

The American Local Posts—LXVIII

A Study of the Forgeries, Reprints and Bogus Stamps

By DONALD S. PATTON

(continued from page 225)

CUMMING'S CITY POST, NEW YORK CITY, N.Y.

This local city post was in operation during the years 1845-47. Its proprietor was Alfred H. Cummings, of 6 Watts Street, whose name appears in the 1846 New York directories as a "letter carrier". In the 1847 directory Cummings was living at 19 Gay Street and is listed as operating a City Dispatch at 42½ Nassau Street.

The first stamp issued by the post was a rather crudely produced label probably printed from a woodblock. The label depicts the back of a letter, showing the wafer or seal, framed in a circle and with inscriptions, outside the circle "CUMMING'S CITY POST 2 CENTS". This label was printed in three colours, Black on Rose, Black on Green and Black on Yellow.

A second stamp issued by Cummings may have been intended only for Valentine deliveries; it depicts a cherub or cupid, framed in a circle with inscriptions outside the circle similar to those of the first label. The post issued a third stamp, now a rarity; printed in black on vermilion surface coloured paper it is a double oval framing a diamond with figure "2" in the centre, on a background of horizontal lines.

Finally a version of the Cumming's first label, printed in black on vermilion, is known with the name "CUMMING'S" in the top label, erased. A copy of this stamp, formerly in the Ferrari collection, was in the Caspary sale where it figured as lot 742 "lightly pen cancelled on a Valentine envelope; used locally and bearing a red double circle handstamp "CITY POST" with "2" in centre.

The erasure of the proprietor's name suggests that Cummings may have disposed of his interest in the post to some other person or persons but this is conjecture and nothing is known with certainty.

CANCELLATIONS

The stamps are known cancelled in manuscript "A.H.C." and also with a framed "PAID A.H.C." struck in red, also with pen strokes. The post also used an oval framed handstamp inscribed "CUMMING'S EXPRESS 2 CTS" with a locomotive in the centre; this handstamp occurs as a cover mark, struck in red.

DESCRIPTION OF ORIGINAL (55 L1, 2 & 3) (Illustration and diagram)

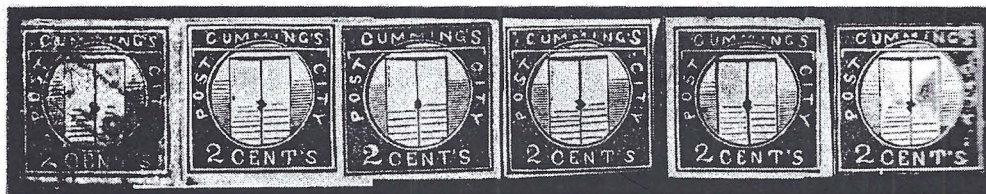
Typographed, probably from a wood engraving and printed on glazed surface coloured paper. The design shows a central circle with most of the back of a folded letter sheet. In the centre of the fold of the letter sheet is a heart shaped seal, and the point of the heart is directed to right. To the left of the letter fold are seven lines of varying length and to the right of the fold are six lines. In the left upper corner of the letter are five squarish dots, the upper three of which are almost touching or joined. Within the circle to left of the envelope are seventeen lines and to the right of the envelope are nineteen lines. At top and bottom of the stamp, outside the circle are inscriptions:—"CUMMING'S" (above) and "2 CENTS" (below). There is an apostrophe in "CUMMING'S" after the "G" and a white dot after the "T" of "CENTS". The top of the circle cuts off part of the letters "MMI" of "CUMMING'S". The "G" of that word has a short serif and tail.

The figure "2" has a curved footstroke which is detached from the rest of the figure. The upper curve of the "C" of "CENTS" is curved round to the left of the end of the lower curve. The stamp is a pretty crude production and looks a good deal less presentable than most of the forgeries.

2c. Black/Rose (55 L1)
2c. Black/Yellow (55 L3)

2c. Black/Green (55 L2)
2c. Black/Vermilion (Cummings erased)
(55 L8)

All on glazed surface coloured papers.



Genuine
Scott 55 L2

Forgery A

Forgery B

Forgery C

Forgery D

Forgery E

FORGERIES

FORGERY A (Illustration and diagram)

Typographed. The envelope has seven lines at left and six at right as in the originals. The seal is less heart shaped than in the original. In the left upper corner of the envelope are five dots rather more separated than in the original. Almost level with the top of the seal there is a sixth and larger dot in the left margin of the envelope. There are twenty-three lines inside the circle to left of the envelope and seventeen lines to its right. There is an apostrophe in "CUMMING'S" and a dot after the "T" of "CENTS". The footstroke of the figure "2" is not separate and the top curve of the "C" of "CENTS" does not curve round so much as in originals. The "G" of "CUMMING'S" has a longer tail than in the original. Noted in the following colours:—

Black/Green glazed surface coloured paper. BC Black on white wove paper.

FORGERY B (Illustration and diagram) TAYLOR FORGERY

Typographed. The envelope has five lines at left and six at right. The seal is oval shaped. There are twenty lines to left of the envelope and twenty-two lines to right. The "G" of "CUMMING'S" has a long tail. The top curve of the figure "2" is thick and the footstroke of the figure has a sloping turned up piece at its right end. This is Taylor's forgery and has been noted in the following colours:—

Black/Green glazed surface coloured paper. BC Black/Vermilion glazed surface paper.
BC Black/White wove paper.

FORGERY C (Illustration and diagram)

Typographed. The envelope has six lines each side of the fold. The lines are not all opposite each other and the top line at right is higher than the top line at left; there are five rather diamond shaped dots in the left upper margin of the envelope and a sixth dot or short line lower down almost opposite the seal. There are twenty-two lines to left of the envelope and twenty to right. The "G" of "CUMMING'S" has no cross bar to its lower curve and has a short sloping tail. The upper and lower curves of the "C" of "CENTS" almost meet and the figure "2" has a slightly bent footstroke, which turns up a little at its right end.

Noted in the following papers and colours:—

- | | | | |
|----|--------------------------------|-------------------|---------------------|
| A. | Glazed surface coloured paper. | | |
| | Black/Green. | Black/Yellow. | BC Black/Vermilion. |
| B. | Paper coloured through. | | |
| | Black/Pink. | BC Black/Flesh. | BC Blue/Grey. |
| | BC Black/Grey. | BC Black/Magenta. | |

FORGERY D (Illustration and diagram)

Typographed. Seven lines at left of envelope and six at right. Twenty-one lines to left of envelope and eighteen at right. The seal is heart shaped but the point of the heart is to left instead of to right as in originals. The "G" of "CUMMING'S" has no cross bar to its lower curve and has a short tail. The figure "2" has a long footstroke which is turned up almost at a right angle at its right hand end. There are no dots in the left upper margin of the envelope. Noted in:—

Black/Green glazed surface coloured paper.
BC Black/Vermilion glazed surface coloured paper.

FORGERY E (Illustration and diagram)

Typographed. Very similar to Forgery A and may have been copied from it or vice versa; seven lines at left of envelope, the top line having a small break; six lines at right of envelope. Twenty-three lines to left of the envelope and seventeen to its right. Four dots in upper left margin of envelope but no dot lower down. The "G" of "CUMMING'S" has no cross bar and has a short tail. Noted in:—

Black/Yellow glazed surface coloured paper.
Black/Green glazed surface coloured paper.
BC Black/Magenta paper coloured through.

DESCRIPTION OF ORIGINAL (55 L4 & 5) (Illustration and diagram)

Typographed. Square format with a double lined outer frame. In each of the four corners of the stamp there are six short lines and, in the apex of the corner, a small dark triangle. The



[By Courtesy of Elliot Perry]

Genuine
Actual

Forgery
Enlarged

central portion of the stamp has a cupid or Cherub within a single circle frame. Outside and round the circle is the inscription in a mixture of serified and unserified letters, reading, "CUMMING'S CITY POST 2 CENTS". There is an apostrophe in "CUMMING'S" and a period after "POST." The figure "2" is reversed. The "c" of "CUMMING'S" is oval in shape; the "g" has a distinct cross bar to its lower curve. The "t" of "CENTS" has lower serifs which are almost as long as the cross bar of the letter and make it appear rather more like a letter "l" than "t". The cupid is very badly drawn; the head is quite round and there is no sign of eye, ear or nose. The left hand and arm are visible but badly drawn the arm being too short and the hand very pudgy, with only three digits showing. The right leg, which is thin is extended and the Cupid appears to be balancing, sur les pointes like a ballet dancer, the toes resting on the circular frame between the "r" and "o" of "POST". The left leg, short and thick, is bent back at a right angle. A piece of drapery round the cupid's body appears to be rapidly coming adrift and a longer and shorter fold are hanging down in front. A wavy outline in front of the cupid's right leg appears to represent a cloud and there are 3-4 thin parallel lines, in the cloud. It is probable that the two Cupid stamps were intended to be used for Valentine deliveries. Of the three covers in the Caspary collection, two were on Valentine envelopes.

The stamp in the Cupid design occurs in two shades of green.

2c. Black/Green (55 L4)

2c. Black/Olive (55 L5).

FORGERY (Illustration and diagram)

Probably made by or for J. W. Scott and still figures, even in the 1964 catalogue, as the illustration of the type. It must be admitted that it is a much better production, as far as the central vignette, than the original. There are no dark triangles in the corners and there are seven lines in the S. W. Corner. The "c" of "CUMMING'S" is much narrower and more upright than the broad oval "c" of the original. The "g" has a much shorter cross bar. The figure "2", while reversed like the original is scarcely recognisable as a "2" and looks more like a reversed "1" sign. The "t" of "CENTS" has normal sized serifs and looks like a "t". On the other hand the Cupid's head is well drawn; there is an easily recognisable nose and eye and quite a lot of dark curly hair. The outstretched left arm and hand are better proportioned than that of the original; there is one digit sticking up at the top of the hand. The cloud has two round objects at its top edge and three parallel lines below.

2c. Black/Green.

DESCRIPTION OF ORIGINAL (55 L7) (Illustration)

Typographed. Printed in Black on vermilion glazed surface coloured paper. The stamp is of oval format. The centre consists of a figure "2" on a plain diamond, the long axis of which is horizontal. This is framed in an oval with eighteen horizontal and parallel background lines.



Scott 55 L7

Outside this is the inscription "CUMMING'S" (without apostrophe) above, and "CITY EXPRESS POST N.Y." below. "CUMMING'S" is in serified capitals and "CITY EXPRESS N.Y." in unserified capital letters. The stamp is very rare, few examples being known. The Caspary collection contained an uncanceled example on cover dated Nov. 1846, bearing two strikes of the Cumming's handstamp with locomotive.

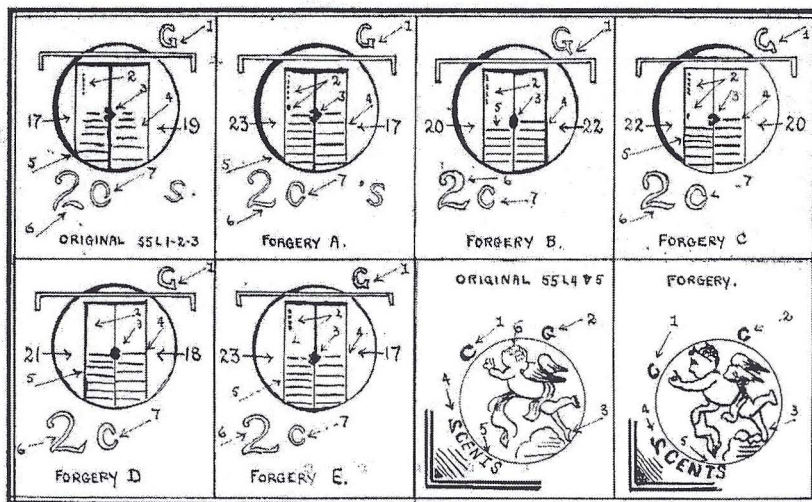
2c. Black/Vermilion.

No forgeries of Scott 55 L7 have been noted.

2c. Black/Vermilion (Scott 55 L8)

This stamp is in the type of 55 L1, 2 and 3 but has the name erased in the top label. There was an example on cover in the Caspary collection, ex Ferrari and possibly unique. The erasure of the name and the printing of the stamp in a new colour suggest that the post had been disposed of by Cummings but nothing is known of the name of the new proprietor.

The Caspary stamp was lightly pen cancelled on a Valentine cover, used locally and bearing a red double circle handstamp "CITY POST" with "2" in centre.



KEY TO DIAGRAMS

ORIGINAL

1. Small crossbar and tail.
2. Five squarish dots.
3. Regular heart shaped seal.
4. Six lines.
5. Seven lines.
6. Footstroke of "2" detached. Bends down at each end.
7. Upper curve of "C" reaches to left of lower curve.
8. Seventeen lines to left of letter; nineteen to right.

FORGERY A

1. Tall longer than in originals.
2. Five dots and a sixth larger one lower down.
3. Irregular heart shaped seal.
4. Six lines.
5. Seven lines.
6. Footstroke attached; turns up at right.
7. Curves of "C" end opposite each other.
8. Twenty-three lines at left and seventeen at right.

FORGERY B

1. Long tail to right.
2. Four dots or lines.
3. Oval seal.
4. Six lines.
5. Five lines.
6. Broad upper curve; footstroke attached and turns up at angle at right.
7. Space between ends of upper and lower curve endings.
8. Twenty lines at left; twenty two lines at right.

FORGERY C

1. No cross bar; thick tail slanting to right.
2. Five diamond shaped dots; a sixth larger one below.
3. Irregular heart shaped seal.
4. Six lines.
5. Six lines.
6. Footstroke attached; only slightly curved.
7. Ends of curves opposite and nearly touching.
8. Twenty-two lines at left and twenty at right.

FORGERY D

1. No cross bar; medium sized tail.
2. No dots in left upper margin of envelope.
3. Heart shaped seal with point of heart to left.
4. Six lines.
5. Seven lines.
6. Footstroke attached; straight with turned up piece at right.
7. Compare with original.
8. Twenty-one lines at left; eighteen lines at right.

FORGERY E

1. No cross bar; small tail.
2. Four dots.
3. Irregular heart shaped seal.
4. Six lines.
5. Seven lines; top line broken.
6. Footstroke attached; fairly straight, turned up slightly at right.
7. Compare with original.
8. Twenty-three lines at left and seventeen at right.

ORIGINAL 55 L4 and 5

1. Oval "C".
2. "G" with cross bar.
3. Thin right leg; standing on toe point.
4. Reversed "2".
5. Long lower serifs; looks like "T" instead of "T".
6. Round head; no delineation of nose or eye.

FORGERY OF 55 L4 and 5

1. Narrow "C".
2. "G" with only very small cross bar at right.
3. Foot standing on cloud; two round objects in front of foot.
4. Reversed "T" sign.
5. Normal "T" sign.
6. Nose and eye clearly showing; dark curly hair.

[To be continued]

The American Local and Carriers' Stamps—LXIX

A Study of the Forgeries, Reprints and Bogus Stamps

By DONALD S. PATTON

(continued from page 291)

DUPUY AND SCHENCK, NEW YORK CITY, N.Y.

This local post was formed during the latter half of 1845 or early in 1846 by Henry Dupuy (variously spelled Dupey or Depuy), and Jacob H. Schenck, both of whom had acted as letter carriers for the United States City Dispatch Post. Both men terminated their employment with the U.S. City Dispatch Post subsequent to 30 June 1845.

Schenck is listed as a "letter carrier" in the New York City directories, beginning in 1842 and Henry Dupuy is first recorded in the directories as a "letter carrier" in 1844. In 1844-5 both are listed as letter carriers and during that year their names appear on a pay roll record of the U.S. City Dispatch Post. In 1846 Dupuy appears under the heading of "Post Office"; in 1847 as "penny post" with address at 70 Wall Street and in 1848 again as penny post with address at 21 Cliff Street. During 1846-48 Dupuy lived across the East River in Williamsburgh, now in Brooklyn. Schenck appears in the directories between 1844-46 as "letter carrier", living at Orchard Street, New York. After 1846 Schenck's name appears as "clerk" under various addresses. Dupuy and Schenck issued the stamp with design of a beehive, inscribed "DUPUY & SCHENCK" above and "PENNY POST" below. The stamp was engraved and printed in black on greyish wove paper and also in black on whiter paper with a glazed surface. The stamps were usually pen-cancelled but examples are known cancelled with an unframed "PAID" handstamp. The post used also a handstamp in two lines, unframed, reading "DUPUY & SCHENCK/PENNY POST". This usually occurs struck on the cover and not as a cancellation.

DESCRIPTION OF ORIGINAL (Scott 60 L 1 & 2)

(Illustration and diagram)

Engraved. According to Perry (*One Hundred Years ago* p. 59) the frame was engraved separately for each subject after the remainder of the design had been transferred to an intaglio plate of unknown shape and size. The stamp is of small rectangular format. There are two frame lines, a thin outer one and much thicker inner one. In some of the frame varieties the thick inner frame lines are continued at one or other corner to join the thin outer frame line. Such varieties are undoubtedly constant positional characteristics but without knowledge of the formation of the plate no positions can be given.

The design of the stamp consists of an old fashioned Skep or bee-hive standing on a platform with two legs. Above the hive is the inscription, "DUPUY & SCHENCK" in unserifed capitals. Below the hive is "PENNY POST" in decorated serified capitals. The letters are shaded and the decoration consists of small circles within the letters. The bee-hive is divided into eight segments by horizontal lines. The segments are shaded also by horizontal lines and, at the left side of the hive also by oblique cross hatching. There is less, or lighter, shading in the right halves of the 5th to 8th segments (counting from above). The opening of the hive is represented by a narrow upright solidly shaded rectangle in the middle of the 8th segment and extending upwards into the lower $\frac{1}{4}$ of the 7th segment. There is some light vertical shading in the right half of the hive support or platform. To the left of the hive are some foliage and flowers; these are lightly engraved, not always very easily seen but four distinct flowers can usually be counted. There are similar foliage and flowers to the right of the hive and here five flowers can be counted. There is some very dark shading between the hive and the lower flowers. There is dark shading to the right of each leg of the hive but the left outline of each leg is formed by the cut off ends of the horizontal lines of shading below the hive. The ampersand and the shape of the letter "k" in "SCHENCK" are typical and none of the forgeries have reproduced them correctly. In the letter "p" of "PENNY" the ornamentation in the upright stroke consists of three black tear shaped marks, the upper and lower of which are in line vertically; the middle one is shifted to the right. The extra frame line, the method of printing and the characteristics enumerated above make the original quite easy to distinguish.

No denomination is expressed on the stamp but its value was 1c.

- 1c. Black on white glazed surface paper (Scott 60 L 1)
- 1c. Black on greyish wove paper (Scott 60 L2)

FAKES

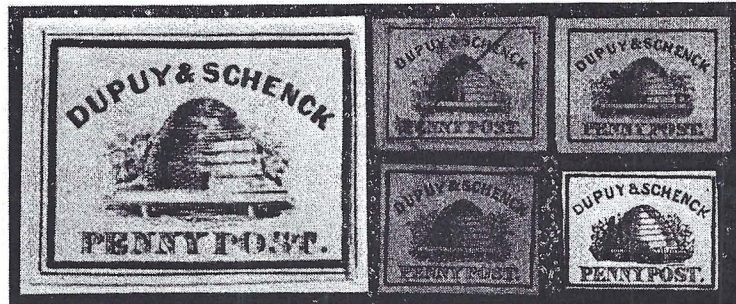
The more convincing forgeries are sometimes encountered with a thin outer frame line inked or drawn in and such deceptions are occasionally tied to a cover of the period by pen-strokes or other faked cancellation.

FORGERIES

FORGERY A (Illustration and diagram)

Lithographed. Printed on thin wove paper coated with a greyish surface colour, in a sheet of 30 subjects (six horizontal rows of five). There is no thin outer frame line. The hive has only seven segments and the hive opening does not extend upwards beyond the lowest

Forgery A (faked) Forgery A



Genuine

Forgery B

Forgery C

segment. The hive platform is shaded uniformly along its entire length by short vertical lines. There are four distinct flowers to the left of the hive and five to the right, plus a certain amount of foliage. Each leg of the hive support has one vertical line of shading in it. The shading below the hive is cross hatched. The three dark blobs in the upright of "P" of "PENNY" are vertically in line. The cross hatched shading on the hive itself extends into the upper right half of the hive. In originals it is on the left side only.

There are many minor constant flaws by which individual sheet positions can be plated. For example position 6 shows a dark flaw to left of the hive below the "U" of "DUPUY". Position 28 shows a linear scratch through the lower part of the upright of "P" of "PENNY".

This forgery is sometimes encountered with faked thin outer frame line. It was made by Hussey or by Woods for Hussey. The black varies from deep to greyish. Late printings from the stone, showing much wear, are met with.

1c. Black/Grey toned paper. (Black varies from deep to greyish).

FORGERY B (Illustration and diagram) (SCOTT FORGERY)

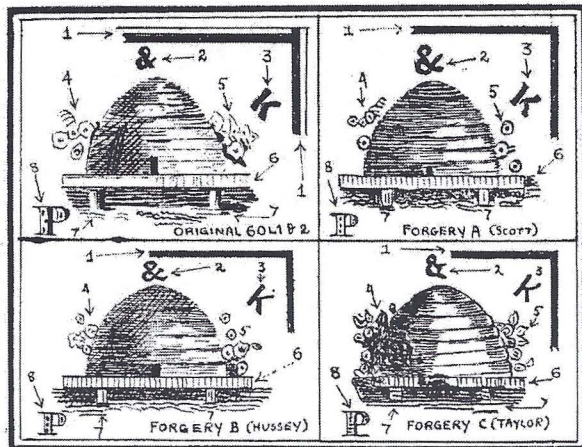
Typographed. Printed in Black on wove paper surface coloured a brownish grey. The paper is unglazed. There is no thin outer frame line. The hive has only seven segments and the hive opening is small and is represented by three or four dark lines in the centre of the lowest segment and reaching up to about $\frac{1}{4}$ of the segment. The whole length of the hive support is shaded with short vertical lines. There are two short vertical lines in the left leg of the support and one in the right. The three dark circles in the upright of "P" of "PENNY" are vertically aligned. There are four flowers at left of the hive and three at right.

1c. Black on brownish grey surface coloured paper. Unglazed.

FORGERY C

(Illustration and diagram)
(TAYLOR FORGERY)

Typographed. There are seven segments in the hive. All segments have four to five short horizontal lines of shading at their right hand



edge, forming a band of shading down the right side of the hive. The centre and remainder of the hive is unshaded and appears very white by comparison; the left half of the hive is darkly shaded and this dark shading runs into the foliage at left of the hive. About five flowers can be distinguished at left and a number of flowers and leaves at right. The opening of the hive is confused and is represented by a dark blur of heavy shading about the middle of the hive platform and above it. Both legs of the hive support have two horizontal lines of shading.

The upright of the "P" of "PENNY" has five or six dark dots or lines in it. This is Taylor's forgery and occurs in a number of colours. It also occurs in heavier and lighter printings.

Noted in the following colours:—

Black/White wove paper.

Bogus Colours

- A. Wove paper.
 Blue. Brown. Yellow. Orange. Mauve.
 Bronze. Green. Violet.
- B. Coloured papers (coloured through).
 Black/Green. Blue/Lavender.
- C. Glazed surface coloured paper.
 Black/Magenta.

KEY TO DIAGRAMS

ORIGINAL

1. Thick inner and thin outer frame line.
2. Note typical shape of ampersand.
3. Note typical shape of "K".
4. Four distinct flowers.
5. Five distinct flowers.
6. Right hand of hive support is open.
7. Left edge of leg formed by ends of shading lines. One vertical line in each leg.
8. Middle ornament in vertical of "P" aligned to right of top and bottom ornaments.

FORGERY A (Hussey)

1. Thick outer frame only.
2. Note shape of ampersand. Comparison.
3. Compare "K" with original.
4. Four flowers.
5. Three flowers.
6. Right end of hive support closed.
7. Two vertical lines in left leg; one in right.
8. Three ornaments in vertical alignment.

FORGERY B (Scott)

1. Thick outer frame line only.
2. Note shape of ampersand. Comparison.
3. Compare "K".
4. Four flowers.
5. Five flowers.
6. Right end of hive support closed.
7. One vertical line in left leg and two in right leg.
8. Three dark decorations in vertical alignment.

FORGERY C (Taylor)

1. Thick outer frame line only.
2. Compare ampersand.
3. Compare "K".
4. 9-10 flowers and leaves in lightly printed examples; confused dark shading in heavily printed copies.
5. 7-8 leaves and flowers.
6. End of support closed.
7. Two horizontal lines in each leg.
8. 5-6 dots and lines.

[To be continued]

Review

British Commonwealth of Nations. Pages: 882 (5"×8"). Illustrated. Price: 27/6. Postage U.K.: 1/6 Abroad 2/1. Published by Stanley Gibbons Ltd., 391 Strand, London, W.C.2.

The new S.G. Part One, 1965 Edition, is always sure of its annual welcome with more pages containing more stamps and more rises in prices—some very sharp. No country has been re-written, but there are several interesting additions: the *G.B.* first Q.V Fourpenny has been completely re-listed, the *Bermuda* "Postmasters" now include the Crown Circle of St. Georges and Hamilton, and the unique *Canada* New Carlisle Postmaster's envelope finds a place. *Newfoundland's* perforations have been separated into greater detail, while in *Tanganyika* the 1914 "Mafia" issues are listed.

New countries take their places and equally so do the old-new territories of Northern Rhodesia, Nyasaland and Southern Rhodesia who since the break-up of their Federation resume issuing their own stamps.

Beginners in the hobby can take heart from the Editorial that stresses the continued increasing demand for fine stamps of *all* issues—so that we can be confident for the future of our very lively hobby so ably aided by this Part One.

R.G.P.

A GREEK COLLECTION STOLEN

One of our readers has notified us that his collection of the early classic stamps of Greece mounted in ten booklets about 8"×5" and containing approximately 500 stamps has been stolen. The collection comprises the first Hermes heads 1861-82 with proofs and essays and a fine lot of Paris and 1st Athens printings including mint, used and pairs, later printings with the errors and varieties of figures. The nineteenth century cancellations are very complete in both numeral and circular dated types, the former including the scarce numbers "52", "101", "104", "122" and "126".

The American Local and Carriers' Stamps—LXX

A Study of the Forgeries, Reprints and Bogus Stamps

By DONALD S. PATTON

(Continued from page 7)

CLARKE'S CIRCULAR EXPRESS, NEW YORK CITY, N.Y.

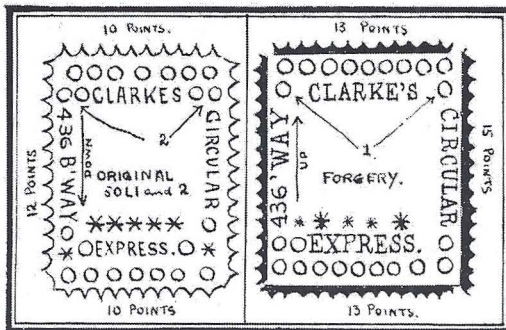
The post was founded by Marion M. Clarke to carry circulars. It was probably only in existence for a short time, perhaps for about a year, from 1866-67. Perry (*Pat Paragraphs*, pp. 1703-1706) records a listing for 1866-67 under Marion M. Clarke, in the *New York City Directory* as "Express, 436 Broadway". The *Directory* for 1867-70 lists Clarke as "Advertising" at the same address. A copy of the stamp in the Caspary collection was dated April, 1867. The post issued a stamp, which was printed from a typographed stereo through inked ribbon on to rather coarse porous paper, in blue and in black. Both stamps are now very rare and few copies are believed to exist.* The cancellation of the post, also struck through a ribbon, was a dated double circle, inscribed "CLARKE'S EXPRESS" (above) and "436 B'WAY" (below) between the circles, with date, as "APR-15-1867", in the centre. The cancellation was struck in black or in blue.



Genuine (enlarged) Forgery (actual)

stamp (above "CLARKE'S" and below "EXPRESS"). There are two similar circular ornaments at each side of "CLARKE'S" and one similar ornament and an asterisk at each side of "EXPRESS". There are five asterisks in a row above "EXPRESS". No value is expressed on the stamp but it is believed to have been of 1c. denomination.

(1c.) Black



(1c.) Blue

FORGERY

(Illustration and diagram)

Typographed. Of much better appearance than the originals. The inscription at left, "436 B'WAY", reads upwards, which at once condemns the production. Between the corners the border has thirteen points at top and bottom and fifteen points at each side. There are nine circular ornaments in the top and bottom rows; one at each side of "CLARKE'S"; two at the left of "EXPRESS" and one at the right, with five small stars above. The 2nd and 5th stars are larger than the others.

* It has been stated that less than a dozen genuine copies are known.—Editor.

[To be continued]

Reviews

UNITED STATES

The 1851-57 Twelve Cent Stamp. Price \$4. Obtainable from the publishers, The Collectors Club, 22 East 35th Street, New York 16, New York, U.S.A.

The Collectors Club of New York has just published a handbook on the twelve cents, 1851-57 of the United States. This is a companion to the study on the ten cent stamps of 1855-59 by the same author, Mr. Mortimer L. Neinken, published in 1960.

Originally published in the Collectors Club Philatelist in a series of articles, the work has been brought up to date with many revisions. It is now presented in an eighty page book with sixty-five illustrations, of which forty-five are full page. These show clearly the characteristics of every position in the sheet of Plate One.

It can be said that the study of Plate One has now been finished, a remarkable achievement. Some progress has been made in the plating of the perforated Plate Three.

No student of United States stamps should fail to have a copy of this book, which is splendidly illustrated and produced.

MALTA NEWS-LETTER Vol. 4, No. 7

The current copy of this well-informed Study Circle periodical is full of news of recent discoveries, forthcoming issues and members' correspondence that reveal how very active is this group of enthusiasts.

There is interest in an article on the life and prices of the Q.V. 4d. imperforate that has ranged from 1893 disbelief at fourpence to 1964 satisfaction at £290. Short informative items on Village Handstamps, the Derivations of Maltese Names, Saint Agatha—a new Saint for philatelists—and a most unusual enquiry into which of the Malta Post Offices rises first in the morning . . . indicates the lively appeal of some of the contents.

Further details and membership enquiries about the Malta Study Circle can be obtained from J. G. C. Lander, 13 Bucks Avenue, Oxley, Watford, Herts.

R.G.P.

The American Local and Carriers' Stamps—LXXI

A Study of the Forgeries, Reprints and Bogus Stamps

By DONALD S. PATTON

(Continued from page 32)

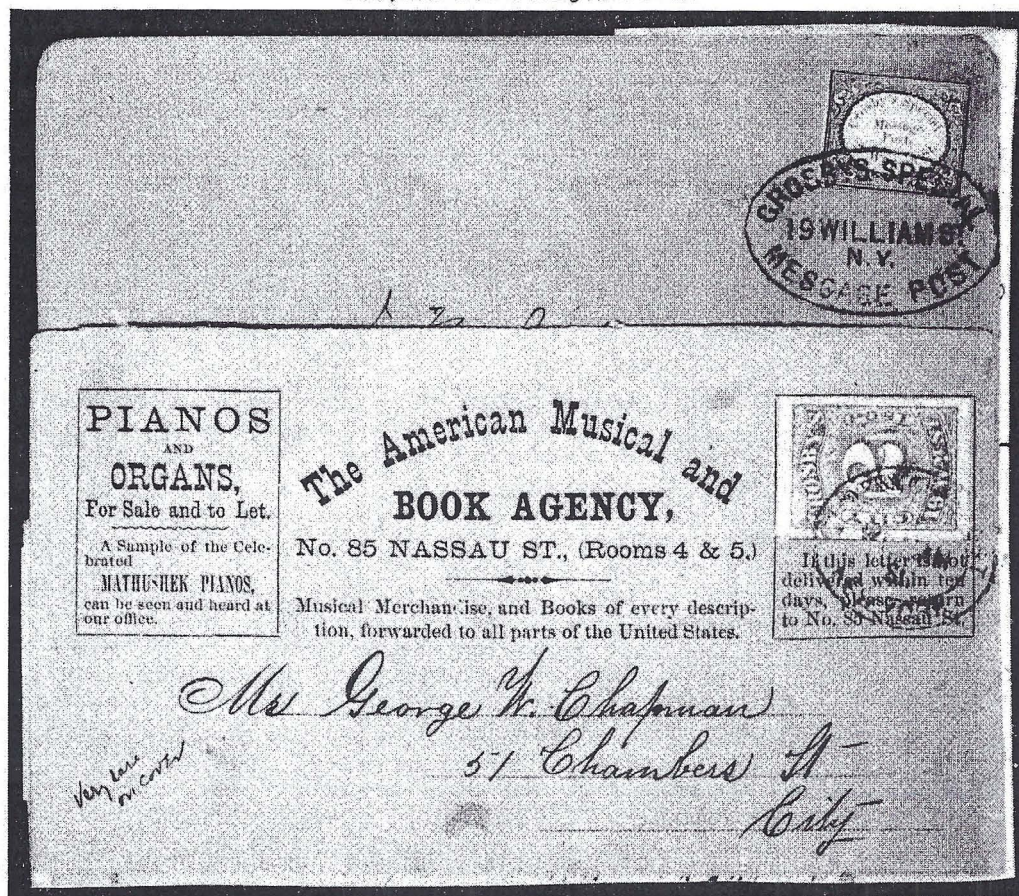
CROSBY'S CITY POST, NEW YORK CITY, N.Y.

This local city post, with office at 19 William Street, was in operation during 1870-71. The post delivered letters and circulars throughout the city. Its proprietor was one Oliver H. Crosby. It is doubtful if the post lasted long, either due to lack of business or to government opposition. The Scott Specialised Catalogue lists two stamps of the post—54 L1 and 54 L2. A single example of the former is known used on cover but Elliott Perry doubts the authenticity of this stamp and considers it to have been a product of Samuel Allan Taylor's misplaced inventiveness. Certainly it exists in colours other than that listed under 54 L1 in the catalogue.

The second stamp (54 L2) with large figure "2" in the centre and inscriptions reading "CROSBY'S CITY POST 19 WM. ST." is known legitimately used on ordinary commercial covers. This stamp was printed, and perhaps designed, by J. W. Scott, who was then in business at 75 and 77 Nassau Street, as a stamp dealer.

DESCRIPTION OF 54 L1 (Illustration)

Typographed in carmine and other colours on wove and other papers. Rectangular format. The design consists of a horizontal oval with plain ground framed by a chain of shaded pearls. There are forty-eight pearls in the border. The remainder of the stamp consists of a horizontally lined background with a scroll type ornament in each corner. The whole is framed by a thick outer and thin inner line with white space between the two lines. The inscriptions, all within the central oval, read "CROSBY'S SPECIAL" (round top of oval), "MESSAGE POST" (across centre of oval) and "29 WILLIAM ST." (round bottom of oval).

The faked cover bearing Scott 54 L1*Genuine cover bearing Scott 54 L2*

[by courtesy of Elliott Perry]

The stamp is known in the following colours and papers:

- (2c.) Carmine (the colour as given under 54 L1).
- (2c.) Black/Lavender surface coloured paper.
- (2c.) Red/Lavender surface coloured paper.
- (2c.) Black/Pale Lilac-Grey fancy paper. The paper is surface coloured and is diagonally ribbed on the surface. In addition it has an overprint in gold of four-leaf-clover shapes with gold dots between. Other Taylor made products have been seen on similar fancy paper.

DESCRIPTION OF ORIGINAL (54 L2) (Illustration and diagram)

Typographed in sheet of 25 (5×5) in shades of carmine on white wove paper. The sheet bears a single imprint in the left lateral margin, which reads "ENGRAVED BY J. W. SCOTT & CO., 75 and 77 NASSAU ST., N.Y.". This stamp unused is not scarce and can be found in several shades varying from pink to dark carmine. There is also some variation in the thickness of the paper. Some sheets were gummed by hand but the majority of sheets encountered are without gum and are probably from remainder stock marketed by Scott after the post had ceased business. The centre of the design consists of a large figure "2" superimposed on a shield, the upper part of which has vertical background lines. The lower part of the shield has five vertical panels shaded with three vertical rows of dots. Between these panels are vertical and parallel lines. Above the figure is a label with the word "CROSBY'S" in white letters on a solid background. Below the figure is a label with "19 WM ST" also in white letters on a dark ground. The letters of the upper and lower inscription are serified capitals. At each side of the figure is a small label with, at left, "CITY" and, at right, "POST" in dark unserified capitals on a white ground. The remainder of the background of the stamp consists of small lines, dots and

patterns in colour on a white ground. There is a small leaf shaped ornament below each end of the bottom label. There is a single thin frame line round the stamp.

2c. Carmine (Shades).



A sheet of the original Scott 54 L2



Genuine (enlarged)

Genuine

Forgery A

Forgery B

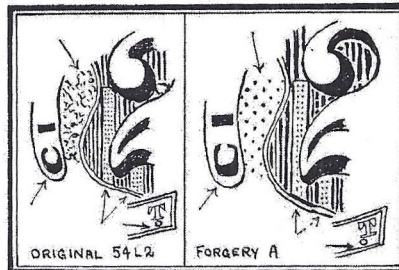
FORGERY A (Illustration and diagram)

Typographed. The design is a fairly close copy of the original. The letters of the upper and lower inscriptions are somewhat thinner than those of the originals. In the lower inscription the small white ball below the "t" of "ST" lies below the left hand lower serif of the letter, instead of below the vertical stroke as in originals. The "c" of "CITY" is squarer than in the original, where it is oval shaped. The vertical panels of the shield have only two vertical rows of dots, instead of three. The general background of the stamp consists of symmetrically arranged small diamond shaped dots. The outer frame line is considerably thicker than that of the genuine stamp.

This forgery was the work of Taylor and, as usual, occurs in a variety of colours and papers. Noted in the following colours and papers:

Dark Carmine	Orange	Ochre	Violet
Pink	Green	Chocolate	Slate

All the above are on white wove paper.
Carmine on lavender surface coloured paper.

**FORGERY B** (Illustration)

Typographed. This is almost a bogus production, the design being a copy of Browne & Co. 2c. stamp, of Cincinnati. The large figure "2" is double lined and is superimposed on an oval with background of horizontal lines. "CROSBY'S" is in unserifed capitals with an attempt at decoration of the letters. "CITY" and "POST" are in large white serifed capitals on a label with a dark ground, and there is a small white ball at top and bottom of each label. The bottom label is straight instead of curved and the inscription, in white letters on a dark ground, reads: "-19 W^m ST.". The background of the rest of the stamp consists of vertical parallel lines; there are two frame lines, an outer and an inner. This forgery is also probably by Taylor and is met with in the following colours:

Brown Orange Blue

[To be continued]

Reviews

PERU, Postal Cancellations 1857-1873, By George Lamy and Jacques-Andre Rinck. Pages 236 (6½"×10"). Illustrated. Published by Audin and Co., 3 rue Marius-Audin, Lyon, France.

This is the second edition of the original "*A Study of the Postal Cancellations of Peru*" published in May 1960. Following considerable correspondence with other specialist collectors, including D. M. Bolton of London, the authors have introduced information on ninety-four new cancellations plus fifty-three further coloured examples. Twenty-nine new types of cancellations have been added to the hundred and forty-one in the first edition and, by special request, a graphic reproduction of the abbreviated cancellations of the series of HUA... offices which are difficult to identify.

There is further information on forged cancellations to link with two plates illustrating them.

Covers shown on the colour plates reveal the attractions of the often remarkable cancelling designs used by the postal services, with the monochrome plates and illustrations in the text fully supporting the written descriptions and aiding visualisation in the section of comparative rarity.

The text is now in four languages: French, English, Spanish, with German added in this edition. This testifies to the merit and international importance of this finely produced volume.

BIRDS, BEASTS AND HUMANS

Those handy catalogues to stamps featuring the thematic attractions of Birds and Beasts, Flowers, Scouts and Sports have just appeared in their new 1965 editions. Each of the three volumes is in the format of pocketbooks 5" by 7", stiff card covers and priced at 6 francs apiece.

Flowers runs to 119 pages, Animals and Birds to 158 pages and Scouts and Sport to 156 pages. Stamps are listed from first issues to the most recent, identified by Yvert and Tellier 1965 numbers and published by Brun et Fils, 84-85 Galerie Beaujolais, Palais Royal, Paris 1, France.

Obtainable in this country from Harris Publications, 27 Maiden Lane, London, W.C.2.
R.G.P.

The American Local and Carriers' Stamps—LXXII

A Study of the Forgeries, Reprints and Bogus Stamps

By DONALD S. PATTON

(Continued from page 54)

Local Posts in Buffalo, N.Y. — Cutting's Despatch Post, Buffalo, New York

Thomas S. Cutting was an Englishman, born in Sussex, in 1810 who had emigrated to America in 1831, living, first at Utica, N.Y. until 1836 and then moving to Buffalo where he followed his trade as cabinet maker. In May 1845 he opened, in Buffalo, an "Intelligence Office and General Office" and it appears from the advertisements issued in the ensuing years that Cutting was a versatile and resourceful man, pursuing many activities, such as the Sale and renting of houses, collection of rents, domestic help agency, sale of stocks, agent for "public singers and others". In addition Cutting was acting as agent for the first City Directory published by the "Commercial Advertiser" and also issued his own directory (the first and last one) in the following year—1848. His advertisements also indicate that he acted on occasion as a marriage bureau.

In January 1847 Cutting advertised in the Commercial Advertiser the establishment of his "Despatch Post". The advertisement was couched in the following terms:—

"TO THE PUBLIC—The subscriber, desirous to devote his services for the benefit of the citizens of Buffalo, has established at his office a Despatch Post, for the prompt delivery of Letters and Parcels to any part of the city. Postage in letters, two cents.

THOMAS S. CUTTING

P.S. It is designed to have boxes in different parts of the city."

With an eye to increased business a further advertisement stated that, on St. Valentines Day, the number of Despatch Post Messengers would be increased "to the number of twenty, if required, for the purpose of delivering Valentines, at the residence of those to whom they are addressed." The charge for Valentines was increased to 3 cents, which had to be prepaid. An advertisement promoting the post appeared in the 1847 issue of the *Buffalo City Directory* (published May 1847).

The last recorded advertisement of the post appeared in the issue of the *Commercial Advertiser* for July 2 1847, as follows:—

"THE subscriber offers his services, for the prompt and punctual delivery of Letters received at the Buffalo Post Office, to such persons in the city who do not retain their boxes. Those who wish to employ him can rely on a faithful discharge of the duty.

THOMAS S. CUTTING

July 2 Penny Post and Intelligence Office"

This advertisement, repeated several times, may have been prompted by the appearance of a competitor in the field—"Spaulding's Penny Post".

Cutting's and Spaulding's posts appear to have existed in competition until June 1 1848, when Spaulding announced the purchase of Cutting's Despatch Post.

Cutting appears mainly to have relied for his business on the delivery of local intra-city mail, either from the Post Office or local letters dropped in his office for distribution. No proof has ever been forthcoming that he fulfilled his expressed intention of erecting collection boxes. Nor did his advertisements ever mention the issue of adhesive stamps for prepayment of delivery fees. Indeed Cutting's Valentine advertisement of February 1847 states that postage had to be prepaid with the letters and that these would be accepted at the office or in the letter box in the door of his office. This was situated on Washington Street, between Swan and Seneca Streets. Cutting used an oval framed handstamp inscribed "CUTTING'S DESPATCH POST" usually struck in blue,

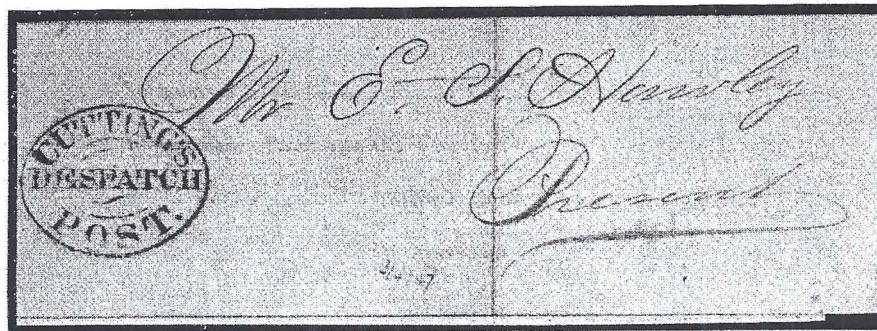


Fig. A

occasionally in green. The earliest recorded date of use of this handstamp is February 19 1847 and is noted by Pitt Petri (*Private Local Posts in Buffalo Collectors Club Philatelist* Vol. XXXII pp 77-92). Other stampless covers bearing Cutting's handstamp are known with dates in 1847.

A single cover is recorded bearing an adhesive of Cutting's Post. This cover, dated July 26 was addressed to a local Buffalo resident. The stamp, which bears a great resemblance to the stamp of Hanford's Pony Express, was cut to shape and not tied. It is printed in Black/Vermillion paper and is inscribed "CUTTINGS DESPATCH POST 2 CTS".

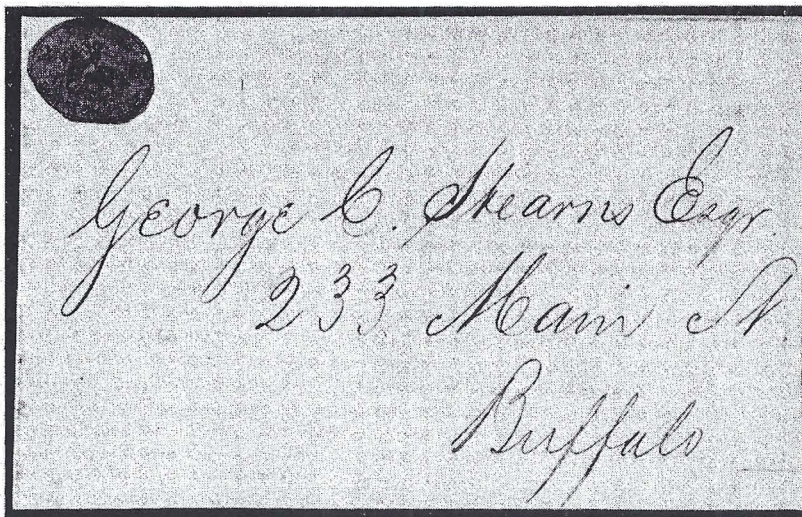


Fig. B

No letters have ever come to light which show delivery or collection of government mail by Cutting and all the recorded covers are local delivery letters only. No further example of Cutting's adhesive, either on or off cover has as yet been discovered.

In January 1849, seven months after he had disposed of his interest in the Despatch Post to Spaulding, Cutting advertised that he would resume the "*Dispatch Post, with the addition of a City Express, for the delivery of Parcels and Packages, to any part of the city*". There is, however, no evidence that Cutting did, in fact re-open the Post—whether due to protests from Spaulding or to some other reason—is not known. No further advertisements referred to Cutting's Post and it is apparent that Cutting had withdrawn from the Penny Post field.

Cutting continued his various activities from the 215 Washington Street address until 1859-60 when he is listed in the directory as "*General Agent and Process Server*" at 152 Main Street and, after his admission to the bar in 1863, as "*Lawyer*". He died, aged 71, of a stroke, on October 29 1881.

[Editorial Note: In the final portion of *The Local Posts in Buffalo* an acknowledgement of the debt of both author and publisher to Mr. Pitt Petri is given for his remarkable work].

Correction

Foot of page 53, December issue, captions should read:
54 L1 (enlarged). 54 L2, Forgery A, Forgery B

VIENNA 1965

The value of the Exhibits entered so far for the International Stamp Exhibition scheduled to take place from the 4th to the 13th June 1965 is estimated at 800 millions of Austrian Schillings.

H.M. Queen Elizabeth II has graciously agreed to show part of her collection.

The British Commissioner is Mr. A. Cyril Andrews of Stanley Gibbons Ltd, who will welcome all enquiries.

Letter to the Editor

EARLY INDIAN CANCELLATIONS

Dear Sir,—I had often wondered why Jal 'omitted' Renouf type 143/143a from his Early Indian Cancellations; this omission is now explained in his letter, by his confusing the 'Traveller' with the 'Static'; his illustration 'A', and reference to R-27 IN/SET No. 1, and S-16 IN/SET No. 1, are Renouf 143a, or 143 where circles are 18/20 mm., and are 'Travellers'; the remainder are 'Static' Offices, which to the India Study Circle are known as the Kevan types, after the gentleman who did a lot of research linking Cooper's 24d as illustrated in his Book, with the later 'killer' types of 'Static' RMS Offices, using coded references, and later both coded and named stations in the same strike.

Jal had advice of these Kevan types, being an Hon. Member of the Study Circle himself.

Yours faithfully,

RICHARD S. RING.

The American Local and Carriers' Stamps—LXXIII

A Study of the Forgeries, Reprints and Bogus Stamps

By DONALD S. PATTON

(Continued from page 81)

SPAULDING'S PENNY POST

Enos Wilder Spaulding, born June 1812 in Moreton, Vermont, had studied for the ministry and was licensed to preach in the Methodist Episcopal Church but it is not known whether he ever accepted a position as a preacher. It is stated, in one of his advertisements, that at one time he was an assistant postmaster "in one of the principal post offices of New England". Date and place, however, are not known.

In 1845 Spaulding was resident in Buffalo where he was publisher of the *Impetus*, a short lived journal, which existed for about six months during the summer of 1845. In the following year he was acting as office agent of an equally ephemeral temperance paper, "The Western Cataract", published in Buffalo by L. P. Judson.

On July 4th 1847 Spaulding's Penny Post was opened at 4 Seneca Street near Main Street and only a few doors from the post office on the NW corner of Washington and Seneca Street.

During the previous week Buffalo Postmaster H. K. Smith had announced in the Commercial Advertiser (June 30) an increase in the rental rates for boxes to 50 cents (in order to produce revenue for employment of additional clerks) Spaulding, in his advertisement of the formation of his Penny Post, charged 37½ cents a quarter for his boxes. His advertisement reads as follows:—

"SPAULDING'S PENNY POST.

NEW POST OFFICE. SPAULDING'S Penny Post, No. 4 Seneca St, charges 37½ cents per quarter for a box—one shilling less than the Government office—Letters one cent each. Newspapers free."

In November Spaulding increased his postal rates to 2 cents for a letter and the rental for his boxes to 50 cents per quarter.

In June 1848 Spaulding announced the purchase of Cuttings Despatch Post.

At some time between May 1848 and June 1849 Spaulding moved from 4 Seneca Street to a new office "4 doors below the post office on Washington Street" probably 195½ Washington St. on the east side of the street.

On October 9 1849 the purchase of Spaulding's Penny Post by William Hinwood and Frederick W. Robinson was announced, the post continuing under the name of Hinwood and Co. Dispatch.

As with Cutting's Despatch Post very little material from Spaulding's Penny Post has survived.

During the period when Spaulding was charging a rate of 1 cent for letter delivery a handstamp whose design is a replica of a 1 cent coin, was in use.



Fig. C

This is recorded struck in red. Two or three copies of Spaulding's handstamp are known with dates May 20 1848 and May 5 1849, the latter struck in black.

In November 1847, after Spaulding had increased his postal rate to 2 cents for a letter, the words "ONE CENT" were erased from the "coin" handstamp and the altered handstamp has been recorded on a letter of December 1847.

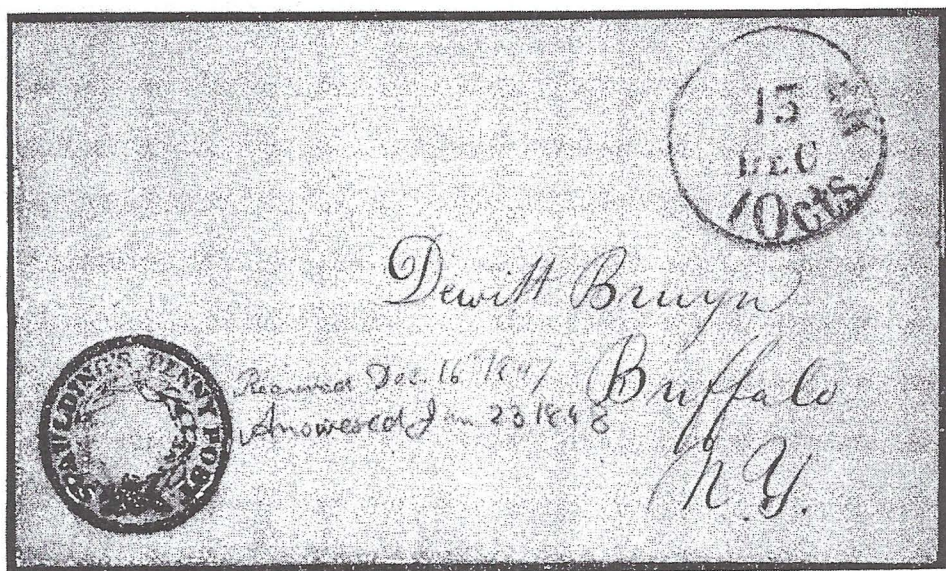


Fig. D

The adhesives issued by Spaulding date from the period when, or after, he had raised the letter delivery rate to 2 cents.

The design of the adhesive used by Spaulding is very similar to that of the stamp of Gordon's City Express, New York. Both stamps show a messenger with letter in hand, framed in a double circle and with rectangular frame outside the circle. Inscriptions of Spaulding's stamp read



Fig. E

"SPAULDING'S PENNY POST" and the value of the stamp "2 CTS". Up till the 1950's only one cover was known bearing this stamp; it is dated July 16 1848. The stamp is printed in vermilion on white wove paper. Later a second cover with an adhesive was found and in this case the stamp shows the letter carrier design in circle and square surrounded by a scroll frame and the following inscription between the scroll frame and the square;

LETTERS TO THE CARE OF/SPAULDING'S PENNY POST/
ARE DELIVERED AS ADDRESSED/ WITH DISPATCH

This stamp is printed in pale carmine on creamy wove paper. Examination of the two stamps shows that each is from a different printing and that Type I is not merely a "cut down" specimen of Type II. The square frame of Type I is formed by two parallel lines whilst that of Type II is formed of a single line. Although the cover bearing Type II does not show any date, Petri (*ibid*) states that the Buffalo c.d.s. on this cover has not been found on letters prior to 1849 and therefore that it is fairly safe to assume that Type II followed Type I. Spaulding also used a handstamp in the design of the second adhesive and this is recorded struck in black on covers of 1848 date.

Petri (*ibid*) is of opinion that the Spaulding design preceded Gordon's. The earliest recorded Spaulding "letter carrier" handstamp is on a cover dated May 20 1848. The earliest recorded date for a cover of Gordon's City Express is July 8 1848.

HINWOOD & CO'S DISPATCH

The only proof of the existence of Hinwood & Co's Dispatch so far, is the advertisement of October 9 1849 announcing the purchase of Spaulding's business and the establishment of the firm of Hinwood & Co's Dispatch, by William Hinwood and Frederick William Robinson. This advertisement has been found in the *Buffalo Commercial Advertiser* and the *Daily Courier* as late as April 9 1850. According to the advertisement adhesives were issued but so far none have been reported or noted. The post has never been listed in the *Scott Specialised Catalogue*

Hinwood & Robinson's advertisement (illustrated in full in the Petri article) states that "*Penny Post Stamps are for sale at the office at 25 cents per dozen*".

Hinwood & Co's last advertisement was dated April 9 1850. As the city directories were published about mid June it may be assumed that the post ceased to exist sometime between those two dates.

In Pat Paragraphs page 1711 under the heading of "Ancient Frauds", Elliot Perry wrote as follows:—



Fig. F

"BUFFALO CITY DESPATCH POST; No information but is believed to be fraudulent. The cancellation is a rectangular frame enclosing "PAID" over "B.C.D.P." (Buffalo City Despatch Post). This curio exists printed in dull red, pen cancelled and tied by the "paid" rectangle (in red) to a U.S. 3c. buff envelope of 1853 used from Buffalo."

The late George Sloane also described one of the stamps, illustrated by Perry as being printed in black on green paper coloured through and also in black on white paper. The stamp illustrated by Perry bears a distinct resemblance to the adhesive of Frazer and Co's City Despatch Post of Cincinnati, Ohio (Scott Type L 146).

In the light of the fact that a City Dispatch Post existed in Buffalo in the early 1850's there is just the possibility that the stamps described may, after all, have been genuine adhesives or at least replicas of a stamp which existed but which has, as yet not been reported.

ACKNOWLEDGMENT: The above account of the Private Local Posts in Buffalo is condensed from an article by Pitt Petri which appeared in the *Collector's Club Philatelist*, Vol. XXXII, pages 77-92. Mr. Petri's article is a model of excellent and thorough research carried out on the spot by a competent philatelist and postal historian. It might well serve as an example to other American philatelists and postal historians as to what can be done by painstaking and patient research into local source material. The illustrations have been provided through the courtesy of Mr. Petri.

(To be continued)

AWARDS—continued from page 99

CLASS FOUR — THEMATIC COLLECTIONS

Gold Awards: None.

Silver Gilt: U.P.U. (Ernest F. Hugen).

Silver: Airmail-Rocket Mails (Miss Margaret I. Watson), The Gilbert and Sullivan Islands (Ian T. Hamilton).

Bronze: Art—New Zealand Maori Emblems (H. L. Bartrop), Music and Folklore (P. Bol).

CLASS FIVE — PHILATELIC LITERATURE

Gold Awards: Hong Kong (Colonel F. W. Webb).

Silver Gilt: Great Britain (Ernest C. Ehrmann), Australia (Professor V. W. Dix), Crete (Brigadier H. L. Lewis), Germany (Dr. Donald S. Patton), Spain* (Ronald T. Purves), U.S.A. (Dr. Donald S. Patton), Great Britain (Alan W. Robertson), British Commonwealth (F. E. Metcalfe).

Silver: Great Britain* (F. C. Holland), Great Britain (R. A. G. Lee), Great Britain (Dr. Donald S. Patton), Channel Islands (O. W. Newport and O. J. Simpson), U.S.A. (Robert G. Woodall), New Zealand (Campbell Paterson), Switzerland (H. L. Katcher).

Bronze: Great Britain (Raymond Lister), Orange Free State (A. G. M. Batten), Spain (Ronald G. Shelley), Sport (Ernest W. Trory), Royal Family (Cyril R. H. Parsons), General (Mrs. Kay Horowicz).

* With the congratulations of the judges.

THE LAST POST

Major FRED ORME, the well-known collector, died at the age of seventy on 25th January. He was especially interested in the postal history and postage stamps of Malta and on the occasion of the centenary of the first adhesive postage stamp of the George Cross Island produced an excellent monograph on the many printings of this popular stamp. He will be missed by his many friends who shared his philatelic interests. To Mrs. Orme we send our sincere sympathy.

R.L.

The American Local and Carriers' Stamps—LXXIV

A Study of the Forgeries, Reprints and Bogus Stamps

By DONALD S. PATTON

(Continued from page 105)

ESSEX LETTER EXPRESS, NEW YORK, N.Y.

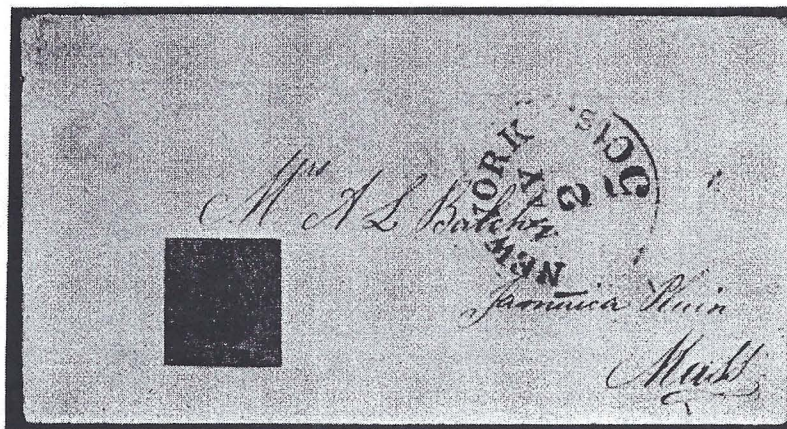
It is generally said that this post was started by three or four former carriers for Boyd who sold a considerable number of the stamps of the post and who then decamped. The story is an old one, too old now to be able to trace its source, and was given by Coster as far back as the 1880's in his account of the American Private Posts. The Coster version, which is worth quoting, runs as follows:—

"ESSEX LETTER EXPRESS.

The history of the Essex Letter Express Company is rather amusing. It was established about 1856 by three or four ex-carriers of various New York Expresses, who, after they had sold a good supply of their stamps to the public, suddenly decamped with the proceeds. And so the matter rested until about the year 1862, when the rage of the 'locals' beginning, a certain New York dealer (whom we shall designate as Mr. H.), undertook to supply the demand, but as he was unable to obtain the original articles, he resorted to the wood engraver, who helped him out of his difficulty by preparing numerous 'reproductions', although this last fact, for obvious reasons, was not made known to the general public.

About this time Mr. W. P. Brown obtained a number of the genuine stamps, which, as will be observed by reference to the engraving, have for central design a ship, from the main mast of which floats a streamer with the letters 'SX' inscribed thereon.

As Mr. William P. Brown could never miss 'his little joke' he took one of the genuine stamps, and, carefully erasing the 'SX' from the streamer, substituted these letters BELOW the ship. A trusty messenger then carried the altered stamp to Mr. H., who in a few days astonished the Philatelic world by the announcement that he had obtained and could offer for sale a limited number of undoubtedly genuine Essex locals with the 'SX' below the ship. Further comment is unnecessary. It therefore only remains for me to say that the genuine stamp is evidently a wood engraving, and is printed in black on red glazed paper".



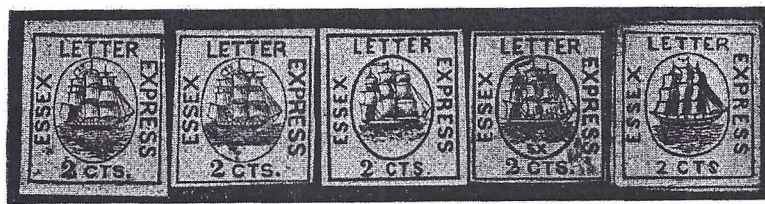
The genuine stamp on cover

The post only issued one stamp, of the value of 2c., printed in black on red glazed surface paper. A few covers are known but the original stamps are now very scarce. No cancellation appears to have been used and the stamps were generally cut very close to the frame line. Whether or not the story of the post given by Coster and others is true, the post appears to have had a very short existence. There are at least six different forgery types but in none of the forgeries is the figure "2" like that on the original stamps.

DESCRIPTION OF ORIGINAL (Scott 65 L 1) (Illustration and diagram)

Typographed. Probably from a woodcut engraving. Three masted sailing ship enclosed in a single line oval frame. Inscriptions, outside the oval "ESSEX" reading upwards at left, "LETTER" above oval at top, "EXPRESS" reading downwards at right and "2 CTS" below oval at bottom. The whole is enclosed in a single line frame. The letters of the inscription are unserifed capitals. There is a period after "CTS". The figure "2" is not accurately imitated on any of the forgeries. The foot is quite straight and has a short piece turned up at a right angle at its right end. The ship has a pennant with square, not pointed end, at the middle mast head and this pennant bears the letters "SX". The water below the ship fills the oval to the bottom. The hull of the ship consists of a solidly shaded segment below and an unshaded segment above and there are 8-9 short lines representing portholes in the unshaded portion. At the bow there is a bowsprit which is very close to the oval frame line but not actually touching. There are three sails on each mast most of them shaded at right with three, or more, short vertical lines. The exception is the lowest sail on the rear mast which is shaded at left with two vertical lines. The top of the middle mast is very close to, practically touching, the oval frame at top.

2c. Black on red glazed surface paper.



Forgery A

B

C

D

E

FORGERY A (Illustration and diagram)

Typographed. There is a pennant at the main mast head, bearing the letters "SX", as in originals. The water below the ship fills the oval, again as in the original. The head of the figure "2" curls round more than in the original, and has a more distinct ball and the footstroke of the figure is wavy, not straight. The arrangement of the ropes attached to the bowsprit differs from that of the original. The uppermost sail on the rear mast is divided into two by a horizontal line, a mistake which is copied on all the Forgeries except Forgery E. The lowest sail on the same mast has no vertical lines of shading (original has two). There are about fourteen portholes. Neither the bowsprit nor the middle mast touch the oval frame, though both are close. Only noted in the colour of the original stamp.

2c. Black on red glazed surface coloured paper.

FORGERY B (Illustration and diagram) (Taylor's 1st Forgery)

Typographed. There is a pennant, with letters "SX" at the main mast head, as in the original, but the water below the ship does not reach to the bottom of the oval. The foot of the figure "2" is wavy. The tip of the bowsprit does not touch the oval frame but the tip of the main mast does. The lowest sail on the rear mast is unshaded and the top sail on the same mast divided into two by a horizontal line. There are 11-12 portholes. This forgery occurs in the colour of the issued stamp and also in a number of bogus colours.

2c. Black on red glazed surface coloured paper.

Bogus Colours:

- Black on white wove paper. Black on green glazed surface paper.
- Black on pinkish buff paper coloured through.
- Black on deep flesh paper coloured through.
- Dull carmine on pale blue paper coloured through.
- Red on bright blue paper coloured through.

FORGERY C (Illustration and diagram)

Typographed. There is a long narrow and pointed pennant at the main mast head without letters "SX". The pointed tip of this pennant practically touches the oval frame. The water below the ship does not fill the oval and in one version of this forgery there is an unshaded space below the water. In the sub-type the letters "SX" appear in this space. If Coster's statement was accurate, this forgery must have been made by Hussey, but it is rather a scarce forgery, and in the writer's opinion Forgery F is much more probably the work of Hussey. Forgery C has only two ropes attached to the bowsprit, the tip of which touches the oval

frame. The tip of the main mast does not touch the oval frame. There are no portholes in the left half of the white area of the ship's hull but there are about eleven tiny portholes, arranged in two rows in the right half. The figure "2" has a waved and not a straight footstroke. This is a fairly scarce forgery and has only been noted in the colour of the issued stamp.

2c. Black on red glazed surface coloured paper.

FORGERY D (Illustration and diagram)

Typographed. Long narrow pointed pennant at main mast head, without letters "SX". Main mast tip and tip of bowsprit practically touching oval frame. There are no portholes in the white area of the ship's hull. The water does not fill the oval and in the clear space below the waves are the letters "SX". The lowest sail on the rear mast is unshaded. The figure "2" has a waved foot strongly turned up in a curve at the right end. This forgery has only been noted in the colours of the issued stamp.

2c. Black on red glazed surface coloured paper.

FORGERY E (Illustration and diagram) (Taylor's 2nd Forgery)

Typographed. A crude effort and not one of Taylor's best! THERE IS AN EXTRA FRAME LINE ROUND THE STAMP. There is a tiny pennant at the main mast head and the water fills the oval below the ship. The ship's deck is curved and there are about nine portholes. The figure "2" is like the letter "Z". There is no period after "CTS" and the letter "S" is deformed and hook shaped. Noted in a number of bogus colours.

2c. Black on red glazed surface coloured paper.

Bogus Colours:

Glazed surface coloured paper

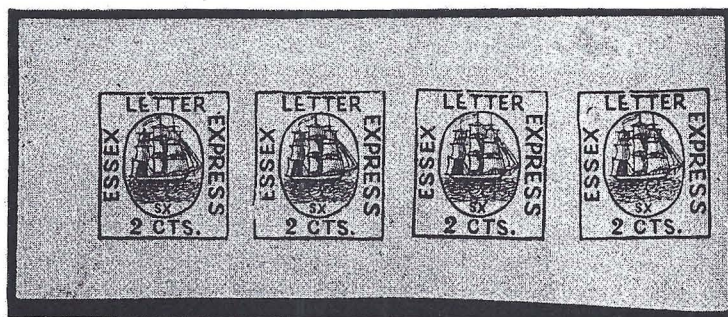
Black/Green Black/Orange Yellow Black/Lemon Yellow
Black/Blue

Paper coloured through

Black/Buff Purple/Yellow

White Wove Paper

Red Blue Mauve Red-Brown Green Yellow



Forgery F — the four types

FORGERY F (Illustration and diagram) (Hussey Forgery)

Typographed. Occurs printed in small horizontal strip of four subjects spaced about 3 mm. between stamps. There are four recognizable sub-types. Both bowsprit and middle mast touch the oval frame. There is a narrow pennant at the main mast head, without letters "SX" and these letters appear in the clear space below the water. The waves are very pointed. The figure "2" has rather a short slightly waved footstroke.

The four sub-types of the small strips are as follows:—

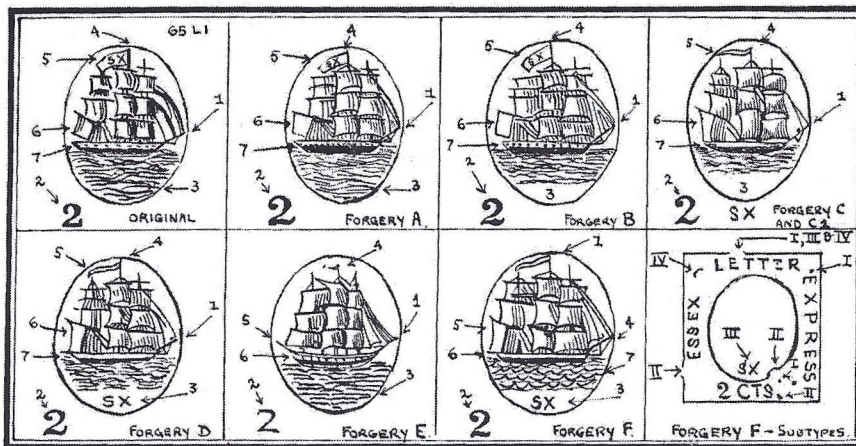
TYPE I. Small break in upper frame above first "E" of "LETTER". This "E" has the upper horizontal stroke only about half the length of the lower horizontal stroke. There is a small black flaw above the first "E" of "EXPRESS", and another above and to the right of the "S" of "CTS".

TYPE II. There is no break in the upper frame over the letters "LET" but the frame is bent in this position. The upper horizontal of the first "E" of "LETTER" is short. There is a break and damage to the left side frame in its lower third. The period after "CTS" is flattened across its upper right half. There is an inward bulge on the oval frame above the "S" of "CTS".

TYPE III. Break in upper frame and short top horizontal stroke of first "E" as in TYPE I. A short black line connects the top curve of the "S" of "SX" to the lowest part of the waves. The right limb of the "X" is prolonged upwards to join the lowest wave.

TYPE IV. Damage to top frame very similar to TYPES I and III. There is a curved flaw between "X" of "ESSEX" and "L" of "LETTER". There is a slight outward bulge in the left side frame opposite the curved flaw already mentioned. This is a fairly common forgery, only noted in the colours of the issued stamp. Not all examples met with show the types described for the strips of four and it is probable that there was more than one printing.

2c. Black on red glazed surface coloured paper.



KEY TO DIAGRAMS

ORIGINAL

1. Tip of bowsprit close to oval frame but not touching.
2. Figure "2" has straight foot with right end turned up at right angle.
3. Water fills oval below ship.
4. Tip of main mast close to oval frame but not touching.
5. Square ended pennant with letters "SX".
6. Lowest sail on rear mast has two vertical lines of shading.
7. There are 8-9 portholes represented as short dashes.

FORGERY A

1. Tip of bowsprit close to oval but not touching.
2. Figure "2" has waved foot; upper curve broader with distinct ball.
3. Water fills oval below ship.
4. Tip of main mast close to oval frame but not touching.
5. Square ended pennant with letters "SX".
6. Lower sail on rear mast unshaded.
7. Approximately 14 portholes.

FORGERY B

1. Tip of bowsprit further from oval frame.
2. Foot of figure "2" waved, narrower at left and thicker at right.
3. Water below ship does not fill the oval.
4. Tip of main mast touches oval.
5. Square ended pennant with "SX".
6. Lowest sail on rear mast unshaded.
7. There are 11-12 portholes represented as rectangular dots.

FORGERY C and C1

1. Tip of bowsprit touches oval frame. Only two ropes attached to bowsprit.
2. Figure "2" has footstroke pointed at left end, slightly curved and turned up at right end.
3. Water below ship does not fill the oval; in Sub-type C1 the letters "SX" appear in the clear space below the water.

4. Tip of main mast does not touch oval frame.
5. Long thin pennant, the pointed end of which touches or very nearly touches the oval frame.
6. No shading on lowest sail on rear mast.
7. No portholes in left two-thirds of hull. Two rows of portholes (about 11) in right hand third, represented as tiny dots.

FORGERY D

1. Tip of bowsprit practically touches oval frame.
2. Figure "2" has a wavy foot, strongly turned up at right hand end.
3. Water does not fill oval and letters "SX" appear in the clear space below the water.
4. Tip of main mast almost touches oval frame line.
5. Long narrow pennant, the tip of which is some distance from oval frame.
6. Lowest sail on rear mast unshaded.
7. No portholes.

FORGERY E (Taylor)

1. Tip of bowsprit touches oval frame.
2. Figure "2" shaped like letter "Z".
3. Water does not fill oval below ship; letters "SX" in the clear space.
4. Tiny pennant at main mast head, which does not touch oval frame.
5. Lowest sail on rear mast unshaded at left.
6. Deck line curved; approximately 9 portholes. EXTRA FRAME LINE ROUND STAMP.

FORGERY F (Hussey)

1. Tip of main mast touches oval frame.
2. Figure "2" has short slightly waved foot, only slightly turned up at right.
3. Water does not fill oval completely below ship; letters "SX" in the clear space.
4. Tip of bowsprit touches oval.
5. Lower sail on rear mast unshaded at left.
6. No portholes.
7. Very pointed waves.

[To be continued]