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New Jersey and the California Gold Rush



Jim Walker brings us the story of the California Gold Rush and its New Jersey roots - see story on page 185.

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2023 DUES NOTICE!

Many thanks to unpaid members responding to Bob Rose’s personal reminder. It is enheartening to know we have not lost your membership. Now however it is time for 2023 dues – still only \$15. A form will come enclosed with your mailed copy or attached to your link to this journal for dues for 2023. Please pay to NJPHS and send to Andy Kupersmit at 143 Woodbridge Ave., Metuchen, NJ 08840. You may also pay by Paypal (no extra fee; just go to [https://njpostalhistory.org/join-us,](https://njpostalhistory.org/join-us)) and you will see payment options at the bottom of that page, including donations. Explore our new web site while you are there!

PRESIDENT’S MESSAGE

With the many compelling and often difficult issues life presents to us in this third decade of the 21st century, we are fortunate to be able to find much needed relief in our wonderful hobby. For that I am grateful.

This issue of *NJPH* contains a variety of articles that are sure to get your attention. Jim Walker writes of a New Jersey connection to the California Gold Rush. I won’t tip you off with a teaser other than to mention the name of James Marshall. John Lupia returns to these pages with the story of A.C. Roessler, renowned producer of early first day and other cacheted covers, and the many pseudonyms he used in their production. I write about a cover mailed from Trenton State Prison with an enclosed letter from a prisoner convicted of first degree murder seeking support for a pardon. I’ve also written another “On the Auction Scene” article highlighting the recent sale of a number of interesting pieces of New Jersey postal history. In recognition of our Society’s 50th Anniversary, we’ve included two previously published articles “Looking Backward.” The first, the Blizzard Mail Local Stamp of 1888, and the second, John Trosky’s “Over There” which presents an overview of the processing of mail during WWI as depicted through a “doughboy” from Jersey City. Take a look at Member News which reports on the Society’s annual meeting at NOJEX at which Jean Walton was honored for her 20 years of service as editor of this journal, the successful benefit auction, and the many Society members whose exhibits garnered top awards at the show.

With the year end fast approaching, it is time to make payment of the Society’s annual dues which since 1972 have remained unchanged at \$15.00, an amount substantially less than the cost of color printing and postage which has continued to increase and is now close to \$8 per issue or \$32 for the year. A renewal form and classified ad entry is included for your convenience. Given these increased costs, please consider taking the journal in its electronic format which will reduce the expense and help maintain the Society’s financial stability. Finally, I ask each of you to join me in making a tax deductible donation to the Society.

Wishing Happy and Healthy Holidays to each of you and your families.

Robert G. Rose

GOLD!

The New Jersey Connection to the California Gold Rush

By Jim Walker

James Wilson Marshall was born October 8, 1810 on Round Mountain Farm near Marshall's Corner, Hope Township, Hunterdon County. James' father Philip (born in 1786) purchased five acres of land on what would become Bridge Street in Lambertville and moved his family there in 1816, when James was a young boy.

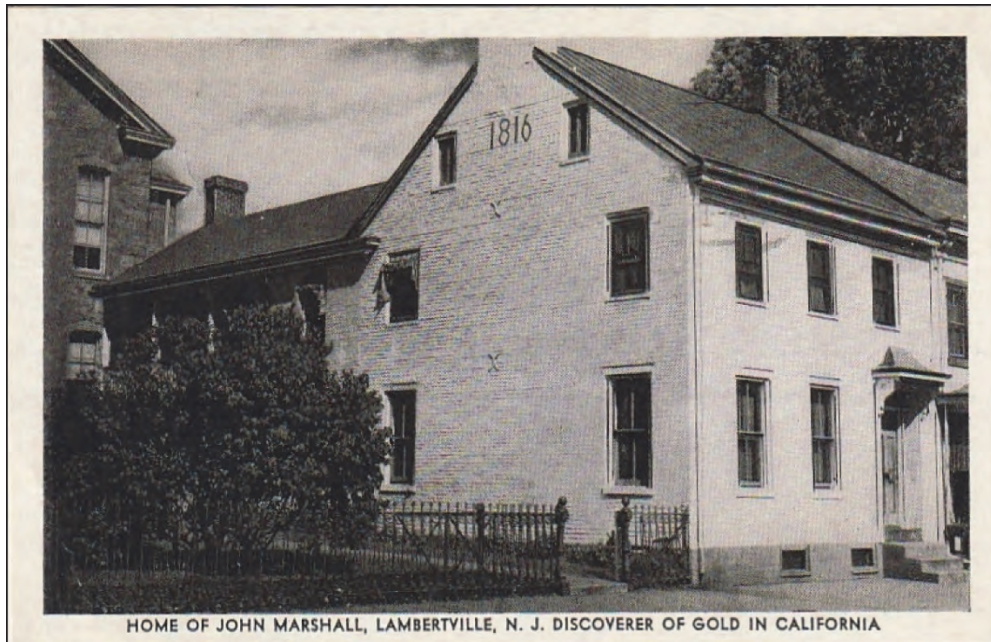


Fig. 1: The Marshall home in Lambertville 1816 to 1834, purchased by Philip Marshall in 1816, now famous for its connection with his son James Marshall, the discoverer of gold in California in 1848. (Note incorrect notation of John Marshall for James Wilson Marshall.)

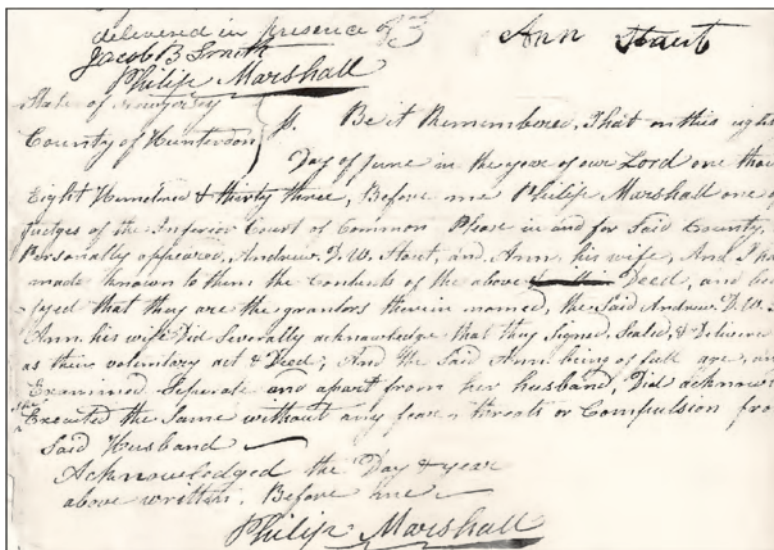


Fig. 2: The bold signature of Philip Marshall on an 1833 court document.

Philip Marshall became a judge in the Inferior Court of Common Pleas (sic) for Hunterdon County. The document in Figure 2 is for a land transfer in the township of Amwell, signed by Philip Marshall in 1833. In February 1825, he had become a founding member of the local Baptist church. While he was working as a contractor for the railroad line between Baltimore and Washington, he died suddenly in October 1834, at age 48.

GOLD! The NJ Connection to the California Gold Rush ~ Jim Walker

After his father's death, son James, now about 24 years old, left New Jersey and headed West. He tried his hand at farming in Missouri, but that was not for him. By 1845 he turned up in California at Sutter's Fort. Sutter hired Marshall as a carpenter to build and operate a sawmill. A suitable location was found on the South Fork of the American River at Coloma about 40 miles upstream from Sutter's Fort.



Fig. 3: A post card view of Sutter's Mill, the location of the sawmill built by James Marshall, and the site of the first California gold discovery.

The well-known part of this story begins here with the discovery of gold in the tail race of the unfinished sawmill on or about January 24, 1848. The area, indeed the entire western part of what would become the United States, would soon be overwhelmed by gold seekers. Both Sutter and Marshall fled for their lives. Sutter soon returned to Pennsylvania, but Marshall returned to the Coloma area once things returned to somewhat normal. Neither man profited much from their discovery.

There is a story about James Marshall returning to Lambertville to visit his sister in the summer of 1871. While staying at his sister's home, he saw an old friend from his youth and ran outside to greet the man wearing only his union suit (underwear). This may have been acceptable in the "West" but not in the refined East. James soon headed west again, never to return to New Jersey.

Marshall lived on a small pension from the state of California in his old age. He lived in a cabin in Coloma, moving about three miles to Kelsey where he died at the age of 74 on August 10, 1885.



Fig. 4: James Marshall's cabin in Coloma, California.



Fig. 5: Realphoto postcard view of the unveiling of the Marshall Monument at Coloma, California.

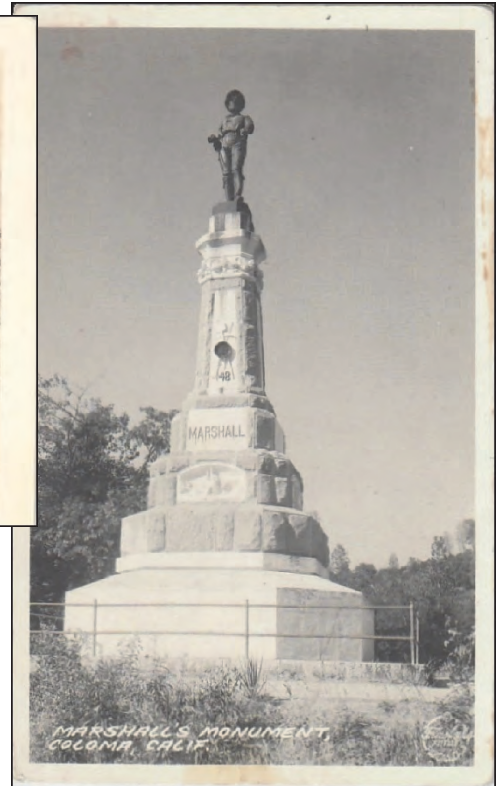


Fig. 6: The monument erected to James Marshall, dedicated May 3, 1890.

On May 3, 1890, Marshall's remains were entombed on the site of the Marshall monument.

Marshall's discovery has been celebrated continuously, including the 50th anniversary in 1898, and the 90th anniversary in 1938. Below is a cover from the 50th anniversary in 1898.



Fig. 7: An 1898 cacheted cover celebrating the 50th Anniversary of the discovery of gold in California in 1848, showing the site of the sawmill built by James Marshall.

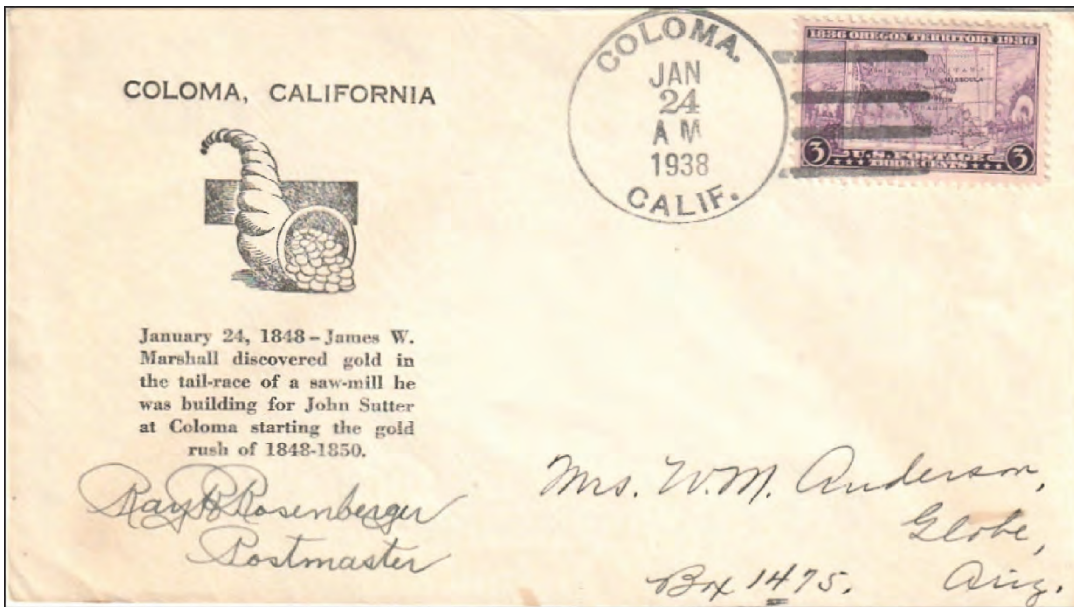


Fig. 8: Another cover prepared and mailed at Coloma, California in 1938 celebrated the 90th Anniversary of this event.

The big event occurred on January 24, 1948, when the U. S. Post Office Dept. issued Scott #954 to mark the one hundredth anniversary of the discovery of gold in California. A particularly nice cachet for this stamp was hand drawn by Dorothy Knapp.

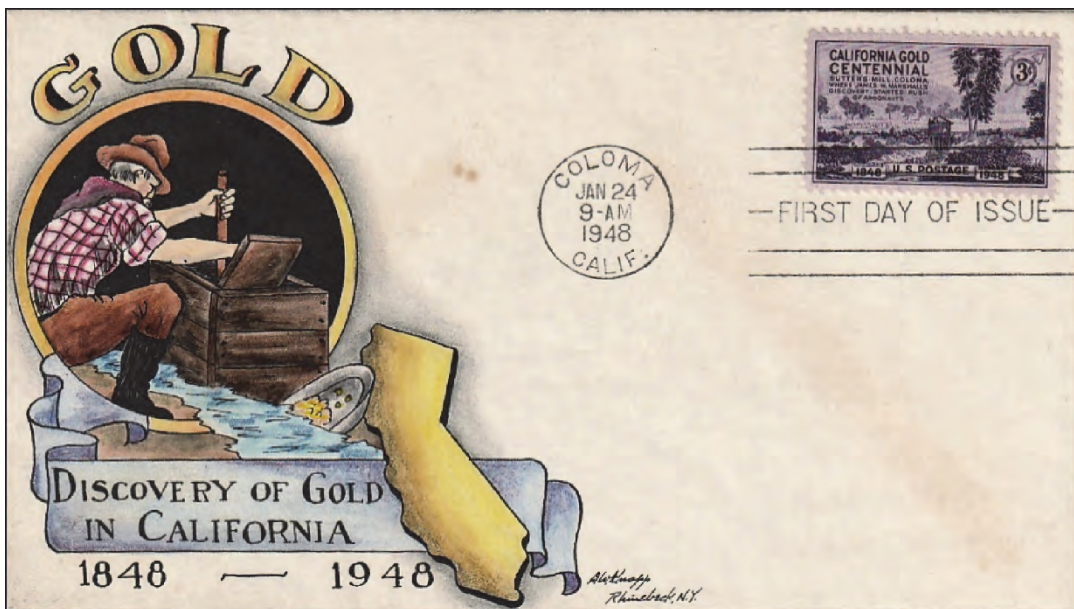


Fig. 9: A Dorothy Knapp First Day of Issue cover for the California Gold Centennial stamp (Scott 954) on January 24, 1948.



Fig. 10: The Coloma post office on a regular day.

Coloma, California with a population of about 900 pulled out all the stops for the 100th anniversary of the discovery of gold. Lots of famous people showed up for the celebration. Roy Rogers and Dale Evans were the grand marshalls.

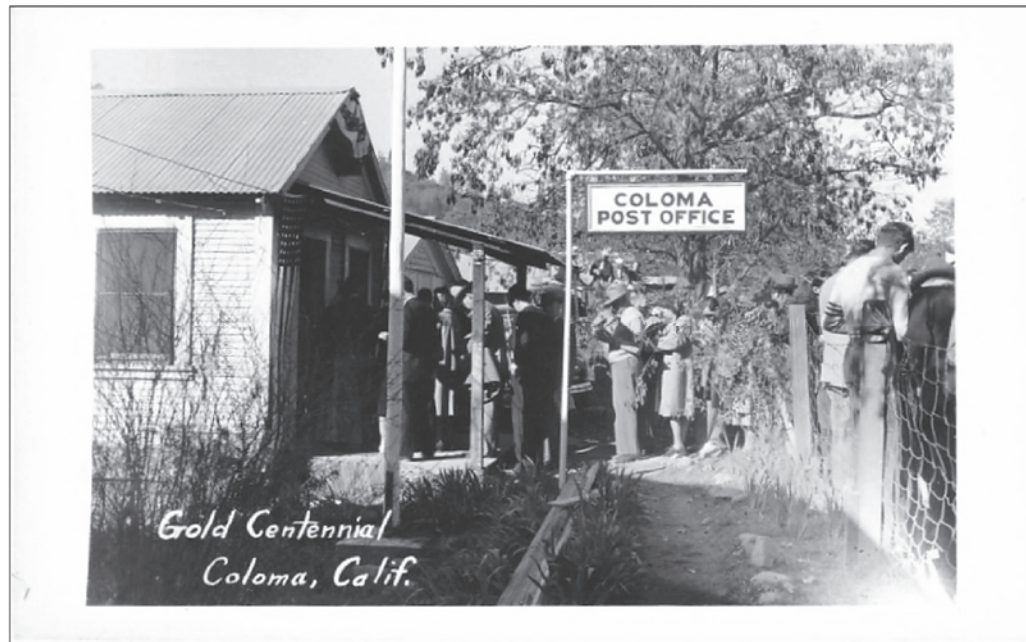


Fig. 11: The Coloma post office on January 24, 1948, commemorating the 100th anniversary of gold discovered in 1848 with a First Day of Issue stamp and cancel.

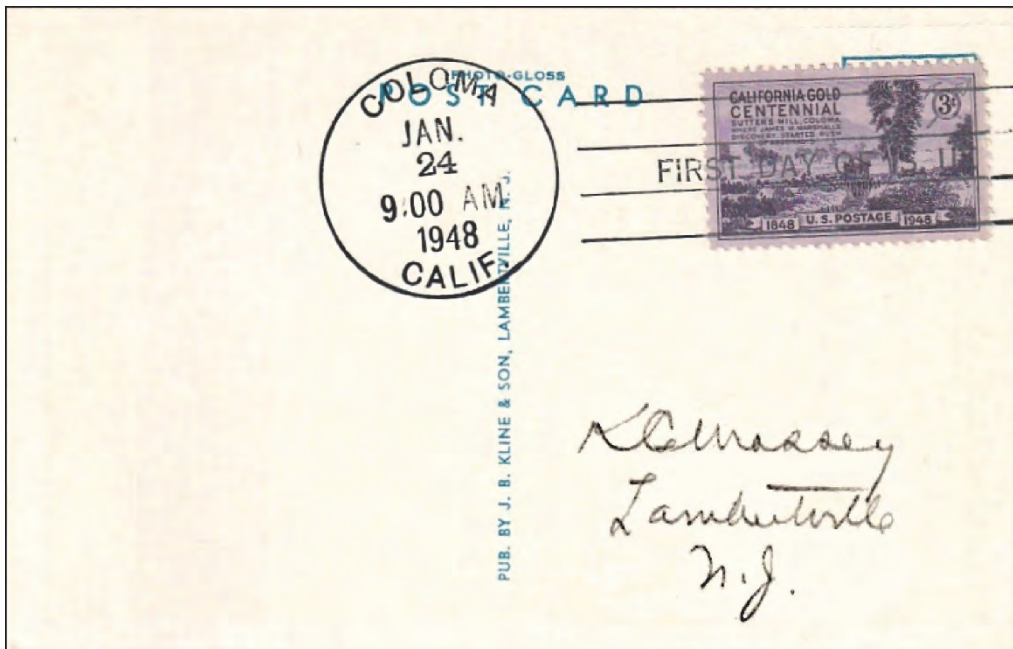


Fig. 12: Scott 954, commemorating the 100th anniversary of gold discovered in 1848, sent from Coloma, California to Lambertville on Jan. 24, 1948.

By 1998, Gold Rush covers related mostly to the Klondike Gold Rush 100 years earlier. But in 1999, a new stamp issued for the California Gold Rush appeared, Scott 3316, and below is a first day cover for that stamp, but James Marshall and the discovery of California gold seem to have largely disappeared from Gold Rush history.



Fig. 13: Scott 3319 FDC, June 18, 1999 from Sacramento. An inset of the stamp is included.

The last item is an autographed card which Marshall sold late in life.

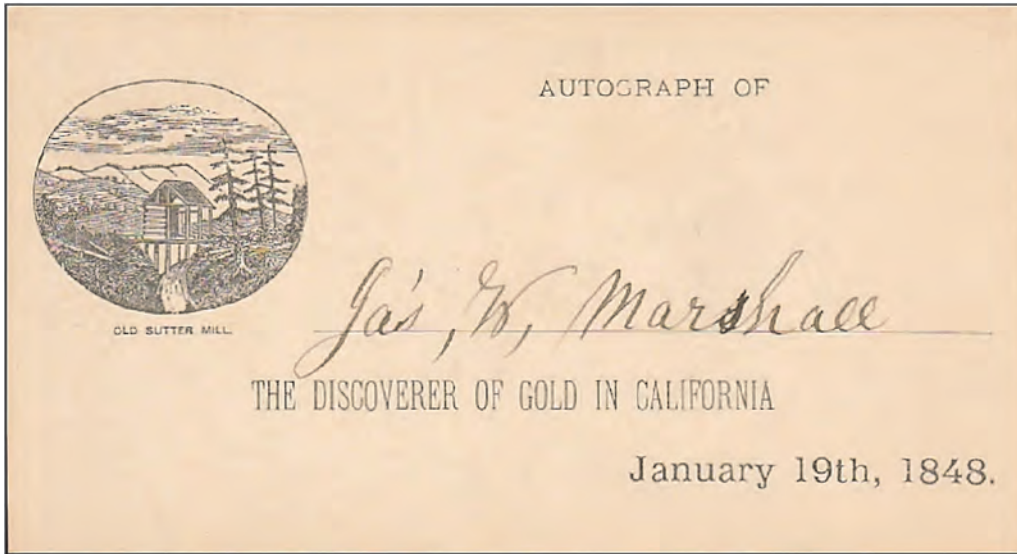


Fig. 14: Autographed card with James Wilson Marshall's signature.

Fig. 15: The Marshall home at 60 Bridge Street in Lambertville as it appears today. It is currently the home of the Lambertville Historical Society.



REFERENCES:

- Ancestry.com family records
- The Town Records of Hopewell, N.J. by N.J. Society of the Colonial Dames of America 1931
- James W. Marshall, The Discoverer of California Gold, A Biography*, by Theresa Gay, 1967.
- From Mexican Days to the Gold Rush*, Marshall & Buffum, The Lakeside Classics, 1993.
- Newspapers:
 - The Lambertville Beacon 1949-1950 City Centennial Issues
 - The Trenton Times January 24, 1948 by Barbara Barnes

PSEUDONYMS OF A.C. ROESSLER

By John N. Lupia, III¹

There appears to be a consensus among collectors of Albert Charles Roessler (1883-1952), that he's an enigma wrapped in a riddle. He certainly is no easy person to figure out. Fortunately, however, ten threads of Roessler's charismatic and eccentric personality and character that ran throughout his life give us some inkling about him:

- (1) he was ambitious and driven to succeed
- (2) he had indefatigable energy and was a workaholic driven by his love for his work
- (3) he passionately loved to express himself
- (4) he used every opportunity to be witty, sometimes inappropriately witty
- (5) and critical, sometimes inappropriately critical
- (6) and thoroughly enjoyed the excitement and drama of being mysterious,
- (7) and highly imaginative and creative and relished being as diverse as possible making numerous varieties of everything he ever mailed, and
- (8) he appears to have been popular and well-liked by collectors and colleagues, and
- (9) he was very close to his family.
- (10) he was a very intelligent innovative businessman

Indeed, it can be accurately stated regarding the fourth and fifth qualities mentioned above that his style of writing and jesting are Twainesque. This is particularly true regarding his snarky criticisms, which like Mark Twain before him, got him into trouble.



Fig. 1: Roessler's Wrestler cachet, used February 1925 with his 140 South Parkway address, noted as having been carried by the Air Ship Los Angeles from Lakehurst, N.J.

Just like Samuel Langhorne Clemens (1835-1910), Roessler too used several pseudonyms. Clemens's first pseudonym was Josh. Later he used Thomas Jefferson Snodgrass. Whereas Roessler's first known pseudonym emerged in April 1925, which was A. C. Roe emulating his sixth quality referenced above, being mysterious. But just two months previously in February 1925 he reinforced the myth he first started fifteen years earlier in 1910 in *Stamp News* that the pronunciation of his surname is wrestler creating "The Wrestler" cachet which Barry Newton in his *A. C. Roessler: Photo Cachet Catalogue*,² classified as a corner card ROE-CC11.

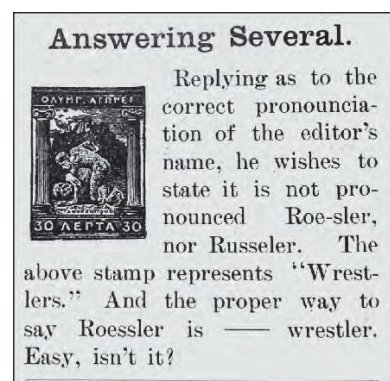
The design of "The Wrestler" has a frame based on Greek Doric order architecture taken from Brodstone's cover design for his magazine *Philatelic West*, that appeared from Vol. 31, No. 3, January 1906 until Vol. 51, No. 3, April 1911, during the same period of time Roessler introduced the notion his name was pronounced "wrestler." Perhaps both Brodstone and Roessler were inspired by the 1906 Greek stamp shown below.



Fig. 2: 1906 Greek stamp Scott 191, showing wrestlers.



Fig. 3: Cover from Brodstone's *Philatelic West and Collector's World*.



AC Roessler's *Stamp News*, Jan. 1910

Fig. 4: Roessler shows the same stamp, in answering a query.

One wonders if Roessler is making an allusion to a wrestling match of sorts he was having with Lewis Brodstone or other stamp and coin dealers as competitors in the proverbial "going to the mattresses" wrestling match of the market idiom that was popularized by the 1972 film *The Godfather*. As you can see Roessler was ahead of his time. Moreover, one additionally wonders if the Nebraskan accent of Brodstone pronouncing Roessler's name sounded like "wrestler" and the myth and later "The Wrestler" cachet were resulting puns.

Roessler's claim that the pronunciation of his name as "wrestler" seems highly unlikely to have been his family's way of pronouncing it since in German it is pronounced roessler or "ruse + ler" with the "oe" in Roessler being pronounced as an "ew" sound. The American pronunciation is Row-slur. For all we know it was his own family's private joke from other people always mispronouncing their surname and A.C. used it symbolically in life to give it a little umph! If Americans were butchering up the pronunciation of his surname he was going to beat them to it and have a good laugh about it while simultaneously giving himself a symbol of a champion fighter for the cause of the business of philately. Clearly wrestler is a joke played on the unsuspecting naive and gullible reader. Interestingly, the correct German pronunciation of the first syllable is "ruse, which is an English noun meaning "to trick" and that he did very well, a real gag master! Allison W. Cusick tells us that Eugene N. Costales wrote him a letter saying he pronounced his name Res'ler.³ Costales tells us from his recollection that he pronounced his name Res'ler, which

John N. Lupia, III ~ PSEUDONYMS of A.C. ROESSLER

is amazing to see how the genius mind of Roessler carried out his theatrical shenanigans even in person thereby perpetuating an oral history beyond paper and ink. That is the Roessler serious collectors have grown to know and love - a man who thought of every possibility and executed it in ink on printed cachets, combo franking, and mailing to as many locations that made sense for that cover design and purpose.

In the October 1911 issue of Stamp News on page 242 he admits he doesn't know German and needed to explain because a few readers were writing him letters in German. His lack of German knowledge explains his fantastic claim that it could have been appropriately pronounced as wrestler. He seems to have enjoyed the naive gullibility of readers and listeners who believed everything he said either orally or in a printed text whether it be a newspaper or magazine or book. He seems to have enjoyed wielding that power over his audience like a showman. In his publications he was live center stage and getting all the attention, and he loved it. Unfortunately, people like Steve Ritzer, an avid Roessler devotee, wrote in his article, "Albert C. Roessler,"⁴ that Roessler was "probably one of the greatest "flim-flam" men that philately has ever known," which sadly proves he never understood his sense of humor or his moral character.

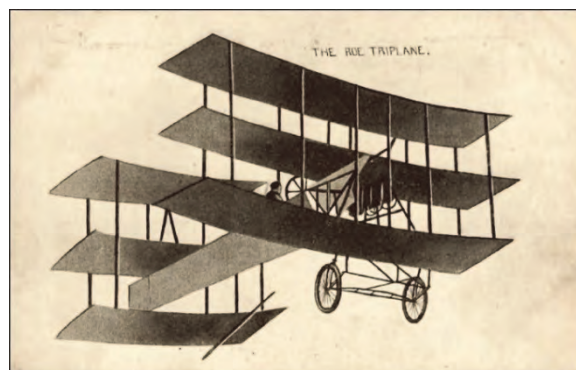
Curiously, there was an Albert Ressler (pronounced like wrestler or Re'sler) living in Newark at the time who worked as an ironworker, listed in the 1910 Newark City Directory, leaving us to wonder if his passionate delighting in mystery, drama and intrigue made him a joker always looking to find an alternate persona like actors who take stage names or that of showmen too like "Wyman the Wizard."

Two months later Roessler began using A.C. Roe which is clearly pronounced "row" revealing the "wrestler" pronunciation is just his idea of a joke with links to his wrestling and boxing, i.e., fighting with the Post Office administration and his competitors in the market.

A.C. ROE

Most collectors and writers assume A. C. Roe was an abbreviation for Roessler by simply dropping the last five letters of his surname. That may be true and the entire explanation. However, in the opinion of this writer, his choice was very Twainesque. Samuel Langhorne Clemens chose Mark Twain for his moniker since it was a riverboat term "mark twain," which meant 2 fathoms depth or 12 feet depth, a safe level for a riverboat to navigate, and riverboat stories were his genre. Roessler, this author believes, chose A. C. Roe because it was an allusion to the name of a British airplane designer who created a triplane, Sir Edwin Alliott Verdon Roe, who went by A.V. Roe. He created a name for his new invention in 1909 which he called the Avro Triplane, with Avro obviously his name dropping the "e." By 1911 Roe had created and test flown four models of the triplane, the Roe Triplane I-IV. Postcards were made showing the Roe Triplane I in flight with caption THE ROE TRIPLANE.

Fig.5: Roe Triplane post card.



PSEUDONYMS of A.C. ROESSLER ~ John N. Lupia, III

It seems very probable that Roessler seized the opportunity to use Roe as his fictitious surname in order to purchase stamps and FDCs from the Philatelic Department of the Post Office after his allotment was completed under his own name. The Post Office regulated how many FDCs any one customer could order to prevent a disequilibrium of distribution to the public giving everyone a fair chance to purchase these novel souvenirs. The Post Office had to hire people to put stamps on the envelopes and made dies for special postmarks as FDCs.

Let us also note that in March 1916 Roessler initiated *The Dealer's Edition* of *A.C. Roessler's Stamp News* that required him to maintain a large stock of stamps, Event Covers and FDCs, so his need became great for sheets and for Event Covers and FDCs after 1924.

Roessler began using A. C. Roe in April 1925 after nine years of *The Dealer's Edition* offerings. Surely one motivation to use this alias was to expedite repeatedly writing his name on numerous covers he serviced for clients.

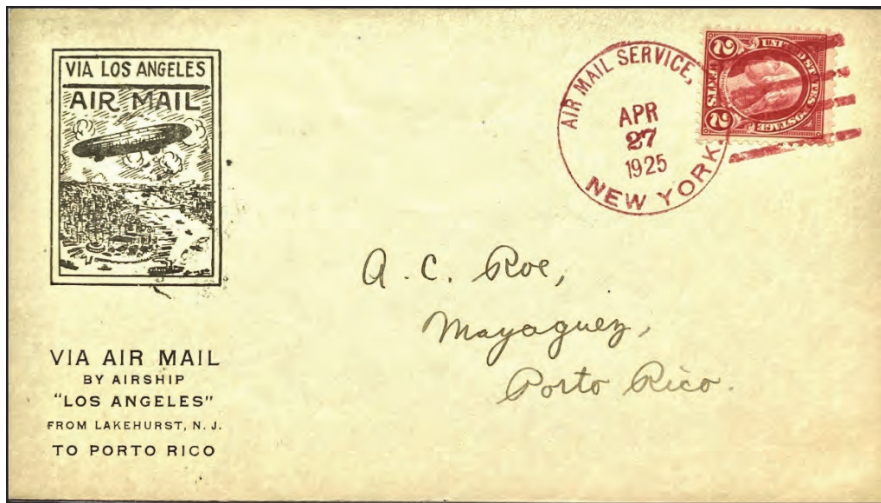


Fig. 6: The A.C. Roe name emerges two months later than the cover in Figure 1, again on an air mail cover carried by Los Angeles from Lakehurst to "Porto Rico."

As business increased the strain of the demand, combined with sheer frustration of the constraints placed on stamp dealers, limiting them to a purchase of no more than 25 FDCs, forced him to try to find a loophole around it. He was undoubtedly exasperated with a Post Office rule that was unjust and unfair to any FDC dealer, since it technically could put him out of business. This quandary seems to have given him, and perhaps other dealers too, the twisted notion that creating a business pseudonym like A.C. Roe legitimized double dipping with Post Office purchases, when any dealer regardless of how many trade names they used, was only allowed their one allotted share.

Concomitant with the A.V. Roe connection and inspired by Samuel Clemens, Roessler in like manner gave himself a moniker that related to the genre of his writing for *A.C. Roessler's Airplane Stamp News* since 1918.

Stanley Fryczynski, Jr., in his reply to Col. L. H. Smith, Stamp Editor of the *Bergen Record*, points out that in addition to A.C. Roe, he sometimes used A.C. Poe.⁵ However, Fryczynski erroneously thought that A.C. Roe might have been a business partner in his article "Revolutionary War Heroes of Foreign Birth."⁶ One of the consequences of creating pseudonyms like A.C. Roe was that it also created and stimulated rumors about who these characters might be.

SIR BUNK DE BUNK

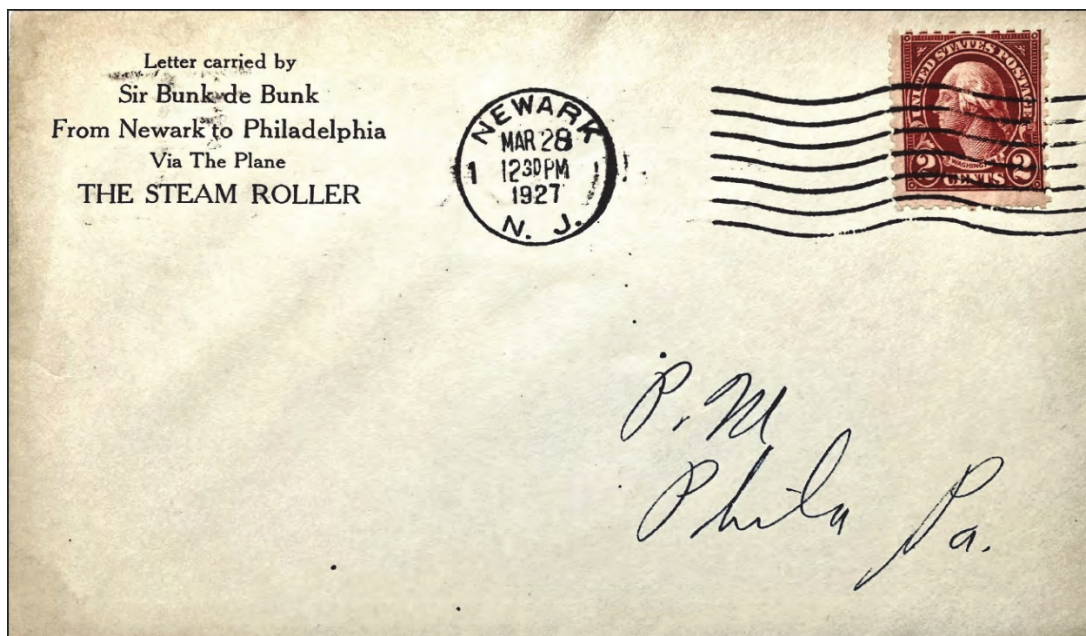


Fig. 7: Sir Bunk-de-Bunk – in March 1927.

His second pseudonym was Sir Bunk de Bunk in March 1927. Perhaps it is better to refer to Sir Bunk as a fictitious character for political amusement rather than a business pseudonym. Pseudonyms for Roessler seem to be fictitious character names created to glut stamp allotments from the Post Office.

Bunk, as it is typically defined, is a bunch of nonsense suggesting that Sir Bunk was the Knight of Nonsense. Sir Bunk seems to be referring to the Postmaster General, Harry Stewart New (1858-1937), and to a commanding officer such as Brig.-Gen. George E. Kemp (1866-1938), Postmaster at Philadelphia, an officer addressed as “Sir,” both of whom Roessler protested because they did not include Newark in the airmail route design in 1927. Kemp negotiated for private commercial flyers to carry the mail from New York to Atlanta Georgia, taking mail from Philadelphia, Washington, D.C., Richmond, and Greensboro. The plane “The Steam Roller” would then be a reference to the Post Office truck taking mail from Newark to Philadelphia since Newark was not originally included in the air route. If this is correct then ‘Bunk de Bunk’ is most probably a comic play on the sound we hear when our vehicles ride over seams on old concrete roads making the repeating sound: bunk de bunk.

Knight titles such as “Sir” are British, making plausible the connection to Pilot Henry Sherlock. Therefore, another possible identity of Sir Bunk de Bunk could have been a reference to Harry Conley Sherlock, a former Royal Air Corps pilot who was assigned to fly mail in the Bellefonte, PA - Newark, N.J. aerial service, and who was tragically and accidentally killed when his plane crashed at Heller Field in Newark, N.J., on March 30, 1920. Perhaps, the vivid memory of that horrible event echoed in Roessler’s mind when he saw the hopes and dreams of regular air mail service from Newark equally crashed and dashed to pieces by the new air mail routes chosen by the Postmaster General and Brig.-Gen. Kemp. Roessler had big hopes for a Newark air mail route and even mailed a letter at Newark on 17 December 1918 hand stamped “By Airplane Mail” on the cover.

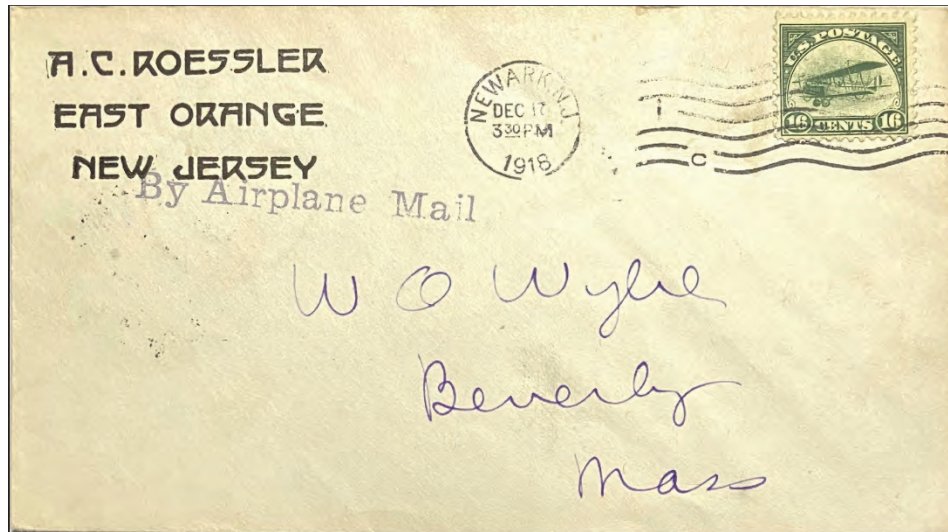


Fig. 8: A hopeful “By Airplane Mail” stamped on a cover sent from Newark on December 1918.

A Winged Letter Roessler cover dated July 15, 1919 was included in the Air Mail Collection of the well-known air mail collector and enthusiast (and Longines executive) John P.V. Heinmuller. The Postal Museum website says Newark began air mail flights in December 1919.

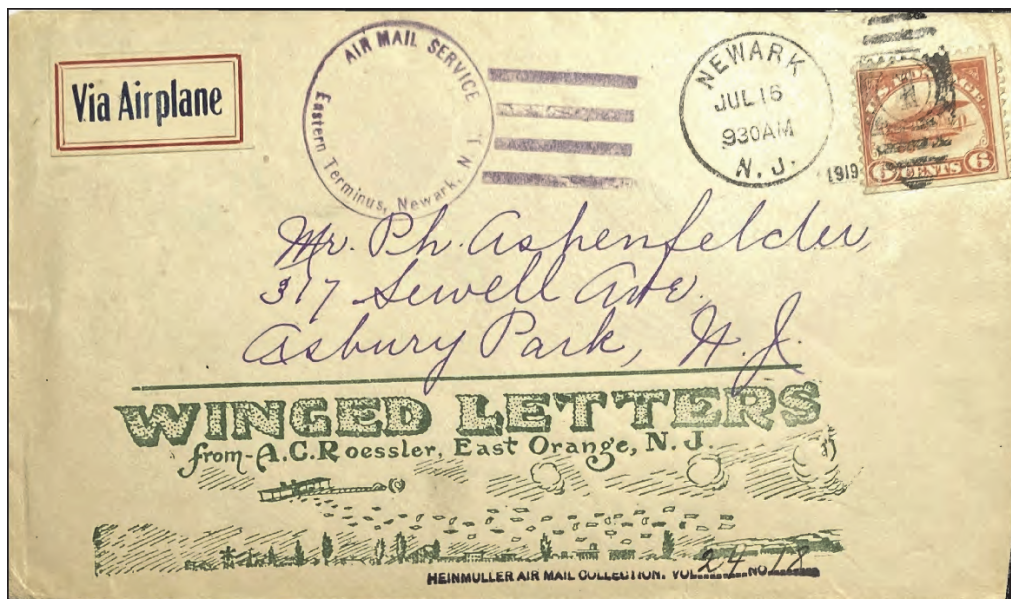


Fig. 9: A Heinmuller cover (noted at bottom Vol. 24, No. 18) dated July 15, 1919 with an Eastern Terminus, Newark, NJ cancel predates the date noted by the Postal Museum.

Newark Metropolitan Airport opened nine years three months later on October 1, 1928. According to Eric Richard (Intern Summer 2017) on the Smithsonian National Museum website “The first five CAM routes were contracted in 1925 to Colonial Air Transport, Inc. (Boston and New York); Robertson Aircraft Corp. (Chicago and St. Louis); National Air Transport, Inc. (Chicago and Dallas); Western Air Express, Inc. (Salt Lake City and Los Angeles); and Walter T. Varney (Elko, Nevada, and Pasco, Washington).”

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The first airmail flight from Newark Airport didn't occur until February 17, 1929 when Roessler made different size oval stamps with the shape of the map of New Jersey within commemorating the "Opening of the Newark Airport". Of course, Roessler hype is the magic ingredient, "THE MOST IMPORTANT AIRPORT IN THE WORLD," which is typical Roessleresque hyperbole.



Fig. 10: Two different oval handstamps for Newark, dated Feb. 17, 1929, with Roessler's slogan: "THE MOST IMPORTANT AIRPORT IN THE WORLD."

E.K. MUL

His third pseudonym was E. K. Mul in August 1927. His father died in 1890 and his mother remarried John Mulcahy in 1893. His mother Emma Katherine Mulcahy is E.K. Mul. I suspect mother put an end to it immediately.



Fig. 11: A cover sent August 20, 1927 from E.K. Mulcahy at Roessler's 140 South Parkway, East Orange address - to E.K. Mul - A short-lived pseudonym.

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He mailed covers abroad using E.K. Mulcahy, and in 1978, one got into the hands of Herman “Pat” Herst that had been sent to Canada with a Patricia Airways semi-official stamp used from Red Lake, Ontario, and for years Herst kept asking in First Days, if anyone knew who it was. A Mr. Mulcahy wrote to Herst “identifying himself as an undertaker” with no forwarding address except for the Philadelphia, PA postmark. Mulcahy was not an undertaker in Pennsylvania but a construction foreman and cutter in Newark, N.J. Roessler would have loved seeing the joke live on sixty-five years later.

ROBERTA ROE

His fourth pseudonym was Roberta Roe, created three years eight months after A.C. Roe, and one year four months after E.K. Mul in December 1928. Roberta Roe was to become his most important pseudonym establishing his hoax branch operation under an assumed name.

According to Barry Newton,⁸ Roberta Roe was Roessler’s daughter and was pictured on Scott #1699, the Clara Maass commemorative stamp. He changed his mind after David Whitesell discovered in the Post Office Archives some letters, one of which clearly says she is a fictitious person for the purpose of purchasing additional stamps beyond his allotment.⁹ He has since emailed me saying he had not found any evidence that Roberta Roe was Roessler’s biological daughter.

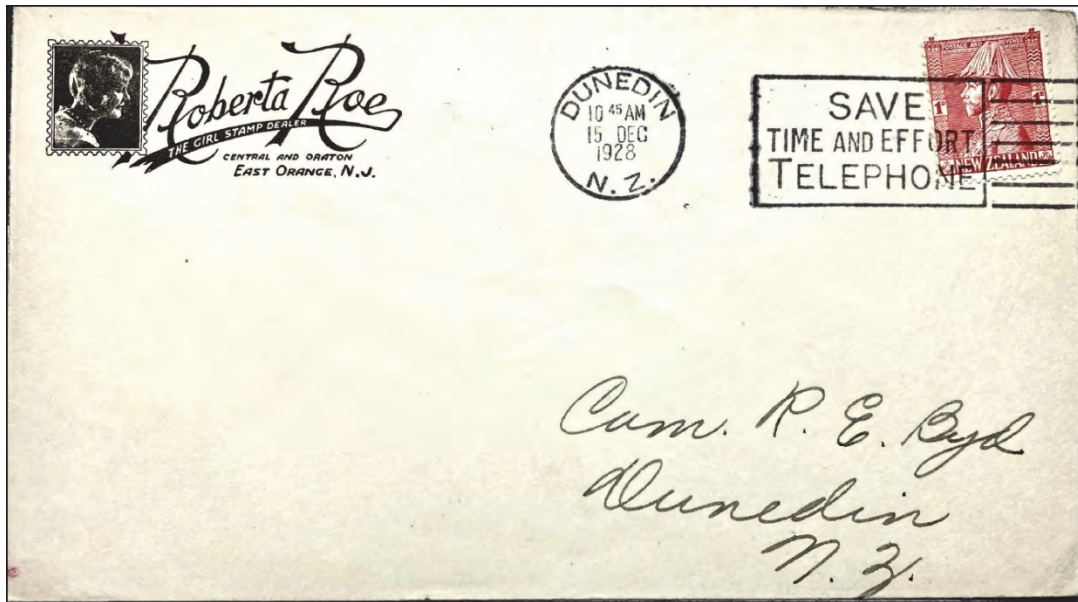


Fig. 12: A cover from “Roberta Roe, the Girl Stamp Dealer,” dated December 15, 1928.

According to Herman Herst,¹⁰ who in his complete fabrication gives a fictional account that Roessler’s daughter was Alberta, said her father was forced to trade by her name Alberta Roe because of Secret Service and Postal Inspectors harassing him constantly.

Clark Heins¹¹ spins another wild yarn: “Probably the funniest and still most widely believed myth in the history of our hobby, concerns Roberta Roe, the Girl Stamp Dealer. Not completely the figment of Albert Roessler’s imagination, who served as his model for Roberta Roe? Her name was Alberta Doremus and she, along with her husband Frank, ran the Doremus Stamp Co. of Neptune, N.J. She was Roessler’s sister and quite probably was the young girl that Roessler introduced to visitors as his daughter Roberta Roessler.”

To this day, this greatest of all myths remains with us and many an expert will swear that there really was a “Roberta Roe.” Roessler had two sisters Estelle and Wilhelmina, whom everyone called Hattie Wilma. Heins had the wrong people and four years later must have found that out himself. “Would you like to see what his ‘alleged’ daughter Roberta Roe looked like? Roessler presented the photo shown in ‘Figure 7’ to his readers as daughter Roberta. Even after all these years, there are those amongst us who are still beguiled by this master showman’s quackery.”¹²



Fig. 13: Supposed picture of Roberta Roe.

Regardless of the veracity of any opinions or reports, Roberta Roe and A. C. Roe were to become his most important pseudonyms, establishing his hoax branch operations under assumed names for the remainder of his career.

Trying to fill the shoes of his biological father, Roessler all his life remained close to his mother and family and never married, although he was officially engaged to Miss Belle Fuller Lewis (1890-1968), an insurance clerk from Newark, which was announced during a dinner party Roessler attended with his sister Hattie and brother-in-law Albert E. Doremus (not Alberta and Frank as Heins thought), and reported on The Society page of the *Sunday Call*, January 25, 1920,¹³ Neither Roessler nor Miss Lewis ever married.

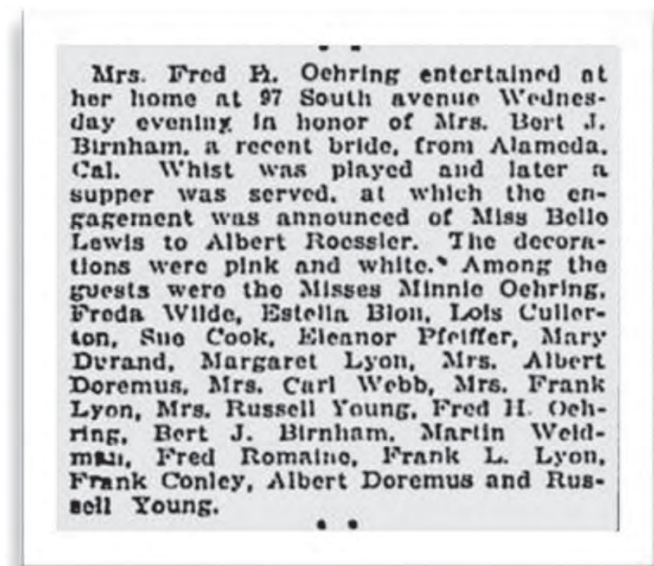
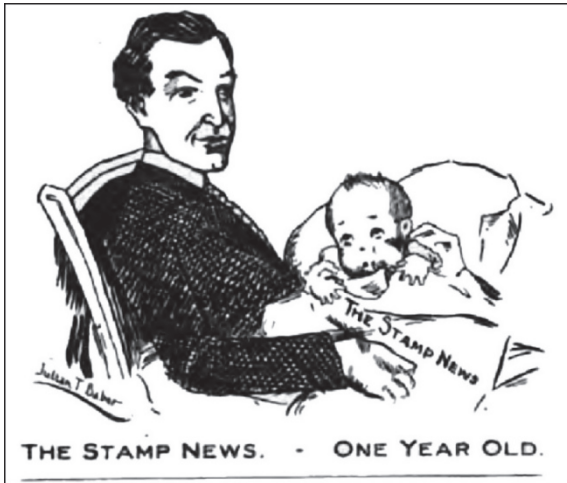


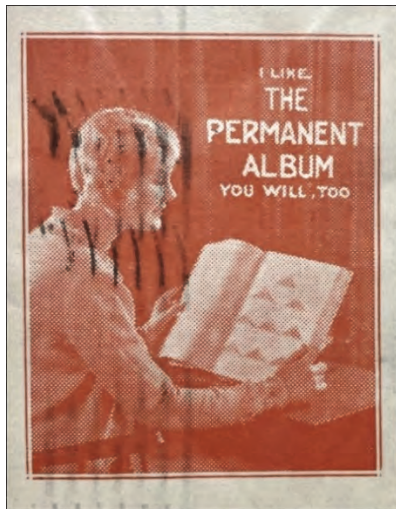
Fig. 14: An announcement on the Society page of the *Sunday Call*, January 25, 1920, of the engagement of Albert Roessler to Miss Belle Lewis. It also mentions his sister and brother-in-law, Mr. and Mrs. Albert Doremus.

Covers and collectors were his substitute children and extended family respectively. He treated his pseudonym Roberta Roe as if she were his own daughter from a secret or private marriage under an assumed name, or a “love child” making her debut. He always seemed to treat his work as his child. For example, in May 1910 for his first anniversary of *Stamp News*, he published a cartoon drawn by 20-year-old Julian T. Baber of a father holding a one-year-old baby



whose blanket was labeled *Stamp News*. Six months later in the November 1910 issue he replied to an inquiry asking if he was the proud father. He denied, I suppose, being a biological father, though it seems certain that the face and figure were a caricature of Roessler himself since he and Baber were close friends. Herein lies the origin of the Roberta Roe daughter legend.

Fig. 15: A cartoon drawn by good friend Julian T. Baber for Stamp News' first anniversary in May of 1910.



The image of Roberta Roe first appeared in July 1927 on one of Roessler's Permanent Album cinderellas that used a photo of an anonymous woman holding a stamp album with the caption: “I LIKE THE PERMANENT ALBUM / YOU WILL, TOO.”

Fig. 16: Permanent Album cinderella featuring Roberta Roe.

Later on this exact image of the woman's head was enlarged and black silhouetted, purported to be Roberta Roe,¹⁴ on a circular published by Roessler and stuffed in one of his FDCs, and it is the same as the cinderella.

Fig. 17: A portion of a stuffer used by Roessler inside his FDCs using this same picture, and featuring “the mysterious and elusive Roberta Roe.”



The theme and design of a woman poring over a stamp album is one of Roessler's favorite designs which he used from 1911 on for his magazines, and matching sets of labels, letterhead stationery, and cover cacheted designs. As we shall see presented below Roessler kept evolving his idea until his brainchild Roberta Roe was born in December 1928.

Stanley Fryczynski, Jr.,¹⁵ in an article entitled "Albert C. Roessler," reports that "During the depression he had a large mail order business employing seven women who addressed his FDCs and answered the mail." Roessler's mail order business was obviously a huge success and many hands were addressing covers, thereby explaining the apparently different handwritings compared to his rubber-stamped signature. Adam Bert, in "Counterfeit FDC's - Series 1917,"¹⁶ suggests the handwritten Roessler covers are probably fakes, telling us how his misunderstanding of Roessler's business method, together with believing the rumors that Roessler was a shady crooked dealer who made fake covers, leads to incorrect conclusions.

Fifty years before *Charlie's Angel's* TV series there were "Alfred's Angels," who were the girls in his life living with his mother and sister Hattie, until she and her husband Albert Doremus moved to 19th Street, East Orange about 1930. The myriad of lady employees were Albert's Angels. Leo August, in "Electric Light's Golden Jubilee: The Ceremony at Menlo Park,"¹⁷ tells us he even took four of "Alfred's Angels" with him selling FDCs June 5, 1929 at Menlo Park, N.J. One of these angels we know by name, a Miss Mitzi Sirkin (1913-1965), who was his stenographer in the late 1920s, until she married Sam Shepherd in 1937. She had a daughter Roberta in 1940, perhaps paying tribute to her old boss's Trade Name.

Near the end of Roessler's career Herman "Pat" Herst claimed he visited him with his wife

and met one woman whom Roessler said was his daughter Roberta Roe who, Herst claimed, served as his eyes because of his advanced cataracts. But if the event actually did happen, Roessler would have been only joking.

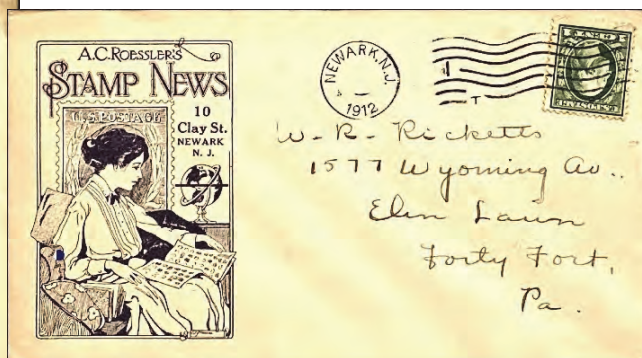


Fig. 19: A matching cacheted cover using that same image on a 1912 envelope, with Roessler's 10 Clay Street, Newark address.

Fig. 18: A.C. Roessler's Stamp News, October, 1911, with the design of a woman looking over a stamp album, from 1911.

The original female design for Roessler's business is from an engraving by Christopher J. Strakal of Capital Engraving Co., Springfield, Illinois, and was used in October 1911 when it appeared on the cover of *A. C. Roessler's Stamp News*.

As previously mentioned Roessler seems to have invented Roberta Roe as a branch office. According to the Social Security database the name Roberta ranked 93rd for female names in the 1930s, just after Anne, and Hazel respectively. He seems to have thoroughly thought out this fictitious character as a business plan. To establish Roberta Roe as a real entity he wrote letters to newspapers and congressmen, and ran advertisements using that name.

Fig. 20: From *The Daily Telegraph*, [London] 23 August (1929).



Fig. 21: *A.C. Roessler's Stamp News*, Christmas, 1911.



Fig. 22: Matching cacheted cover, 1912.

(Note Roessler's humor, as this young lady is reading a booklet with her own picture on the front)

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Another matching set, 1915, now from 140 South Parkway, East Orange:

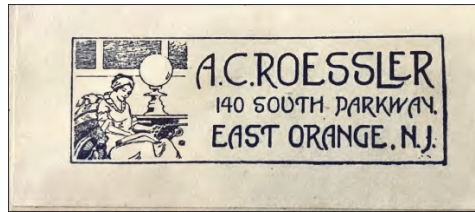


Fig. 23: A Roessler label.

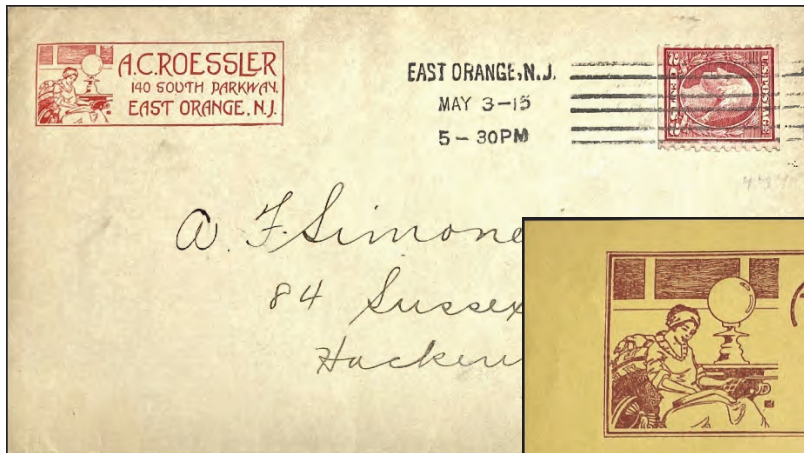


Fig. 24: The same image as a corner card on a cover.

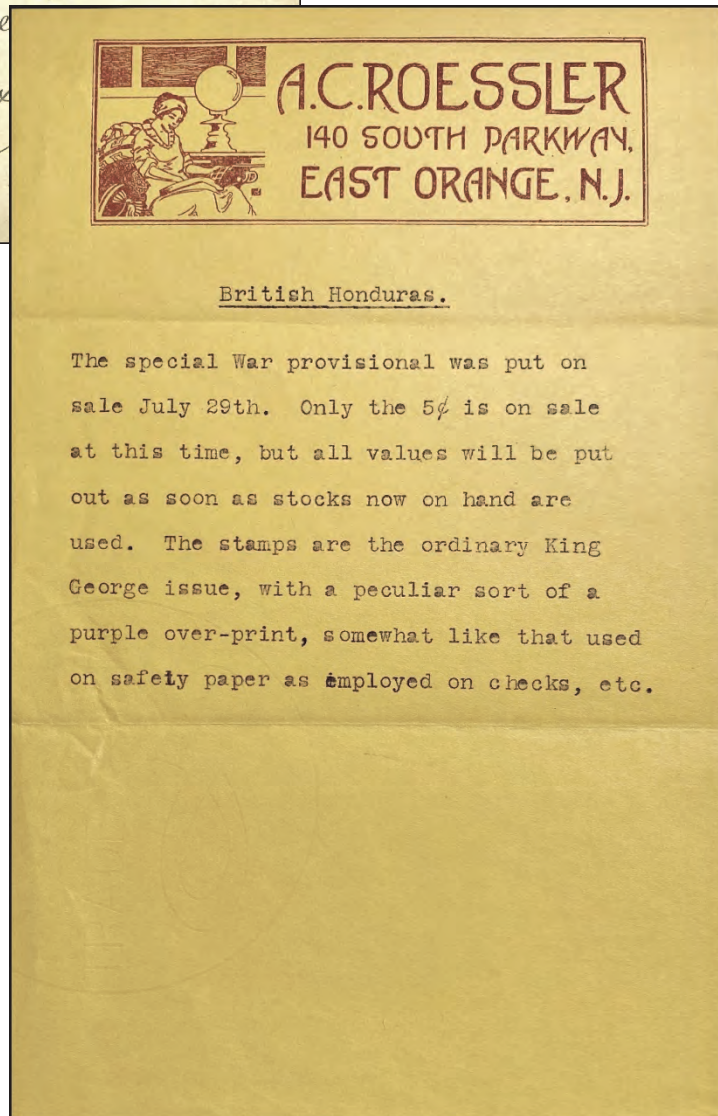


Fig. 25: Roessler business stationery using the identical image.

And a variety of later uses on the same theme:



Fig. 26: Cinderella.

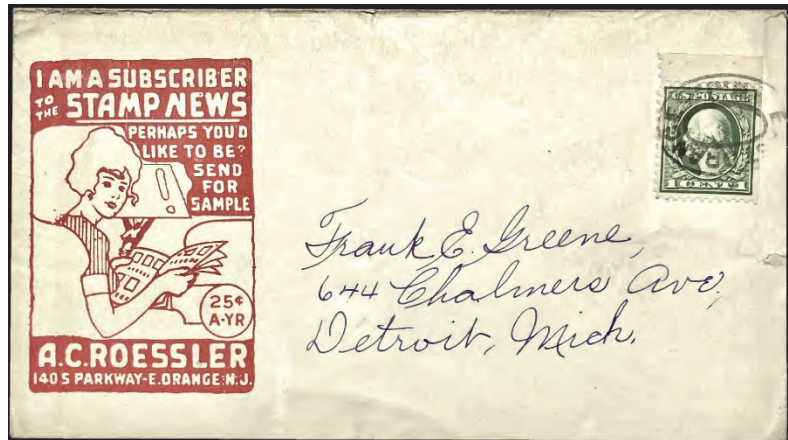


Fig. 27: 1916 Matching cacheted cover with an East Orange oval cancel.

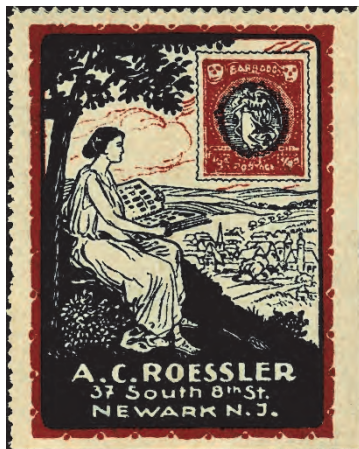


Fig. 28: Cinderella.



Fig. 29: 1921 Late Art Nouveaux period with this same cinderella on cover.

Roessler is borrowing the figure of Nike (the Angel of Victory) from Barbados #140 for his own distinctive composition showing her sitting under a tree holding a stamp album. Taking one image and reanimating it bringing it to life was a very advanced and modern concept for the late Art Nouveaux era.



Fig. 30: Incorporating the Barbados (Sc 140, issued September 9 1920) into his own Cinderella design.

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As we have seen at least a half dozen female images over a seventeen-year period finally emerged as Roberta Roe.

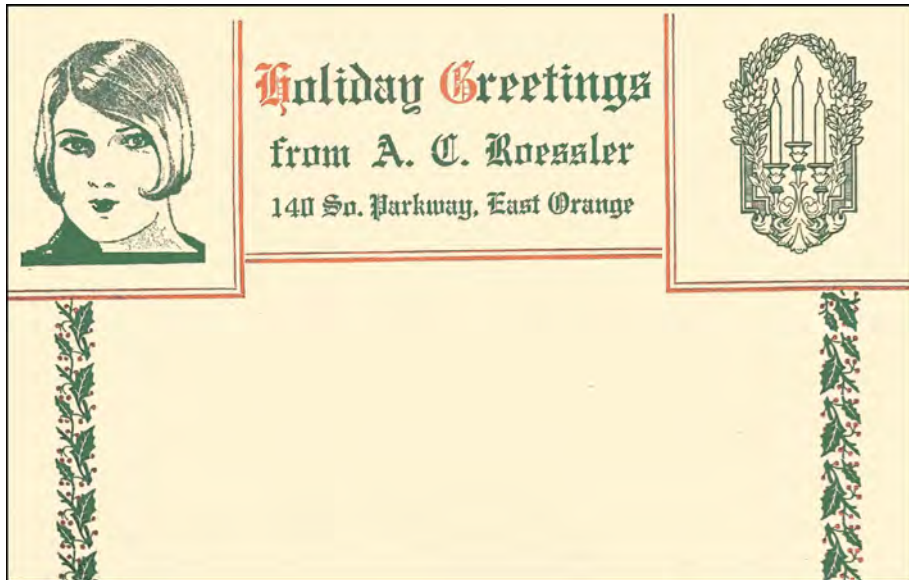


Fig. 31: Roberta Roe in “flapper mode.” A Roessler 1927 Christmas post card with Art Deco pixie.

MRS. A.C. ROE

Since A.C. Roe was his alter ego, we have to have a Mrs. A.C. Roe in order to have a daughter by this couple named Miss Roberta Roe, The Girl Stamp Dealer. Roessler seems to have been fastidious about the creation of Roberta Roe in every detail in order to give the character credibility and acceptance in the market. His staff must have been in hysterics with laughter from these zany “I Love Lucy” antics and the kidding and joking around all day in the Roessler atelier.

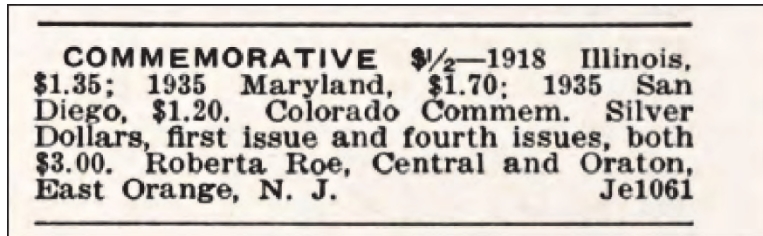
His fifth pseudonym in 1929 was Mrs. A. C. Roe.



Fig. 32: A cover sent from Roessler to a Mrs. A. C. Roe in Millen, Ga., Oct. 8, 1929.

One year and three months on probation after his Federal Court hearing on September 5, 1934,¹⁷ Roessler filed Roberta Roe as a Trade Name with the State of New Jersey File No. 613539. He then created a rubber address stamp Roberta Roe, The Girl Stamp Dealer.

In February 1935 he had an advertisement in *Hobbies* on page 56, (see *Figure 33*) selling U. S. commemorative silver coins and another ad selling stamps in *Stamps*,¹⁸ as Roberta Roe, Central and Oraton, East Orange, New Jersey.



*Fig. 33: Roberta Roe ad in Stamps, 1935.*¹⁹

On February 1, 1935, Roessler sent a letter as Roberta Roe to Congressman Charles Dunsmore Millard (1873-1944), Republican representative of New York, joining in the fray pointing to Postmaster General Farley as having unethically gifted rare imperforated stamps to friends that will have a very valuable market price for collectors. In the 1935 Congressional Record,²⁰ we find the following discussion in Congress about Roberta Roe:

"Dear Sir:

I can tell you how interested stamp collectors are in your resolution to have an investigation into the promiscuous handing out of favors by the Post Office Department in the form of imperforate sheets.

Suppose you know that Barney Gimbel, the Philadelphia department-store owner and "palsy-walsy" of Farley, received 10 sheets of the 2-cent park issue, for which I would have gladly given \$20,000 a sheet. I could make at least \$100,000 profit.

Yours truly,

Roberta Roe"

A photograph of two pages from the Congressional Record. The text on the page discusses a letter from a constituent named Roberta Roe, which was read into the record. It mentions that the letter claims to be from one of his constituents and gives information about Barney Gimbel, a philatelist who used a fictitious name to obtain stamps from the Post Office Department. The text also mentions that Gimbel was indicted and sentenced to the penitentiary, and was admitted to probation in June 1933. The text concludes by stating that the truth is that Barney Gimbel never got, never had, and does not now have one of these sheets of stamps. The text is enclosed in a rectangular border.

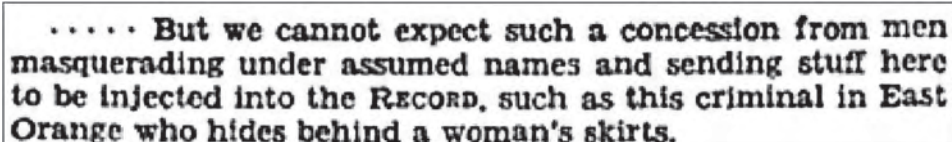
Fig. 34: Pages from the Congressional Record.

Congressman Donald Claude Dobbins (1878-1943), a Democrat from Illinois protested the letter sent in by Roberta Roe, which revealed the identity as a convict from East Orange, New Jersey named A.C. Roessler, using a “fictitious name for the purpose of obtaining from the Post Office Department new issues of stamps after the quota allowed to him under his own name had been exhausted.”

Dobbins strenuously denied Barney Gimbel ever received any of the imperforate sheets Farley was giving out as gifts, though he could hardly have known by thorough investigation on such short notice.

Dobbins concluded:

Fig. 35.



..... But we cannot expect such a concession from men masquerading under assumed names and sending stuff here to be injected into the RECORD, such as this criminal in East Orange who hides behind a woman's skirts.

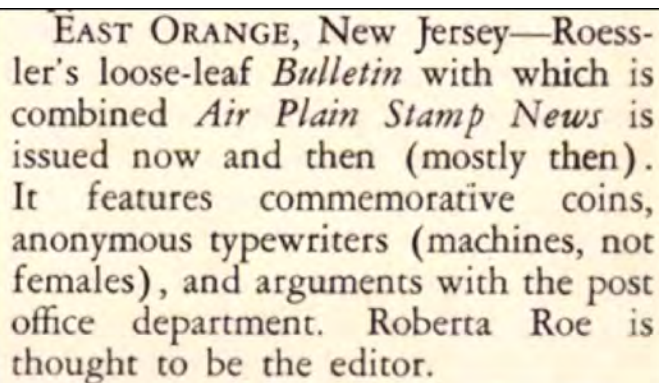
Clearly no love was lost between Roessler and the Post Office and his critics in the House of Representatives. Roessler's sentence was only a fine and probation, so much fuss about very little. Perhaps he had just “poked the bear” a few too many times.

But Roessler had a track record with Postal Inspectors investigating his methods of getting extra allotments for FDCs by either using fictitious names or using friends or relatives help him in Post Offices throughout the United States.

One such case in 1930 involved Henry Heins Cochran (1896-1960), of Charleston, South Carolina, who is cited in the Postal Inspector's letter published by Barry Newton, “Part 1 - A.C. Roessler vs. the USPOD: Relatives of PO Employees can't buy stamps?,”²² to whom he sent letters addressed as Mrs. H. H. Cochran, i.e. Eloise Hayne Hutchinson (1902-1988). Cochran worked as a supervisor in the Post Office and lived in Summerville, according to the Charleston City Directory (1930). Cochran was appointed Postmaster at Charleston on 1 October 1946.

Although Roessler was on probation since June 1933, none of this criticism on Congressman Dobbins' part had any impact on Roessler trading as Roberta Roe.

This was a report in *Stamps and Covers Review*, Vol. 1, No. 1, January (1937):



EAST ORANGE, New Jersey—Roessler's loose-leaf *Bulletin* with which is combined *Air Plain Stamp News* is issued now and then (mostly then). It features commemorative coins, anonymous typewriters (machines, not females), and arguments with the post office department. Roberta Roe is thought to be the editor.

Fig. 36: Roessler continues to use the Roberta Roe pseudonym with impunity at least until 1937, as this ad in *Stamps and Covers* shows.

B.F. ROESSLER

Roessler's sixth pseudonym was B. F. Roessler in March 1929. The confirmation that it is a pseudonym is the stamp on the verso Abs. (Absender = sender), i.e., sent by Roessler, East Orange, N.J. guaranteeing its return home after having been sent on a wild goose chase to the Post Office in Jerusalem, then in Palestine.

This sort of pseudonym is more whimsical than anything else. It merely demonstrates his passion for diversity and producing great variety among the many covers he ever mailed.

Other whimsical pseudonyms most probably exist and collectors can hunt for them in their collections or when viewing your next auction offering by reputable dealers.



Fig. 37: A "Dirigible Airmail" card sent to a B. F. Roessler in care of P.M. Lewis in Palestine is sent with Roessler's return address, in hopes it will be returned to him.

G. NELSON LYONS

A seventh pseudonym “G. Nelson Lyons” was incorrectly suggested by Kimo on Stamp Community online:²³

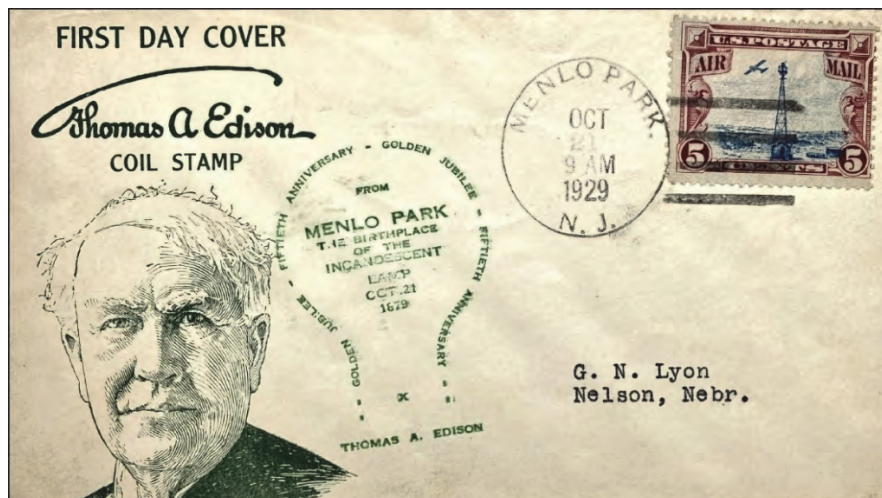


Fig. 38: A cover sent to a G.N. Lyon raised suspicions of another fictitious pseudonym for covers sent by Roessler, but in this case, the receiver was an actual person and subscriber to Roessler’s publications.

George Nelson Lyon (1885-1968) was not another fictitious pseudonym but a Nebraska lawyer and a subscriber to Roessler’s cached covers, including this one. Lyon lived in and is buried in Nelson, Nuckolls County, Nebraska.



Fig. 39: Gravestone marker for G. Nelson Lyon, verifying his existence, and not another Roessler pseudonym.

According to Barry Newton, who used the Edison cachet on the cover of his A.C. Roessler Photo Cachet Catalogue, little is known about the last 10-12 years of Roessler’s life.²⁴ By 1940 he was apparently out of business. The circumstances have never been fully explained, except that he complained of failing eyesight in the late 1930s, which may have made the type of work he did more difficult.

In 1944, Roessler received a letter from Parsons, of Parsons First Day Cover Service in Brooklyn, to a new address (146 No. 15th St, East Orange), looking to buy any covers Roessler might still have.²⁵ Parsons included a nice tribute to Roessler:

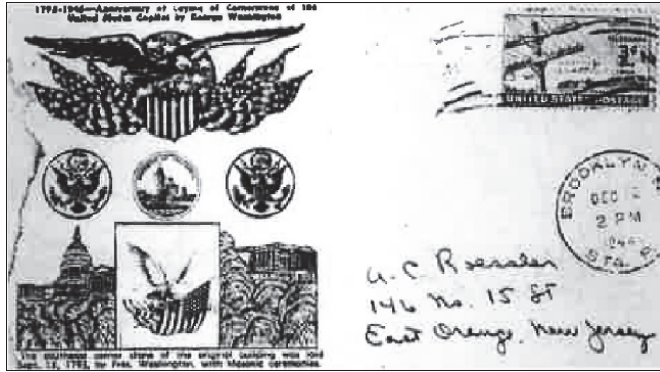


Fig. 40: A cover sent to Roessler in December 1944, from Parsons First Day Cover Service, inquiring for any material he might still have and wish to sell.²⁶

“Parsons, Box 74, Sta. P,
Brooklyn 12, NY

Dear Mr. Roessler,

If you run across any more stamps or covers, we'll be glad to get them. It's getting more difficult all the time now to get anything to sell. There was a note about you a short time ago in Stamps Magazine. There are a lot of dealers and collectors

who don't have any facts but who spread rumors and look at a cover that has your name on it and claim it a fake.²⁷ We explain to them that most of the good early covers were made by you and that if you hadn't thought of them, there would be a lot less of the good rarities. We point out that every big collection of covers has most of them with your name because you were the only dealer with enough imagination to see their possibilities. These collectors and dealers don't say anything but we think they talk less after that.

That note in Stamps magazine just backed us up because they wondered what had happened to Roessler who had sponsored those early rarities and they said that if it hadn't been for you, a lot of the good covers just wouldn't be.”

Roessler died in January of 1952 at age 69, and with him, a host of his other identities.

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- Bert, Adam, “Counterfeit FDC’s - Series 1917,” *First Days*, March-April (1975): 10.
- Charleston City Directory* (1930): 202.
- Congressional Record*, (1935): 1393, 1472-1473.
- Eugene N. Costales, “Reminiscences of A.C. Roessler,” *First Days*, Vol. 22, No. 2, March-April (1977): 32-33.
- The Daily Telegraph*, [London] 23 August (1929): 9.
- Stanley Fryczynski, Jr., “Albert C. Roessler,” *First Days*, Vol. 6, No. 5, May-June (1961):20.
- Stanley Fryczynski, Jr., reply to Col. L. H. Smith, Stamp Editor of the *Bergen Record* in “Letters to the Editor,” *First Days*, Vol. 6, No. 6, July-August (1961): 35.
- Stanley Fryczynski, Jr., “Revolutionary War Heroes of Foreign Birth,” *First Days*, Vol. 6, No. 3, Jan-Feb (1961): 34.
- Clark Heins, “The Heritage of Our Hobby,” *First Days*, Vol. 26, No. 4, July-August (1981): 578.
- Clark Heins, “Cachet Mystery Corner,” *First Days*, Vol. 30, No. 7, July (1985): 810.
- Herman Herst, “More Turning Back the Pages,” *First Days*, July-August (1970); 30.
- Herman Herst, in “News and Notes,” *First Days*, Vol. 26, No. 2, November-December (1980): 832.
- Hobbies*, February (1935): 56.
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- Newton, Barry, “Unofficial Cancellation,” *First Days*, Vol. 21, No. 6, November-December (1976): 27.
- Newton, Barry, in his *Photo Cachet Catalogue* (1977).
- Newton, Barry, “Part 1 - A.C. Roessler vs. the USPOD: Relatives of PO Employees can’t buy stamps?” *First Days*, Vol. 41, No. 1, January (1996): 26-27.
- Newton, Barry, “Roberta Roe - “Kindly advise to whom mail so addressed is delivered?” *First Days*, Vol. 45, No. 7, October (2000): 547.

Philatelic West, Vol. 51, No. 3, April 1911, cover.

Richard, Eric, (Intern Summer 2017) on the Smithsonian National Museum website.

Ritzer, Steve, "Albert C. Roessler," *First Days*, Vol. 14, No. 6, Nov-Dec (1969): 56.

Pat Siskin, "Roberta Roe Featured on a Roessler Stuffer," *First Days*, Vol. 19 No. 6, November-December (1974): 39-40.

Stamp Community: www.stampcommunity.org. Posted 09/05/2016, 11:49 am.

Stamp News, May 1910.

Stamp News October (1911): 242.

Stamps, Vol. 11, (1934): 249.

Stamps and Covers Review, Vol. 1, No. 1, January (1937): 37.

ENDNOTES:

- ¹ John Lupia III has written before in the pages of *NJPH* about the career and influence of Albert C. Roessler on the hobby of philately. See in particular, "A.C. Roessler, A Jersey Legend" in [Whole No. 211](#) (August 2018), and A.C. Roessler and Early Airmail in [Whole No. 216](#) (November 2019) for more information.
- ² Barry Newton, *A.C. Roessler: Photo Cachet Catalogue*, FDC Publishing, Stewartsville, NJ. 1977
- ³ Allison W. Cusick, "Letters to the Editor," *First Days*, Vol. 22, No. 2, March-April (1977): 32.
- ⁴ "Albert C. Roessler," *First Days*, Vol. 14, No. 6, Nov-Dec (1969): 56
- ⁵ "Letters to the Editor," *First Days*, Vol. 6, No. 6, July-August (1961): 35.
- ⁶ "Revolutionary War Heroes of Foreign Birth," *First Days*, Vol. 6, No. 3, Jan-Feb (1961): 34.
- ⁷ "News and Notes," *First Days*, Vol. 26, No. 2, November-December (1980): 832.
- ⁸ "Unofficial Cancellation," *First Days*, Vol. 21, No. 6, November-December (1976) 27
- ⁹ Barry Newton, "Roberta Roe –Kindly advise to whom mail so addressed is delivered?" *First Days*, Vol. 45, No. 7, October (2000): 547.
- ¹⁰ Herman Herst, "More Turning Back the Pages," *First Days*, July-August (1970) ; 30
- ¹¹ Clark Heins, "The Heritage of Our Hobby," *First Days*, Vol. 26, No. 4, July-August (1981): 578
- ¹² Clark Heins, "Cachet Mystery Corner," *First Days*, Vol. 30, No. 7, July (1985): 810
- ¹³ *Sunday Call*, January 25, 1920, Part III, Special and Personal, page 3.
- ¹⁴ Pat Siskin, "Roberta Roe Featured on a Roessler Stuffer," *First Days*, Vol. 19 No. 6, Nov-Dec (1974): 39-40.
- ¹⁵ Stanley Fryczynski, Jr. "Albert C. Roessler," *First Days*, Vol. 6, No. 5, May-June (1961): 20.
- ¹⁶ Adam Bert, "Counterfeit FDC's - Series 1917 "Counterfeit FDC's - Series 1917," *First Days*, March-April (1975): 10.
- ¹⁷ Leo August, "Electric Light's Golden Jubilee: The Ceremony at Menlo Park," *First Days*, Vol. 3, No. 6, Jul-Aug (1958): 11.
- ¹⁸ For further information on this part of the Roessler saga, see NJPHS Featured article, "A.C. Roessler, a Jersey Legend," NJPHS, Featured article at <https://njpostalhistory.org/a-c-roessler-a-jersey-legend/>, pp. 131-133 (*NJPH Whole No. 211*, August 2018).
- ¹⁹ *Stamps*, Vol. 11, 249.
- ²⁰ Hobbies, February 1935, page 56.
- ²¹ 1935 Congressional Record, pages, 1393, 1472-1473.
- ²² Barry Newton, "Part I - A.C. Roessler vs. the USPOD: Relatives of PO Employees can't buy stamps?" *First Days*, Vol. 41, No. 1, January (1996): 26-27.
- ²³ Posted by Kimo on 09/05/2016 11:49 am. on Stamp Community Forum at www.stampcommunity.org
- ²⁴ Barry Newton, *A.C. Roessler Photo Cachet Catalogue*, FDC Publishing, Stewartsville, NJ, Jan 1977, p.106.
- ²⁵ Steve Ritzer, "A.C. Roessler - New 1944 Address and Letter," *First Days*, Vol. 39, No. 8, December (1994): 647.
- ²⁶ *Ibid*, *First Days*, December 1994, showing this cover from correspondence with Albert Roessler in 1944, addressed to 146 N. 15th St, East Orange, N.J.
- ²⁷ The author of this article points out that none of Roessler's critics and name callers are credible, since neither the United States Postal Service inspectors nor the Federal Bureau of Investigation would have failed to spot them, cite him for them, fine and imprison him for them if even a scintilla of evidence were true. The government did not take kindly to any type of fraud in the mail. According to the U.S. government the only fraud he created was the fake New York postmark on the 1931 Wilkins-Ellsworth Trans Arctic Submarine Expedition on the Nautilus from New York to the North Pole. Accordingly, Roessler was charged with defrauding through the mail, having advertised he had validly postmarked covers to sell when in fact his mailbag missed that boat and he unfortunately faked the postmark.

Commemorating Our 50 Year Anniversary, we are bringing you another “Looking Backward” article.

Looking Backward, Part III: THE BLIZZARD MAIL LOCAL

By Harry M. Konweiser¹

*Bayonne’s Blizzard Mail stamp, Scott #163L, ranks as one of the great local rarities. It was not included in the extensive collections of locals formed by Caspary, Lilly and Middendorf. Neither was an example contained in either the Golden or Hall collections. A Robert A. Siegel Auction held in June 2000 sold a large consignment of locals from the Richard Schwartz collection including a copy the Blizzard Mail local. Nearly 50 years ago, **NJPH** reprinted an article authored by the late postal historian Harry M. Konweiser which detailed the history of this local and correctly described its New Jersey connection. His article was reprinted a second time in these pages in 2001.*

*As we look back again and celebrate our Society’s 50th anniversary, we reprint it below in a slightly abbreviated and modified format, with bracketed additions and further commentary from a 1995 article by Gordon Stimmell published in *The Penny Post*, the journal of the Carriers and Locals Society as well as a history of the stamp’s appearance at auction. RGR*

The Big Blizzard of 1888, a memorable event in the metropolitan New York district, left its imprint on American Philately, because it brought about an unofficial Carrier Stamp, as issued by a “private Local Post.” This post was first publicized in *Mekeel’s Weekly Stamp News* in 1890, in a story by William H. (Doc) Mitchell, a stamp collector who had edited and published “The Independent Philatelist” in 1883 from Bayonne, New Jersey.



Courtesy Robert A. Siegel Auction Galleries, Inc., United States Stamps and Postal History, June 27-29, 2000, Sale No. 825, lot 1588.

Fig. 1: An unused copy of the Blizzard Local Stamp, Scott #163L.

According to Mitchell, the snowstorm began Sunday night, March 12, 1888, piling up great drifts, and on Monday the natives (of his town) were surprised to be told, after struggling to the railroad depot expecting to travel to their labors in New York, that New York trains were not running.

Commuters hoping to reach New York were told the trip - eight miles to the Hudson River "was an impossible operation for the Central Railroad of New Jersey." Other railroads operating trains coming to Jersey City, opposite the lower end of Manhattan Island, were also slowed up by the heavy snow. The snowbound commuters were philosophical - in the main. [At least 200 died in New York City.]

"On Tuesday at 12 noon the Steamer Chancellor of the New York-Elizabethport Ferry Line arrived from New York, bringing back Jersey residents who had been snowed-in at New York Monday night," Mitchell noted. This vessel did not bring in any mail, due no doubt, to the existing contracts for carrying mail from New York to Bayonne.

Mitchell spent much time on the Bayonne streets, he wrote, and was in the post office where businessmen of Bergen Point were anxiously inquiring for mail as well as seeking information as to when services would be resumed. Postmaster C.T. Munn could not give the sought-for-information, merely stating resumption of mail service depended upon the railroads.

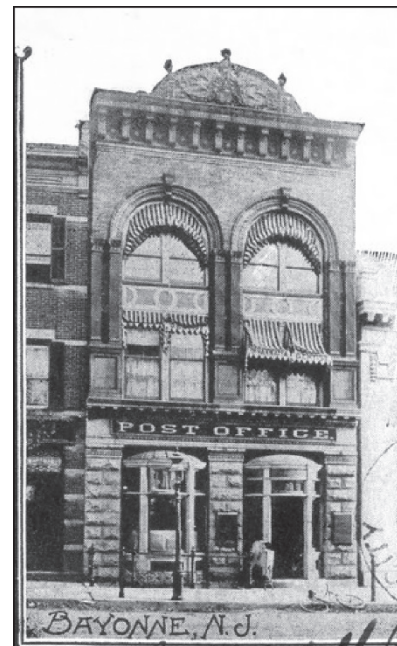
Mitchell is supposed to have said, "If we had a messenger service the mail could go through, also if we had an old-time private mail service, letters would go through." [I'll take all letters through for five cents each to the New York post office.]"

As a specialist writer on local stamps, Mitchell was familiar with the excellent service rendered by "non-official posts" of the 1840s and 1860s. Discussions on how and when resulted in Mitchell's reply "at 2:30 this afternoon."

Ten minutes later a statement was placed on a telegraph pole, in front of the post office building reading: "During the blockade of the railroad, letters only will be taken direct to Bergen Point to the New York Post Office. Letters may be left at W.H. Mitchell's office, opposite depot or with Mr. Seward at Ayers' Drug Store.

William H. Mitchell"

The proprietor of the "Blizzard Mail Service" then visited Dr. A.W. Seward at the drug store where the store's small printing press, used for printing labels, was used. In addition to several fonts of type, this printery had a cut of the Seal of New Jersey and so this was used. Mitchell insisted on using watermarked quadrille paper.



Picture credit: Doug Davino's NJ Post Offices on Post Cards

Fig. 2: Bayonne post office, unable to provide service to New York in March of 1888 due to storm.

According to the Mitchell story, about 300 stamps were printed in one hour and pasted on letters collected; stamps were cancelled in red with a rubber device. The method of transport, according to Gordon Stimmell, was by sleigh.² The first letters went to New York, on the Chancellor's first afternoon trip with instructions to stuff the letters in the nearest New York street letter box. This could have been either on Cortlandt or Liberty Street.

The fee, of 5¢ for each letter, paid for the required U.S. 2¢ stamp placed on the envelopes, while the 3¢ balance went to the messenger (carrier), who returned by boat at 5 o'clock. According to the Mitchell story, on which the present story relies, the first carrier trip brought \$2.75. There is no mention of the cost of the stamps, if any was incurred. One might assume Mitchell as a stamp collector interested in local and carrier stamps, might have had "some sort of idea" of future values of the remainders, or even reprints - these things being "good sellers" in 1888 and later periods.



Fig. 3: Dr. William H. Mitchell, a Bayonne dentist, editor of the *Independent Philatelist*³ & creator of the *Blizzard Mail Local* stamp.

Five trips were made, as on Tuesday, Wednesday, and Thursday, stopping on Friday morning when the U.S. mail arrived.

The Big Blizzard was soon forgotten by New Jersey and New York residents who had been inconvenienced by the snowstorm, but when the stamp collectors learned of this private mail route and its adhesive stamp, issued without gum, their interest was aroused. This interest was heightened when *The New York World*, March 15, 1888, printed a story as:

Since the blockade on the railroad on Monday, no mail matter has been received or dispatched from Bergen Point. One enterprising young man has been taking the mail into the city via the steamboat Chancellor. A special postage stamp has been devised for the occasion of a unique design. A fee of 5¢ is charged of which 2¢ is charged for the Government postage. The rest is the proceeds of the enterprise. Several hundreds of letters have thus been started on their way.

Mitchell draws attention, in the story he wrote in 1890, that the inscription is "TO THE N.Y. POST OFFICE" and also wrote that a few specials were asked for, with replies to be returned via the delivery man.

Unused copies of the stamp, properly used, showing the New York Post Office marking are believed to be scarce. One such was known to exist in the collection of the late Dr. Warren. Now and then a few "unused copies!" turn up, or a copy "cancelled on cover" addressed to a Bayonne street is reported. But the overall picture indicates this short-lived independent carrier service left not many remainders for philately to seek.

Hereafter is additional information to the original article:

Stimmell's *Penny Post* article refers to a letter that Mitchell wrote in 1894 in which he states "that about 800 were used in mail toward New York . . . I have about 100 left over that I will present to any local crank who takes interest enough to send me 3 cents for postage."⁴ Stimmell notes "that a few contradictions lurk here. In 1890 300 stamps were printed. Here we have 800 used. . . In 1890, he had no stamps left, the remainders having been given away (he likely didn't want beggars flooding him with mail) but in 1894 he still had 100 in his possession."⁵

Stimmell also takes issue with an article by Henry C. Needham which appeared in Konweiser's *Postal Markings* in 1934 stating that "some 500 letters were used"⁶ as "not legitimate since no New York City received usage has survived."⁷



Hoboken Historical Museum

Figs. 4 & 5: Street views in Hoboken, showing the results of the storm.



Fig. 5. Hoboken Historical Museum



Newark Public Library

Fig. 6: A view from Newark- clearing the streets.

The records of available auctions include the sale of only two examples of the Blizzard Mail local. Stimmell, a one-time owner of one of the two, wrote that "no examples of the stamp have been found used on covers, whether locally in Bayonne, or legitimately via steamer to New York City in the blizzard."⁸ The first example of record, as reported by Stimmell, was included in an Ivy Shreve & Mader sale held in June 1994, lot 1675.⁹ It sold at hammer for \$1,100 plus a buyer's commission. Described as a full "mint" example, the back of the stamp had a penciled notation "Complimentary/ Dr. W.H. Mitchell's Own Post / Mar. 13-16, 88." The auction description presumably refers to the stamp's unused state since the stamp was issued without gum. None of the stamps' subsequent sales descriptions refer to the presence of the penciled notation.

The Blizzard Mail stamp next appeared at auction in the sale of "Carriers and Locals from the Richard Schwartz Collection," sold by Robert A. Siegel Auction Galleries in sale #825 on June 27, 2000 as illustrated in *Figure 1*.¹⁰ In its description, the locale of the stamp's origin is stated as "New York, N.Y" presumably because the stamp is inscribed "N.Y.P.O." However, that is the destination of the local's use, not its Bayonne origin. Described as unused and without gum, with huge margins and extremely fine, against an estimate of \$1,000 to \$1,500, it sold at hammer for \$7,500 plus a 10% buyer's commission for a total of \$8,250. This stamp was next sold in the Siegel sale #925 of the "Edgar Kuphal Collection of Carriers and Locals" on November 15, 2006. Against a Scott catalog value of \$2,750 (despite its realization of \$7,500 six years earlier) it sold for \$3,250 at hammer plus a buyer's commission of 15% for a total of \$3,737.50.

The second reported example of the Blizzard Mail local, illustrated below in *Figure 7*, appeared in a Siegel auction #1117 on December 17, 2015. The seller was not identified in the auction catalog.



Courtesy Robert A. Siegel Auction Galleries, Inc.¹¹

Fig. 7. Second example of the Blizzard Mail Local

This stamp, with smaller margins than the other recorded example, was described as having “original gum applied to only the four corners.” However, as detailed above, the stamps were issued without gum and were “pasted” on letters when sold. The stamp is described as extremely fine despite an “inconsequential diagonal crease.” With a catalog value of \$3,750 based on its realization in the Kuphal sale nine years earlier, it sold at hammer for its full catalog value plus a buyer’s commission of 15% for a total of \$4,312.50.

Additional auction sale records of the Blizzard Mail local are most welcome, with further special attention to the Scott Catalog listing of two sub-varieties: #163La. “CETNS” instead of “CENTS” and #163Lb. Tête bêche pair.” Query: What documented information is the source of these listings?

ENDNOTES:

¹ Henry M. Konweiser, “The Blizzard Mail Local,” *NJPH*, Vol. 2, No. 6, January 1974. (*NJPH* Reprint pp. 16-17) originally appeared in *The American Philatelist*, 1951. This article was reprinted again in *NJPH*, Vol. 29, No.1, Whole Number 141, March 2001.

² *Op cit.*, Stimmell – in information supplied by Siegel Auctions.

³ Calvet Hahn, *The Penny Post*, [Vol. 6, No. 2, April 1996](#), describes Mitchell as a Bayonne dentist with a keen interest in local posts.

⁴ Gordon Stimmell, “The Blizzard Mail Stamp, *The Penny Post*, Vol. 5, January 1995, p. 8.

⁵ *Ibid.*

⁶ Henry C. Needham, *Postal Markings*, Whole No. 33, March 1934, p.261. At the foot of his article, Needham writes in capitals; “WHO HAS A COVER SHOWING THE BAYONNE BLIZZARD STAMP PROPERLY USED.” No published response was forthcoming.

⁷ Stimmell, *op. cit.*, p. 9.

⁸ *Ibid.*

⁹ *Ibid.*

¹⁰ Robert A. Siegel Auction Galleries, Inc., “U.S. Stamps and Covers, Foreign, June 27-29, 2000, Sale No. 825, lot 1588.

¹¹ Robert A. Siegel Auction Galleries, Inc., “U.S. & C.S.A. Postal History.” Dec. 17, 2015, Sale No. 1117, lot 4314.

**THREE CENT PREXY COVER from a
PRISONER at TRENTON STATE PRISON**

BY ROBERT G. ROSE

At a recent stamp show I stopped to look at covers in a box of mostly modern postal history. A rather non-descript cover with its original letter caught my eye. It was posted with a three cent Presidential stamp, Scott #807. I recognized the printed return address, DRAWER N, Trenton, New Jersey, as the location of New Jersey's Trenton State Prison, its maximum security prison. The cover, illustrated below in *Figure 1*, was postmarked in Trenton on May 25, 1939. It is addressed to "Orville C. Cole, Warren County Juryman, Washington, New Jersey (Personal)." Why would a letter be directed from a maximum security prisoner to a "Juryman" living in Washington, NJ?

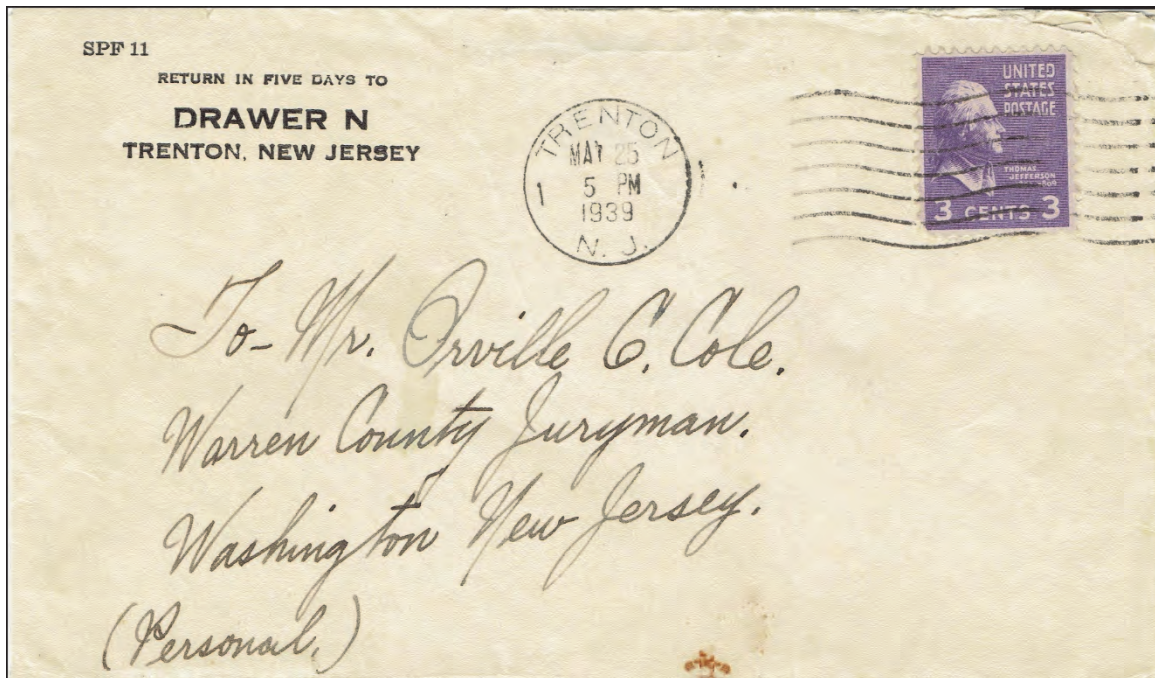


Fig. 1: Cover from Trenton State Prison, sent May 25, 1939 from Trenton to Washington, N.J.

The letter, dated May 16, 1939, illustrated in *Figure 2*, is hand stamped with a purple censored marking. The prisoner, who identified himself as "J. Thompson, Reg. 8548," writes that he was serving a sentence of life in prison for murder, and of his intention to file an application for a parole, having served 14 years of that sentence. The letter's recipient, Orville Cole, sat on the jury that convicted Thompson. Thompson, seeking Cole's support writes: "Let me know how you feel about me having another chance at my freedom . . ."

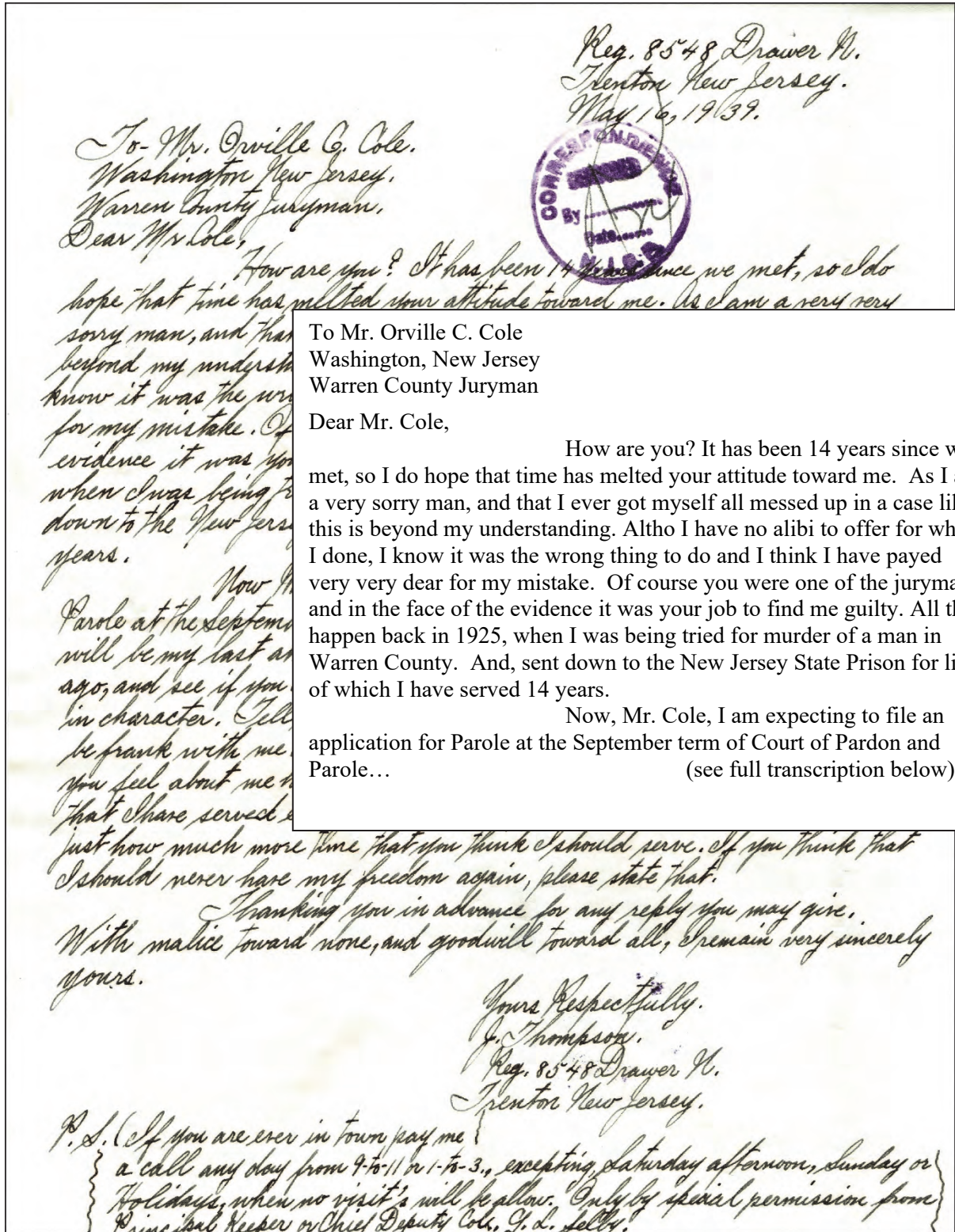


Fig. 2: Letter from prisoner J. Thompson to Orville Cole, "jurymen."

THREE CENT PREXIE COVER from TRENTON STATE PRISON~ Robert G. Rose

Here is a transcription:

Reg, 8548 Drawer N
Trenton, New Jersey
May 16, 1939

To Mr. Orville C. Cole
Washington, New Jersey
Warren County Juryman

Dear Mr. Cole,

How are you? It has been 14 years since we met, so I do hope that time has melted your attitude toward me. As I am a very sorry man, and that I ever got myself all messed up in a case like this is beyond my understanding. Altho I have no alibi to offer for what I done, I know it was the wrong thing to do and I think I have payed very very dear for my mistake. Of course you were one of the juryman, and in the face of the evidence it was your job to find me guilty. All this happen back in 1925, when I was being tried for murder of a man in Warren County. And, sent down to the New Jersey State Prison for life, of which I have served 14 years.

Now, Mr. Cole, I am expecting to file an application for Parole at the September term of Court of Pardon and Parole. At which I hope will be my last attempt. Please if you can, try to think back 14 years ago, and see if you can recall what I was like and how I impressed you in character. Tell me how you feel about me being Parole, above all things be frank with me and say just what you think. Let me know how you feel about me having another chance at my freedom, and do you think that I have served enough time or that I should serve more. Please state just how much more time that you think I should serve. If you think that I should never have my freedom again, please state that.

Thanking you in advance for any reply you may give. With malice toward none, and goodwill toward all, I remain very sincerely yours.

Yours respectfully
J. Thompson
Reg. 8548 Drawer N
Trenton, New Jersey

P.S. (If you are ever in town pay me a call any day from 9-11 or 1 to 3, excepting Saturday afternoon, Sunday or Holidays, when no visits will be allowed. Only by special permission from Principal Keeper or Chief Deputy Com. G.L. Selby.

Fig. 3: The letter is a plea to a juryman at the original 1925 trial, for leniency and a recommendation for parole.

Internet research failed to provide any background information concerning Orville Cole. However, a request for a review of Trenton State Prison records held in the archives of the New Jersey State Historical Commission provided the following information about J. Thompson, as pieced together below.

Robert G. Rose ~ THREE CENT PREXIE COVER from TRENTON STATE PRISON

John Thompson was born in Baltimore, Maryland on December 4, 1904. He was tried for first degree murder in Warren County, convicted on May 11, 1925 and incarcerated in Trenton State Prison on May 16, 1925 at age 20, and recorded as prisoner No. 8548. He was paroled on November 23, 1943, having served 18 years in prison.

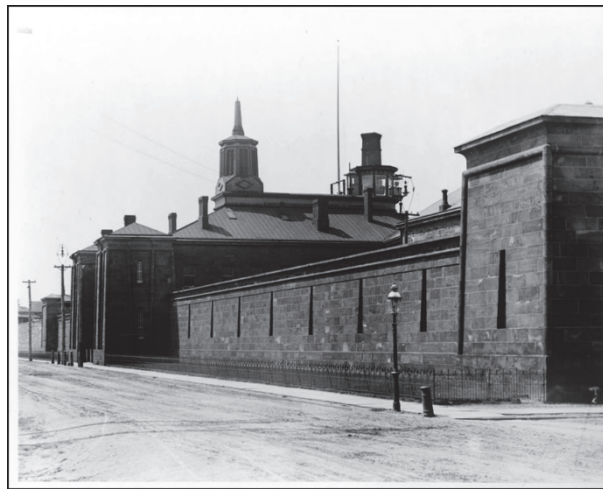
NEW JERSEY STATE PRISON										
NUMBER	NAME	CRIME	Plea	WHEN RECEIVED	White or Colored	Age	County or Court Where Committed	No. of Commitments	WHEN SENTENCED	MINIMUM SENTENCE Years Mo. Ds.
1905	Walter Laird	Murder		May 15, 1924		20				
1906	James Pettit	Murder		May 15, 1925		19		1		
4264	John Thompson	Murder - 1st Degree		May 16, 1925		20	Warren	1		
1858	Charles Baer	Att. Slaying from the Prison		May 18, 1925		31	Passaic	1		

Fig. 4: The New Jersey State Prison Record, showing John Thompson, #8548, whose crime was 1st Degree Murder, received into the State Prison on May 16, 1925.

Life	37			✓ Died	Jan 1933
Life	37	Thos W. Bruckard		✓ Paroled	Nov 23, 1943

Fig. 5: The continuation of his record in Trenton shows he was paroled November 23, 1943. He would then have been just shy of his 39th birthday.

It appears that Thompson finally won his appeal for parole from the Court of Pardon and Parole.



Picture credit: Historic American Buildings Survey (Library of Congress):¹ HABS # NJ 874-16, Ca. 1930s, LOC.

Fig. 6: New Jersey State Prison, Trenton (one of the oldest prisons in the country, and still in use.) It is described as “a complex that consists of three separate but interconnected physical plants from three different eras of prison construction that took place on the property.² The three sections are the 1798 Penitentiary House, the 1832 Fortress Penitentiary, and the 1982 contemporary prison facility.”

¹ Historic American Buildings Survey (Library of Congress): HABS # NJ 874-16, Ca. 1930s, LOC.

² Wikipedia, https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/New_Jersey_State_Prison.

**Looking Backward: Part IV:
OVER THERE! A Jersey City Doughboy's Journey to France and Home**

By John A. Trosky

Over the next two years* America will remember those who fought and died “Over There” as we honor those who served during this centennial remembrance of US involvement in World War I. The Great War, the War To End All Wars, just the names conjure images of doughboys going over the top, Black Jack Pershing, Liberty Bonds and the untold slaughter of men by artillery barrage and machine guns amid the stalemate in the trenches on the Western Front in France. The carnage had already been going on for more than two years before the United States became a party to the conflict on April 6, 1917. With the Imperial German Navy resuming unrestricted submarine warfare and the exposing of the “Zimmerman” telegram sent by Germany seeking an alliance with Mexico to invade across the southern US border, President Woodrow Wilson asked for a declaration of war.

Because of American distaste for a standing army, it was necessary to seek volunteers and conscripts to form a National Army for the purposes of fighting in France. This army was raised largely from the core of the old US Army which was mostly used to defend borders and suppress Indian activity in the West, along with National Guard units and a large draft of able-bodied men. Eventually all land units would be called the United States Army, which leads us to the cover shown below.



Fig. 1: This heavily damaged cover is franked with a single Scott #529 which pays the war rate of 3 cents per ounce that was effective in 1917. The cover is cancelled with a Jersey City machine cancel dated October 6, 1918.

*Note this article was first published in 2016, as we neared the centennial remembrance of WWI. See [Whole No 204, Nov 2016 NJPH](#).



Fig. 2: The reverse side of the cover featuring the “Returned USA 1/22/19” endorsement along with a Washington DC received machine cancel dated May 2, 1919.

The cover was sent to Private Louis Marmorstein of the 79th Field Artillery Head Quarters Company of the American Expeditionary Forces most likely by his parents in Jersey City. The corner card on the cover indicates a clothing shop of the same name in the Greenville section of the city. His original draft registration is shown in an addendum at the end of this article. He was most likely rejected for service during the initial draft of 1916 as shown on his draft card of that era. However, as was the case for many previously rejected draftees, he was inducted during the second or third draft in the years 1917 or 1918. His prior reasons for being rejected may not have been sufficient during later drafts.

The 79th Field Artillery to which he was assigned was originally constituted as a cavalry unit in 1916, organized in June 1917 at Fort Riley, Kansas, and then designated as a field artillery unit in November 1917. It was later assigned to the 7th Division on December 6th, 1917 in Georgia. The entire division then set sail from Hoboken, NJ aboard the SS *Leviathan*, a former German steamship named *Vaterland* that was seized by the US government and converted into a troop ship at the very same Hoboken NJ piers which belonged to the Hamburg-Amerika Linie. Once arrived in France, the division saw limited action at full strength but elements did engage German forces on the front. The division was used on the front lines late in 1918 which has relevance to the cover above. The 7th engaged in both infantry combat, shell fire and chemical attacks near Saint Mihiel and the Moselle River valley in Lorraine. In the final 33 days of combat before the armistice on November 11th, the division sustained 1709 casualties of which 204 were killed in action and 1505 wounded; Pvt. Marmorstein may have been one of them.

LOOKING BACKWARD: Part IV: John Trosky ~ A Jersey City Doughboy's Journey

Whether Pvt. Marmorstein was wounded or not is unknown. However, the cover contains a notation that he was sent for some time to Camp Hospital 31, Camp de Meucon in the Department of Morbihan in Brittany. This is different from Field Hospital 31 in Contrexeville in the Vosges Department of France. There were over 75 of these field hospitals in the rear of the front throughout France to tend to the wounded. They were created from seminaries, convents, colleges, hotels, wooden barracks and field tents. The Camp Hospital 31 served double duty as not only a hospital to treat wounded but was also the site of an old French artillery training school. This served the American Expeditionary Forces as an artillery training center as well, the hospital being only 3 km down the road. The hospital consisted of 12 stone barracks type buildings with 60 beds each along with other wood and stone smaller structures for support. It is not known how long Pvt. Marmorstein remained there. Was he sent there for training as a member of the 79th Field Artillery HQ Company or was he, in fact, wounded in the recent combat in the Vosges? The hospital saw a severe epidemic of influenza/pneumonia during the months of August, September and October of 1918. Could Pvt. Marmorstein have been a victim of the influenza outbreak of 1918? The US Army suffered modestly compared to the other belligerents in the war with 116,516 deaths and 320,000 sick and wounded out of 4,700,000 who served. However, the army lost more personnel in World War I to disease (63,114) than to combat (53,402) largely due to this epidemic.



Fig. 3: Where the Road to the Base Hospital Began at the Front, the Aid Station. This one from the 79th Division.

Additional notations are made and also crossed out for Saint Aignan, which is misspelled as *Aignon*. There was an Infirmary #1 located at this town which was an annex of Camp Hospital #26. Prior to the war it was operated as the Hospice De Saint Aignan by a group of nuns. This annex was needed for the Camp Hospital due to the large numbers of troops in the area. This hospital treated few wounded or gassed patients, mostly old wounds and conditions requiring re-hospitalization. Many suffering from the influenza epidemic were treated here with as many as 144 patients listed as deceased in the month of October 1918 alone from the disease.

Another notation in pencil is Blois. This is the capital for the Loire et Cher department in which Saint Aignan resides. This was the location of Field Hospital #43 that comprised a series of seven hotels. Knowing the types of hospitals and the time of year in 1918 that Pvt. Marmorstein was a patient and the fact that he was attached to a headquarters unit with the artillery, it is highly likely that he may have been a victim of the influenza epidemic sweeping the world rather than any combat wounds.



Fig. 4: Typical surgical ward at a forward base hospital in France. This one a Type "A" constructed unit.

On the 11th hour of the 11th day of the 11th month, November, 1918, the guns on the western front fell silent for the first time in over four years. Pvt. Marmorstein may well have still been hospitalized. The back flap of the cover indicates that he was returned home on January 22, 1919. This cover, however, took a lot longer to get delivered to the addressee as it followed him from hospital to hospital. Notice the Washington, DC machine cancel backstamp dated May 2, 1919, a full four months after Pvt. Marmorstein returned home. The cover was redirected to the sender at 665 Ocean Avenue in Jersey City for a round trip time of seven months on its long journey to the trenches of France and back home.

During the war there was an unprecedented amount of mail being dispatched to US troops overseas. Between July 1, 1917 and June 30, 1918 over 35 million letters were sent from the home front to France and at least 15 million sent by doughboys going in the opposite direction. Initially, the State Department designated Charles Leary to run postal operations for the army in France. He took many Post Office Department employees overseas to staff these new Army Post Offices. Most of these POD employees were from the Railway Mail Service. These civilian RPO clerks and supervisors were detailed to the AEF Postal Administration the backbone of mail delivery. After April 1917 and US entry into WWI, RPO clerks were exempted from military service but many joined up anyway. The backlog of mail to and from troops due to a shortage of qualified personnel became a crisis. With the loss of many experienced postal employees to army service, it was truly a struggle to not only set up service to the troops but to also maintain it.

LOOKING BACKWARD: Part IV: John Trosky ~ A Jersey City Doughboy's Journey

Two terminals were established to handle all military mail to the front, one in NYC and another in Bordeaux, France where 18 RPO train routes to the front were set up along with six closed pouch lines. The terminal in Bordeaux distributed tons of mail per month. The New York terminal was located at the Chelsea Railway Mail Service Terminal at Pier 86 at the foot of West 46th Street in Manhattan. Conditions for workers there were miserable at best which included wearing overcoats and gloves in freezing winter temperatures and excessive heat in summer. They dealt with mail that was poorly addressed (as, 110th Engineers, France) until the Army began to standardize addressing. Many “dollar-a-year” volunteers chose to help out the RMS clerks to get mail to the boys “over there.”

It was at this terminal in New York City that the letter to Pvt. Marmorstein was consolidated with thousands of others from across the country and placed on ships going to AEF troops in France. This same terminal received all of the mail dispatched by the Bordeaux terminal in France and distributed this mail to various RPOs and post offices in order for families to receive word from their doughboy fighting at the front. In May 1918, military personnel eventually took over all operations from the Post Office Department. This became the Military Postal Express Service, the first all military mail system in United States history. By December 1918, upwards of 131,900 sacks of mail had been dispatched from the Chelsea RMS terminal and it received 25,532 from France. At one point, the new Military Postal Express Service handled more mail than the entire French civilian postal system. Since mail service was sort of a work in progress, this may have been the reason that the letter to Private Marmorstein took the long route in finding him. Typical were comments such as those of Major Edwin C. McNeil in a letter home in 1918:

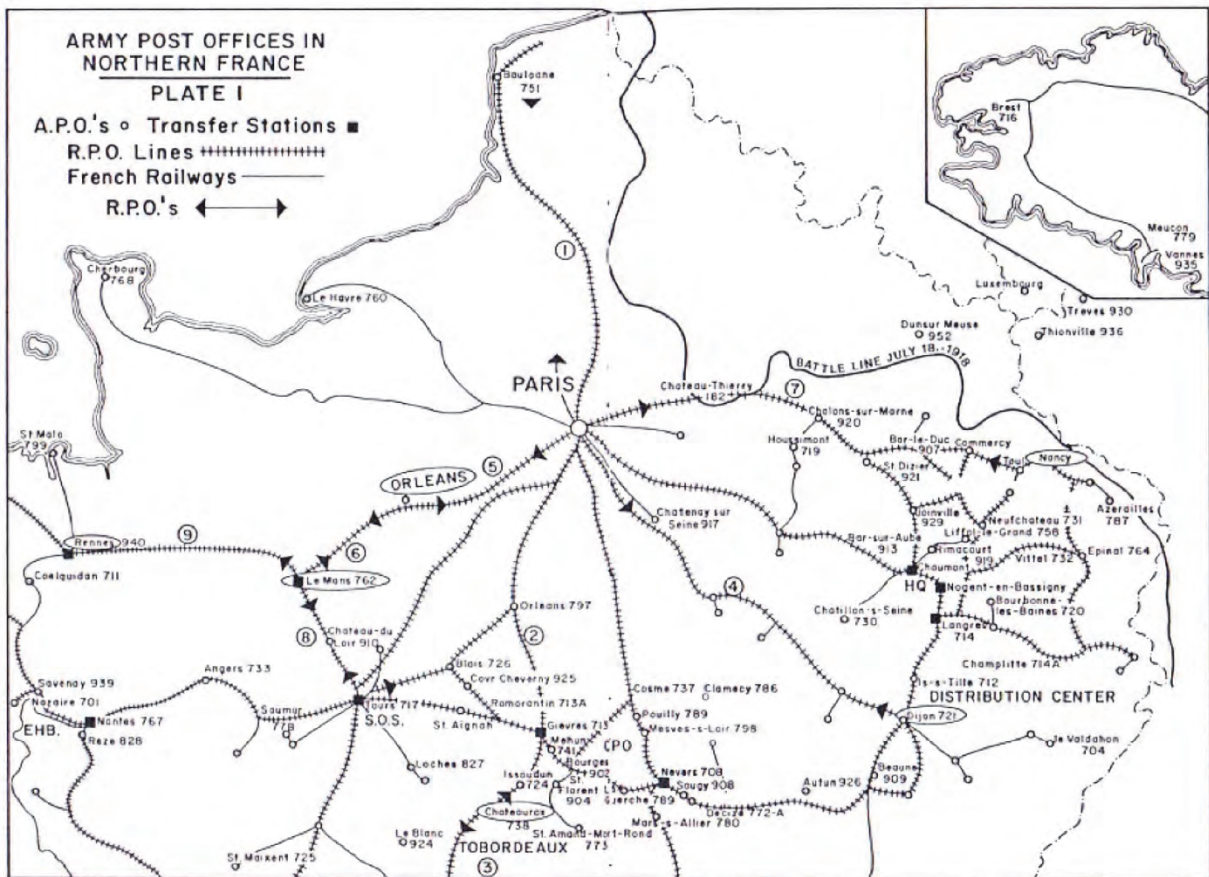
The mails don't come very regularly. It's been a week now since I've had any letters. I checked up and found I was short 13 of your letters....Lord knows where they go...No matter what they say in Congress, mail service here is very bad. My baggage from San Antonio has arrived after 2 ½ months and the box of books which I need most has still not come.



Fig. 5: Processing mail for the troops at the front at Saint Pierre des Corps.



Fig.6: Actual MPES postmark from late 1918 just after the Armistice was signed on November 11th.



Map 1: Army offices in Northern France

Fig.7: Map of RPO routes in Northern France for AEF mail delivery.

Records of the 1940 Census show a Louis Marmorstein living in Ward 7 of Jersey City, in the Greenville area, age 48. If this is the same person he would have been 26 in 1918 and a prime candidate for service in the United States Army. He obviously survived the war and went on to remain in Jersey City long after the war. Social Security death records indicate he died in February 1966.



Fig. 8: *The troops knew their letters would get home.*

*[The many nice photos Trosky used here are from a blogsite on World War I called Roads to the Great War, at https://roadstothegreatwar-ww1.blogspot.com/2016/10/the-railway-mail-service-goes-to-war_8.html. Figure 8 above, from that same website, is an exception which we have added in. Content is from articles Parts I and II by *The Railway Mail Service Goes to War: Bringing the Mail to Doughboys in World War I, Parts I and II*, by David Thompson.]*



Below is further information which I was able to find which helps complete this story of Louis Marmorstein from World War I, and again in World War II.

ADDENDUM: Draft registration cards for Louis Marmorstein:

Draft registration records are available on various genealogical sites, and are often a source for further information on individuals. For Louis Marmorstein we have the following, from Ancestry.com:

REGISTRAR'S REPORT

1. Tell whether or not you report what is stated above.
 2. Color of eyes: Blue
 3. Hair: Dark

Form 1 REGISTRATION CARD No. 247

1. Name in full: Louis Marmorstein
 2. Home address: 665 Ocean Av. J.C. N.J.
 3. Date of birth: Aug 19 1891
 4. Occupation: Electrician
 5. Where born: NY N.Y. U.S.
 6. If not a citizen, of what country are you a citizen or subject?
 7. What is your present trade, occupation, or office?
 8. By what employer?
 9. Have you a father, mother, wife, child under 18, or a child or brother under 18, who is dependent on you?
 10. Married or single (which)?
 11. What military service have you had?
 12. Do you claim exemption from draft (specify which)?
 I affirm that I have verified above answers and that they are true.
 Louis Marmorstein

Fig. 9: The draft registration card at left for Louis Marmorstein is from the 1916-17 draft. Although there is no date on the card, his age tells us it was from 1916, and it appears to indicate he had been rejected by various military services. And yet the cover clearly shows that he did serve in World War I. The address matches that on the cover, so it is clearly the same person as the addressee. Note the corner in the lower left which was clipped to identify African Americans. This was still a very segregated Army. Also note the word "Hebrew" filled in for his race.

The draft card below is from what was called the World War II "Old Man's Draft" when this same man was 51 years of age. That draft took place on April 27, 1942 (soon after Pearl Harbor), and the signature and birth date show it to be the same Louis Marmorstein – a few pounds heavier and with gray hair.

REGISTRAR'S REPORT

DESCRIPTION OF REGISTRANT

HEIGHT (Inches)	WEIGHT (Pounds)	COMPLEXION
5'4"	200	Yellow
EYES	HAIR	Light
Blue	Blonde	Rusky
Gray	Red	Dark
Hazel	Brown	Freckled
Brown	Black	Light brown
Black	Gray	Dark brown
	Red	Black

Physical characteristics that will aid in identification:
None

Answers are true, that the person registered has read, or has had answers, that I have witnessed his signature or mark and that I think I have knowledge are true, except as follows:
 Niola M. Allison
 April 18 1942
 Jersey City, N.J.

REGISTRATION CARD—(Men born on or after April 28, 1897 and on or before February 16, 1897)

SERIAL NUMBER: 161 | NAME (FOUR): Louis Marmorstein | ORDER NUMBER:
 1. PLACE OF BIRTH (State): New York City
 2. PLACE OF RESIDENCE (State): Jersey City Hudson N.J.
 3. MARRIED ADDRESS: Same
 4. TELEPHONE: Del 3-2200 | 5. AGE IN YEARS: 51 | 6. PLACE OF BIRTH: New York City
 7. NAME AND ADDRESS OF PERSON WHO WILL ALWAYS KNOW YOUR ADDRESS: Louise Marmorstein - 10 Casper Court J.C.
 8. EMPLOYER'S NAME AND ADDRESS: Federal Shipbuilding Co.
 9. PLACE OF EMPLOYMENT OR BUSINESS: Kearny Jersey Hudson N.J.
 I AFFIRM THAT I HAVE VERIFIED ABOVE ANSWERS AND THAT THEY ARE TRUE.
 D. S. FORTY I (Sealed & S. G.)
 Louis Marmorstein

LOCAL BOARD 19 DANFORTH P. S. 20 JERSEY CITY, N.J.

Fig. 10: The Old Man Draft was intended not for military service, but to give the government a picture of those who could be available for service on the home front. This card shows us that Louis had married (wife Louise) and was employed at the Federal Shipbuilding Company in Kearny in 1942. These records are available online at Ancestry.com and other genealogical sites, and are often a useful tool in establishing dates and names on postal covers.

If you do not have an account with Ancestry, consult your Secretary.

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- <http://sill-www.army.mil/434/1-79/>
- <https://postalmuseum.si.edu/exhibition/mail-call-the-mail-piece/expanded-service>
- <https://roadstothegreatwar-ww1.blogspot.com/2016/10/the-railway-mail-service-goes-to-war.html>
- https://roadstothegreatwar-ww1.blogspot.com/2016/10/the-railway-mail-service-goes-to-war_8.html
- <https://armyhistory.org/the-war-will-be-over-and-then-we-can-be-together-always-world-war-i-letters-home-from-an-army-lawyer-in-france/> (McNeil correspondence in the Army Historical Association site.).
- https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/79th_Field_Artillery_Regiment
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- <https://books.google.com/books?id=SRBAAAAAYAAJ&pg=PA3813&lpg=PA3813&dq=hospita+31+de+meucon&source=bl&ots=6SCS-I4hiP&sig=v1xeHhiv7zvfbaq1x5MCDqil0FY&hl=en&sa=X&ved=0ahUKEwjElu2k0orQAhXo7YMKHXFKDxwQ6AEIPDAI#v=onepage&q&f=false>
- <http://history.amedd.army.mil/booksdocs/wwi/adminamerexp/chapter25.html>
- http://encyclopedia.1914-1918-online.net/article/war_losses_usa
- <http://www.cs.amedd.army.mil/FileDownloadpublic.aspx?docid=0a117f6c-11b7-4a49-a968-b5eab9159d03>
- www.ancestry.com (membership required):
[WWI draft registration cards and](#)
[WWII draft registration cards](#)

[We apologize that some of these links are no longer active, but many are.]

WE NEED ARTICLES NOW!

Articles on items in your collection, studies you are doing, or other material
pertinent to

New Jersey postal history are always welcome.

PLEASE submit these to your Editors:

Robert G. Rose
at 18 Balbrook Drive
Mendham, NJ 07945

robertrose25@comcast.net

or

John Trosky
2 Saint Clair Ave.
Rutherford, NJ 07070-1136

jtjersey@verizon.net

ON THE AUCTION SCENE: More Classics Uses From New Jersey

By Robert G. Rose

Two recent auction sales conducted by Robert A. Siegel brought a number of classics on covers from New Jersey to the market place. The first was the Stephen Rose Collection of the two cent 1869 Issue.¹ The sale included a Good Samaritan Label on the face of the cover, the stamp Scott #113, tied by a segmented cork cancel with a “Newark N.J. May 16” circular postmark to a local address as illustrated below in *Figure 1*.



Courtesy of Robert A. Siegel Auction Galleries, Inc.

Fig. 1: Two cent 1869 Issue on locally used Newark cover with Good Samaritan label.

What are Good Samaritan Labels? This information from *The Chronicle of the United States Philatelic Classics Society* helps understand their use:

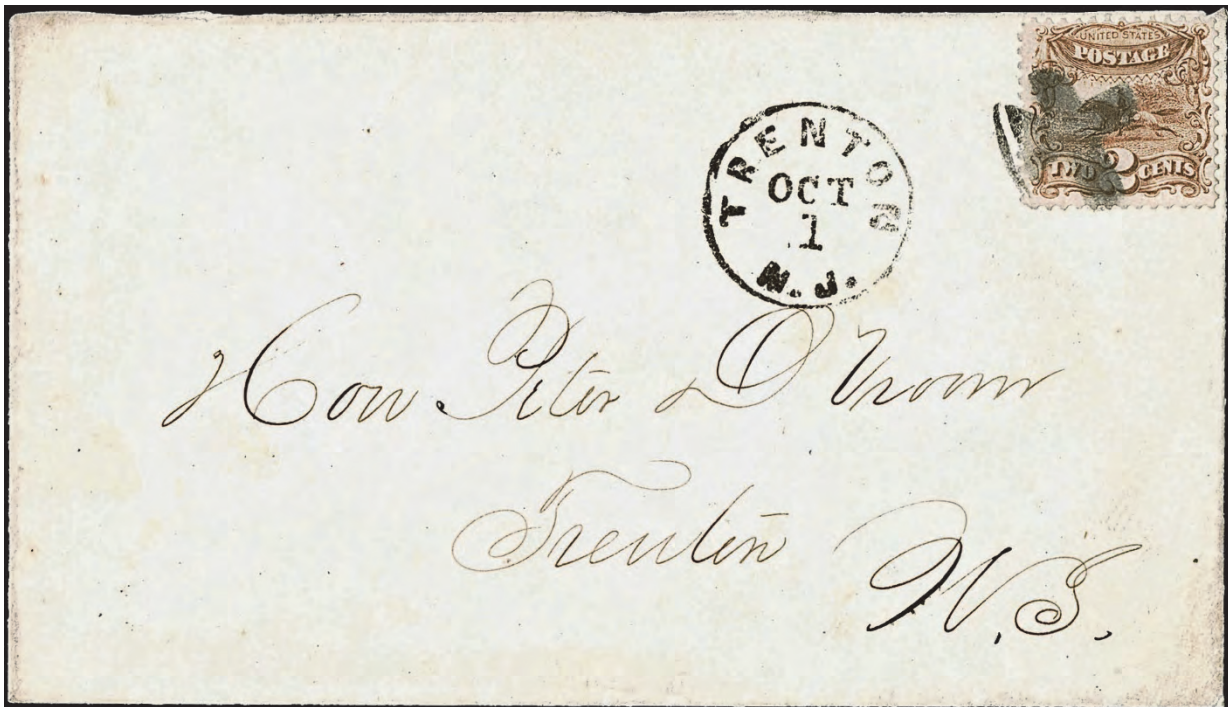
It is well known that during the 1860s individuals and charitable organizations developed the practice of supplying needed postage for letters that had been deposited improperly franked in United States post offices. This allowed such letters to be mailed to their intended recipients instead of being directed to the Dead Letter Office (DLO). The postmasters in these offices allowed those individuals and organizations to place a privately-produced label on the cover, encouraging the recipient to send remuneration or a contribution in acknowledgement of their charitable act.

For this reason, these labels are commonly referred to as Good Samaritan or charity labels.²

ON THE AUCTION SCENE: More Classic Uses from New Jersey ~ Robert G. Rose

The cover has been struck with a "HELD FOR POSTAGE" straight line handstamp. The catalog description states that a 3c 1869 Issue, Scott #114, is affixed to the back of the cover, "but unclear if this was simply missed by the post office when the cover was mailed or if it does not originate." Described as in very fine condition, with fewer than ten 2c 1869 Pictorial Issue covers recorded with Samaritan labels, ex-Walske, and an estimate of \$500 to \$750, the cover sold at hammer for \$425 and an 18% buyer's fee for a total of \$501.50.

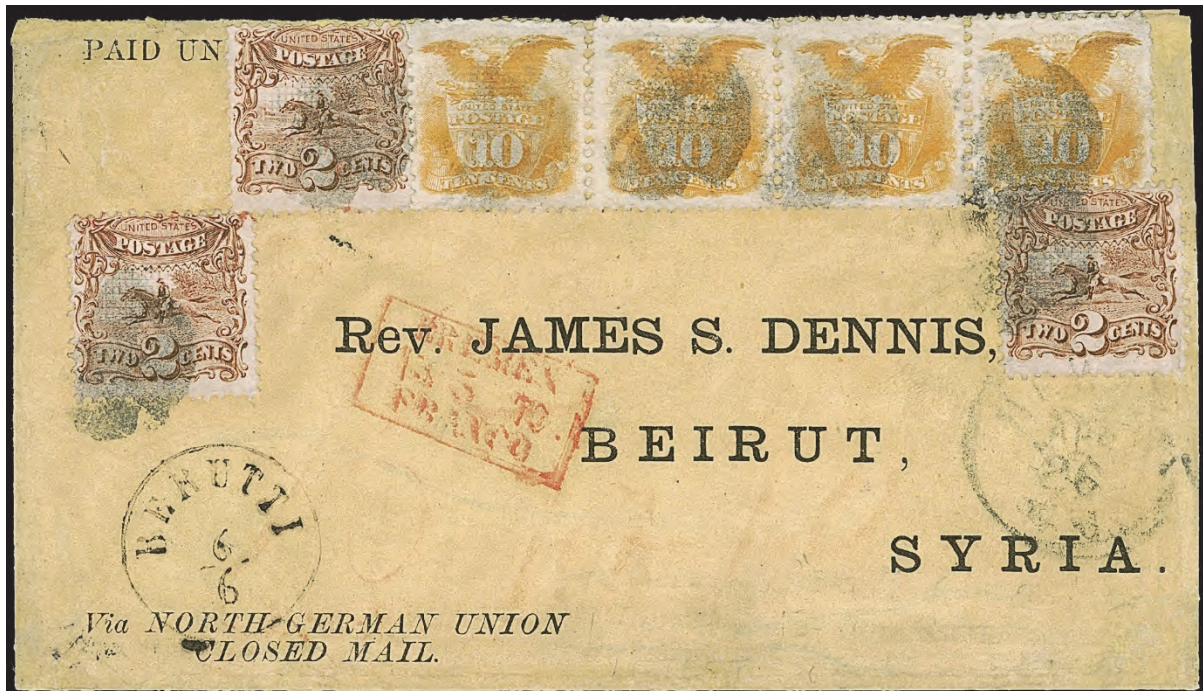
A 2 cent 1869 Issue tied by an axe or tomahawk fancy cancel with a "Trenton N.J. Oct. 1" circular postmark, on a locally addressed cover is illustrated below in *Figure 2*. Described as Extremely Fine, with an estimate of \$300 to \$400, it sold at hammer for \$550 and an 18% buyer's fee for a total of \$649.



Courtesy of Robert A. Siegel Auction Galleries, Inc.

Fig. 2: Two Cent 1869 Issue with fancy cancel on local used Trenton cover.

The next New Jersey use of the 2 cent 1869 Issue in the Stephen Rose sale is the cover illustrated below in *Figure 3*. It features a horizontal strip of four of the 10 cent 1869 Issue used in combination with three 2 cent 1869 Issue stamps, tied by cork cancels. One of the 2 cent stamps is lightly struck with a "Newark N.J. Apr. 26" (1870) circular postmark. The cover has a pre-printed address to the "Reverend James S. Dennis, Beirut, Syria," with printed route instructions "Via North German Union Closed Mail" at lower left. The back of the cover has a red "New York Paid All Direct Apr. 30," a red framed "BREMEN 13/5 70 FRANCO" date stamp (May 13) and a Trieste transit handstamp. On the front of the cover there is a clear strike of the "Berutti" receiving date stamp "6/6" (Jun. 6) at the lower left of the cover. The 46c postage over paid by 1c the triple 15c North German Union direct rate.³



Courtesy of Robert A. Siegel Auction Galleries, Inc.⁴

Fig. 3: Two Cent 1869 Issue in combination with strip of four 10 cent 1869 Issue from Newark to Beirut.

As recognized in its catalogue description, Michael Laurence has authored the definitive study of the postal history of the 10 cent 1869 Issue.⁵ Only eight covers are reported in his census of covers to Beirut, all originating from Newark. According to Laurence, “the printed routing is imprecise or even mistaken. . . . [These] covers traveled in British closed mail to the North German Union and then in the German open mails from there” to Beirut.⁶ Laurence writes that Dennis was a Christian evangelist who served for many years at the American Presbyterian Mission in Beirut.⁷

The catalog notes that the corners of the cover have been repaired and a portion of the top back flap added. Described as having a “very fine appearance,” and an estimate of \$4,000 to \$5,000, accompanied with a 2012 P.F. Certificate, it sold at hammer for \$4,250 plus an 18% buyer’s fee for a total of \$5,015.

The fourth and final New Jersey use of the 2 cent 1869 Issue in the Stephen Rose sale, illustrated below in *Figure 4*, is a cover from Jersey City to Hong Kong. The 2 cent stamp is used together with a 10 cent Green F. Grill (Scott #96) on which it slightly overlaps and a horizontal pair of the 15c Black, F. Grill (Scott #98). The stamps are tied by grid cancels. The cover is postmarked “Jersey City N.J. Jun. 28” (1869) with a red “New York Paid All Jun. 29” circular date stamp struck on back and matching “32” credit handstamp, red London Paid date stamp (Jul. 9) and “1d” British Colonial credit back stamp, with strike of “Hong Kong Marine-Sorter Singapore-to-Hong Kong Au. 19/26 69” back stamp (Webb Ty. B-2), and Aug. 25, 1869 receipt docketing on back of cover.



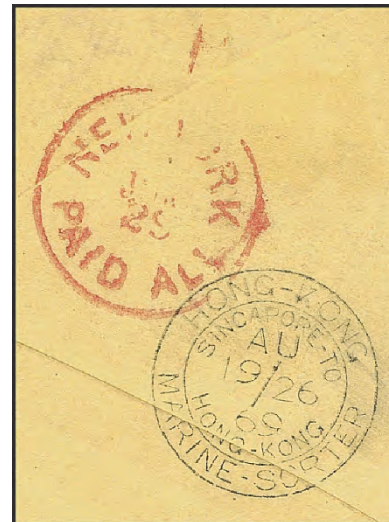
Courtesy of Robert A. Siegel Auction Galleries, Inc.⁸

Fig. 4: Two Cent 1869 Issue in combination with 10 cent and 15 cent F. Grill from Jersey City to Hong Kong.

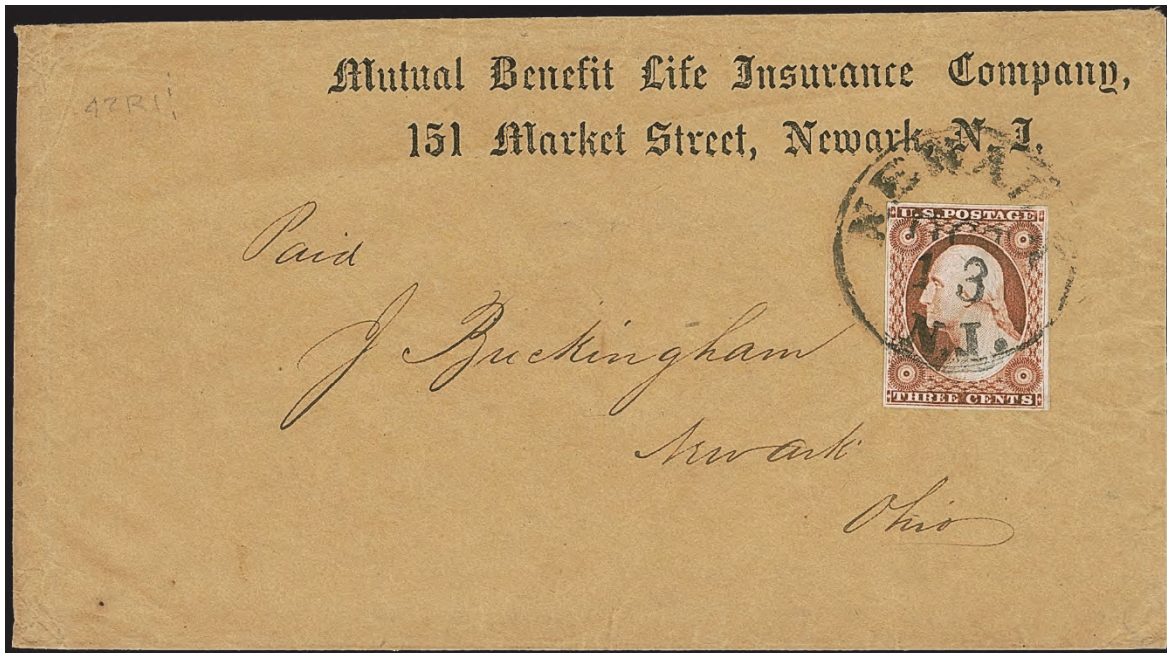
The “Marine-Sorter” backstamp is of particular interest. Beginning at the end of July 1868, an official from the Hong Kong post office would meet the P&O steamer in Singapore and sort the mails during the trip up to Hong Kong. The mails could then be delivered immediately on arrival or forwarded faster to their final destination outside of Hong Kong.⁹ Some of the stamp perforations have been affected by their placement near the edges of the cover. With a provenance including both the Brad Arch and William Ainsworth collections, and described as extremely fine,¹⁰ against an estimate of \$4,000 to \$5,000, it sold at hammer for \$4,500, plus an 18% buyer’s fee for a total of \$5,310.

Backstamp on Figure 4 above.

The second Siegel sale included a number of the three cent 1851-1857 Issue covers sold under the pseudonym “Houdon,” the Frenchman Jean-Antoine Houdon who was the sculptor of the bust of George Washington used on the stamps.¹¹ A three cent orange brown, type I, on a cover tied by a “Newark N.J. Oct. 13” circular postmark with a Mutual Benefit Life Insurance Co., Newark, NJ printed corner card to Newark, Ohio is illustrated in Figure 5.¹²



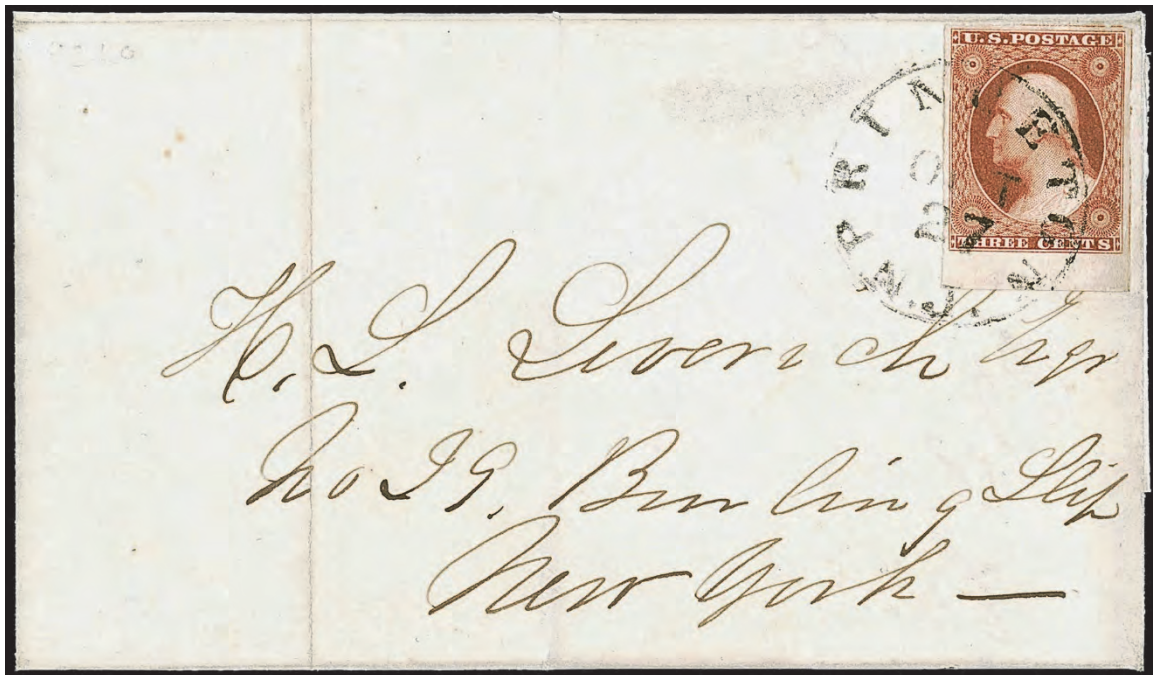
Described as in very fine condition with an estimate of \$300 to \$400, it sold at hammer for \$275 plus an 18% buyer’s commission for a total of \$301.



Courtesy of Robert A. Siegel Auction Galleries, Inc.

Fig. 5: Three Cent Orange Brown, Type I, Scott #10 from Newark, NJ to Newark, Ohio.

A three cent orange brown, Type II (Scott #10A), on a cover tied by a “Princeton N.J. Oct. 27” (1851) postmark on a folded cover to New York, is illustrated in *Figure 6*. The stamp with large margins and described as in extremely fine condition, with an estimate of \$200 to \$300, sold at hammer for \$375 plus an 18% buyer’s commission for a total of \$442.50.



Courtesy of Robert A. Siegel Auction Galleries, Inc.

Fig. 6: Three Cent Orange Brown, Type II, Scott #10A from Princeton to New York.

ON THE AUCTION SCENE: More Classic Uses from New Jersey ~ Robert G. Rose

Another three cent orange brown, Ty. II (Scott #10A), plated as position 69L5E with a dot in its lower right diamond block, with grid cancel and a lightly struck “Bloomfield N.J. Nov. 29” postmark on a cover to Parsippany, New Jersey is illustrated below in *Figure 7*. With an estimate of \$200 to \$300 based on the catalog value of its plating position, it sold at hammer for \$130 plus an 18% buyer’s commission for a total of \$153.40.



Courtesy of Robert A. Siegel Auction Galleries, Inc.

Fig. 7: Three Cent Orange Brown, Type II, Scott #10A from Bloomfield to Parsippany, N.J.

The final cover in Siegel’s sale of the “Houdon” collection is another three cent orange brown, Ty. II (Scott #10A), illustrated in *Figure 8*.



Courtesy of Robert A. Siegel Auction Galleries, Inc.

Fig. 8: Three Cent Orange Brown, Type II, Scott #10A from Millville to Windsor, N.Y.

The stamp has been plated by noted philatelist Dr. Amonette as position 42R5E. A note on the back of the stamp further states that its color is “an extremely fine shade of orange brown.” The stamp is tied by a “Millville N.J. Dec. 3” postmark on a cover to Windsor N.Y. Described as very fine, with an estimate of \$200 to \$300, it sold at hammer for \$130 plus an 18% buyer’s commission for a total of \$153.40.

ENDNOTES

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- ¹ Robert A. Siegel Auction Galleries, Inc., “*The Stephen Rose Collection of 2c 1869 Pictorial Issue*,” September 28, 2022, [Sale No. 1264](#).
 - ² Daniel M. Knowles, “Good Samaritan (Charity) Labels in the 1860’s: Who Created Them, Where and Why?” *The Chronicle of the United States Philatelic Classics Society*, Vol. 65, May 2013, p. 160; Good Samaritan (Charity) Labels: Their History, Use and a Comprehensive Census, *The Chronicle of the United States Philatelic Classics Society*, Vol. 73, May 2021, p. 165.
 - ³ As noted in its auction description, the cover at one time had an additional spurious 2 cent stamp affixed at the cover’s upper left corner which was subsequently removed. Its history at auction, and prior certification by the Philatelic Foundation, are recounted in an article by the cover’s owner. Stephen Rose, “A Tale of Two Embellished Covers,” *The Chronicle of the United States Philatelic Classics Society*, Vol. 72, August 2020, pp. 279-281.
 - ⁴ Siegel Auction #1264 – [The Stephen Rose Collection, Lot 370](#).
 - ⁵ Michael Laurence, *Ten Cent 1869 Covers A Postal History Survey* (Collectors Club of Chicago, Chicago, Illinois 2010).
 - ⁶ *Ibid* at pp. 228-229. The Dennis family was prominent in Newark. James Dennis’ brother Martin, graduated from medical school in 1847 at the age of 34. Later, as the proprietor of Martin R. Dennis & Co., he was the publisher of a number of historical works. James’ father, Alfred, became the director of the Bank of Newark, the executive agent of the Pennsylvania Railroad and a director of the Delaware, Lackawanna & Western Railroad. It may be presumed that the pre-printed addressed envelopes to James in Beirut were prepared by one of these family members. For additional information on the Dennis correspondence from Newark to Beirut, see Robert G. Rose, “On the Auction Scene: Newark to Beirut, Syria,” *NJPH*, [Vol. 47, No. 214, May 2019](#).
 - ⁷ *Ibid* at pp. 229-230.
 - ⁸ Siegel Auction #1264 - [The Stephen Rose Collection of 2c 1869 Pictorial Issue, Lot 379](#).
 - ⁹ Francis Wynne Webb, *The Philatelic and Postal History of Hong Kong and the Treaty Ports of China and Japan*, (The Royal Philatelic Society, London, 1961).
 - ¹⁰ The description of this cover in the Ainsworth auction catalog states that the cover’s left edge has been “expertly restored.” Spink Shreves Galleries, *The William J. Ainsworth Collection*, April 17, 2009, lot 67. In the Siegel auction sale including the Brad Arch collection, Robert A. Siegel Auction Galleries, Inc., *United States Stamps and Postal History*, June 27-29, 2000, lot 1186, against an estimate of \$2,000 to \$3,000, the cover sold at hammer for \$4,000 plus a 10% buyer’s commission for a total of \$4,400. Its description does not reference any restoration.
 - ¹¹ Robert A. Siegel Auction Galleries, Inc., “Classic United States Stamps and Covers,” September 29, 2022, Sale No. 1265.
 - ¹² A cover with the same Mutual Benefit Life Insurance, Newark, NJ corner card, also addressed to Newark, Ohio, but posted with four 10 cent stamps of the 1847 Issue was recently sold at auction. Robert G. Rose, “*On the Auction Scene: 10¢ 1847 “Block of Four” on Newark Cover*” *NJPH*, [Vol. 47, Whole No. 216, November 2019](#).

MEMBER NEWS

MEMBER NEWS

The Society held its annual meeting at NOJEX 2022 on Saturday, October 15, 2022 at the Hilton Meadowlands Hotel in East Rutherford, New Jersey. Besides a short report on the state and health of our society by President Rose, minutes and a treasurer's report were put aside for an auction, conducted by Bob Rose, of donated material for the benefit of the society.

This was preceded by a presentation to Jean Walton, editor of our journal *NJPH*, who was recognized and honored for her 20-year tenure and was presented with a Certificate of Commendation recognizing her Outstanding Service to the Society. Over this past year, thanks to Jean's hard work, our journal was awarded two gold medals in APS World Series of Philately competition, the first at GASS in Sacramento this past August and, most recently, at Chicagopex 2022 in November.



Jean Walton presented with a Certificate for Outstanding Service to the Society by Bob Rose.

Jean will be stepping down as co-editor of *NJPH* with this issue. Help is still needed to assist both Bob and John Trosky in editing our journal. Please offer some of your time to help insure the Society's future well-being. Articles are always needed, and continuing columns or features would be welcomed – for instance, someone willing to continue Home Town post offices, or a report on such things as Interesting Items seen on Ebay, or perhaps a study of NJ cancels by town – other than Doane cancels, Wheel of Fortune cancels, and Steve Roth's database of Manuscript Markings on Stampless Covers, little has been done in this area. Remember, you do not need to own material to write about it – there are archival sources, and items seen online. Please also keep your eye out for items appearing in other journals that might be of interest to New Jersey collectors. The journal willingly accepts articles on all areas and eras of New Jersey postal history – not just the very oldest or most expensive, and not only from members. It is important to keep our hobby alive with new material from all eras, and all aspects of philately.

The benefit auction of stamps and covers donated to the Society by the Estate of Warren Plank and by longtime member Joe Felcone was a success. With participation by both floor and a number of mail bidders, sales totaled \$1,625, a welcome addition to our treasury.

MEMBER NEWS

Bob staffed the Society's booth at the show and signed up a new member, Phillip Marks, a longtime acquaintance and former member who recently moved back to New Jersey. He is a collector of South Jersey postal history. In addition, \$40 in sales were made of Society literature.

Several Society members participated as NOJEX exhibitors and garnered a number of top awards:

Roger Brody's "America's Embossed Stamped Revenue Paper" was awarded a Large Gold Medal and the Reserve Grand Award; the Sidney Schneider Memorial Award for the Best Exhibit by a North Jersey Federated Stamp Club Member; and the United States Philatelic Classics Society Medal. In addition, Roger exhibited two single frame "fantasy" exhibits on a non-competitive basis: "In Cahoots" and "Dream Covers."

Nicholas A. Lombardi's "The 1903 Two Cent Washington Shield Issue" was awarded a Large Gold Medal.

Dr. Vernon R. Morris, Jr.'s "Evolution & Impact of Blood's Local Post 1842 to 1862" was awarded a Large Gold Medal; the American Philatelic Society Medal of Excellence: Pre-1900; and the Postal History Society Posthorn Medal.

Mark Schwartz's "The New York Postmaster Provisional" was awarded a Large Gold Medal as was his single frame exhibit "Packet Mail Sent From Essex County, Massachusetts."

Edward Mendlowitz's "Presidential Inauguration and Swearing in Covers and Related Events Including Vice President Appointments 20th & 21st Centuries," was awarded a Silver Medal and The Jean Benninghoff Encouragement Award.

Bill Schultz's single frame exhibit "Pennsylvania Bridges & Trolleys" was awarded a Gold Medal and American Topical Association's Best Single Frame Exhibit.

Paul Schumacher's single frame exhibit, "U.S. Scott #1874a" the Everett Dirksen commemorative with all color omitted, was awarded a Large Silver Medal, the APS Medal of Excellence: Post 1980 and the Errors, Freaks & Oddities Club Award.

Congratulations to all. By any measure, the New Jersey Postal History Society and its members enjoyed success at NOJEX!

Finally, a dues notice for 2023 is included with this issue. The Society is again maintaining its dues at \$15 for the year. The actual cost for printing our Journal in color and its first class mailing is now close to \$8 per issue or \$32 for the year. We urge members to reduce the expense by making a tax deductible donation to the Society and/or opting to receive the journal in electronic format. It's easy to read on your laptop or pc and articles of particular interest can be downloaded.

NEW MEMBERS & CHANGE OF ADDRESS

Benjamin Makem, 4627 Morris Street, Philadelphia, PA 19144-4226 BTMakem@verizon.net
Phillip Marks, P.O. Box 451, Evesham, NJ 08053-0451 autobbcards@yahoo.com
Wayne E. Seelinger, 2 Wildwood Trail, Boonton, NJ 07005-1039 firefighter911x@gmail.com "Cyber Crime Insurance Specialist"
Sheila J. D'Avino, please change from 922 Courtney Way, Mount Laurel, NJ 08054 to new address, 123 Creek Rd., Apt A-301, Mt. Laurel, NJ 08054. Email remains the same.

TREASURER'S REPORT ~ Andy Kupersmit

TREASURER'S REPORT – JANUARY 1, 2021 THROUGH DECEMBER 31, 2021

BALANCE BROUGHT FORWARD January 1, 2021		\$24,437.90
INCOME	Dues and Member Donations (less paypal fees)	\$4,120.31
	D'Avino Donation	\$ 500.00
	CD & Literature Sales	<u>\$ 70.00</u>
	TOTAL 2021 INCOME	\$4,690.31
EXPENDITURES	Journal	(\$2,830.98)
	Paper Statement Fee	(\$36.00)
	IRS Tax Filing Fee	(\$30.00)
	Website Redesign	(\$1,225.00)
	League of Historical Societies of NJ	<u>(\$40.00)</u>
	TOTAL 2021 EXPENDITURES	(\$4,161.98) (\$4,161.98)
BALANCE YEAR END December 31, 2021		\$24,966.23
NET CHANGE		\$528.33

In 2021, the Society incurred two major expenses.

First is the printing and mailing of the Journal. Kudos to Editors Jean Walton and Bob Rose, all of the authors, and to Instant Printing in Dover who prints the journal, which Bob then mails to members. Also, thanks to those of you who only receive the Journal electronically. By the way, the color images are far superior to the black and white images in the printed journal.

The second expense for 2021 resulted from the December 2020 passing of longtime webmaster, Warren Plank. As a result, the Society hired a web designer to redo and update the site to WordPress format. That required a one-time expense of \$1,225. It remains on BlueHost, a cost which Warren Plank had donated yearly to the Society in his years as Webmaster, but which will now fall to us to provide directly as of this past fall (2022) - a nominal sum.

Also, the Society especially thanks Sheila D'Avino, who, once again, made a generous donation of \$500 to the Society, in memory of her late husband Doug. Thank you, Sheila.

The members' kind contributions allowed the Society to continue to hold dues at the very reasonable \$15 annual rate yet again, which it has been for well over 25 years. The Society thanks all Society members who contributed beyond their dues, this year and in previous years.

Andy Kupersmit, Treasurer

MEMBER ADS ~ YOUR AD MISSING? LET US KNOW AT

SECRETARY@NJPOSTALHISTORY.ORG OR BY MAIL TO 125 TURTLEBACK RD, CALIFON, NJ 07830

WANTED: CULVERS and CULVERS LAKE POSTMARKS. Culver Lake ephemera. Bayonne ephemera relating to Ahlfeld, Rabe and Lages families. Contact John R. Ahlfeld, 2634 Royal Road, Lancaster, PA 17603-7010, 717-397-7313 or AHLFELDS@aol.com.

ALWAYS DESIRED: FISH HOUSE COVERS, BURLINGTON COUNTY ADVERTISING covers and corner cards; Burlington County DPOs. Email Paul W. Schopp at pwschopp@comcast.net.

WANTED FOR EXHIBIT: Stamps and info on **DIRKSON COLOR OMITTED ERROR #1874a.** Contact Paul Schumacher, 1724 Lark Ln., Cherry Hill, NJ 08003-3215, pschumacl@verizon.net.

WANTED: FORWARDED STAMPLESS COVERS – clean – send copies with prices to J. Haynes, Box 358, Allendale, NJ 07401.

BUYING “CENSORED” COVERS specifically inspected between collectors/dealers during wartime(s). Items should clearly show evidence of hobby was done/censored/inspected, etc. with “Trading with Enemy” (or similar) apparent. Include article, general conflict, et al. Could make for an interesting article and/or 1 frame exhibit. Contact Mark B. Sommer, 1266 Teaneck Road #10A, Teaneck, New Jersey 07666

Any **POSTAL MATERIAL RELATING TO STEVENS INSTITUTE OF TECHNOLOGY** in Hoboken? Post(al) cards, return address covers, et al. As a professor there, these could make for an interesting exhibit by me. All inquiries answered. Contact Prof. Mark Sommer, 1266 Teaneck Road #10A, Teaneck, NJ 07666

HADLEY AIRPORT or HADLEY FIELD air mail covers 1920 to 1930 wanted with cachet or any wording referencing **HADLEY** or New Brunswick, N.J. including backstamp. Contact William E. Grigg, PO Box 749, Spring Grove, IL 60081-0749, 815/678-9981, or email griggwel@gmail.com.

LOOKING FOR OLDER SUSSEX COUNTY Reply to hornblazer@aol.com or contact Edwin Black, 61 Nestro Rd, W. Orange NJ 07052, 973-731-5532.

WANTED: ANY LETTER BETWEEN PHILA. AND THE UK WHICH IS ENDORSED FOR CONVEYANCE BY STAGE. Your price paid, with no whining. Contact Dr. John Barwis, PO Box 8035, Holland, MI 49422, jbarwis@charter.net, 616/399-9299.

THE CRABBY MILKMAN is always BUYING Pre-1950 U.S. Postcards, Robert J. DeTrollo, 110 Garner Ave., Bloomfield, NJ 07003, r.detrolio@comcast.net.

FOR SALE: OLD BOTTLE COLLECTION, about 35. Many from NJ. Includes milk bottles from local dairies. Selling in entirety. Will accept any reasonable offer. Contact: janmleml@hotmail.com 973-713-1609.

WANTED: HUNTERDON COUNTY NJ, BUCKS COUNTY PA postal history, covers, postcards, pictures, Americana ephemera collateral paper items, all eras. Contact Jim Walker, 121 Wertsville Road, Ringoes, NJ 08551-1108, 908/806-7883 or email jiwalker@comcast.net.

WANTED: BLOOMFIELD NEW JERSEY Postcards and Ephemera. Please write with all details. Robert J. DeTrollo, 110 Garner Ave., Bloomfield, NJ 07003, r.detrolio@comcast.net.

WANTED: Port Murray, Anderson, Changewater, Port Colden, Karrsville, Rockport, Beattystown, Pleasant Grove, Stephensburg, Anthony, Woodglen. Arne Englund, P.O. Box 3082, N. Fort Myers, FL 33918 or alenglund@aol.com.

WANTED: Covers & postmarks from WHITESBOG (NJ) post office and MUDDY CREEK FORKS (PA) post office. Contact George Martin at canoethepines@comcast.net.

FOR SALE: *Catalog of Private Express Covers, Labels and Stamps.* United States, Canada and Mexico material. 2018 revised edition. 508 pages. For sample pages and ordering information, contact author Bruce Mosher expressbiz@earthlink.net.

MEMBER ADS

MEMBER ADS: YOUR AD MISSING? LET US KNOW AT

SECRETARY@NJPOSTALHISTORY.ORG OR BY MAIL TO **125 TURTLEBACK RD, CALIFON, NJ 07830**

COLLECTOR SEEKS LONG BEACH ISLAND POSTAL HISTORY, especially picture postcards. Please contact Michael White, P.O. Box 5222, Saipan, MP 96950 or email mwhite@saipan.com.

HADLEY AIRPORT MOTOR TRUCK back stamp covers wanted 1920-1930 with wording in CDS "New Brunswick, N.J. Trans. Office." Mail was sorted and cancelled on the truck. Contact William E. Grigg, PO Box 749, Spring Grove, IL 60081-0749, 815/678-9981, or email griggwel@gmail.com. **Paying \$500 each.**

WANTED: COVERS, ETC PERTAINING TO THE BLAWENBURG POST OFFICE 08504. Contact; John J. Best, 65 Sycamore Lane, Skillman, NJ 08558. jjbest57@gmail.com.

OUT-OF-PRINT AND RARE NEW JERSEY BOOKS BOUGHT AND SOLD since 1972. 8000 items, 1690s to 1990s. Visit our searchable web site: www.felcone.com. Joseph J. Felcone, PO Box 366, Princeton, NJ 08542 609/924-0539; felcone@felcone.com.

WANTED: NJ POSTMARKED Sc#65 COVERS with a fancy cancel listed in Skinner/Eno. Send scan and email for offer to hughtowaco@optonline.net, or by mail to Hugh Merritt, POB #139, Towaco, NJ 07082-0139.

GLASSBORO OR GLASSBOROUGH N.J. covers wanted: stamped or stampless. Send price desired and photocopy to Bill Whiteman, 402 North Harvard Road, Glassboro, NJ 08028, Call 856/881-8858 or email BillWhit3@juno.com.

FOR RESEARCH & COLLECTION I need: PRE-1840 CITY CARRIER and VIRGINIA INLAND WATERWAYS covers. Contact Clifford Alexander at chairman@pennypost.org.

Always looking for **STAMPLESS LETTERS OF SAMUEL L. SOUTHARD**. Jean Walton, 125 Turtleback Rd., Califon, NJ. or contact jwalton971@aol.com.

LOOKING FOR NEW JERSEY U348-U351 COLUMBUS & LIBERTY PSE COVERS. Michael A. Puzio, 9200 Wonga Drive, Midwest City, Oklahoma 73121, email michaelpuzio@yahoo.com.

WANTED: NJ DPOs all counties stampless to modern. No philatelics please. Email pics and prices to Mike Yannotta, 415 Monmouth Ave., Leonardo, NJ 07737, mikey218@verizon.net, 908/930-3585.

WANTED: CLEAR HANDSTAMPS on NEW JERSEY STAMPLESS COVERS for exhibition collection. Send copies and prices to Robert G. Rose, Robert G. Rose, 18 Balbrook Drive, Mendham, NJ 07945 or e-mail robertrose25@comcast.net.

WANTED: CENTRAL RAILROAD OF NJ POSTAL HISTORY. Covers, station post cards, RPOs, postmarks. Send scan and price to johnbsharkey@me.com. John B. Sharkey 1559 Grouse Ln, Mountainside, NJ 07092

LOOKING FOR GARFIELD NJ & PASSAIC NJ COVERS, POSTCARDS AND POSTAL HISTORY. Michael A. Puzio, 9200 Wonga Drive, Midwest City, Oklahoma 73121, email michaelpuzio@yahoo.com.

WANTED: Calno, Brotzmanville, Millbrook, Pahaquarry, Dunnfield, Delaware Gap, Flatbrookville, Wallpack Centre, Bevans, Layton, Hainesville, Montague. Arne Englund, P.O. Box 3082, N. Fort Myers, FL 33918 or alenglund@aol.com.

PARODIES OF PHILATELY - All types of philatelic items wanted for an exhibit entitled "Parody Philately." Anything that pokes fun at our hobby/mail services. Current or older material needed. All inquiries answered. Contact Prof. Mark Sommer, 1266 Teaneck Road #10A, Teaneck, New Jersey 07666.

DEEP STOCK OF NJ POSTAL HISTORY FOR SALE by town name: Stampless through 1920. Email me what you are looking for and I will email scans with prices. Bob Rose: robertrose25@comcast.net

WANTED: JERSEY CITY POSTAL HISTORY, covers before 1940, including stampless, advertising, picture post cards, unusual cancellations and auxiliary markings Patriotics, & Camp Merritt covers with JC cancellations. Contact John A. Trosky, 2 St. Clair Ave., Rutherford, NJ 07070-1136 / 201-896-8846/, or email JTJersey@verizon.net

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CD only: <i>Washington Organ Manufacturers</i> on CD, by Len Frank - 3 articles + many organ advertising cover illustrations not in <i>NJPH</i> , in Acrobat Reader [.PDF] format <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • A series of 3 articles on the advertising covers and history of the organ manufacturers of Washington, NJ, • Adds a picture gallery of many covers not illustrated in those articles. • Includes much paper ephemera as well. An impressive collection. 	\$7.50	\$10.00
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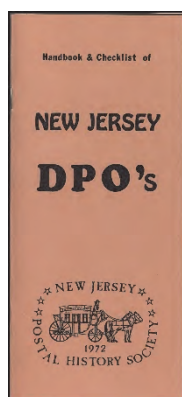
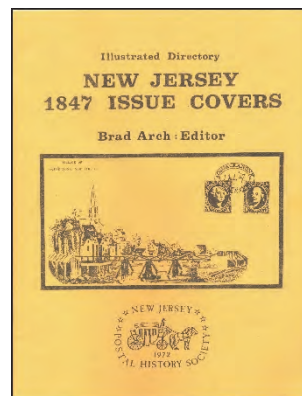
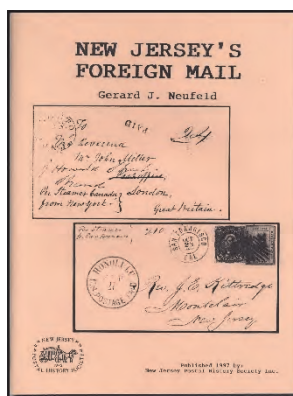
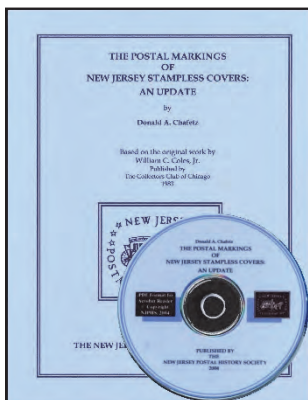
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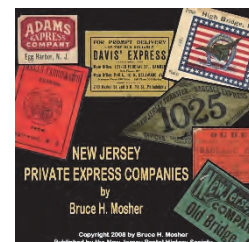


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