religious-nationalistic spirit during the 19th century. She is shown here helping lay telegraph lines West (John Gast, 1872).

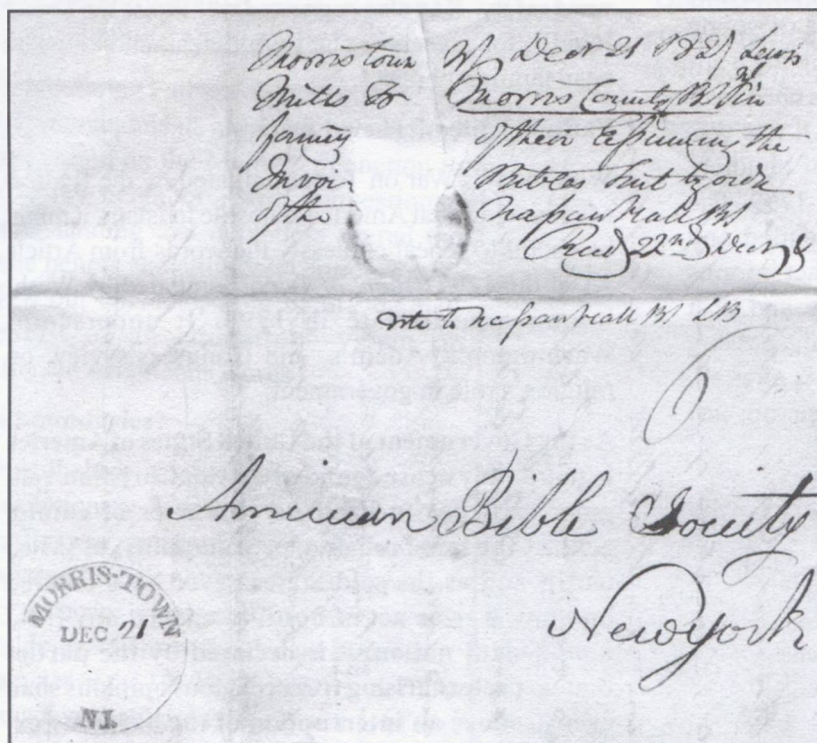


Figure 7 A fine 1821 Morristown NJ red dial to the American Bible Society, founded five years before. With the influx of immigrants, many such societies were formed to get Bibles into their hands, the ABS came to be the umbrella organization for many dozen local groups. Docketing says it was an invoice for Bibles, which apparently was forwarded to the Nassau Hall Bible Society for fulfillment.

Common Man America

The core values of our country developed out of laws and traditions, via schools and parenting, through rugged experience and a unique spiritual sense—religious or secular, conscious or unconscious—prompted by freedom. Our basic ethical framework developed as a result.

The American Character did not develop only through grappling with the elements, inventing new implements and methods on the frontier out of sheer necessity, or by blending varied immigrant ideas. The new American was heartier and more vibrant because he developed inwardly too. That inner self was nurtured by Biblical themes. The 19th century was rife with religious expression of all sorts. It was reflected and quoted in songs, speeches, broadsides, school books, and definitely in folded letters.

Spirit of Manifest Destiny

The common man of America, though led by men who saw religion in a cool, scientific way, nevertheless was drawn to and was very excited about down home religion. They read the Good Book, went to services and camp meetings, sang and shouted and prayed, listened to hours-long sermons, and converted back and forth from one faith to another. Sometimes they chose brand new sects when interesting claims were made that so and so had spoken to God or angels. When ordinary Americans spread west, they took ethics-based attitudes to match. John O'Sullivan, Democratic editor of the New York *Morning Post* in 1845, editorialized:

[It is] our manifest destiny to over spread and to possess the whole of the continent which Providence has given us for the development of the great experiment of liberty [democracy]."

It was democracy as religion's handmaiden and religion aiding democracy. In a hard, workaday world without much to entertain, religious spirit was everywhere alive and well.

Religions America Began With

Whatever the readers' thoughts on religion (and associated political and social trends) today, a legion of differences separate us from the 1800-1850 era. 'Back in the day', doubtless 99% were sure or fairly certain God was present in their lives. Before modern sciences were born, and before Charles Darwin and his evolutionary principles (1850's), people readily accepted the Bible as unvarnished truth.

America was the first nation to be founded by Protestant Christians escaping Church of England and Roman Catholic intolerance, though curiously Roman Catholics now form the largest single denomination in the US. Religion in its broadest sense has always been a great artistic and civilizing factor, even at the tip of a sword. But inflexible dogmas and less than saintly leaders have also caused chaos across history. America's goal eventually had to be: separate church from state.

As a numerically lopsided Protestant country, America's religious differences came from mostly personal viewpoints, since the Protestant approach insists on individual Bible reading and reasoned choice. Religion as a result was not particularly divisive in early 19th cen-

tury America, unless teamed with, say, immigration. Thus, the so-called anti-Catholic Riots in 1844 Philadelphia are more accurately termed anti-Irish-immigrant riots.

Of course, since Roman Catholicism is a top-down system and was very undemocratic until John XXIII's Vatican Council in 1963, it was suspect in America from the beginning. Even as late as John F Kennedy's campaign in 1960, his Catholic faith played a large role in some of the opposition's negative messages. Today, Roman Catholic bishops have veered away from key Vatican positions, choosing to go "American" along the free-thinking route. (Jefferson doubtless would be very proud of this turnabout.)

During the 1800-50's, American religious practice was limited geographically by Native, nature-centered religion, along and sometimes within the fringes of our growing country. Staunch Roman Catholicism pre-

For your information, a fairly up to date list of major US denominations

US Religious Denominations 2001 - %

Total Christian	81.1
Roman Catholic	25.9
Eastern Orthodox Catholic	0.3
Total non-Catholic Christian	54.9
Baptist	17.2
Methodist	7.2
Lutheran	4.9
Presbyterian	2.8
Pentecostal/Charismatic	2.2
Episcopalian/Anglican	1.8
Mormon/Latter Day Saints	1.4
Churches of Christ	1.3
Non-denominational Christian	1.3
Congregational/United Church of Christ	0.7
Jehovah's Witnesses	0.7
Assemblies of God	0.6
Evangelical	0.5
Church of God	0.5
Seventh-day Adventist	0.4
Other Christian (less than 0.3% each)	1.9
Christian - no denomination reported	7.2
Protestant Christian - no denomination reported	2.4
Total non-Christian religions	3.9
Jewish	1.4
Muslim	0.6
Buddhist	0.5
Hindu	0.4
Unitarian Universalist	0.3
Pagan, Scientology, Sikh, Taoist, Santeria, Wiccan ++	0.4
No Religion/Atheist/Agnostic	15.0

vailed to the south in Spanish Florida, California, and across today's Texas-Arizona border region, in Louisiana, and along the then-imprecise Quebec/Lower Canada border.

Within the United States proper there was the dominant Church of England / Anglican (later, Episcopalian) Church. Anglicanism was the State Church in Virginia for Washington, Jefferson, and Madison and was also the primary denomination for the Carolinas and Georgia.

After just 15 years of exclusion, 1634-49, Maryland gave up its Catholics-only principle for economic viability, and all Christian believers (but no others) were allowed. The Anglican Church came to the ascendancy and soon was supported by public tax pounds and shillings. Recall that the National Cathedral in Washington DC, straddling the Maryland-Virginia state line, is an Episcopalian edifice.

Eventually, Scotch-Irish immigrants penetrated the western Allegheny Mountains of Pennsylvania and spread down the Appalachian valleys, bringing with their (Scottish) Presbyterian beliefs, "hillbilly" fiddles, and Elizabethan era square dancing.

Pennsylvania and Delaware was largely Quaker, a lively variant of the Anglican Church, noted and derided for the excited utterances of direct revelation during their 'quaking' meetings. German Lutherans, today's 'Penn Dutch', were also found in abundance along with minor groups adhering to the teachings of Old Country founders like the Amish Anabaptists and the Mennonites. New York and New Jersey were primarily Anglican too, except for the Dutch Reformed population who had preceded the English pre-1664.

In New England, religion was a mania from the start, and it was intolerant and controlling. As we all learned early on, these people descend from Pilgrim Dissenters against the Anglican Church (1620) and from Puritan Reformers (1630), of 1690s witch hunting fame. Almost immediately, in 1636, Roger Williams and Anne Hutchinson were censored and expelled from Boston for preaching their personal view of religion. They went on to found the freedom of speech and religion colony of Rhode Island.

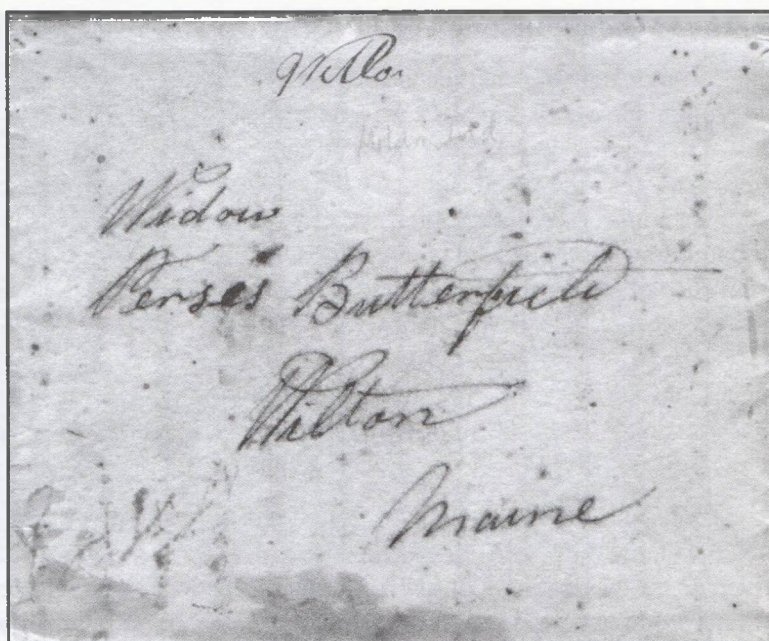


Figure 8 Privately conveyed 1841 letter to Widow Perses Butterfield of Wilton ME from Milan, Ripley County IN, a long two month journey back east (looks like a docketing of "9 Ma"). After mentioning health and crops, it matter of factly declares that "Abel and Jacob intends moving to the mormon settlement the coming season." A nice contemporary reference to Joseph Smith's town of Nauvoo IL (where he will be murdered in 1844) from an eastern Indiana county 400 miles away.

It was the church-based General Court of Massachusetts that in 1647 ordered that common schools for the purpose of teaching religion and practical studies be established in every township of fifty families, and a grammar school in each of the larger towns. Harsh though the attitudes were at first in New England, this was the beginning of the public school system in the United States.

Even Jews, the perennial whipping boy of Old and not so old Europe, found a refreshing change of attitude in democratic America. The first synagogue was established in Rhode Island by Spanish refugees, the technically Roman Catholic, but really unrepentant Jews ('marranos') as early as 1658, but in general, they were sprinkled wherever German settlers landed. Famed Jewish adherents toiled as patriots, helping to fight in and finance the Revolution. George Washington was prompt to publicly thank Jewish co-patriots for their support during the Revolution and acknowledge they were free from harm.

Many, after they came to America as Orthodox Jews, and following the Civil War, underwent Americanization as did other religions. The result were the Conservative and later Reform denominations.

Since specific colonies harbored fairly specific religious sects, is it not feasible for a reader of old letters to reasonably determine the faith of a writer? The problem of course is that America, though it has chosen 2/3 of its Presidents for their conservative principles, it has chosen to be mostly liberal in religion. People did indeed read their Protestant Bibles and they picked and chose their denominations carefully too. New denominations found American soil fertile, the ground continued to spring forth additional sects like wild flowers in a pristine pasture.

The answer therefore is yes and no, one should be able to tell a writer's faith simply because so few traveled more than 20 miles from home in an entire lifetime, pre Civil War period. But no also, for who knows what brand of message a given wandering saddlebag preacher would inoculate eager listeners with? And so, a little about American-born religious denominations.

New World Religions

Americans were inventors not only in the literary and mechanical spheres, but also in the metaphysical. Add to the previous list of standard, 'mainstream' denominations the newly minted American faiths of Baptist (1650's), the impeccable Shakers (1770's), the Mormons in the 1820's, the mid-19th century Seventh Day Adventist (former Millerites who were disappointed that the predicted end of the world did not occur in 1844), 1880's Christian Scientists, the occult Theosophists also in the 1880's, and still others, not to forget the Pentecostal, Charismatic, and Evangelical movements so in evidence today.

Though Baptists find their true origins in 1600's Germany, American blacks as slaves and freedmen, and Southern whites in particular took it for their own. It is a straightforward set of beliefs which helped make it the second largest religious denomination in the US today.

Other Americans found meaning in John Wesley's teachings on religious methodology; his Methodism, another child of Anglicanism, was welcomed in the Colonies more so than at home. He and his brother's many hymns were eagerly adopted by many churches. He toured the colonies during the Great Awakening period of the 1740's and his clerical descendants did the rest, making Methodism the third largest US denomination today.

Mormons (the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter Day Saints claim a seeming fantasy history extending back to 600 BC, that is found nowhere else but in their own writings. Begun as an angelic revelation to a young, illiterate New York farmer, Joseph Smith, Utah is the solid home base for the worldwide Mormon faith. Their strong family-centered morality and doctrine-based insistence on genealogical record keeping have inspired and assisted multitudes outside the faith. Their fold has given us political leaders not only in Utah, but in eastern and Midwestern states, and a current Presidential candidate.

The rigid Spanish version of Roman Catholicism was propelled across the Atlantic by 'Their Most Catholic Majesties' Ferdinand and Isabella. Columbus and his successors would not find spices they craved, but there would be silver and gold aplenty. The second purpose for Spanish colonialism was to convert natives to the 'true faith' using whatever method worked best. Missionaries were active in Florida and Texas, New Mexico and California for several hundred years until Florida's annexation in 1819 and the Mexican War of 1846-7. The Southwest's beautiful mission churches build on the backs of forced Indian labor stand as monuments to either Indian conversion or Native American steadfastness to their own ancient spiritual beliefs.

Early Religion in Letters

Religion serves two basic functions for us plus a third for true believers (communion with God). Those two earthly purposes are 1) to overcome the fear of death (and the idea that death is not to be feared because the life hereafter, as opposed to this one, *will* be fair); and 2) to teach and encourage morality, which builds strong ethical character, communities, and countries.

Despite churches, cathedrals, and synagogues, religion is primarily homebound and an especially in-the-heart thing. Religious impulses are re-born each time there is a death ("there are no atheists in a foxhole"), and heavens knows in the 1800-1850 period there was a constant blizzard of death notice mail, given the primitive medical knowledge available.

Some condolence notes are jarringly matter-of-fact (to match the jarring photo memorials to honor deceased children, seen above) due to death's frequency. But aside from wealthy citizen-writers like Jefferson who had the time to opine at length on religion's redeeming and dreadful aspects, there are precious few detailed commentaries on particular religious tenets to be found in existing letters of the common man.

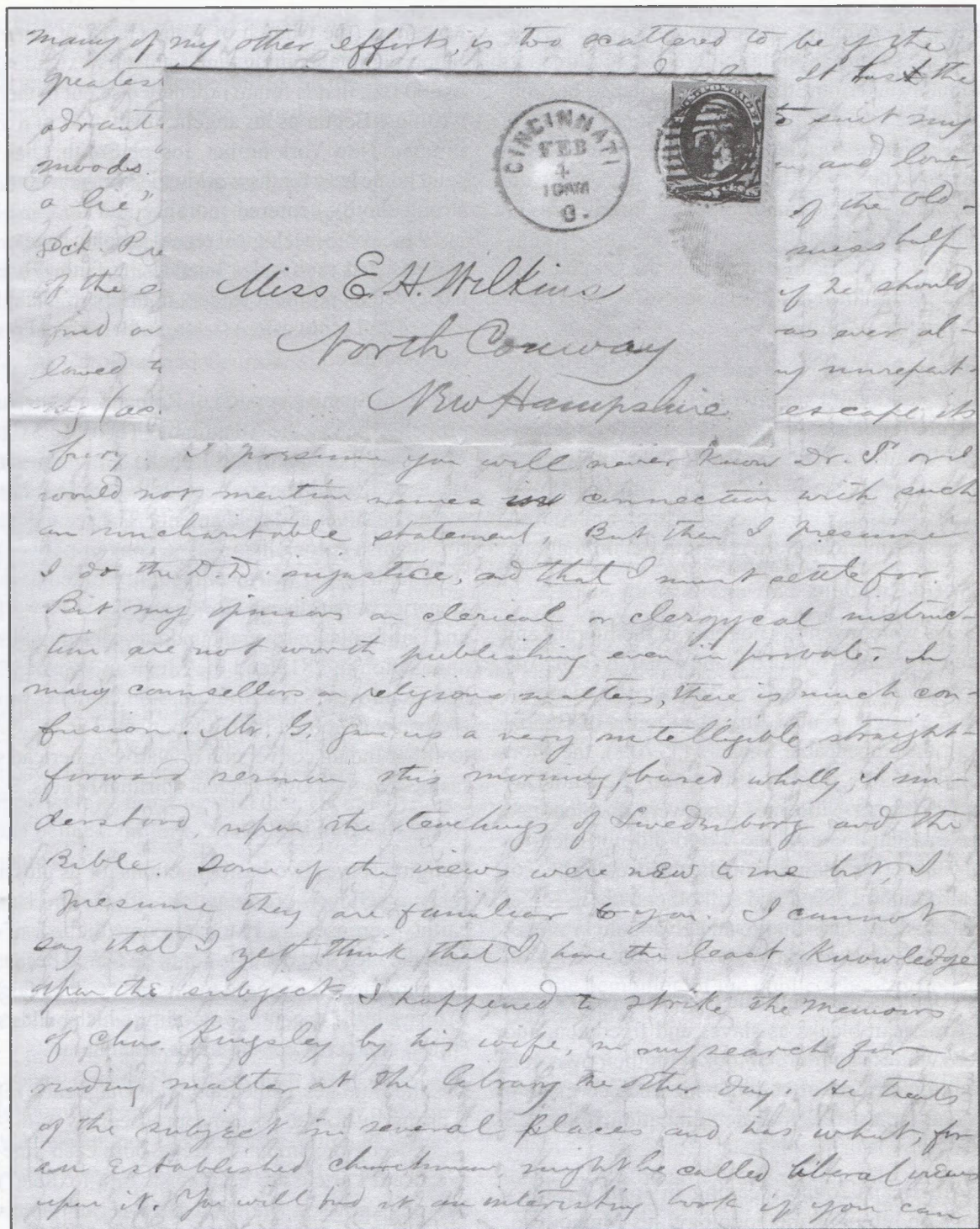


Figure 9 A fine 4-page 1878 letter with a blue Cincinnati duplex 4 cancel in blue. The letter is written somewhat sarcastically and discusses sermons by Dr Goddard on the topic of 'where is hell' and another "upon the teachings of Swedenborg and the Bible" and mentions a positive critique of Swedenborg by a Charles Kingsley, a liberal churchman. By the way, the writer mentions using a telephone in town, about 1-1/2 years after Bell's invention.

Those that do wax eloquent leave us to wonder who the writer was. Maybe an educated individual who drew his or her expertise from daily Bible reading? There was precious little else to do for almost all farm

and city folk after sundown, provided there were candles enough and it was still too early to turn in. And then there were services and sermons.

Was the writer a minister or religious professor who knew scripture and interpretation like the back of his hand? But who would want to read a sermon when one would be readily available the next Sunday?

Was the writer a willing missionary writing to family that would not be seen for months and years, less educated than a professor, but nevertheless full of the vigor necessary to sail to the antipodes or across the country 'to convert the heathen'?

Clues From the Cancels

Back to the question: how to tell an early writer's faith from letters? What clues does a letter from a particular city or state give to hint at the religious denomination of the writer? Maybe a specious question but, again, the rule of thumb for most people before about 1870 (and common train and soon to be car travel), people lived, prospered, and died all within 20 miles of their birthplace. And we do know the dominant religious affiliations of most areas.

So a Virginian writing in 1816 may well be Episcopalian, the former state religion, unless it was posted from a western Virginia village, in which case he or she may well be a Scots-Irish Presbyterian. But the Baptist movement in the South was taking its toll long before 1816, so it would also be a good choice.

"Quaker dates" are a dead giveaway as to the writer's faith. To avoid pagan month names, Quakers adopted the number-month and day system. This system was used with decreasing frequency into the 1850's.

With New Years Day, January 1, 1752, the Quaker "first month" became January instead of March, since in the previous year Parliament after 240 years agreed to adopt the Papal inspired Gregorian calendar. March 25 had previously been New Year's Day

and was reckoned before 1752 by Quakers as "first month". Then there are references to "first day" (Sunday), etc., and the common usage, even in business correspondence of "thee", "thou", and "thy", the personal Quaker code word and polite reference to brother and sister Quakers, officially known as members of the Society of Friends.

If you have a letter from Salt Lake City after mid-1847 (their arrival in Utah), it is doubtless written by a Mormon, and from Nauvoo, Illinois before Mid-1840's, chances are good it is from a Mormon too.

Letters before 1700 from Boston would be written no doubt by a Puritan, a belief system in its death throes by about 1750. It was being transformed into Congregationalist or Presbyterian congregations. The United Church of Christ is a direct descendent of Puritan forefathers and mothers. Be wary of the word "Congregationalist" however, for it is a fuzzy word describing

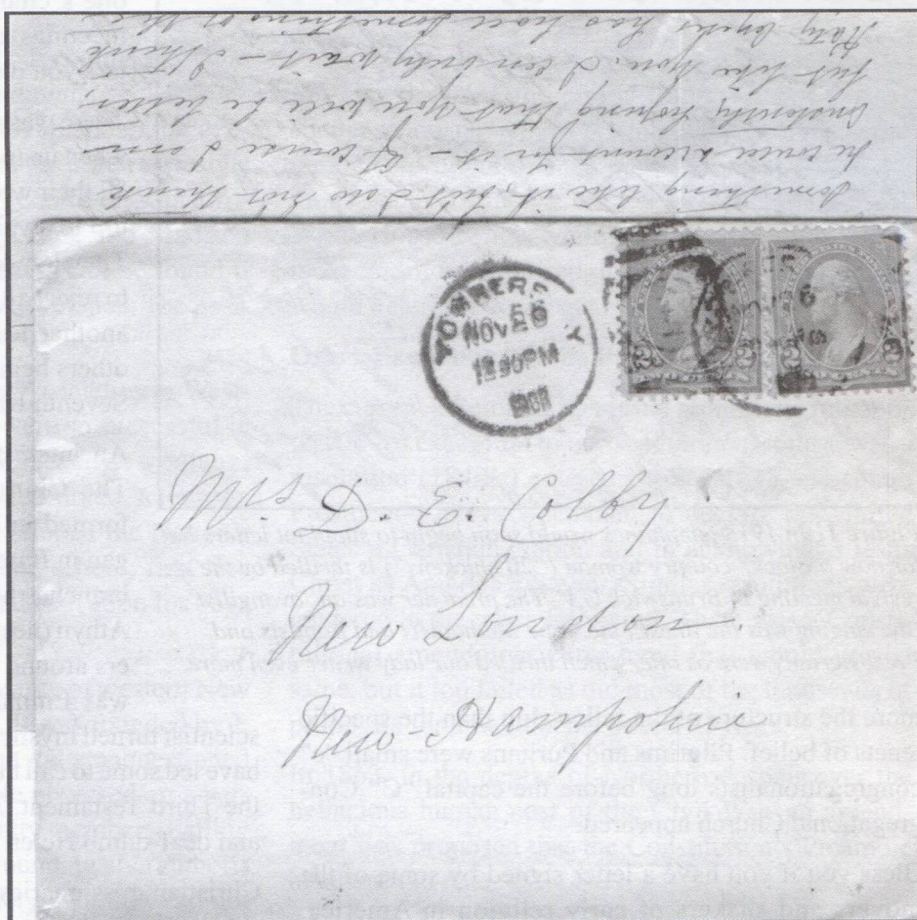


Figure 10 What would a religious article be if it didn't include one item that refers to New York as a 'City of Sin'? An upper class girl prefers her "little room" and reading to going to the big Horse Show in town or any other extravagances the city holds. She is waiting for the minister to call on her! The note was posted from Yonkers on Nov 26, 1900 arriving at New London NH the next day.

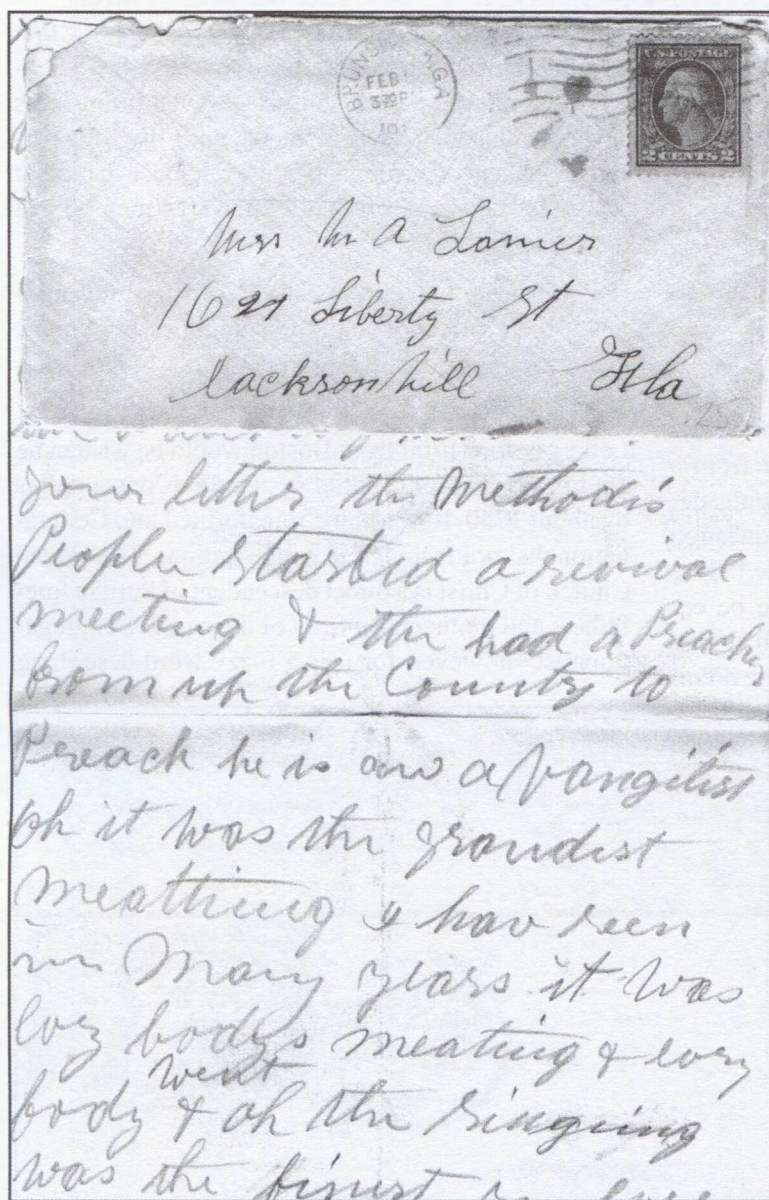


Figure 11 In 1913 telephones would soon begin to supplant letters but for now a Black? country woman ("20 chickens") is thrilled by the revival meeting in Brunswick GA. The preacher was an 'avangilist', 'the singing was the finest', etc. The Methodists and Baptists and Presbyterians were as one, which thrilled our lady writer even more.

more the structure of the fellowship than the specific tenets of belief. Pilgrims and Puritans were small "c" congregationalists long before the capital "C" Congregational Church appeared.

Bless you if you have a letter signed by some of the movers and shakers of early religion in America. Samuel Sewall, 1652-1730, was the apologetic Puritan judge during the witch trials, and prolific Cotton Mather, 1663-1728, was the Puritan clergyman who helped extinguish the trials' for their excesses. Fortunately too, if you have a message written by Jonathan

Edwards, 1703-1758, the Puritan-Presbyterian-Congregationalist preacher from Massachusetts who in his sermons instilled the fear of "hellfire and damnation" into the hearts of men and women for their presumed sins.

This was during the period of the Great Awakening, an era of religious ferment between the 1720's and the 1770s. The 1740s, in particular, is when Edwards and George Whitefield excoriated and threatened crowds of up to 20,000 horror struck penitents (when towns rarely reached into the thousands).

Another period of fever pitch took place in the 1810-40's. There was more rabid preaching against the devil in us all, and sermonizing on redemption and perfecting one's character, accompanied by camp meetings and revivals. Read it in the letters you own.

There was prophesy of the end of the world, when up to 100,000 Millerites in 1844 sold all their worldly goods and stood on a hill-top to await the Second Coming of Jesus. They left dejected the next morning, some to reject all religion outright, others to join another less fearsome congregation, still others begin a new flock, soon to be titled Seventh Day Adventists.

An interesting, small movement became The Church of the New Jerusalem. It formed in 1817 near Boston (though began in Europe in the 1760s) and today has branches headquartered there and in Bryn Athyn (near Philadelphia) PA, with believers around the world. Its spiritual founder was Emmanuel Swedenborg, a Swedish scientist turned mystic who died in 1772. His writings have led some to call them, following the Old and New, the Third Testament. Johnny "Appleseed" Chapman and deaf-dumb Helen Keller were adherents.

Christian missionaries led the way to the new territories and states west of the Mississippi, and Oregon and California and letters refer to brothers and uncles as on a mission, traveling in the hinterland at great personal risk to spread one or another word.

Utopian Societies

There were also Utopian societies forming in the early 19th century, similar in design to the Commune movement of the 1960's and '70s, though certainly more spiritual than carnal, with one glaring exception. The general idea was to drop out of wayward society and re-establish where bad influences were fewer or non-existent. Some inspired claimed to be led by divine inspiration, others by their own sound reasoning, but all are found on the outskirts of American civilization where evil surely couldn't be found—and for that matter no one would be looking over your shoulder.

The Shakers continued and expanded in the 1820-50 period with great success. Jefferson early on hailed them as admirable, and destined to reign supreme, but only if they could figure how to make their celibate community expand. Today this peaceful and simple sect ("The Gift to be Simple" hymn) is now virtually extinct.

Shakerism peaked in the 1840s, but could not sustain itself owing to the inflexible communal society's requirement of Mother Ann that its members be celibate. Encouraging new recruits to the austere lifestyle diminished over time. In the 20th century it was difficult to compete with electricity, cars, and Madison Avenue's pleasure principle. Letters can be found if you know the various towns they developed. The postmark would be the clue.

The Harmony and New Harmony Societies in Western Pennsylvania, later Indiana were so successful in the 1810's that they gained prominence as a cultural and scientific center and attracted noted scientists, educators, and writers. They developed the Nation's first kindergarten, first free public school, first free library, and first school with equal education for boys and girls, all amazingly pre-1820.

The Oneida Perfectionist Community of western New York State was a different story. It was founded by J. H. Noyes, who believed he was God's unquestioned agent on earth. His message? He obsessed on a version of free love among community members, calling it "Complex Marriage". The surrounding area authorities tried to indict him for adultery. No, they did not make the famous silverware of the same name, or other products some utopian societies were known for. The group disintegrated when he died in the late 19th century.

The Amana Society is a prime example of a spirit based commune that prospered. The Amana Group, initially in western New York, moved to Iowa in 1855 where they still are known for their refrigerators, microwave ovens, and air conditioners.

Official Religion in the US?

Two hundred years after Washington and Jefferson's stand-offish views on religion, reports and tell-all books relate that the current White House Administration purposefully staffed 'neo-cons', Conservative Republicans who ascribed to Fundamentalist beliefs (which include the President himself). They set about to infuse their view of Christian morality (re: abortion, stem cells, homosexuality, Liberal judges, prayer in schools, a marriage amendment) into public life. Some stories report that personal religious revelation at the very highest level helped propel us into the Iraqi War. This is a major shift in the traditional American method of governing.

Public money has been distributed to religious groups for 'church-based initiatives to aid the poor', and the charter school movement permits church affiliation (no public control but granted public monies). The Religious Right has had profound influence on current White House policy, while the 'secular Left' hoped a more traditional non-religious approach to problems would again rein supreme.

Other Exceptions in the Past

The current administration is not alone in its religious fervor. An exception to our separation tradition was a resolution (1840's) entered by Senator—and future President—James Buchanan to declare the United States a Christian Nation and to acknowledge Jesus Christ as America's Savior. Similar resolutions were tendered in the years following. There was a Constitutional amendment considered that would do the same, but it too failed as did most of the thousands of proposals for amendments over 210 years.

In 1863, in the depths of Northern despair over the hellacious human cost of the Civil War, an amendment was proposed that the Constitution's Preamble be altered to read,

We, the people of the United States, *recognizing the Being and Attributes of Almighty God, the Divine Authority of the Holy Scriptures, the law of God as the paramount rule, and Jesus, the Messiah, the Savior and Lord of all*, in order to form a more perfect union....

Other proposals nominating Christianity as the Nation's chosen faith were considered in 1864, 1874, 1896, and 1910, but all were tabled. Others appeared in the 1940s and '50s as a reaction against 'godless Communism', and others followed the prayer in school decision of 1962. Another Christian defense of the home amendment was proposed following the Bill Clinton-Monica Lewinski impeachment hearings in 1998.

US Religion Today

America continues to be seen as one of the most outwardly religious countries, but recall that most of the 13 Colonies 300 years ago were founded for religious protection. A Harris poll in 2006 found that 58% of Americans were certain God existed, about 36% were unsure, while 6% announced their atheism. Europe's figures for religion, tempered by incessant and brutal war, are much lower. Polls have further reported that the current trend in America (not to mention the Fundamentalist fervor in Latin America and even China) shows about a third of Americans are Fundamentalist Christians who believe in personal revelations, 'speaking in tongues', and Biblical infallibility.

For a country that put men on the moon in 1969-72, American society today is made up of 80% Christian believers, 40% of whom reject scientific evolution principles and believe in the Creationist view of life's beginnings. One mainstream religious writer recently commented that the American Fundamentalist's orientation was a major shift in religious outlook and was quickly spreading around the world. Whereas traditional churches profess good works and faith for the salvation of humanity overall, modern Fundamentalism and Charismatic Christian groups maintain that individual salvation alone is necessary.

Where's Our Social Glue Today?

We began with a view that focused on the palpable decline in American's values and character, so prevalent on TV, movies, recordings and headlines today. It is evidenced in declining test scores, wanton promiscuity, and gross materialism (which truly began in the 1880's). There is a seeming lack of motivation to excel and improve, and we're fed a nightly stream of negativism stating that Social Security, terrorism, and climate change can only get worse.

Is it a defection from religious-centered lives that certain TV and other pastors resolutely claim, that is to blame? Whereas so many wrote of religious feelings

in early to mid-19th century letters, do people talk today on cell phones of equally deep-seated spiritual convictions? Or perhaps it really was Elvis's and rock n roll's fault, that some still assert after 40 years?

Sixties' kids distrusted their parents and politicians for making the world go bad, so rebuild anew: throw out religion, politics, and any and all rules, and develop new ones based on whatever made you feel good: sex, drugs, and rock n roll to start.

Stop the War, Kill the Bomb, "Hell no, I won't go", and trust no one over 21; these were the anthems of the day, and the result was a generation as 'lost' as that of the Roaring '20s. Research shows most of today's destructive social elements listed previously had their beginnings during the '60s and '70s upheaval.

Why didn't the participants later rebound, regroup and apply themselves to perfecting the world as promised? Instead, they / we discovered the good life, and ushered in the '80s Decade of Greed: gross Wall Street indifference to corruption, likewise in Washington. The rich got richer and definitely the poor got poorer, and the middle class suffered too. The American spirit continued to plummet.

Ed, at the beginning of the 1970s drug craze, believed that the 70s generation was totally lost to 'feel good' and hopeless ego tripping. He firmly expected that the following generation children would swing inevitably back, like a sine wave, to a more conservative lifestyle (not necessarily politically conservative), after seeing the destructive antics of their parents.

But the curve of social change did *not* spring back. It continued its downward spiral, politically, culturally, ethically, and morally. Why hadn't our inner spirits, religious or secular, correct the situation? Did the Iran crisis, the Mid East Crisis, the Oil Crisis, and the drug scene (maybe even disco music?), send America into a hazy, hapless depression? Meanwhile, TV evangelism was on the rise. Would these religious media empires aid in reinvigorating men and women and save the day?

No. Many people were apparently lulled into the belief that all was lost in ordinary society and that TV Pastor X or Y was the only hope. And he told them so. A lot of 'love offering' money changed hands and the empires grew. There were Jim and Tammy Faye Bakker, Jimmy Swaggert, the Reverend Ike, Oral Roberts, etc. After several showed human frailties in

the late 1980s and early 90s and were quickly dethroned, whither their congregants? Apparently many switched to following political leaders: voilà, the rise of the Religious/Christian Right in the elections of 1994 through 2004.

Gone for Good?

In the 21st century, many old time values seem hopelessly gone. Maybe Teddy Roosevelt and Samuel Clemens were right about America's decline, but simply had the century wrong. Their own generation of immigrants, despite sooty urbanization and mind boggling technological change, did indeed bind together to become utterly American by the 1930s and went on to join the Greatest Generation.

And of the present? Can today's onslaught of legal and illegal immigrants help re-glue America and heal the moral wounds of the past 30-40 years? Can they help dissipate the self-glory, avarice, and smut so prevalent in this generation, and together help rebuild a country of admiration and greatness? Rebuild it not only outwardly, as in stealth bombers and new bridges for the crumbling old ones, but inwardly too, with, for want of a better term, treasures of the spirit?

Will recent fast growing American sects turn to collective spiritual values and reach out to others, or continue the trend of the last 40 years toward even greater spiritual self-centeredness?

What of the many young people, who are proud of their goal to possess lots of stuff, earn big bucks, and maybe even gain a pro-ball contract (!). Where are the millions of parents needed to steer them onto a more realistic path and toward a more (may I say it?) soul-satisfying set of values? Any teacher, cop, child psychologist, or neighbor in the land will attest that what we need is a generation of dedicated adults before much change will occur. Are they so entwined in their own careers they have no time to train and keep tabs on their kids?

How high is the percentage that still puts intangibles like the traditional Protestant American faith, hope, charity, and love first? Where are the Albert Schweitzer's and store front doctors who at one time for pennies dedicated themselves to the end to illness in the ghettos and hamlets? And on and on.

In our time of need, there are religionists who proclaim along with Chicken Little that all is lost, and they cry that our decline is a sign of End Times. Writers get rich on the ultimate of negatives, writing of

those "Left Behind" (too bad for them), expecting that all are damned, except them and fellow believers. Such is hardly traditional American morality and ethical concern for others. Like the Millerites before them, these also say abandon ship, save ourselves. An egoistic, self-fulfilling prophesy of comic proportions.

Postscript

Whether we're beyond repair morally, ethically, politically, culturally, and spiritually, time will tell. But if anyone reads this in 30-40 years time, may you write a happy ending, not of course in letter form, but by USPS deep space 'glow-Mail'.

Do tell us and our descendants that the American Dream is still alive and well, and that we're well-glued once more as a sharing, caring, united culture, that we continue to encourage our neighbors across the planet and on all the others to do good works and promote peace not war, justice and fairness for all.

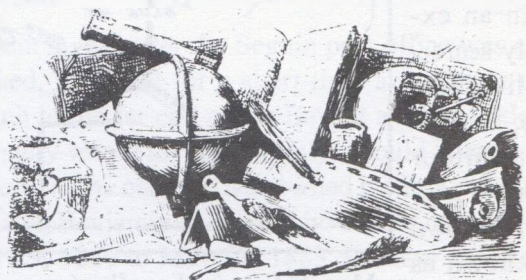
Is America still majority Christian, or are we predominantly Scientologist, Muslim, Swedenborg, or a mutually happy mixture that respects the thoughts of all mankind? Whatever faiths and spiritual paths future Americans will choose, please say we are as creative and resilient as ever, still thoughtful, resourceful, and hard working, (and hopefully a more trim, healthy populace), and as we've been since Lincoln's day, the envy of and model for the world.

May America survive these difficult years with wisdom and honor, respect and distinction, and may we cast aside self-absorption forever—and still collect and discuss postal history.

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The Postal History of Sequim, Washington

by Cath Clark

Washington State is well-known in the Pacific Northwest for having a lot of towns with peculiar names. My favorites have always been Humptulips, Snoqualamie, and Okanogan. Add to the list the town of **Sequim**, (pronounced "Squim" in the Evergreen State.) This Olympic peninsula town recently came



Figure 1 An Early Sequim Post Office
(n.d. Clallam Hist. Soc.)

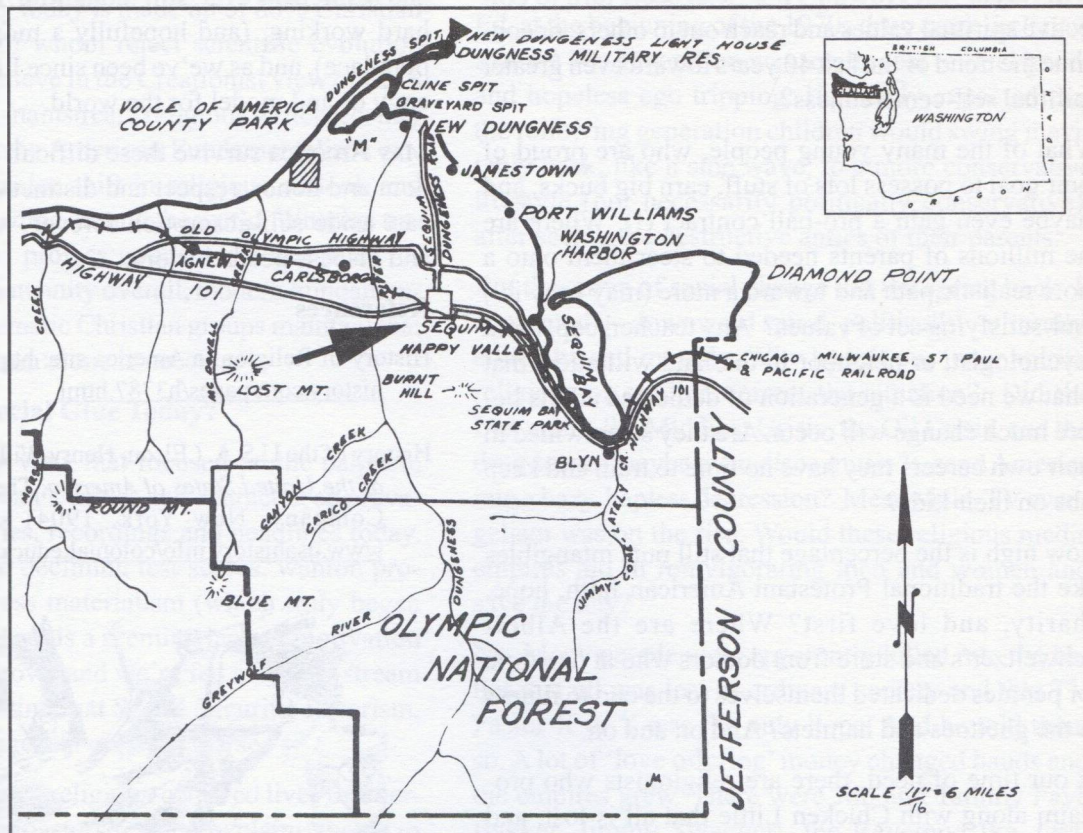
to my attention in an article titled "Sequim's Third Name Mystery" in the Winter 2006/007 *Oregon Country Postal History Journal*.

The inquiry was prompted by a find of **Sequin** postmarks by postcard collector Cliff Brehan that came to the attention of *La Posta* subscriber Chester Masters. All of the postmarks were Type 3 Doanes, dating between 1906 and 1907. Was Sequin an extremely scarce, short-lived post office, or simply a minor spelling variation of the town now known as

Sequim? Before attempting an answer, we'll take look at the historical development of the Sequim area, and its early postal history.

Sequim is located on the northeast tip of the Olympic Peninsula, within easy boating distance of Vancouver, B.C. If you've ever visited Olympic National Park or taken the Port Townsend ferry, it's likely that you drove right through Sequim on Highway 101. It is in northeast Clallam County, 33 miles southwest of Port Townsend and 19 miles east of Port Angeles. Sheltered by the rain shadow of the Olympic Mountains, Sequim has a dry, sunny climate with low precipitation (around 16 inches/year). Prior to white settlement, the area was characterized as a broad, scrub brush prairie with scattered stands of oak and pine amongst the grass and cactus. It was green in springtime, but desert-dry through summer.

The original name for the area was **Seguin**, or, colloquially, **Seguin Prairie**. According to the *Origin of Washington Geographic Names*, there was a Klallam Native American village on Sequim Harbor, known



Map 1 Sequim Locality (arrow). (Clallam Co. Historical Society, Jimmy Come Lately, p. 96, with permission)

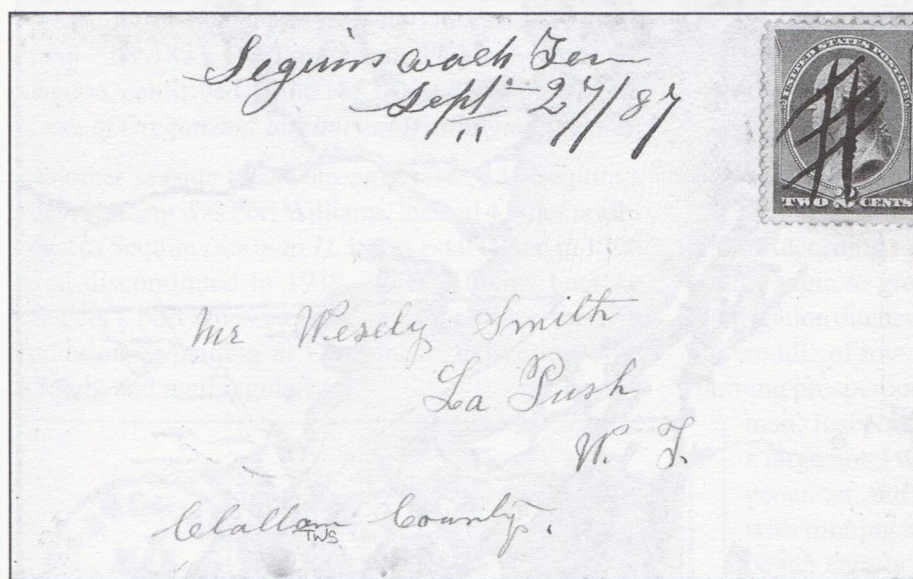


Figure 2 Sequim, Washington Terr Sept 27/87—One of the Earliest Known Manuscript Markings from Sequim (courtesy Tim Boardman).

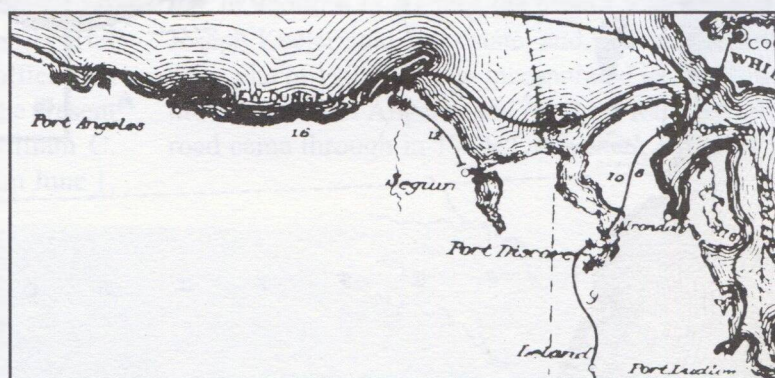
in their dialect as **Such-e-kwai-ing**. ‘Sequim’ is the nearest approximation of the Klallam word, meaning “quiet water.” The Klallam applied it to the harbor, but white settlers extended it to the prairie and the town. Historically, the Klallam people lived in villages throughout the northern Olympic Peninsula. When settlers began arriving in the 1860s, homesteaders pushed most of the Klallam from their traditional homes. The native people were not considered U.S. citizens, and were unable to obtain title to their ancestral holdings. When the 1884 Indian Homestead Act passed, several Klallam families eventually became land owners, but it wasn’t until the 1970s that tribal reserves were established for them.

Before the 1860s, there had been very little white settlement on the northeast tip of the Olympic peninsula, and towns were located on the straits and oriented to the water, where the mail arrived by steamer. The earliest town in the vicinity of what would later become Sequim was New Dungeness, (Dungeness) which had its first post office established in 1858. Port Townsend's post office, about 17 miles to the east, was only six years earlier than this.

Clallam County was created in 1854, but it took about a dozen years before lands were sectioned off for sale through Donation Land Claims, opening up the flatlands south of Dungeness for settlement. The first homesteader to come to the Sequim area was John W.

Donnell, who obtained a claim of 320 acres in 1866 along the Dungeness River, and began raising wheat. He was followed by several other homesteaders, among whom was John Bell, with a 160 acre homestead along Bell Creek. The Bell family dug a deep well, crucial to farming the dry lands, and welcomed other settlers, who bought lots from the original homesteaders.

The first post office was called Sequim, and was established on August 13, 1879 with Abram H. Manning as first postmaster. One of the earliest known manuscript markings from here, dated September 27, 1887. The center of Sequim is three miles inland, the first post office, like the



Map 2 Early mail connections to Seguin were via a water route from Port Townsend as shown in this portion of the 1883 Postal Route Map of Oregon & Washington.

original Klallam village, had a water-side location at the neck of Sequim Bay, earlier named Washington Harbor.

About a year after the Seguin post office was established, it moved for a short time about three miles south to the far end of the Bay, at a ramshackle fish cannery where the town of Blyn would later be sited (*map 2*). The cannery was owned by the second postmaster, Benjamin F. Dean, who served from November 29, 1880 to May 31, 1883. Ramsey reports that Postmaster Dean either “went (himself) or sent some-



Map 3 Postal Route Map of Western Washington Territory in 1883. Inset shows location of Sequim enlarged in map 2.

one afoot or horseback to New Dungeness for the mail." By 1883, Sequim relocated to the neck of the lagoon, confirmed by the 1883 *Post Route Map of the State of Oregon and Territory of Washington* (map 2).

Another seaside locale strongly related to Sequim's development was Port Williams, located 4 miles north-east of Sequim (see map 1). It was established in 1890 and discontinued in 1919. Port Williams became Sequim's port when steamers began to dock there in addition to landing at Dungeness, delivering both freight and mail regularly.

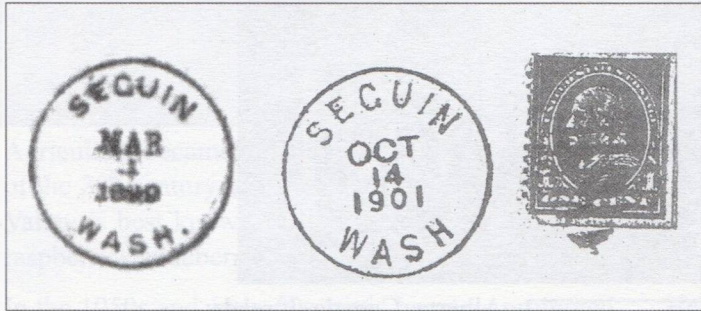


Figure 3 Examples of early Sequim postmarks: SEQUIM/MAR 1899/WASH., and SEQUIM/OCT 14 1901/WASH. The latter was a duplex device with ovate bar killer known in use until at least May 1906.

Returning now to Sequim, we find that after its brief stint in the fish cannery, the Sequim post office was moved in 1883 about three miles inland to the present town site on the Sequim Prairielands. William C. Webster served as the third postmaster, from June 1, 1883-November 17, 1895.

Five more postmasters served between 1895 and 1907. The post office's name was changed to Sequim on 21 September 1907, and its first postmaster under that name was Jens S. Bugge. Two of Sequim's early postmark types are shown in figure 3, above.

Mails continued to be transported from Dungeness to Sequim by Star Route via a wagon road until 1915, when a passenger train running between Sequim and Port Angeles

began carrying the mail. Rural Free Delivery began in 1918 with two routes, 72 and 75 miles long, respectively.

"Squim, Where Water is Wealth" was a 1950s slogan that speaks volumes as to why this town developed successfully as the hub of a prosperous farming region. According to historian June Robinson, Sequim didn't begin to grow until after 1896 when a system of irrigation ditches, including the one running through the middle of town on the Bell farm, began to make farming prosperous. In 1902, another astute businessman, Joseph Keeler, moved to Sequim. He built a large hotel with electricity powered by gas-run generator, and a water tower to supply every room with running water. Keeler and a few others soon began supplying water to other properties, and later formed the Sequim Light and Power Company. Electricity became more widely available by 1915 when the Elwha Dam was built and Clallam County became part of a Public Utility District. From the 1920s on, more reservoirs, wellfields, and pipelines were laid, further assisting area agriculture.

In addition to starting the town's water supply, Joseph Keeler sold real estate, and laid out the first town plat in 1907. Sequim incorporated in 1913, and the Seattle, Port Angeles and Western Railway railroad came through in 1914. Later, State Highway 9



Figure 4 Birds Eye View of Sequim's main street, ca. 1910 (courtesy Cliff Brehan)



Figure 5 Sequim Post Office in 1911 with Postmaster Holding Dog and Mail Sack at Left (courtesy Tim Boardman).

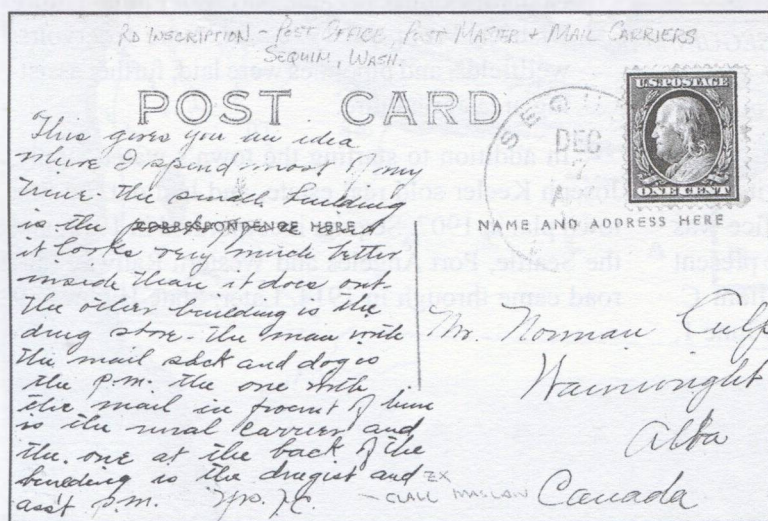


Figure 6 Reverse of 1911 Post Office Card.

was built through the town. (Rail buffs may be interested to know that the rail tracks were removed in 1986, and replaced by the Olympic Discovery Trail.)

The postcard in figures 5 and 6 shows the Sequim post office in 1911. The reverse of the card, dated SEQUIM/DEC 7/AM/1911/WASH., is addressed to

Alberta, Canada. It reads:

This gives you an idea where I spend most of my time. The small building is the post office and it looks very much better inside than it does out. The other building is the drug store. The man with the mail sack and dog is the p.m. The one with the mail in front of him is the mail carrier and the one at the back of the building is the druggist and ass't p.m.

The prairielands gradually converted to irrigated farms as the area water system expanded, the town grew and flourished. By 1920, Sequim had grown to a respectable-sized community of 402 people, surrounded by dairy farms and truck farms. Figure 7 shows an idyllic postcard view of Sequim's post office in the 1930s, when a flat of tomatoes was only 99 cents, and you could collect your mail after shopping at the green grocer and before treating yourself to a soda at the drugstore fountain next store.

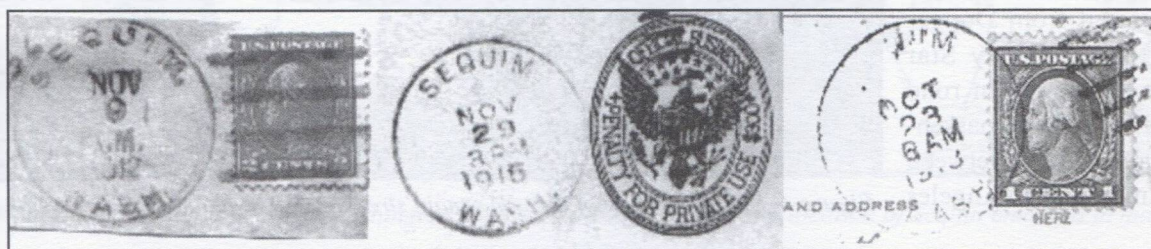


Figure 7 Postmark Examples from 1912, 1915 and 1918 (Courtesy of PMCC and Cliff Brehan)



Figure 8 Sequim's Post Office in the 1930s, located between Burdick's Green Grocer and the Drug Store (Courtesy Tim Boardman).

Agriculture became more diversified toward the end of the 20th century, and now the Sequim-Dungeness Valley is best known for its lavender, strawberries, raspberries, blueberries, turf, herbs, and flowers.

In the 1950s and early 60s, civic boosters promoted Sequim as the "healthiest climate in the world," and the town received another growth spurt, with a population of 1,164 in 1960. In spite of new residents moving in, though, 830 farm families were still served by R.F.D. routes in 1960, reflecting the strong rural character of what is still called the Sequim Prairie Lands. In 1973, Sequim was formally reclassified from a town to a city, and experienced yet another growth spurt from retirees in the '70s, growing to 3,013 by 1980. But even to this date, the general character of the town remains rural, with an estimated population of only 5,688 in 2006.

Today, the area has become an even stronger magnet for retirees. With its relatively dry, "rainshadow" locale, a scarce commodity west of the Cascades, Sequim has become an increasingly attractive retirement destination. Located little more than two hours from Seattle, Sequim is projected to grow to 28,000 by 2025. For now, thanks to statewide land use laws, much of the land remains agricultural. Old, gray weatherboard barns still stand among broad fields of lavender as gracious reminders of Sequim's past.

(To be continued. Part 2 will discuss Sequim's Doane marking: "Sequin".)

Special Thanks to the people who contributed information and assistance for this article: Cliff Brehan and Chester Masters of Sequim, Tim Boardman, Kirk Andrews-Vice Pres. PNW Postal History Society, and the Clallam Co. Historical Society.

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The Post Offices of Pulaski County, Kentucky

Part 3

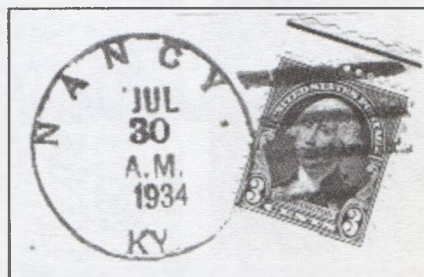
by Robert M. Rennick

Post Offices on or just off the County's Main Highways: KY 80

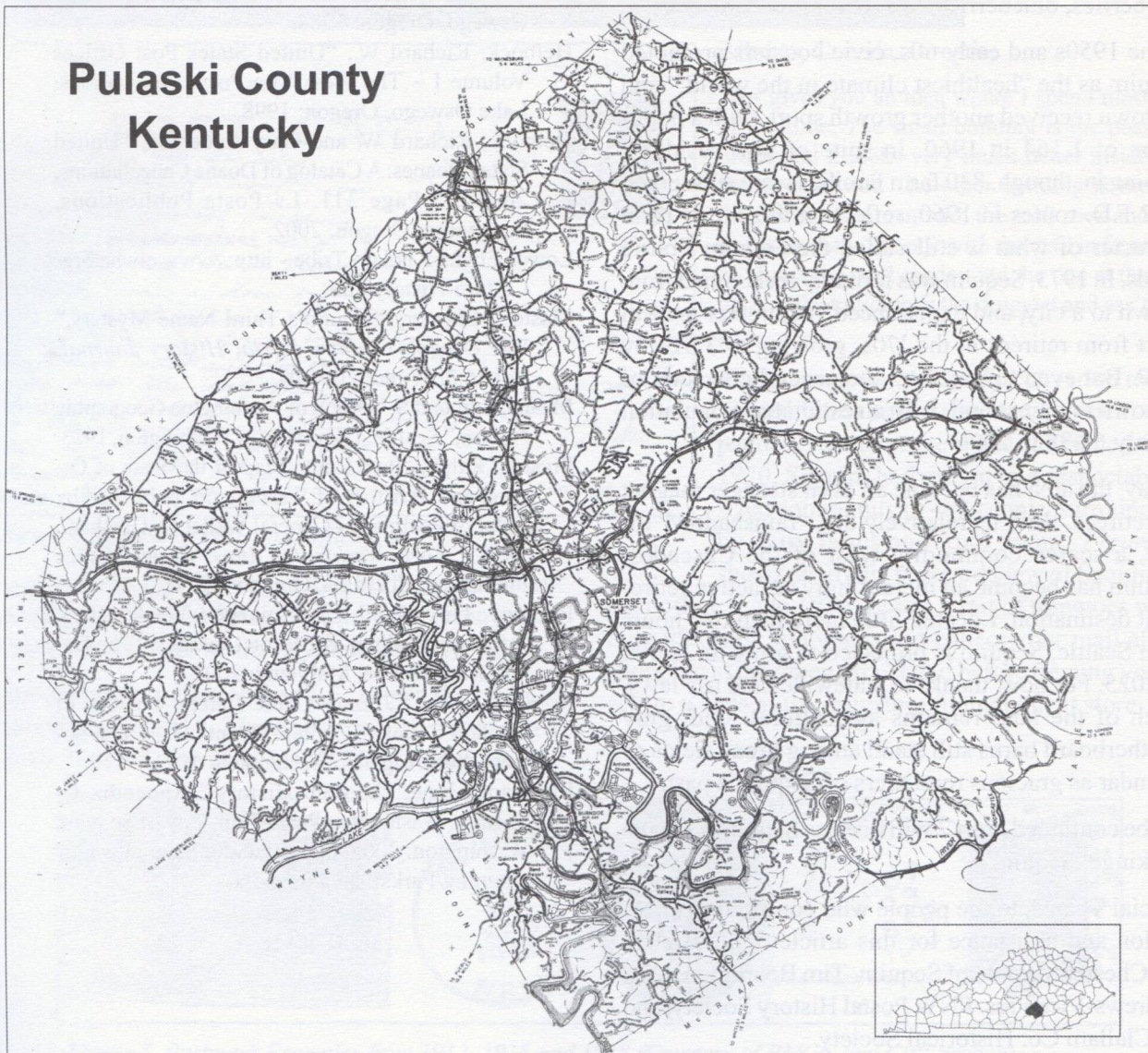
Long the trade center for much of western Pulaski County the village of **Nancy** extends west for over a mile along Ky 80 from its junction with Ky 235, 10 ½ miles west of Somerset. The vicinity was first called **Logan's Crossroads** for the family of local landowner William Harrison Logan (1811-1884), but its first post office was established by him on June 27 1865 as **Lincolntown** for the late president. It was discontinued on August 20, 1875 and re-established on Sep-

tember 4, 1884, not as **Logan**, the preferred name, but as **Nancy** for William Harrison's wife Nancy Sally (1834-

1896), daughter of Vincent Lester. Nancy was its first postmaster, but a month after she assumed that position she was succeeded by her son Voluntas K. The still active post office occupied several sites within a one mile radius serving one of the county's five high schools, till it closed in 1981, and the nearby Civil War battlefield of **Logan's Cross Roads**.



Pulaski County Kentucky



Some 32 miles west of Somerset, on what would be Ky 80, was the **Saline** locality, a name applied to the local school and church. Though this name was the first proposed for the local post office it was established, on April 5, 1906, as **Ernst**. It was named for Richard Pretlow Ernst (1858-1934), a Covington lawyer and later (1921-1927) U.S. Senator from Kentucky, a close friend of Pulaski judge John Sherman Cooper, Sr. Until it closed in April 1911 George Leroy Johnson was its only postmaster. On May 18, 1922, with DeForest N. Young, postmaster, it was reestablished at a site one mile east and would have been given that locality's name **West Somerset** but was called **Ernst** instead. In May 1924 the post office became **West Somerset**. By 1939 it was on Ky 80, less than one mile west of Sinking Creek and 1.7 miles west of downtown Somerset (just east of its junction with the present Rte. 3263 and just south of the present Cumberland Parkway). When it closed in 1972 the office was at the western edge of Somerset.

On Ky 80, just south of the 1400 foot high Sugar Hill Knob and four miles northeast of Somerset, was the **Sugar Hill** post office. Hepsa E. Barnes and Mrs. Ira Sears operated it between December 24, 1924 and 1933.

On what's shown on contemporary maps as **East Somerset**, at the northeast edge of that city, at the junction of Ky 80 and the Corbin Road (now Ky 192), Hoy McClure established the **Woodmont** post office on October 6, 1925. This was 1.3 miles nne of Somerset and three miles southwest of Sugar Hill. The name is said to have been chosen by McClure's wife Zena (nee Reid) for the local trees. It closed in 1934.

One of Kentucky's many coined names **Shepola** was applied to a post office one fourth of a mile south of the later rerouted Ky 80, 7 ½ miles southwest of Somerset. To serve what was then the **Crackers Neck** locality, local storekeeper Edd Shepperd's nickname "Shep" was submitted for the post office along with those of Ola Burton and several other residents. Postal authorities are said to have combined "Shep" and "Ola" to form the name and appointed Shep's wife Grace (nee Barker) as the first postmaster. The office operated between February 10, 1926 and 1951.

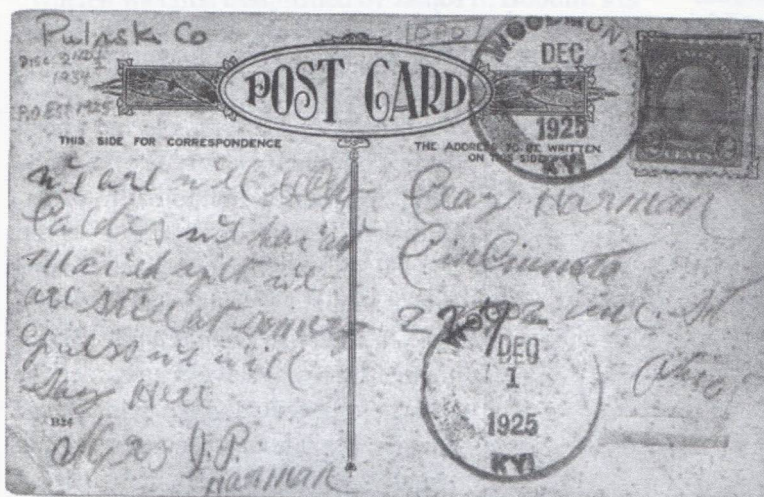
Other Ky 80 post offices already described in this survey are Waterloo, Cains Store, Lincoln-Stab, Shopville, Mark, and Squib.

Post Offices on or just off KY 39 (The Crab Orchard Road)

The once incorporated (January 17, 1866) mill town of **Woodstock** is centered at the junction of Ky 39 and 934, 14 ½ miles nnw of Somerset. This vicinity



may have been settled around 1820 by a Mr. Griffin who, by the end of the decade, had sold his holdings to a Mr. Freancy of Lexington, the local storekeeper. No one seems to know when the **Woodstock** name was first applied and there's little agreement about its source. Some say the place was named for an English town whence an early settler had come; others contend it was for the seat of Shenandoah County, Virginia, the former home of another resident, which had been named for the English town; still others have opted for a stone house in the vicinity, also named for the town in England; and others for John F. Woods (1777-1857), an early settler from Virginia who is said to have stocked many useful goods in his local store. It may also have been named



A very early post card from Woodmont (PMCC Collection)

for the woods through which local people ran their livestock. The local post office was established on September 21, 1853 by Reuben Elkins who had acquired Freancy's holdings. After a noncontinuous existence the office closed for good in 1942.

The **Bee Lick** post office, in the vicinity of the Lincoln-Rockcastle-Pulaski Counties convergence, was established in Lincoln County on January 29, 1861 by John Bobbitt. It was named for the local creek which had earlier been named for the many honey bees along its banks. M.J. Reynolds had the office moved to Pulaski County in 1887 where it closed in February 1910.

Neither of the two alleged sites of the **White Oak Gap** post office have been precisely located. Though shown on contemporary state maps as on Ky 39, it may not have been, and certainly not where it's been shown. It was established on March 1, 1867 with John McHargue, its first postmaster. According to a successor Charles H. McKinney's 1885 Site Location Report it was half a mile east of Flat Lick Creek, 2 ½ miles northwest of Shopville, three miles southwest of Valley Oak, 22 miles north of Grundy, and four miles south of Dabney. By the turn of the century it was serving a store, a corn and saw mill, a livestock business, and other activities 2 ½ miles southeast of Dabney and 7 ½ miles northeast of Somerset. In 1900 John E. Bryan petitioned for a move 2 ½ miles southwest to a point only 4 ¾ miles northeast of the Somerset post office, but it's not known if this move actually occurred. In any event, the office closed in mid May 1905.

According to George B. Brown's Site Location Report, a post office would be established at the junction of Ky 39 and 70, three miles south of Bee Lick

and 2 ½ miles north of Woodstock. It would be called **Dandy**. But for some reason it opened on February 23, 1901 as **Bandy** and this remained, till the office closed in 1942, uncorrected. According to a local tradition, it was named for a girl popular with local men who had been asked to leave by the local women.

Another Pulaski County name as yet unaccounted for is **Bobtown**. It was applied to an office established on April 26, 1905, with Lucinda E. Thompson, its first postmaster, somewhere one mile south of Buck Creek and 3 ½ miles north of Dabney. In 1911 it was moved to the Crab Orchard Road (later Ky 39), and in 1936 was moved half a mile north on that road to a point just north of Burgin Knob (perhaps back to where it had been), and here it closed in 1966.

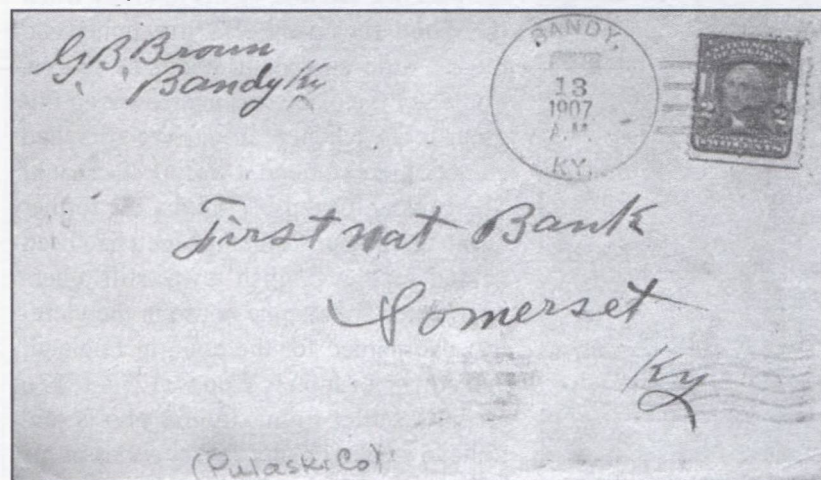
Another post office on Ky 39 was **Dabney**, already considered.

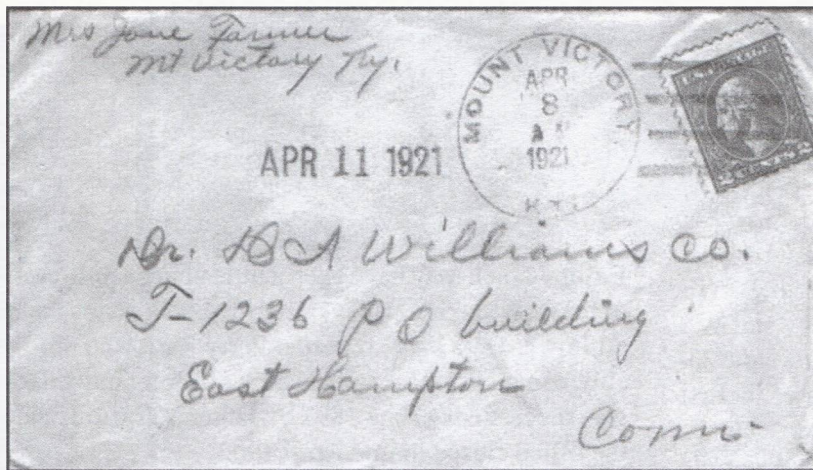
Post Offices on KY 192

The first of the three Pulaski post offices on Ky 192 (extending between the site of the old Woodmont post office and London) was **Sears**. It operated first from June 13, 1894 through September 1907 by storekeepers Lawrence and Henry M. Sears and may have been named for "Black Jesse" Sears. It was reopened by Charles H. Bolton on December 24, 1924, two miles east of Buck Creek and Dykes, three miles wnw of Mount Victory, 2 ½ miles nne of Poplarville, and 13 ½ miles ese of Somerset, and closed for good in 1935.

Several accounts have been offered for the naming of the hamlet and post office of **Mount Victory** just south of the junction of 192 and 1003. It may refer to a victory over renegade Indians by a small patrol headed by Lt. Nathan McClure in May 1788. Assigned to escort early settlers to Kentucky, this Revolutionary

War veteran was fatally wounded on a ridge between the Rockcastle River and Buck Creek.³¹ Or it may have been named by Ella P. Darr, wife of the Rev. Timothy Darr, a Methodist minister, who had arrived in the area in the 1890s. She and her colleagues considered it a religious victory that they were able to establish a church and school there.³² Or it may have been named for a successful revival once held there.³³ Finally, the tale has been told though usually discredited, about two local teachers who agreed to carry the mail free for one year if they could get a





post office. They succeeded and the office was named for their achievement.³⁴ In any case the post office was established on March 5, 1900 with John B. Edwards, postmaster, and closed in 1967.

James S. **Hines** offered his name for a post office he established on a steeply graded road west of Malvin Hill (that became part of Ky 192). But from July 14, 1920 to 1936 he operated it, near the old White Lily School, as **Grade**.

Other offices on 192 were Juno-Ruth and Dykes, also described above.

Post Offices on KY 461

Two post offices served residents on this road between Mt. Vernon of Mark.

The first was the aptly named **Valley Oak** which operated at several

sites for one hundred years from August 15, 1866 when it was established

when it was first established by James L. Bobbitt. For most of its tenure it served the **Flat Lick** locality, half a mile north of the church and just east of the Flat Lick Knob, eleven miles northeast of Somerset.

Somewhere in the vicinity of the Sunnyside Church, one mile east of Brush Creek, was **Pumpkin Center**, named by its first postmaster George W. Shiplet for the many locally grown pumpkins. It operated between February 9, 1929 and 1948.

Post Offices on KY 934

This road extends from Ky 461 (at the Mount Pleasant Church) west to Ky 39 (at Woodstock).

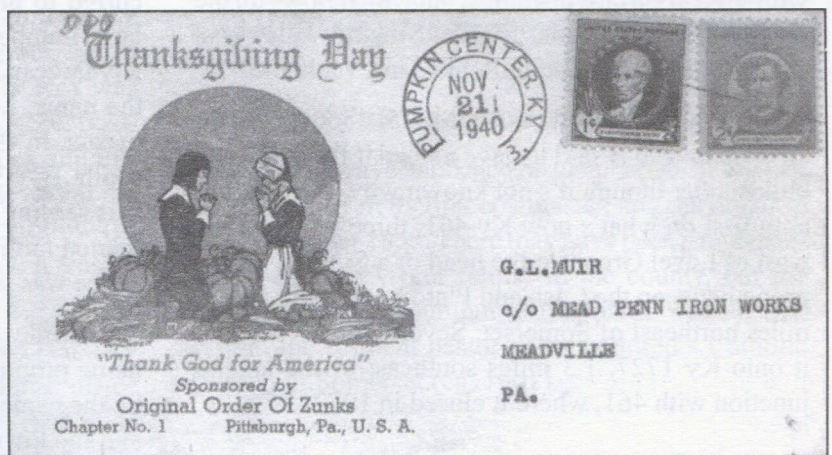
The **Walnut Grove** post office, which was suspended on September 27, 1992, began on August 9, 1888 when storekeeper-gristmill operator John G. Riddle established a post office, half a mile west of Bee Lick Creek and seventeen miles northeast of Somerset, as **The Glades**. This descriptive name still applies to the flat swampy area between the head of Dicks River (in Rockcastle County) and Buck Creek's Caney Fork, and extends into part of Lincoln County as well. It's characterized by numerous caves, sinkholes, and

sinking streams.³⁵ On June 15, 1889 Riddle had the name changed to **Walnut Grove** for the local trees. For many years the office was just south of Bee Lick Creek, half a mile north of 934, and half a mile from the Rockcastle County line.

Where 934 crosses the Watson Branch of Clifty Creek, 3 1/4 miles wsw of Walnut Grove and 1 1/4 miles east of Woodstock, was the Watson family's **Elgin** post office. This name, allegedly for the city in Illinois, was given instead the preferred **Watson**, then in use in Adair County. John Adrian Watson and James A. Watson were its first postmasters. It operated between December 31, 1901 and 1942.

Three Post Offices on KY 235

Three offices served settlements on 235, between Ky 80 (just east of Nancy) and a point about one mile from the Wayne County line. The first, **Trimble**, was established on February 6, 1882 by storekeeper John C. Ford and named for the local descendants of Revolutionary War veteran William Trimble.³⁶ By the late 1890s **Trimble** was a fairly substantial community with several stores, a couple of mills, C.W. Trimble's

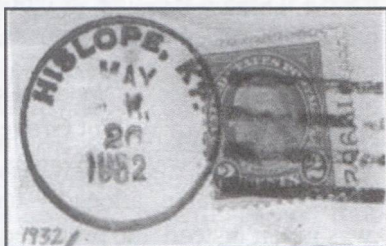


wagonworks, and other businesses. For a long time it was at this site nearly six miles south of Ky 80, thirteen miles southwest of Somerset, but sometime before it was suspended on June 1, 1983 it was moved 14 miles north of 235 to a site just south of the road to Mendel-Gouley.

The **Delmer** post office occupied several sites on what became 235 from its original location, serving a village called **Vola**, 2 ½ miles south of Nancy and 4 ½ miles north of Trimble. It was established on June 23, 1903 and named for the one year old son of its first postmaster William Sherman Burton. When it closed in 1962 it was by the Okalona Church, half a mile south of the Timmy Branch of Clifty, 1 1/3 miles north of Trimble's last site and about one mile south of its own first location.

Hislope [hah:/slohp],

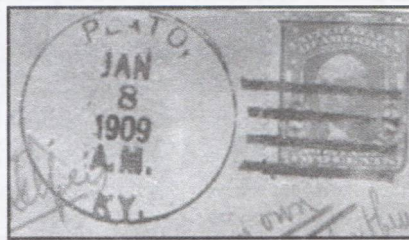
named for area descendants of (perhaps) James and Mary Hislope, was established on July 30, 1924 by Ethus Burton to serve a settlement then known as **Stablesen**, **Ethus**, and **Tarter**. Until it closed in 1933 it was half a mile south of Delmer.



Post Offices in or Near the Sinking Valley

The aptly named **Sinking Valley** extends roughly south from Rockcastle County for some seven or eight miles almost to Ky 80 in the eastern part of Pulaski County. Its name was given to the post office maintained from June 20, 1930 to 1935 by John Logan Price on Rte. 1677, 2 ½ miles east of Dahl. According to Collins' 1874 history³⁷ this valley is governed by a "sinking stream", one that flows underground, with several surface openings, but which flows on the surface after heavy rains. Earlier Sinking Valley post offices were Plato, Eaton, Public, and Vanhook.

Plato was established on August 15, 1866 by David O. Gibson who is said to have named it for the Greek philosopher though it's not known why. It was probably first on what's now Ky 461, three miles southwest of Level Green, at the head of a Sinking Valley prong between the Cash and Plato knobs, and fifteen miles northeast of Somerset. Several moves brought it onto Ky 1727, 1.3 miles southeast of the latter's junction with 461, where it closed in 1972.



Eaton, which may have been a little under a mile east of the later Sinking Valley post office, was established on July 2, 1895 by storekeeper Perry Rash who probably named it for his wife Nancy's Eaton family. He was succeeded in June 1897 by James V. Carroll, and the office closed in mid April 1902.

One half to one mile east of Eaton was the inexplicably named **Public** which William Taylor opened on July 19, 1895 and which closed in 1981.

Eastern Pulaski County's **Vanhook** family gave its name to another valley post office, established on January 5, 1898, with Samuel W. Vanhook, its first postmaster. It closed in mid February 1915 and was

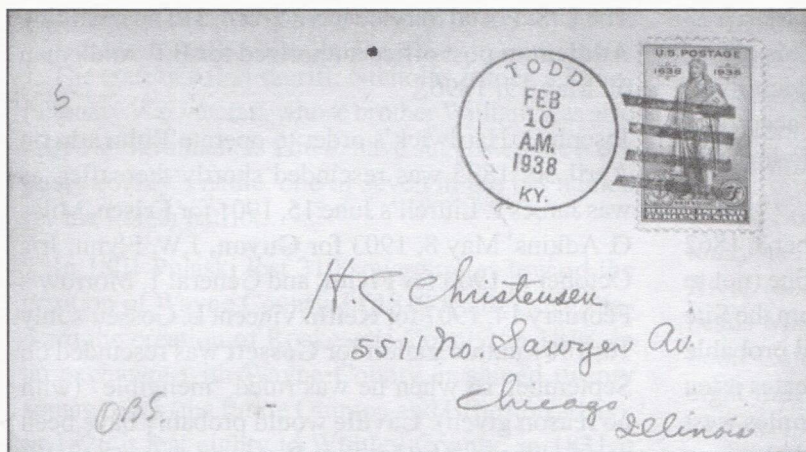


re-established on February 18, 1926, with Everett Harper, postmaster, two miles from Rockcastle County and 2 ½ miles southeast of Plato. Here it closed in 1963.

Two Post Offices on Rte. 1675

The first of the two offices on this road, between Ky 80 and Ky 1003, was **Acorn** [a/kuhrn, ak/ruhn, and now a/kawrn]. It was established somewhere south of the Burdine valley (through which old 80 and now 1675 extends) on March 20, 1896. According to one of several accounts of its name, Jacob N. Mayfield was struck by a falling acorn while considering possible names for his new post office. In another, he was feeding acorns to his hogs when the name occurred to him. In yet a third, a stranger noting the large number of acorns on the ground and the unusually large oak trees that had produced them suggested the name. Mayfield's wife Mary was the first postmaster. In 1900 Mary had the office moved one mile south. By 1939, with G.M. Mayfield, postmaster, it was serving the **Burdine** locality (named for several related families), 3 ½ miles southwest of Squib. The office was suspended on February 16, 1990.

Three miles south of Acorn was **Azof Ruby**, the first name proposed by Willie F. Edwards, was replaced by the name of the shallow Ukrainian Black Sea arm and the town of this name at the mouth of the River



Don. Both (pronounced *aez/ahf*) are said to have been named for an eleventh century ruler, but why this name was given to a Pulaski County post office operating for ten years from December 9, 1927 remains a mystery.

Other Pulaski County Post Offices

William Green Todd, a descendant of early nineteenth century Buck Creek settlers William and Elizabeth Todd, established the **Todd** post office on March 13, 1894. It would serve a store and flour mill, probably on what's now the Charles Elgin Road, between Buck Creek and its Barney Branch, 2 ½ miles northwest of Woodstock. It was discontinued in 1942.

No one knows why the local Etna Church of Christ was so named (if, in fact, it was so named for the famed Sicilian volcano). But this name was given to Valentine T. Allen's post office when his family's name was then found in use in Magoffin County. The **Etna** post office served residents of (the present) Ky 452, between Buck Creek and the railroad, from June 22, 1899 to mid April 1913.



Referring to the large amount of coal taken from the area some eight miles southeast of Somerset, a post office to be called **Coalville**, **Mudville**, or **Rex** was established on April 1, 1902 with Hays Meece, postmaster. It opened somewhere between Buck and Pitman Creeks as Colo [*koh/loh*]. By 1917 it was at the head of one of the upper forks of Baker Hollow (of Buck), but by 1952 (until it closed in 1968) it was on Rte. 1643, 34 miles south of Ky 192.

Belle (Mrs. Miller) Hansford's short-lived (January 22, 1907 to November 15, 1908) **Mound** post office served the residential neighborhood later (and still) called **Blue John**, on the Blue John Road, by the

Bethel Church, one mile from the McCreary County line. Neither Don, the first name proposed for the office, nor **Blue John** have been derived, while **Mound**, suggested by Mr. Hansford, can only be assumed.³⁸

Some 2 ½ miles up Whetstone Creek of Buck Creek, at the mouth of its 2 ½ mile long Snell Prong, was the **Snell** post office. It was established on April 20, 1908 with James F. Hale, its first postmaster, who named it for an area family. From 1913 till it closed in 1935

it was maintained at two neighboring sites by Louis J. Snell about a mile up the Snell Prong (paralleled by the present Rte. 1003), most recently at the mouth of its Vanhook Branch (what's shown on current topographic maps as **Whetstone**).

The crossroads settlement of **Ringgold** on the Liberty Road (now 3263, that ends at the east end of the Fishing Creek embayment), one mile north of the Cumberland Parkway and 3 ½ miles wnw of Somerset, was once an incorporated town (February 5, 1848) named for Major Samuel Ringgold, the first American officer killed in the Mexican War (at the May 8, 1846 Battle of Palo Alto). It was not until April 10, 1914, however, that the **Ringgold** post office was established, with George R. McKinney, postmaster. It closed in 1934.

Serving the locality of **Cabin Hollow**, 1 ½ miles north of the Cumberland River and about the same distance east of Pitman Creek, would have been the **Loves** post office (in use in Butler County). But it operated between October 13, 1922 and 1935 as **Cabin**. Henry G. Barnes was its first postmaster. The Loves may have been descendants of William Love (ca. 1809-1890) and owned much land in the Cumberland watershed. Whose cabin is referred to in the name is not yet known.

Unlocated Pulaski County Post Offices

Wightsville was established on October 20, 1857 with James P. Colyer, its first postmaster, and operated till late September 1868. There may have been a mid nineteenth century Wight family in the county, but the only memorable countian of that name was Fr. B.J. Wight, the resident pastor of St. Mildred's Catholic Church in Somerset (ca. 1901).

John W. Eubanks had a post office between March 23 and October 5, 1858 called **Cartersville**. This office, if it operated at all, may have been in the vicinity of the future **Newell** (or **Floyd Station**) for, according to Pulaski's 1860 Census, John was then living near several related Floyd families.

All that's known of the short-lived (September 3, 1862 to February 14, 1863) **Hargisville** post office (not to be confused with Hargis, above), comes from the Site Location Report of its only postmaster and probable name source George Hargis. Therein he locates it ten miles north of the Cumberland River, 10 ½ miles west of the Sublimity post office (before the latter was moved to Rockcastle Springs), and eight miles south-east of Grundy.

On July 15, 1899 Jesse P. Randall established the **Randall** post office two miles east of Buck Creek, three miles east of the Bent post office, four miles west of Skip, and four miles north of Dykes. It thus might have been a forerunner of **Snell** (at the latter's first site). In 1905 David J. Snell (a future Snell postmaster) had it moved one fourth of a mile, and in 1906 H. W. Edwards moved it three fourths of a mile east to a site five miles northeast of Dykes and five miles north of Mt. Victory (about where Snell was in 1918.) Here it closed at the end of May 1907. But the above is problematic.

Oriole, location and name derivation unknown, was operated from September 4, 1908 through November 1911 by Christopher C. Randolph somewhere between Vanhook, Plato, and Leroy.

William J. Girdler operated the **Boland** post office from March 2, 1911 through January 1913. His Site Location Report placed it 1 ½ miles northwest of the Cumberland River, three miles south of the Branch post office, and two miles northeast of Shafter. It may have been named for the Rev. B.J. Boland, another St. Mildred's pastor, or for Jess and/or Alexander Boland, otherwise unidentified.

Charley M. Latham's **Kenwid** post office (between April 28, 1931 and 1934) was named for the young son of Pulaski Court clerk Onie P. Hamilton. It was somewhere in the area half a mile north of Buck Creek, and between Elrod, Vanhook, and Dahl.

Nine post office authorizations were rescinded and thus these offices, at unknown sites, never operated. (Some may have been in what became McCreary County.)

The U.S. Postal Service has no record of an operating **Addleman** post office authorized for B.P. Addleman on May 19, 1890.

Joseph B. Hardwick's order to operate **Eldorado** on April 30, 1895 was rescinded shortly thereafter, as was James P. Littrell's June 15, 1901 for **Frisco**, Miles G. Adkins' May 8, 1903 for **Guyon**, J.W. Flynn, Jr's October 8, 1906 for **Flynn**, and General T. Morrow's February 14, 1907 for **Keith**. Vincent L. Gossett's July 16, 1901 authorization for **Gossett** was rescinded on September 16 when he was ruled "ineligible" (with no reason given). **Caville** would probably have been somewhere in the Harrison Precinct where Daniel J. Weddle (ne January 1857), its postmaster-designate, lived with his wife Roda E. His December 22, 1905 authorization was rescinded on March 16, 1906. After Robert L. Haynes, authorized to operate the **Harvest** post office on May 19, 1906, declined, it never opened.

Conclusion

Only eight of Pulaski County's 154 post offices (Bronston, Burnside, Eubank, Ferguson, Nancy, Science Hill, Somerset, and Tateville) are still active. Five (Somerset, Ferguson, Burnside, Science Hill, and Eubank) still serve incorporated communities. At least twenty four were the foci of settlements with definable boundaries and concentrated populations. The others, as elsewhere, served only one or two local stores, one or more mills, perhaps a rail station, a church, a school, and the rural families depending on them.

Sixty three offices were named for local and area persons or families while thirteen honored well known/non-local persons. Eight were named for distant places, while to nineteen were transferred the names of local or nearby features (eight streams or valleys, five localities, two precincts, two churches, one elevation, and one gap.) Twelve bore geographic, descriptive, or locative names. Local economic or other activities accounted for three names. Eight had miscellaneous name sources, and two had several possible name derivations. The names of twenty six offices have not yet been derived and seventeen offices have not been precisely located.

Forty five post offices bore names that were not the first ones proposed for them while thirty two served communities, neighborhoods, rail stations, mining camps, etc. with other names, and eleven had name changes in the course of their operations.

Endnotes

1. The county's first sheriff, Nicholas Jasper, a Revolutionary War veteran, whose brother William was also killed at Savannah, is said to have suggested the Kentucky county's name, one of seven in the US named for the Polish patriot.
2. In 1801 Pulaski lost 310 square miles toward the creation of Wayne County; in 1810 it lost twenty toward the creation of Rockcastle County; in 1818, in an exchange with Wayne County, it gained twenty square miles (the future Quinton and Bronston areas); in 1826 it lost eighty to Whitley County; in 1831 it lost ten to Wayne; in 1840 it lost ten to Russell County; and finally, in 1912, it gave up 150 square miles toward creation of McCreary County.
3. Preston McGrain and James C. Currens, *Topography of Kentucky*, Kentucky Geological Survey, Series X, 1978, Pp. 63-65
4. In 1881 the Cincinnati Southern was leased to and renamed the Cincinnati New Orleans and Texas Pacific (CNO & TP) Railway, and later still was leased by, and then became a branch of, the Southern Railway System which, in 1982, combined with the Norfolk and Western Railway to become the Norfolk-Southern.
5. The New Jersey county had been named for the English county of Somerset.
6. Wait, best known for his attempts to develop a silk industry in Pulaski County, was also an early saltmaker with a well on his Fishing Creek farm known as the Salt Well Farm. He later owned a store and wharf in the community bearing his name, and for several terms represented the county in both houses of the Kentucky legislature.
7. Having acquired a thousand acres on both sides of the river in 1795-96, Col. Samuel Newell, Joseph's father, a Revolutionary War veteran, and future presiding justice of the Pulaski Court, built his home at this site in 1797 and called it Clio [klee/oh]. Here the first Wayne County post office of *Clio* was established on April 19, 1834 by the Rev. Walter Emerson who, with his son Thomas F., ran it till November 1861. According to Pulaski historian Alma Tibbals (*A History of Pulaski County, Kentucky*, Bagdad: Grace Owens Moore, 1952, P. 75), its name, for one of the classic muses of song and poetry, was aptly inspired for the view from its hilly site was "certainly song inspiring".
8. Alexander Chapel, organized in 1837 to serve area Methodists, was named for its first pastor William Alexander who had secured a deed for it from Rev. Emerson. The building, on Old Ky 90, one fourth of a mile within Pulaski County, was erected in 1852.
9. The South Fork of the Cumberland River, noted today as the Big South Fork or the Big South Fork River (and in pre-settlement times as Flute River) heads where the Clear Fork and New Rivers meet in Scott County, Tennessee and extends roughly sixty eight miles north to the Cumberland at Burnside. In March 1974 a Congressional act established the 105,000 (now 119,000) acre Big South Fork National River and Recreation Area (mostly in Tennessee) to be managed by the U.S. Corps of Engineers. In 1986 this joined the National Park System.
10. **Keno**, for the literary minded, was the setting of local resident Harriet Simpson Arnow's famed novel *Hunters Horn*, published in 1944, the year she and her husband left for a new home in Michigan.
11. *The Wilderness Trail* in Lincoln County, a manuscript submitted to the Filing and Lending Bureau of the DAR by Mrs. Craig of Stanford, Ky., 1941. The reference to Col. Buchanan also appears in this manuscript which was published serially in the *Stanford Interior Journal* and *The Richmond Register*, February and March 1941. A copy of the manuscript is in the Lincoln County vertical files of the Kentucky Historical Society library.
12. Joe Creason, feature writer for the Louisville Courier Journal, once reported (June 23, 1971) another oft told story, with little historic credence, about a local election when nobody produced the requisite jug of whiskey to entice voters. When someone said we can't hold the election since there's no jug, he was told that the election would go on, jug or not.
13. Ax, Ed, Ep, Ep, OK, Oz, UZ, and Vi.
14. Fred W. Luigart, Jr., "Pulaski Countians Claim 'Shortest Creek in the World'" *Louisville Courier-Journal*, November 23, 1960, P. 81
15. From an account in the *Somerset Commonwealth*, cited in the *Louisville Times*, December 28, 1932
16. According to Eula Hale Meece in her sister Verna (Mrs. Woodrow) Allen's undated manuscript history of Ula.

17. On pre-Civil War maps it's labeled Pitmans Creek .
18. Ruth Ashurst later married R.A. Peyton and was, for years, a teacher in the Louisville, Ky. city schools. This and other information on the **Ruth** post office and the hamlet it served were furnished by Mrs. Pearl Allen, Rufus' niece, through her son Eugene Allen, a lifelong resident of **Ruth**, in letters to the author, March 20, 1969 and February 9, 1970.
19. According to a January 30, 1980 letter from Charles A. Conrard of Holmes Beach, Florida, his father was a Highland County, Ohio native who arrived in Somerset in 1893 to work in its Southern Railway office. In 1895 he moved to Washington to work in the U.S. Patent Office before transferring to the Post Office Department.
20. The main channel of Faubush Creek heads one mile south of the most recent Faubush post office site and flows through a rather steep valley for 2 3/4 miles until it empties in a Lake Cumberland embayment, some 1.9 miles north of the Wayne County line. It then proceeds sse, then southeast, then southwest for about five miles till it empties into the river between Panhandle and Cumberland Point.
21. Wyatt Norfleet was a descendant of John Norfleet who had acquired land on White Oak and Faubush Creeks in the 1840s and 50s.
22. Our Storehouse of Missouri Place Names, Columbia: University of Missouri, 1952, Pp. 138, 111
23. The first name proposed for **Uma** was **Anderson** for the nearby school.
24. Paul A. Tenkotte and Charles B. Castner entries in *The Kentucky Encyclopedia*, Lexington: University Press of Kentucky, 1992, Pp. 191, 835-36
25. The Pulaski County Adamses were descendants of Irish-born (1751) Robert Adams who had arrived in the upper Fishing Creek valley following service in the Revolutionary War.
26. This locality above the head of the Buncombe Branch of Fishing, along with the local school and church, had been named by its residents for their earlier Buncombe County, North Carolina home.
27. The **Science Hill** name was applied sometime before the short-lived teacher-training academy opened there and thus the school could not have been the community-post office's name source.

28. Norwood, Ohio, with a 2003 population of some 20,800, is a Cincinnati suburb aptly named for its being north of the North Woods. It was incorporated as a city in 1903. (According to Larry L. Miller, *Ohio Place Names*, Bloomington, Ind: University of Indiana Press, 1996, P. 177

29. Ferguson drafted the enabling act passed by the Ohio legislature on May 4, 1869 to allow the city of Cincinnati to build its own railroad south to Chattanooga.

30. Luretha Wynn later became Mrs. John Cross.

31. Robert F. Collins "Daniel Boone National Forest Historic Sites" *Filson Club Historical Quarterly*, Vol. 42, 1968, Pp. 26-48 (43-45)

32. Vern Wright, a descendant of one of the namers, through Mary Weaver, interviewed by the author on March 23, 1979

33. Mrs. W.B. Jones, DAR manuscript on Pulaski County place names, 1941, P. 2

34. James L. Tarter, "Name Places" in *Local Historical Research*, issued

by Somerset Community College (University of Kentucky), 1966, n.p. 35. Willard Rouse Jillson, *Pioneer Kentucky*, Frankfort: State Journal, 1934, P. 132

36. Ford's first proposed name may have been *Barnsford* for the locality. 37. Vol. 2, P. 683.

38. James C. McDowell, Jr. of Burnside, Ky., in a February 11, 1981 letter to the author, thought that *Blue John* may have honored someone called John Ballou. T.W. Reynolds, the North Carolina writer, in his *Born of the Mountains* (1964, P. 163), refers to a Blue John Creek in his state that's said to have been named for the color of locally consumed skimmed milk, or for the color of a local clay.

References

1. Allen, Eugene of Ruth, Ky., letters to the author, March 20, 1969 and February 9, 1970
2. DeBerry, J.H. on Somerset, Ky. in *The Kentucky Encyclopedia*, Lexington: University Press of Kentucky, 1992, P. 833
3. Estep, Bill, "Visitors Create Headaches for Burnside" *Lexington Herald-Leader*, July 13, 1986, Pp. B1,12
4. Jones, Mrs. W.B. DAR Manuscript: Place Names of Pulaski County, Kentucky, 1941
5. Keeler, William, "Pulaski County" *Louisville Courier-Journal Magazine*, May 11, 1986, Pp. 6-14

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- 4 LUNDY, 1888 VG CDS ON MINING CC (80-14). EST. \$100
- 5 LYONSVILLE, 1909 F 4-BAR ON PPC (83-37). EST. \$8
- 6 MANOR, 1939 VG 4-BAR ON COVER (15-53). EST. \$5
- 7 MAPLE CREEK, 1913 F 4-BAR ON PPC (86/23). EST. \$12
- 8 MARCH, 1918 F DUPLEX ON COVER (18-21). EST. \$20
- 9 MARINA, ca1934 VG 4-BAR ON COVER. EST. \$5
- 10 MARKHAM, 1910 F LKU DOANE ON PPC (83/10). EST. \$40
- 11 MARK WEST, 1912 F 4-BAR ON PPC W/SMALL CREASES (65/17). \$12
- 12 MATHESON, 1937 VG 4-BAR ON TONED MINING CC COVER. EST. \$8
- 13 MATILJA, 1906 VG CDS REC'D ON PPC (89-16). EST. \$12
- 14 MAY, 1912 VG 4-BAR ON PPC (81-20). EST. \$12
- 15 McCLELLAN FIELD, 1943 F MACHINE ON PPC (40-49). EST. \$5
- 16 McKEON, 1937 G+ 4-BAR ON COVER (20-53). EST. \$5
- 17 MERCED ARMY AIR BASE BR, 1944 VG DC ON CACHED CVR. \$15
- 18 MAXWELL'S CREEK, 1860'S VG CDS ON COVER W/ SMALL TEAR. \$150
- 19 MELOLAND, 1909 F 4-BAR ON PPC (08-11) RARE DESERT TOWN. \$200
- 20 MERCED FALLS, 1908 VG 4-BAR ON PPC (56/57). EST. \$5
- 21 MERCURY, 1908 VG CDS ON PPC (99-09) SCARCE TOWN. EST. \$50
- 22 METZ, 1906 VG DOANE ON PPC (88-33). EST. \$6
- 23 METZ, 1911 F EKU MOT-1580 ON PPC (88-33). EST. \$15
- 24 MICHIGAN BAR, 1910 F CDS ON PPC (55-35). EST. \$8
- 25 MIDDLE RIVER, 1930 VG 4-BAR ON COVER (15-44). EST. \$12
- 26 MIDLAND, 1910 VG 4-BAR ON PPC (08-14). EST. \$20
- 27 MILLERTON, 1860'S F CDS ON COVER (53/74). EST. \$150
- 28 MILLS, 1908 F 4-BAR ON PPC (99/43). EST. \$6
- 29 MILLS SEMINARY, 1888 VG CDS ON COLLEGE CC (79-88). EST. \$25
- 30 MILO, 1908 F CDS ON PPC (88-22). EST. \$12
- 31 MILTON, 1908 F 4-BAR ON PPC (71-42). EST. \$6
- 32 MINA, 1938 F 4-BAR ON TONED COVER (14-38). EST. \$8
- 33 MINNELUSA, 1939 F 4-BAR ON COVER (28-40). EST. \$15
- 34 MIST, 1933 VG 4-BAR ON COVER (13-35). EST. \$6
- 35 MOHAWK, 1912 F 4-BAR ON PPC (81-26). EST. \$12
- 36 MONETA, 1908 F 4-BAR ON PPC W/EDGE CREASE (90/44). EST. \$5
- 37 MONMOUTH, ca1915 F 4-BAR ON COVER (08-19). EST. \$20
- 38 MONOLITH, 1910 VG 4-BAR ON PPC (10-73). EARLY. EST. \$8
- 39 MONTECITO, 1909 VG 4-BAR ON PPC (86-14). EST. \$20
- 40 MONTEREY, 1901 VG CDS W/FLAG KILLER. EST. \$50
- 41 MONTEREY MILITARY BR, 1926 VG 4-BAR ON CVR W/MIL CC. \$50
- 42 MONTEREY (MILITARY BR), 1926 PARTIAL 4-BAR ON CVR. \$10
- 43 MONTEREY PRESIDIO STA, 1935 F DUPLEX ON PPC (19-37). EST. \$6
- 44 MONTEREY PRESIDIO OF MONTEREY STA, 1944 F DPLX ON CVR. \$6
- 45 MONSON, 1909 VG 4-BAR ON PPC (89-20). EST. \$12
- 46 MONTEZUMA, 1855 CDS ON STAMPESS COVER (54/87). EST. \$150
- 47 MONTRIO, 1905 VG CDS ON PPC (02-24). EST. \$5
- 48 MOONLAKE, 1938 F 4-BAR ON TONED COVER (29-39). EST. \$12
- 49 MOORLAND, 1908 F DOANE ON PPC (02-15). EST. \$12
- 50 MORMON ISLAND, 1888 VG CDS ON COVER (51-90). EST. \$50
- 51 MORRO, 1910 VG 4-BAR ON PPC (70-23). EST. \$5
- 52 MOSS LANDING G+ LKU MOT-1960 ON PENALY COVER. EST. \$5
- 53 MOTT, 1906 F CDS ON PPC (87-10). EST. \$20
- 54 MOUNTAIN HOUSE, 1886 VG T & C ON COVER (74-11). EST. \$40
- 55 MOUNT OLIVET, 1908 VG 4-BAR ON PPC (90-09). EST. \$20
- 56 MURRAY, 1940 F 4-BAR ON COVER (38-44). EST. \$10
- 57 MUSICK, 1907 F 4-BAR ON PPC (80-21). EST. \$15
- 58 MYFORD, 1910 F CDS ON PPC (99-14). EST. \$10
- 59 NAPA JUNCTION, 1910 G 4-BAR ON PPC (75/33). EST. \$5
- 60 NASSAU, 1908 VG DUPLEX ON PPC (92-10). EST. \$35
- 61 NATIONAL MILITARY HOME, 1934 F DPLX ON PPC (29-43). EST. \$5
- 62 MEW ALMADEN, 1910 F MISPELLED 4-BAR ON PPC. EST. \$8
- 63 NEW JERUSALEM, 1891 VG CDS B/S ON COVER (82-95). EST. \$15
- 64 NEWTOWN, 1911 F 4-BAR ON PPC W/INK SMUDGE (54-12). EST. \$20
- 65 NORMAN, 1909 F 4-BAR ON PPC (79/14). EST. \$20
- 66 NORTH HOLLYWOOD STUDIO CY STA, 1929 F DPLX ON GPC. \$12
- 67 NORTH POMONA, 1900 G+ DUPLEX ON GPC (91-07). EST. \$20
- 68 NORTHWESTERN, 1910 VG 4-BAR ON PPC (06-27). EST. \$12
- 69 NORTHWOOD, 1935 F LD 4-BAR ON COVER (29-38). EST. \$15
- 70 NOYO, 1909 F DOANE ON PPC (72-18). EST. \$12
- 71 NUEVO, 1892 F CDS ON COVER W/CREASE (83-95). EST. \$50
- 72 OAKLAND SIXTEENTH ST STA, 1933 VG DPLX ON CVR (24-34). \$5
- 73 OAKLAND RECREATION CAMP, 1938 F 4-BAR ON PPC (22/56). \$5
- 74 OAT HILL, 1908 F CDS ON PPC (91-10). EST. \$20
- 75 OCKENDEN, 1909 F 4-BAR ON PPC (93-18). EST. \$20
- 76 OILPORT, 1907 VG 4-BAR ON PC W/SM SKINNED SPOT (07-08). \$100
- 77 OLEANDER, 1909 F 4-BAR ON PPC (81-35). EST. \$6
- 78 OLEUM, 1911 VG 4-BAR REC'D ON PPC (10-51). EST. \$5
- 79 OLYMPIA, 1938 VG 4-BAR ON COVER (15-42). EST. \$10
- 80 ORANGEHURST, 1909 F 4-BAR ON PPC W/STAMP GONE (08-16). \$15
- 81 ORCUTT, 1890 S F CDS ON COVER (90-96). EST. \$100
- 82 ORRS, 1909 LEGIBLE CDS ON PPC (89/33). EST. \$6
- 83 OTAY, 1906 VG 4-BAR ON GPC (70/25). EST. \$12
- 84 PACHECO, 1911 VG 4-BAR ON PPC (59-13). EST. \$20
- 85 PACIFIC GROVE, 1893 G+ CDS ON PSE. EST. \$5
- 86 PACIFIC GROVE, 1933 VG LKU MOT-2150 ON PPC. EST. \$6

COLORADO

- 87 ABBEY, 1911 VG 4-BAR ON PPC W/SMALL TEAR (91-14). EST. \$20
- 88 BRUNKER, 1910 F 4-BAR ON PPC W/SMALL TEAR (07-17). EST. \$35
- 91 BURT, 1911 VG 4-BAR ON PPC (10-16). EST. \$50
- 92 CHERRY, 1907 VG CDS ON PPC (00-20). EST. \$20
- 93 GULCH, 1916 VG 4-BAR ON PPC (95-16). COLO NOT STRUCK. \$35
- 94 MANITOU/MANITOU SPRINGS, LD & FD CANCELS ON GPC. EST. \$6
- 95 MICANITE, 1921 VG LIGHT 4-BAR ON PPC (04-25). EST. \$25
- 96 NORTON, 1910 LEGIBLE CDS ON PPC (99-15). EST. \$10
- 97 NYBURG, 1910 VG 4-BAR ON PPC (99-18). EST. \$20
- 98 OPAL, 1916 VG LIGHT 4-BAR ON PPC (13-23). EST. \$20
- 99 PROWERS, 1910 VG 4-BAR ON PPC (81/33). EST. \$6
- 100 ROCKWOOD, 1910 F 4-BAR ON PPC (78/40). EST. \$6

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- 101 SALINA, 1923 G+ 4-BAR ON COVER (74-25). EST. \$8
- 102 SITTON, 1909 VG 4-BAR ON PPC (06-17). EST. \$20
- 103 SOUTH CANON, 1911 F DOANE ON CREASED PPC (05-16). EST. \$15

IDAHO

- 104 COVE, 1906 G LIGHT CDS ON PPC (96-09). EST. \$30
- 105 DICKEY, 1914 VG 4-BAR ON PPC (85-34). EST. \$6
- 106 HARLEM, 1911 VG 4-BAR ON TONED PPC (07-18). EST. \$20
- 107 ISLAND, 1910 F 4-BAR ON PPC (82/16). EST. \$25
- 108 KIPPEN, 1909 VG 4-BAR ON PPC (96-09). EST. \$20
- 109 MARION, 1908 F 4-BAR ON PPC (85-18). EST. \$25
- 110 NICHOLIA, 1912 F 4-BAR ON PPC (84/37). EST. \$15
- 111 PEARL, 1907 VG DOANE ON PPC W/ SMALL CREASE (95/29). E. \$10
- 112 PEGRAM, 1913 VG 4-BAR ON PPC W/PIN HOLE (01-55). EST. \$5
- 113 ROCKVILLE, 1910 VG CDS ON PPC (85-12). EST. \$20

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- 114 CLEAR LAKE, 1911 VG 4-BAR ON PPC (11-19). EST. \$40
- 115 EDGEHILL, 1911 VG 4-BAR ON PPC (09-28). EST. \$12
- 116 HOFFMAN, 1910 VG 4-BAR ON PPC (00/18). EST. \$20
- 117 HOMEPARK, 1910 F DOANE ON PPC (79/19). EST. \$20
- 118 LAT, 1916 VG 4-BAR ON PPC (98/18). EST. \$25
- 119 LEWIS, 1909 VG DOANE ON PPC (97-18). EST. \$20
- 120 MEADERVILLE, 1907 VG DUPLEX ON PC W/BENT CORNER (03-08). \$25
- 121 MIDVALE, 1911 VG 4-BAR ON PPC (19-38). EST. \$6
- 122 MITCHELL, 1913 VG CDS ON PPC (98/25). EST. \$12
- 123 MONDAK, 1908 VG 4-BAR ON PPC (04-25). EST. \$12
- 124 OMHOLT, 1911 VG 4-BAR ON PPC (11-18). EST. \$40
- 125 PROCTOR, 1910 G+ 4-BAR ON PPC (10-). EARLY. EST. \$5
- 126 RENOVA, 1908 F DOANE ON PPC (06-33). EST. \$20
- 127 RIDGELAWN, 1910 VG 4-BAR ON PPC W/CREASES (83/14). EST. \$15
- 128 ROCHESTER, 1911 F 4-BAR ON PPC W/CORNER BEND (92-18). \$20
- 129 RUBY, 1908 VG LIGHT 4-BAR ON PPC (01-24). EST. \$10
- 130 STEARNS, ca1910 VG 4-BAR ON TONED PPC (91-21). EST. \$12
- 131 UNG(ER), 1907 F PARTIAL CDS REC'D ON PPC (03-08). EST. \$25

OREGON

- 132 ASHWOOD, 1908 F MAGENTA DOANE ON PPC. EST. \$5
- 133 CROW, 1914 VG 4-BAR ON PPC W/CREASE (74-38). EST. \$6
- 134 DOLPH, 1901 F LIGHT CDS ON REG'D PACKAGE REC (86-21). E. \$12
- 135 FALOMA, 1933 VG 4-BAR ON MONARCH-SIZED COVER (21-35). E. \$20
- 136 GRAVELFORD, 1907 F 4-BAR ON PPC W/PIN HOLE (78-24). EST. \$12
- 137 KELLOGG, 1907 VG CDS ON PPC (79-21). EST. \$12
- 138 LAKE, 1911 G+ DOANE ON PPC (06-43). EST. \$5
- 139 LAMONTA, 1910 VG 4-BAR ON PPC (98-18). EST. \$6
- 140 NECANICUM, 1910 VG 4-BAR ON PPC (07-16). EST. \$30
- 141 NOLIN, 1910 VG DOANE ON PPC (85/23). EST. \$12
- 142 ONA, 1910 VG 4-BAR ON PPC (90-20). EST. \$6
- 143 PALMER, 1907 VG CDS ON PPC (98-19). EST. \$6
- 144 PEAK, 1913 VG 4-BAR ON PPC (99-17). EST. \$20

SOUTH DAKOTA

- 145 ADELAIDE, 1911 VG 4-BAR ON PPC (10-14). EST. \$35
- 146 PENVILLE, 1911 G+ 4-BAR ON PPC (08-19). EST. \$15
- 147 PLUMA, 1908 F DOANE ON PPC (98-12). EST. \$20
- 148 SHILOH, 1908 F DOANE ON PPC (84-25). EST. \$12
- 149 SWEENEY, 1910 VG 4-BAR REC'D ON PPC W/O STAMP (04-27). \$10
- 150 VERNAL, 1910 F 4-BAR ON PPC (08-18). EST. \$12
- 151 VERNON, 1912 VG 4-BAR ON PPC (92-13). EST. \$20
- 152 VINTON, 1908 VG 4-BAR ON PPC (08-19). EST. \$20
- 153 WATSON, 1912 F 4-BAR ON CREASED PPC (08-12). EST. \$20
- 154 WETA, 1911 VG 4-BAR ON PPC (08-39). EST. \$6
- 155 WEST, 1908 F DOANE ON PPC (94-11). EST. \$20

WASHINGTON

- 156 ARZINA, 1911 F DOANE ON PPC (97-22). EST. \$25
- 157 BUCKEYE, 1909 F 4-BAR ON PPC (03-34). EST. \$6
- 158 CERES, 1909 VG 4-BAR ON PPC (08-31). EST. \$6
- 159 CHRISTOPHER, 1909 G+ 4-BAR ON PC (87-17) WASH NOT STRUCK. 9
- 160 CORNET, 1911 F 4-BAR ON PPC (10-17). EST. \$35
- 161 DWAMISH, 1896 F CDS ON MONARCH-SIZED CVR W/CORNER GONE. \$15
- 162 KOPIAH, 1907 F 4-BAR O/S ON PPC W/BENT CORNER (06-28). E. \$5
- 163 LARSON, 1912 F 4-BAR ON PPC (08-18). EST. \$20
- 164 LITTLE FALLS, 1911 VG 4-BAR ON PPC (74-13). EST. \$6
- 165 NEW TACOMA/WT, 1884 VG CDS ON CVR RED'D @ RIGHT (74-84). \$12
- 166 OLEQUA, 1906 VG CDS REC'D ON PPC (75-12). EST. \$6
- 167 OLYMPIA, RFD 2, VG TYPE 1N ON PPC. EST. \$25
- 168 OPHIR, 1911 VG 4-BAR ON PPC (90-12). EST. \$20

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- 169 BONANZA, 1910 VG CDS ON PPC (87-18). WYO NOT STRUCK. \$15
- 170 BORDER, 1908 VG 4-BAR ON PPC (00-33). WYO NOT STRUCK. \$5
- 171 BRIDGER, 1911 VG 4-BAR ON PPC (06-11). EST. \$40
- 172 FILMORE, 1909 F 4-BAR ON PPC (09-35). EST. \$6
- 173 INEZ, 1910 VG 4-BAR ON PPC (88-13). EST. \$20
- 174 ISHAWOOA, 1910 VG 4-BAR ON CREASED PPC (02-44). EST. \$5
- 175 JUNCTION, 1909 VG 4-BAR ON PPC (01-16). EST. \$20
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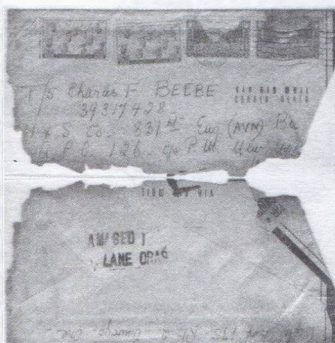
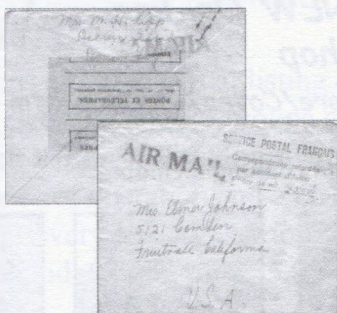
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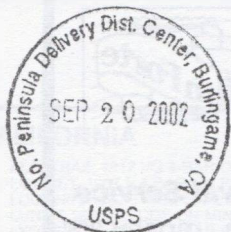
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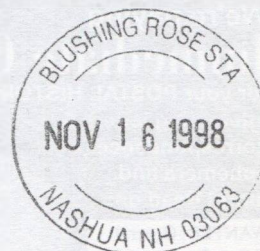
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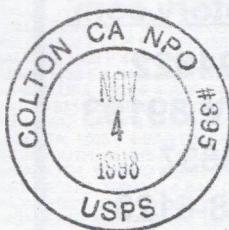


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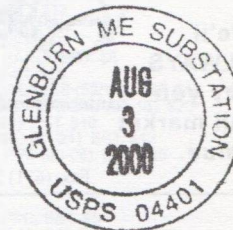
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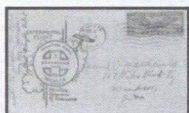
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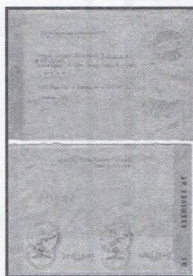
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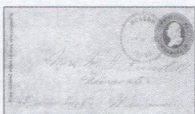
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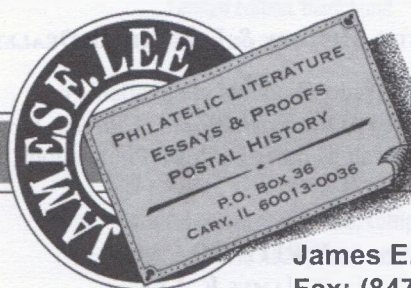
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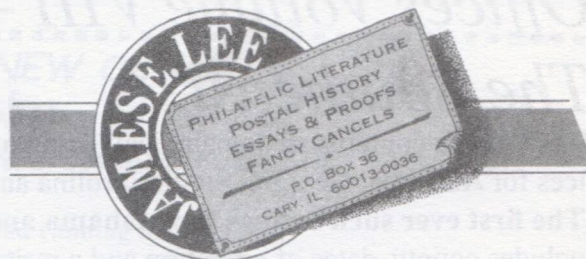
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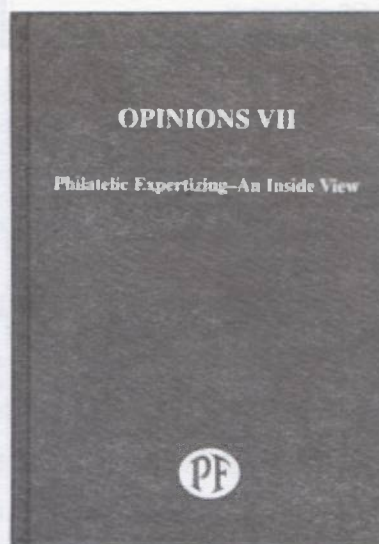
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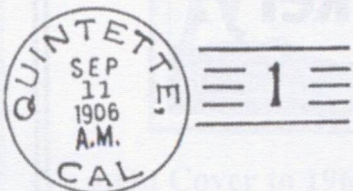
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Note: The illustrated cancel above is a fake. A copy with a real cancel appears on p. 66 of *Opinions VII*.

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41-45	\$2.25	\$5.61	\$10.68
46-50	\$2.50	\$6.24	\$11.88
51-55	\$2.75	\$6.84	\$13.02
56-60	\$3.00	\$7.47	\$14.22
61-65	\$3.25	\$8.10	\$15.42
66-70	\$3.50	\$8.73	\$16.62
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TOWNS: WANTED

COLES COUNTY IL covers and post cards wanted, especially before 1920. List available. Michael Zolno, 2855 West Pratt, Chicago, IL 60645, email mzolno@aol.com [38-5]

IDAHO COVERS wanted. All kinds; all towns; all periods. Send description, photocopies, or scans with prices to Mark Metkin, 1310 Crestline Drive, Coeur d'Alene, ID 83814-6027. metkin@mindspring.com [38-5]

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MASSACHUSETTS: FRANKLIN County Postal History: stampless to modern. Especially need illustrated mail, usages with revenue stamps (checks, deeds, etc.) and pre-cancels. Send photocopies or scans with asking price. Request town list post free. Jim Kotanchik, PO Box 684, West Acton, MA 01720-0684, email: jimko@verizon.net [39-2]

NORTH DAKOTA: all postal history wanted from territorial to modern. Send photocopies or on approval. Gary Anderson, P.O. Box 600039, St. Paul, MN 55106 [39-5]

SPOKANE FALLS / SPOKANE, WA. 1872-date wanted: Territorial, registered, postage due, certified, commercial airmail, foreign destinations, unusual station cancels, usages, and postal markings. Send description or photocopies/scans to Larry Mann, 655 Washington PL SW, Mukilteo, WA 98275 Larrymann02@aol.com [38-5]

WESTPORT WA Collector seeking older advertising covers and pre-1950 postcards from Westport, WA. Contact: Douglas Olson, PO Box 2177, Westport, WA 98595 [38-5]

SOCIETIES

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FOR SALE: COVERS

POSTAL HISTORY featured in our mail bid sales. Free catalogs. Juno Stamps, 2180 Hartford Ave., St. Paul, MN 55116-1010. junostamps@aol.com [38-6]

DO YOU COLLECT State Postal History, Doane Cancels or cancels of any kind? Now 38 States online plus Dakota Territory and more coming. Over 9000 covers online with 1500 of them pictured. Website: <http://www.towncancel.com/> Gary Anderson, P.O. Box 600039, St. Paul, MN. 55106. Email: garyndak@ix.netcom.com. [39-5]

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FOR SALE: COVERS

COVER AUCTIONS, NAVY/MILITARY; Classics; Submarines; Surface Ships; Locations; APO's; POSTCARDS; MEMORABILIA. Mixture of commercial; philatelic; wartime covers. Free illustrated catalogues. Jim Smith (USCS, MPHS), Box 512, Oshtemo, Michigan 49077 [38-5]

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BUTLER COUNTY PENNSYLVANIA covers, real photo postcards, and fiscal paper ephemera wanted by second-generation collector. Send description, photocopies, or scans with prices to Janice Metkin, 1310 Crestline Drive, Coeur d'Alene, ID 83814-6027. metkin@mindspring.com [38-6]

CALIFORNIA - KERN & IMPERIAL County covers and cards. Especially interested in Bakersfield corner cards. Send description or photocopies and prices to John Williams, 887 Litchfield Ave., Sebastopol, CA 95472 [38-5]

NOTE:

EXPIRATION DATE SHOWN AT END OF EACH AD, i.e., [38-5], MEANS AD WILL EXPIRE WITH THIS ISSUE.

AD DEADLINE FOR NEXT ISSUE:

November 5, 2007

MILITARY: WANTED

ALASKA & WESTERN CANADA APOs, interesting Pan American (Scott 294-299) issues on cover and Pittsburgh/Allegheny County covers from 1851-1861. Send Xeroxes or scans and pricing to Bob McKain, 2337 Giant Oaks Drive, Pittsburgh, PA 15241 (57-vette@adelphia.net) [38-6]

WANTED ON APPROVAL: KOREAN WAR COVERS, 1950-1953 with U.S. MARINES return addresses & postmarks that read U.S. NAVY/12867 Br./Unit No., also 14009, 14011, 14012, 14021. Also, ship covers sent by Marines while on active Korean war duty; also collect stamped mail & Registered (not free-franked) from any service branch in Korea from June 27 1950 - Dec 31, 1950. Please send scans and prices to Cath Clark, lapostagal@hotmail.com

EXPRESS COVERS: WANTED

ARIZONA, NEVADA, BRITISH COLUMBIA Express covers wanted. Send description, photocopies with prices to John Drew, 15370 Skyview Terrace, San Jose, CA 95132 [39-3]

DOANE CANCELS: WANTED

Buy, sell and trade Doane Cancels of all states. Send photocopies or on approval. Gary Anderson, P.O. Box 600039, St. Paul, MN 55106 [39-5]

PREXIES: WANTED

URGENTLY NEED 4½¢ Prexies for collection. Looking for covers, proofs, printing varieties. Anything that fits into a specialized collection. Describe with asking price. Howard Lee, Box 2912, Delmar, CA 92014. Tel: 858-350-7462. Email: gimpo@adnc.com [38-6]

SUB-STATION POSTAL MARKINGS: WANTED

SUB-STATION postal markings containing "sub" dated between 1889 and 1912 from any US city. Send photocopies to Dennis Pack, 1915 Gilmore Ave., Winona, MN 55987 [39-4]

FOREIGN: WANTED

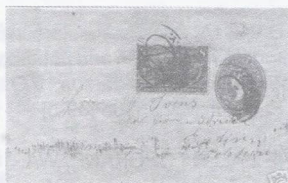
COMMERCIAL AIR air covers, 1945 or earlier, any intercontinental mail, i.e. Europe to Asia, North America to Africa, Australia to Europe, etc. Send scans or photocopies for my offer, or on approval to Richard Helbock, PO Box 100, Chatsworth Island, NSW 2469, Australia or helbock@la-posta.com

WANTED: MISCELANY

US & POSSESSIONS POST OFFICE SEALS: on/off cover, Scott listed and unlisted. Especially need Ryukyu and Philippine material. Also want worldwide official seals on cover. Send photocopies or scans with asking price. Jim Kotanchik, PO Box 684, West Acton, MA 01720-0684, email: jimko@speakeasy.net [38-6]

LITERATURE: FOR SALE

www.pacificpioneers.com - Check out this 700 page Book on Pan Am's flight covers in the Pacific - 1935 to 1946. I sell, trade or exchange information on new cover finds. Also want to purchase similar material. Jon E. Krupnick, 700 Southeast 3rd Ave., Ft. Lauderdale, FL 33316 [38-6]

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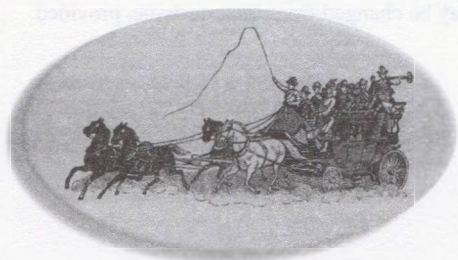
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Hello Richard & Cath:

Yes, I'll give *La Posta* a try. You may begin my subscription with the Volume 38, Number 6 (Dec 2007-Jan 2008) issue. Enclosed is my check in the amount of \$25.00.*

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DISPLAY ADS are available on a contract basis as shown below. Ad contents may be changed from issue-to-issue, provided changes are received by the posted deadlines.

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Ad Size	One Issue	Three Issues	Six Issues
1/8-page	\$13.00	\$29.90	\$54.60
1/4-page	\$30.00	\$69.00	\$126.00
1/2-page	\$55.00	\$126.50	\$231.00
1-page	\$100.00	\$230.00	\$420.00

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*We normally ask that back cover and inside cover ads be taken out for a minimum of two issues due to our advance printing schedule for covers.

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AD DEADLINES FOR INSIDE PAGES are as follows: Dec/Jan issue - **Nov 15**; Feb/Mar issue - **Jan 15**; Apr/May issue - **Mar 15**; Jun/Jul issue - **May 15**; Aug/Sep issue - **July 15**; Oct/Nov issue - **Sep 15**.

AD DEADLINES FOR **BACK COVER COLOR AD & INSIDE COVER ADS** are: Dec/Jan & Feb/Mar issue - **Oct 31**; Ap/May & Jun/July issue - **Feb 28**; Aug/Sep & Oct/Nov issue - **June 30**.

E-mail your ad to Cath Clark at: lapostagal@hotmail.com

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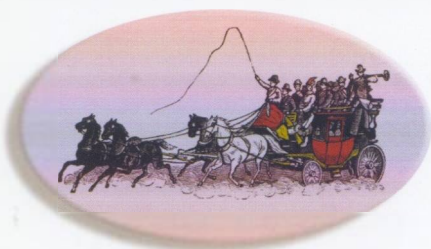
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