

WASHINGTON, D.C. POSTAL MARKINGS

KILLERS FOR 25 YEARS 1860-1885

THOMAS O. TAYLOR

AS RECEIVED BY
THE EXHIBITION PHOTOCOPY COMMITTEE
OF THE
U.S. PHILATELIC CLASSICS SOCIETY, INC.

22 NOVEMBER 1988

Washington, D.C.

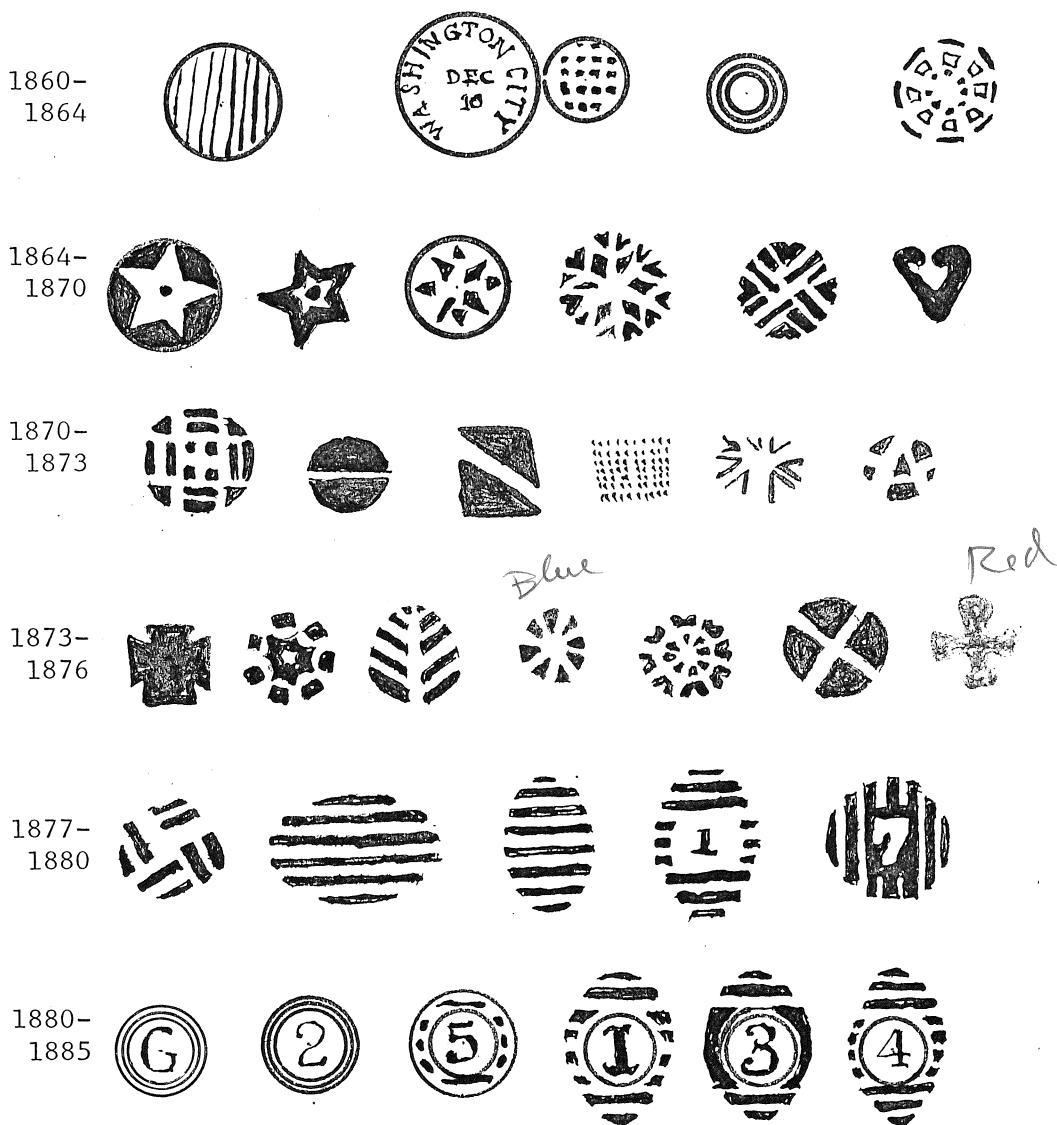
POSTAL MARKINGS

KILLERS FOR 25 YEARS 1860-1885

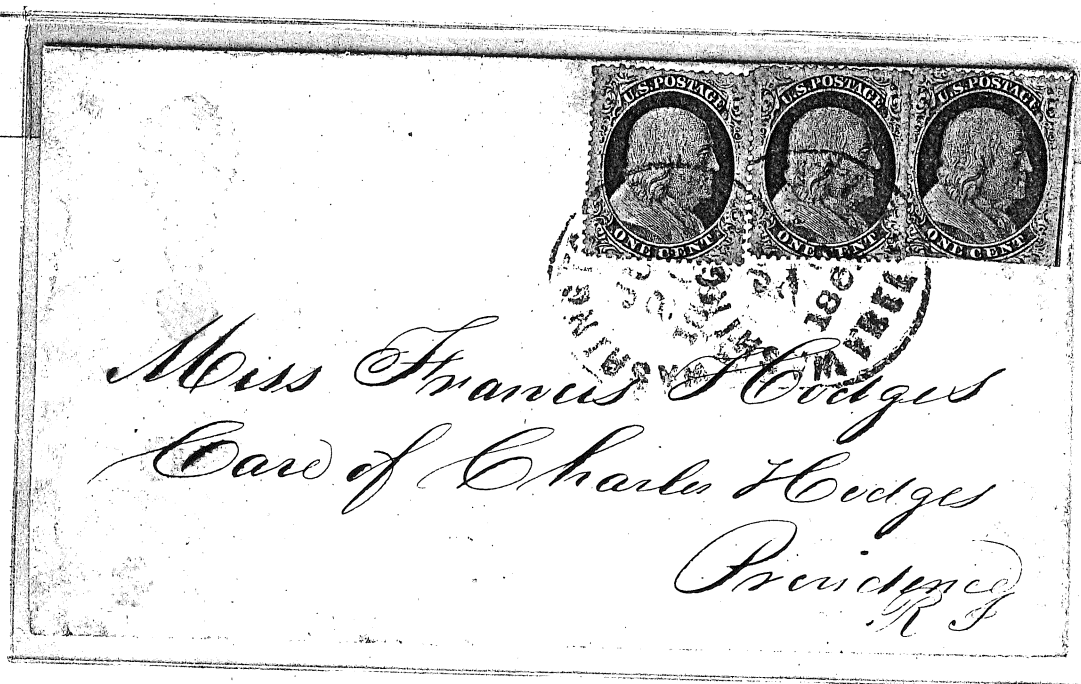
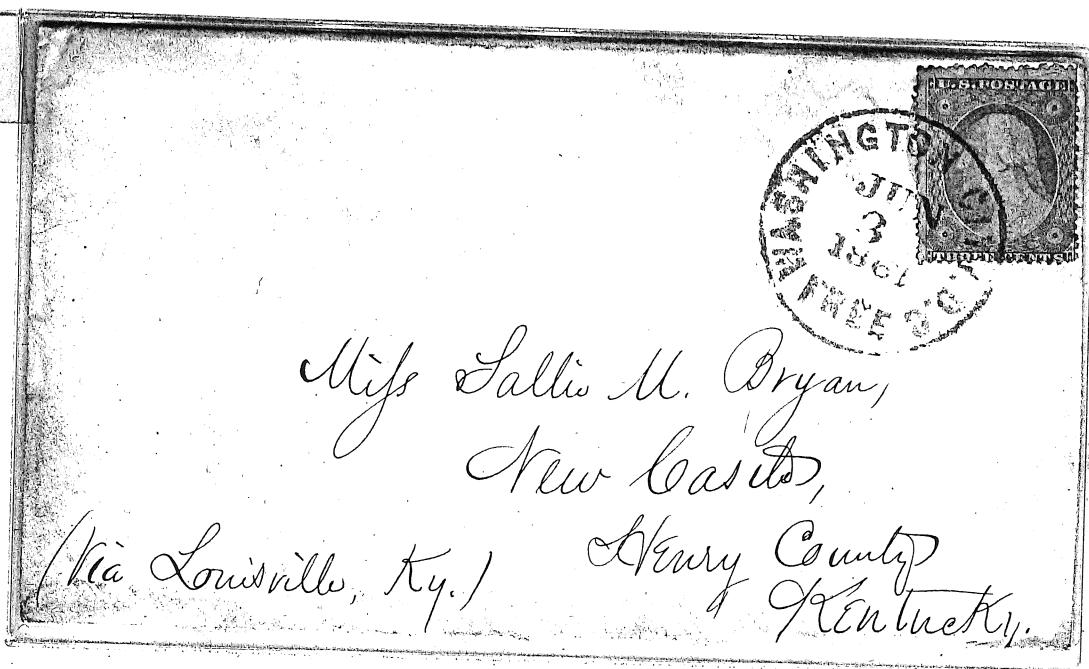
The device used by postal clerks to cancel stamps changed during and following the Civil War from the use of a separate circled grid device and/or the circular date stamp (CDS) to a combined CDS/killer that supplied information as well as obliterating the stamp. Killers, not generally used until postal regulations insisted, changed from cut corks and targets to numbered or lettered metal devices indicating the clerk or the type of mail involved.

While some towns and cities became famous for special or uniquely designed killers, Washington has never been recognized as having attractive or diverse killers. This collection proves that there were quite a number of interesting and "special" markings.

The study shows the killer types (CDS killers, targets, grids, geometrics, leaves, crosses, stars, pictorials, numerals and letters) used, chronologically, at most of the existing post offices in the District of Columbia during the 1860-1885 period including Anacostia, Brightwood, Congress, Georgetown, carriers, Tennallytown and the central office.



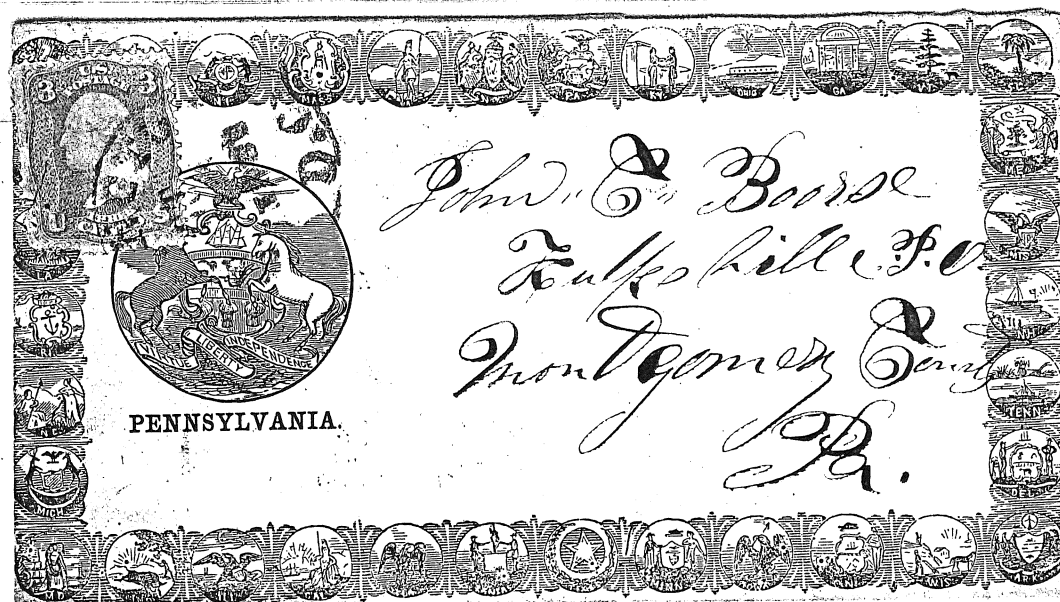
CDS KILLERS



Date: 1861
Station: Central PO
Cancel: CDS only



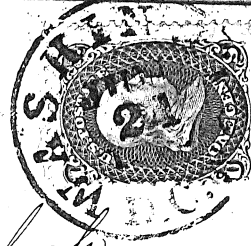
CDS KILLERS



Date: Oct. 1861
Station: Central PO
Cancel: CDS only



CDS KILLERS



John B. Hollenbeck
Burlington
Chittenden Co
Vermont

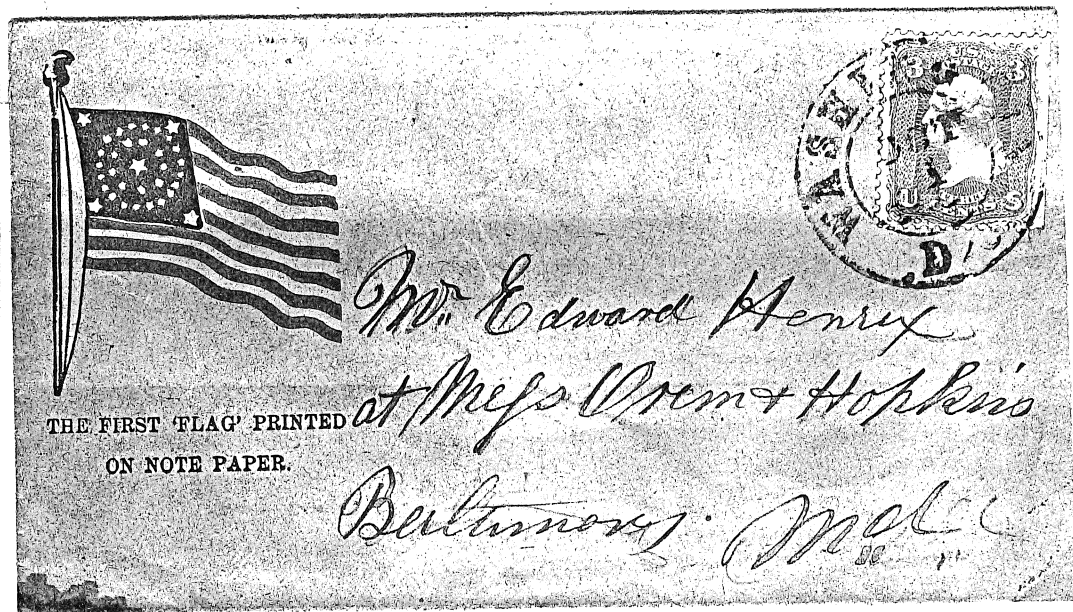
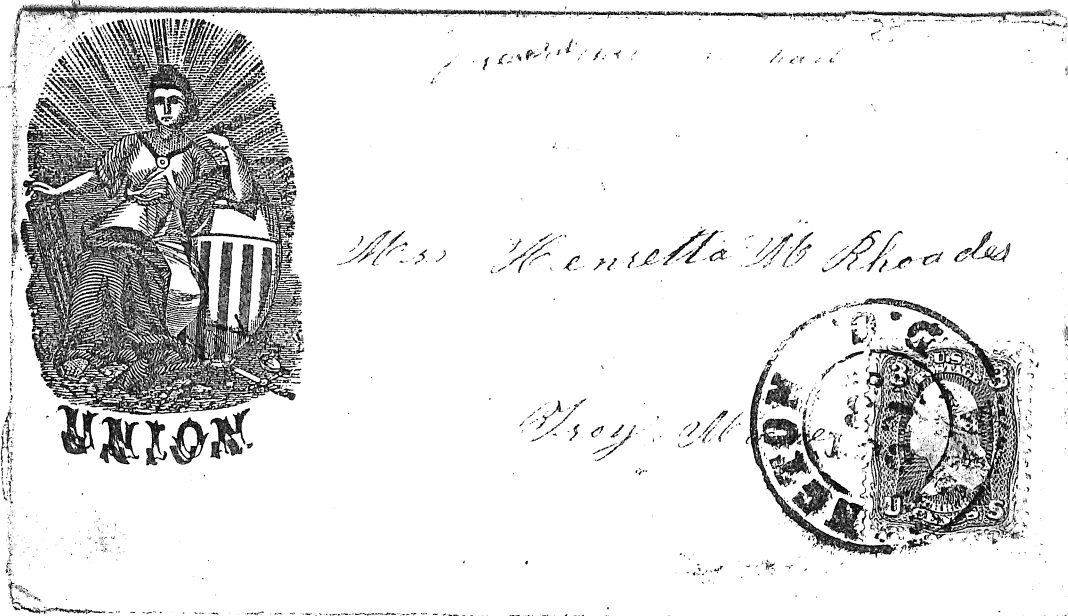


Y63
Henry Hetherbee Esq.
San Francisco
Calif

Date: 1862
Station: Central PO
Cancel: CDS only

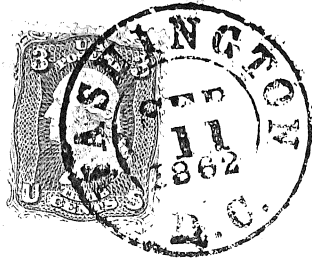


CDS KILLERS

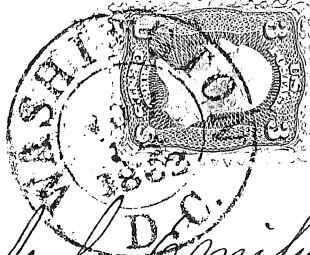


Date: 1862
Station: Central PO
Cancel: CDS only

CDS KILLERS



Mrs A. A. Willard
Brattleboro
Vermont



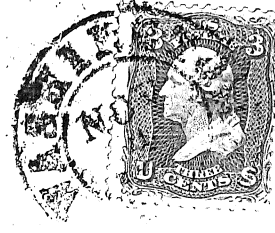
Mrs Emily J. Little.
Haverhill

³⁰
Care of D. J. Little. Mass.



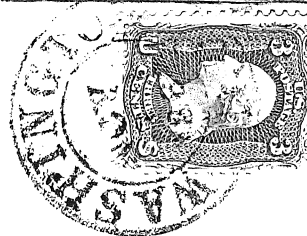
Date: 1862
Station: Central PO
Cancel: CDS only

CDS KILLERS



Mrs. Caroline Dunn,
Keene,
N. H.

Cheshire Co.



*Margaret S. Hallam
Sandy Spring Md.
Montgomery Co.
For Alice Hallam Md.*

Date: 1862
Station: Central PO
Cancel: CDS only

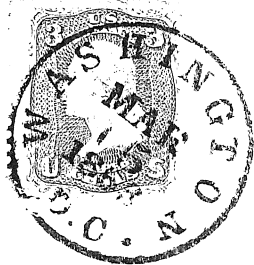
CDS KILLERS

U. S. Sanitary Commission,
WASHINGTON, D. C.



Hon. Norton Bateman
Springfield -
Illinois

A scarce patented envelope with cut-out pattern under the stamp.
This is more unusual on a U.S. Sanitary Commission cover.



Mr. H. A. Totten
Washington
D. C.

Date: 1863
Station: Central PO
Cancel: CDS only

The Adams Express Company

WASHINGTON, D. C.



Edward Stabler Esq
Sandy Spring
Maryland,

HARNDEN EXPRESS, Washington

401 Pennsylvania Avenue.



J. Potter Esq
Blueville.
R.D.

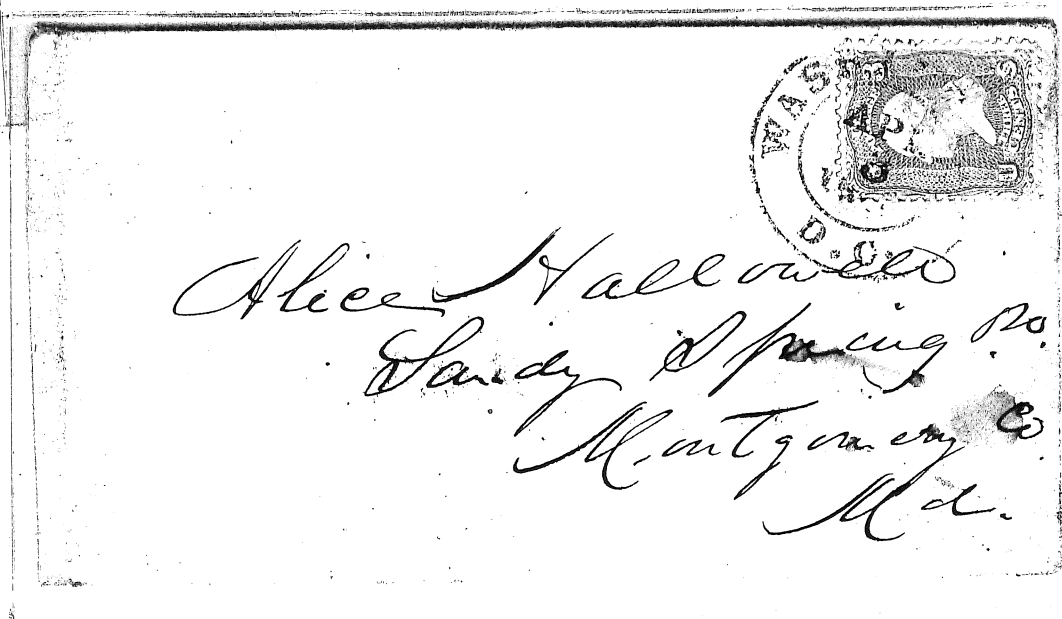
Adams Express Co. operated both Adams and Harnden Express at this time. They offered faster service than the regular POD.

Date : 1863

Station: Central POD

Cancel: CDS only

CDS KILLERS



To Canada

Date: 1863
Station: Central PO
Cancel: CDS only

CDS KILLERS



Date: Late 1860's
Station: Washington RR
Cancel: CDS only

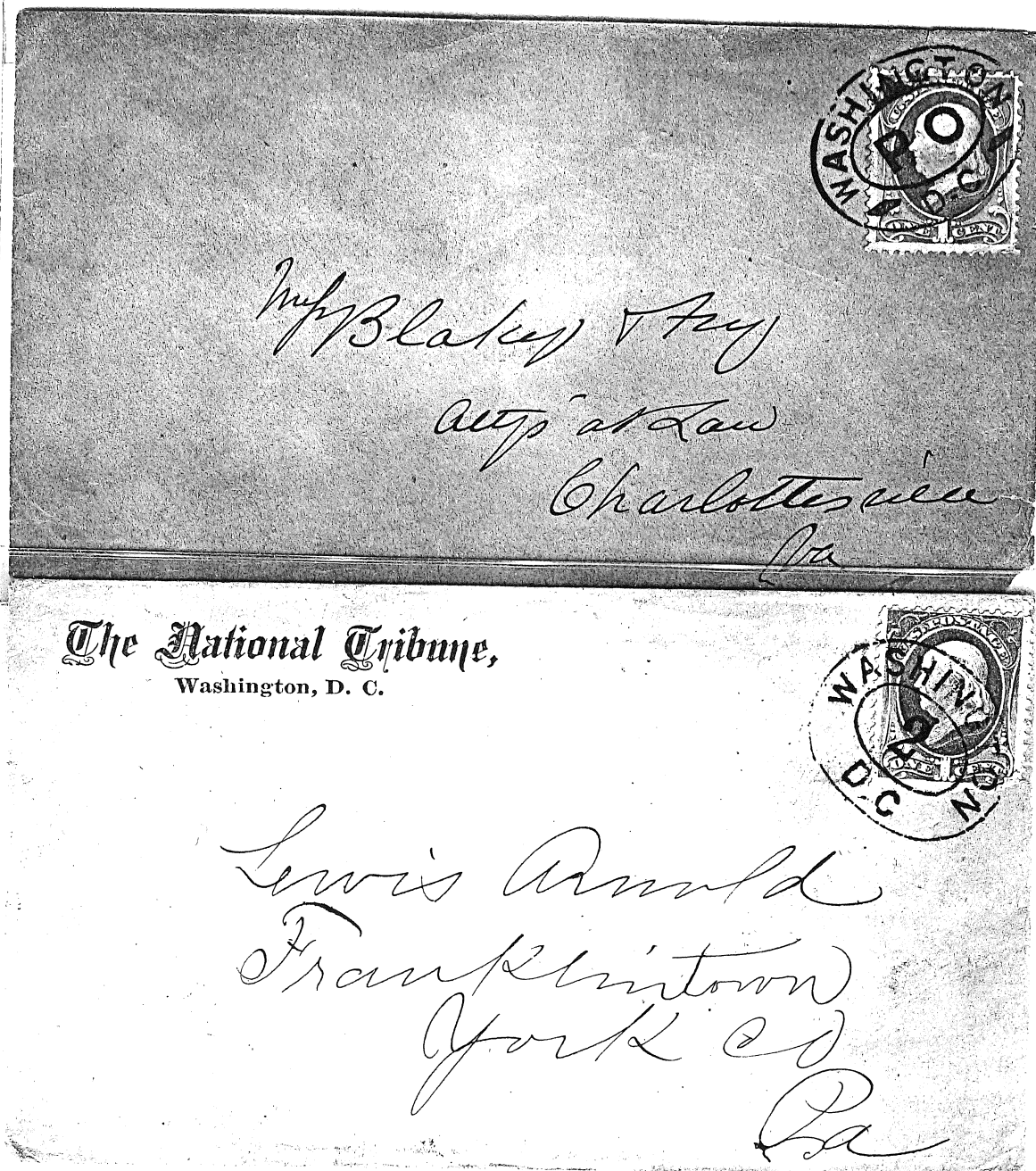


CDS KILLERS



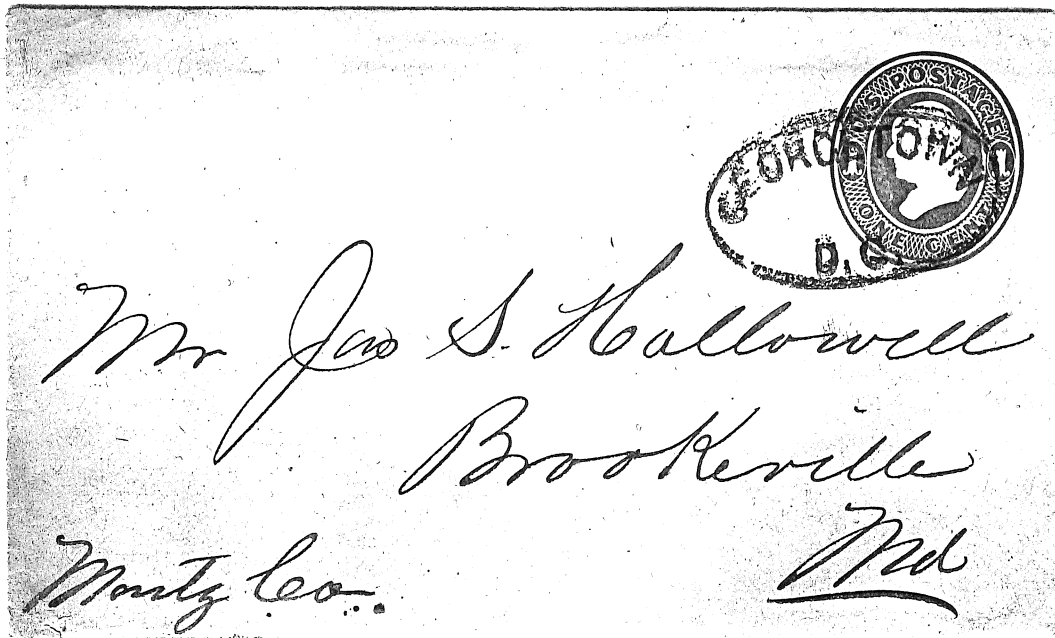
Date: 1867
Station: Washington & N.Y. RR
Cancel: CDS only





Date: 1883-4
Station: Central P0
Cancel: Oval used on
2nd and 3rd class mail

CDS KILLERS



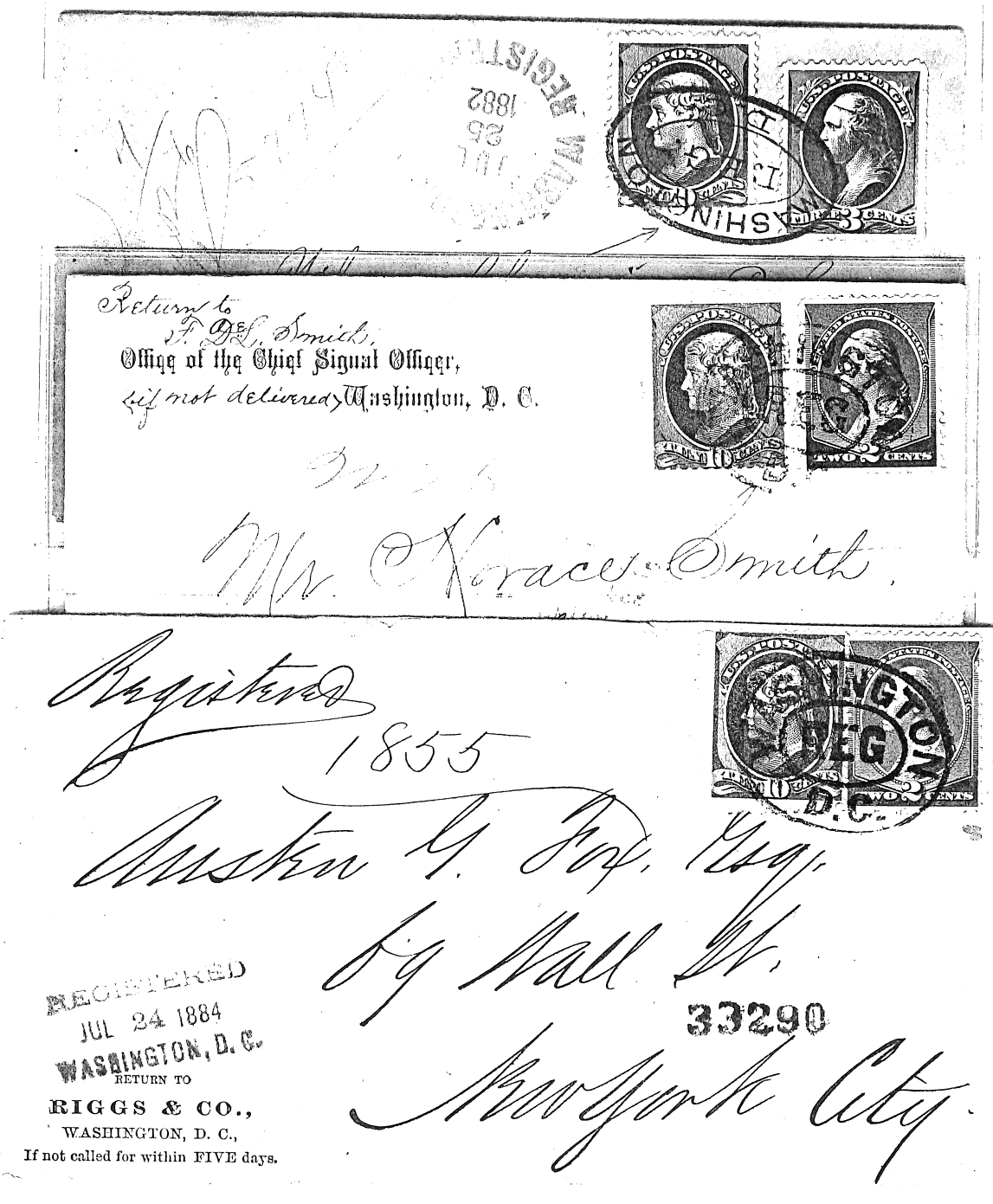
Date: 1883

Station: Georgetown

Cancel: Oval used on

2nd and 3rd class mail

CDS KILLERS



Date: 1882, 1883, 1884

Station: Central PO

Cancel: Metal - double oval

"REG" for registered

Combined 1882, separate

or single device 1883, 1884

Post Office Department.
Office of Third Ass't Postmaster General.
Division of Dead Letters.
Official Business.

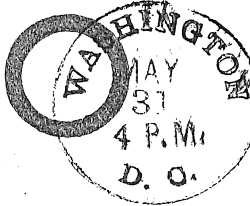


A penalty of \$300 is fixed by law, for using this
Envelope for other than Official Business.



Garrett & Co.
314 N. 2nd St.
Cal.

Post Office Department.
Office of Third Ass't Postmaster General.
Division of Dead Letters.
Official Business.

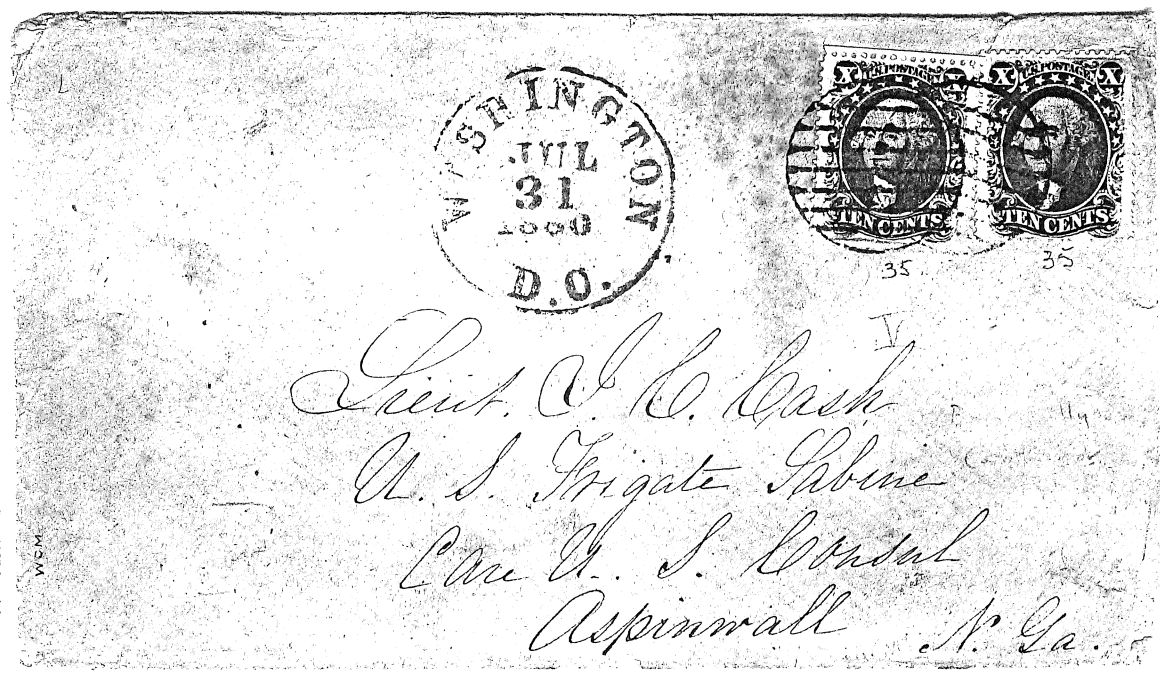
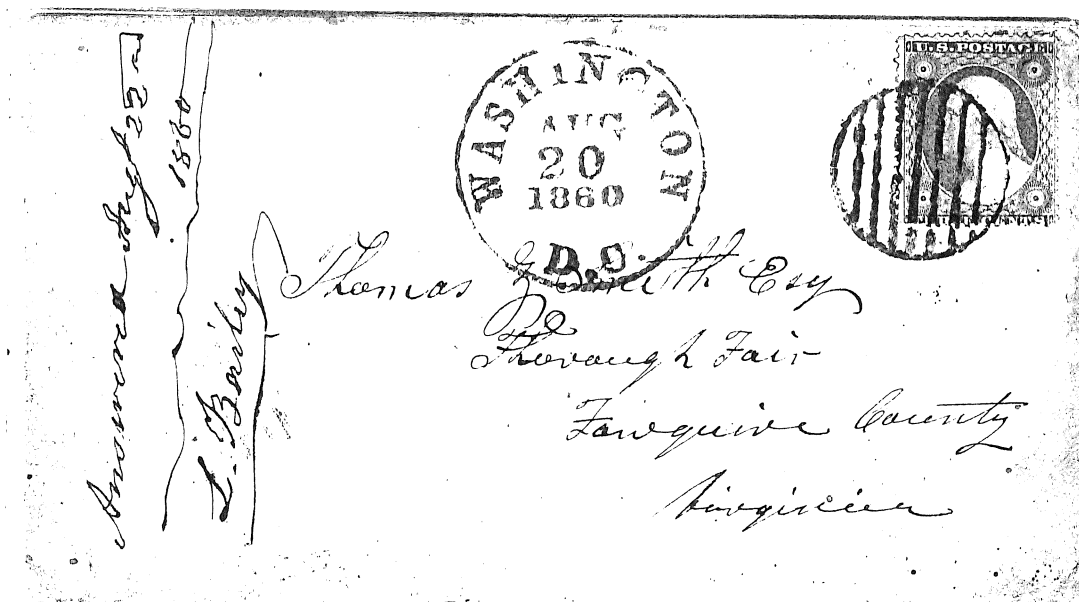


A penalty of \$300 is fixed by law, for using this
Envelope for other than Official Business.

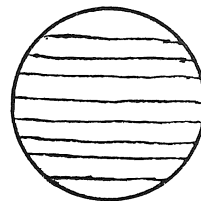
Mr. A. Scott.
480 2 Penn St.
(Frankford)
Philadelphia Pa.

Date: 1879
Station: Central PO DLO
Cancel: CDS only

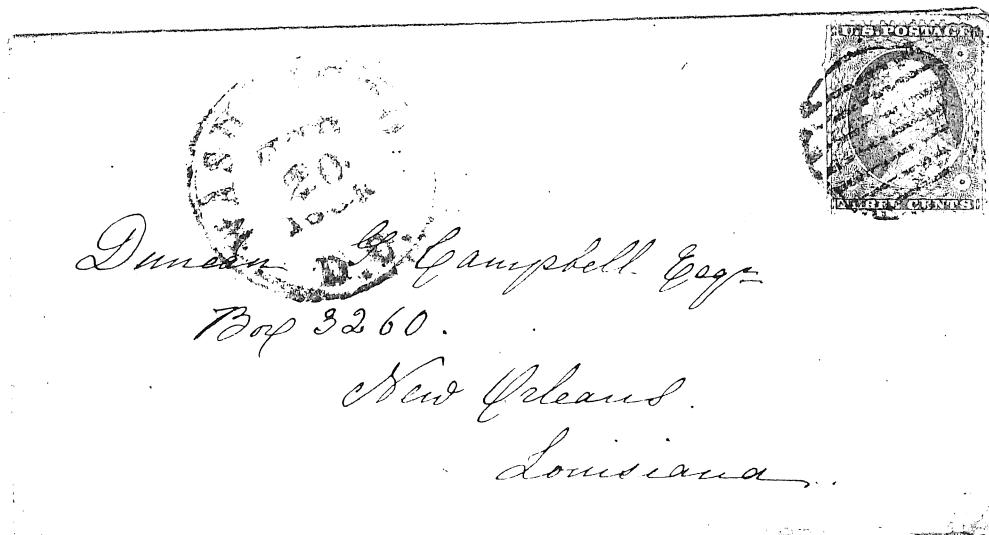
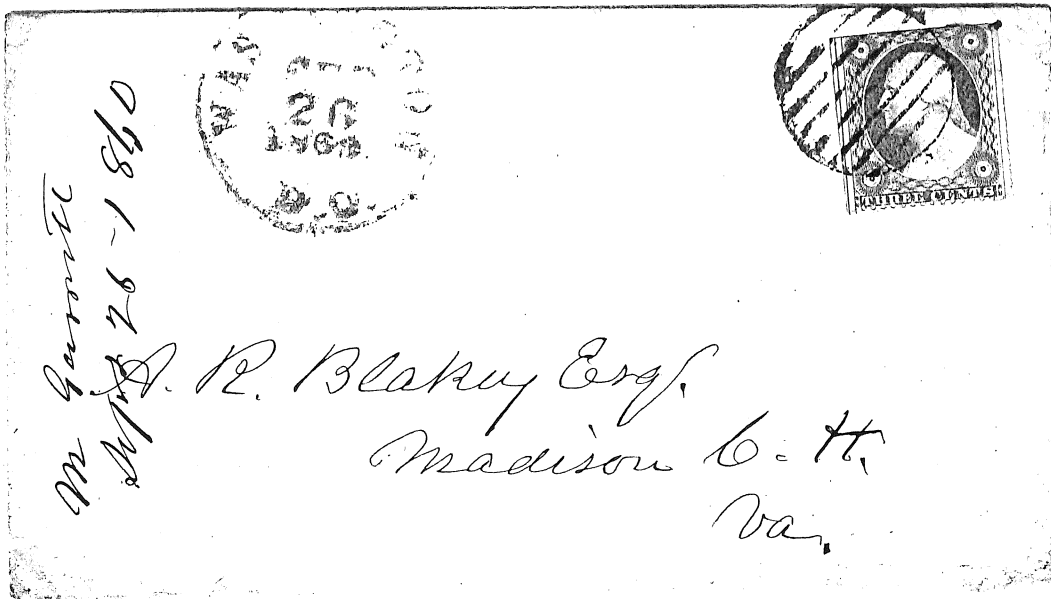
GRIDS



Date: 1860 to early 1861
Station: Central PO
Cancel: Grid - a separate metal device



GRIDS



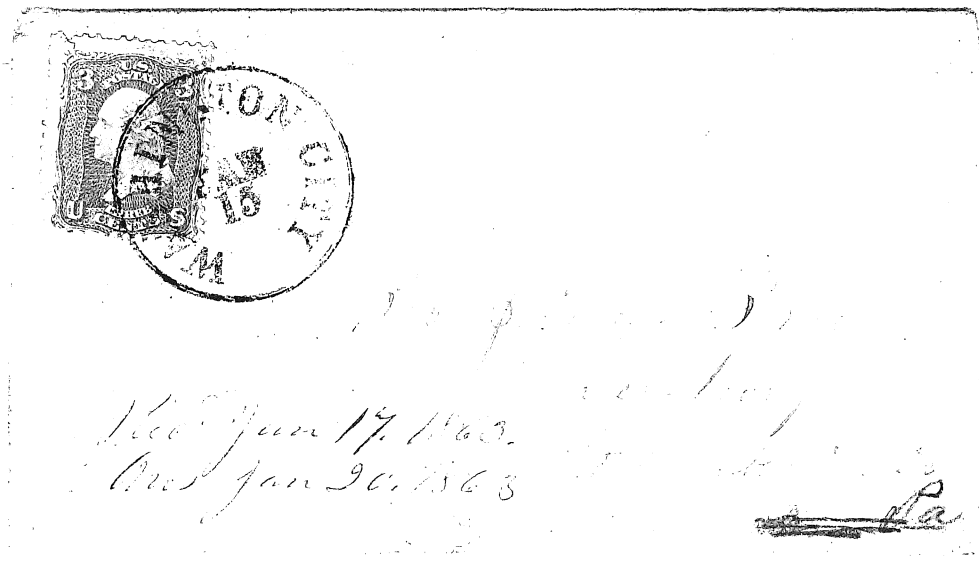
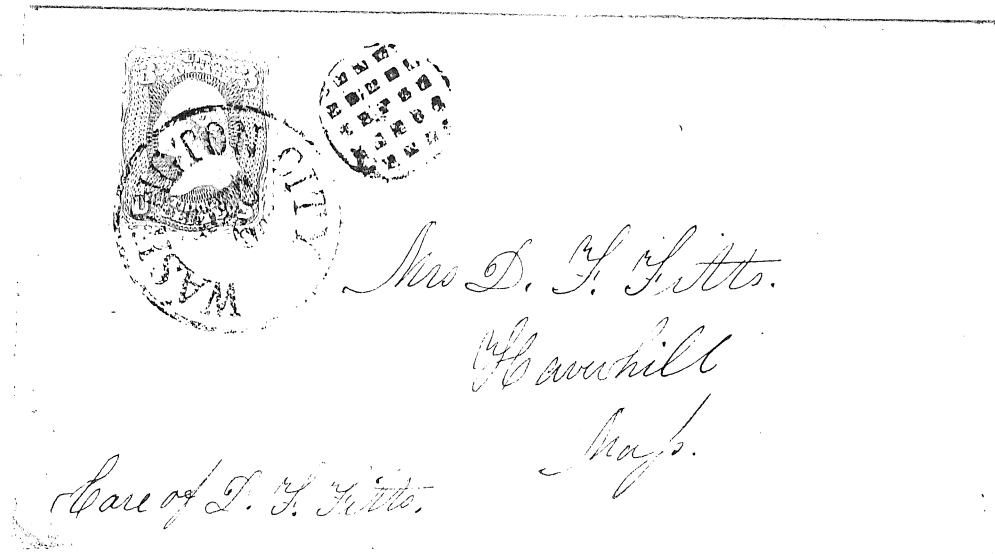
Civil War cross-border cover dated 2/20/61 just 16 days
after Louisiana joined Confederacy. US stamps were good
til 5/31/61.

Date: 1860-61

Station: Central PO

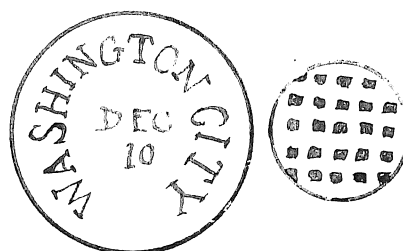
Cancel: Grid - a separate metal
device

GRIDS



When the sender placed the stamp on the left, only the CDS portion of the device "killed" the stamp so it looks like the clerk removed the waffle iron by late Jan. 1863

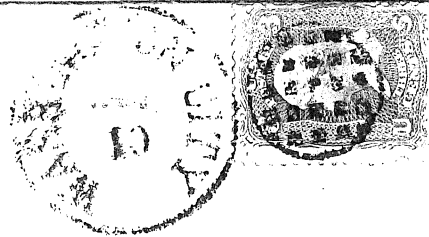
Date: Jan. 1863
 Station: Central P0
 Cancel: Waffle iron
 Combined device



GRIDS



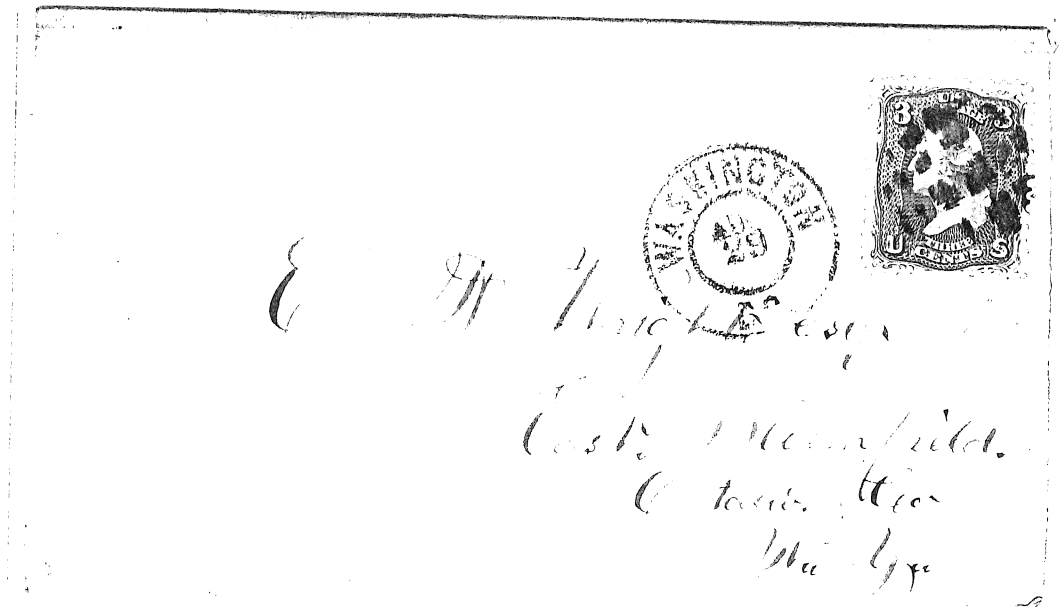
Miss Fannie P. Clark.
Care of Jesse Clark Esq.
Lowell,
Mass.



Alice & Jimmy Wallace
Sandy Spring P.O.
Montgomery Co. Md.

Date: Dec. 1862 - Jan. 1863
Station: Central PO
Cancel: Waffle iron
Combined device

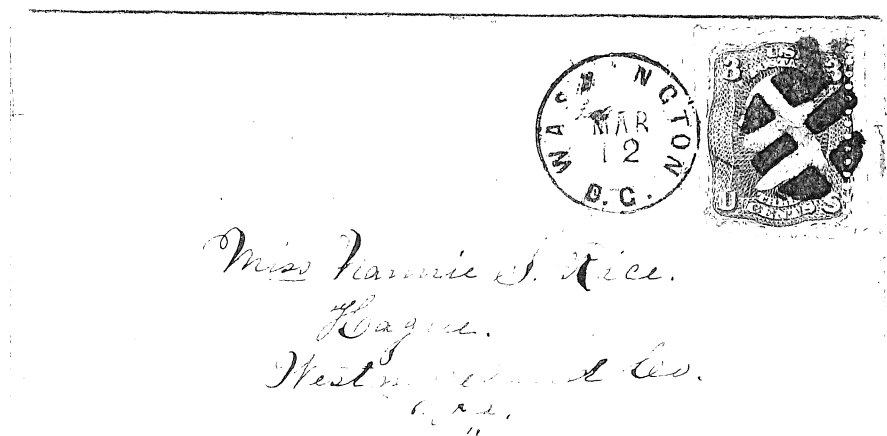
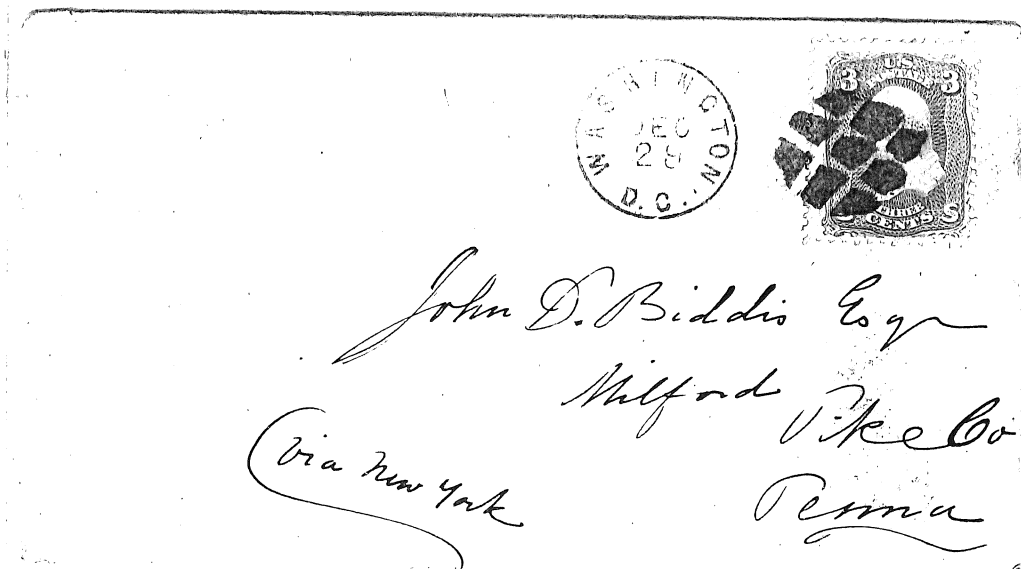
GRIDS



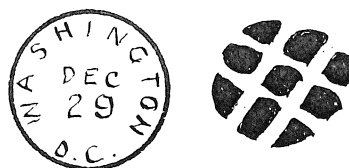
Date: 1864
 Station: Central P0
 Cancel: Cut cork
 Combined device



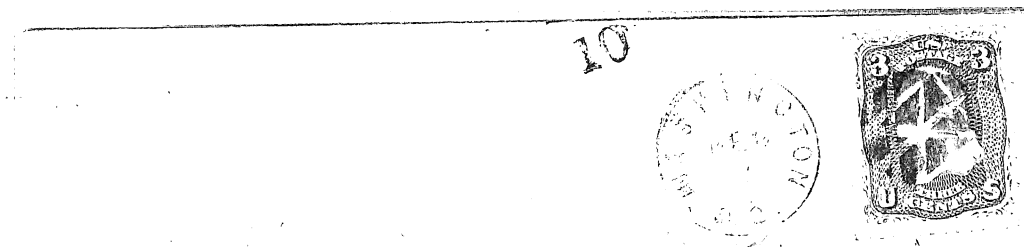
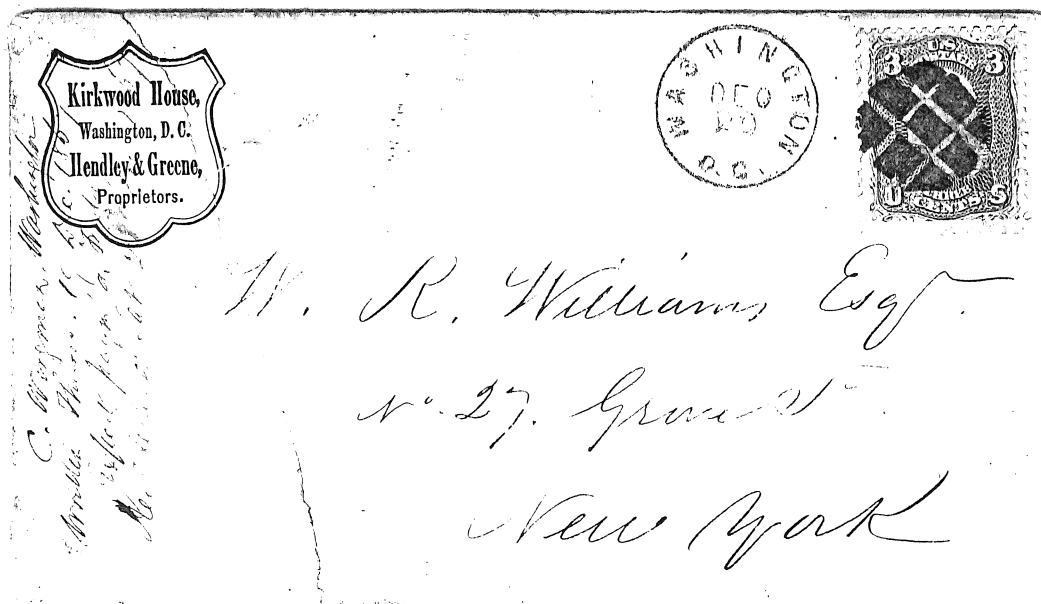
GRIDS



Date: Late 1867, early 1868
 Station: Central PO
 Cancel: Cut cork
 Combined device



GRIDS



Date: Late 1867
 Station: Central P0
 Cancel: Cut cork
 Combined device



10



GRIDS

Return to BOVER COMPANY,
P. O. Box 493, RICHMOND, Va.,
if not delivered within 10 days.

Honble Isaac Buchanan
Eventt House
New York N.Y.

RR

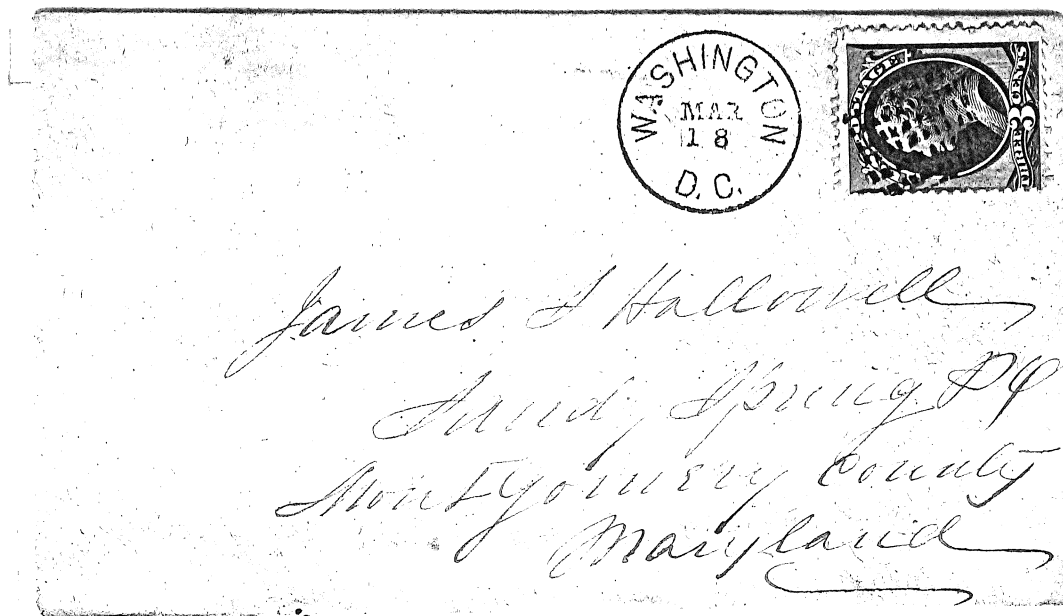


This cover originated in Richmond, VA and went to Washington via the RF&P RR and steamboat from Aquia Creek. The cover was cancelled on the train car used to carry, postmark and sort the mail.

Date: Late 1860's
Station: RF&P RR postal car
Cancel: Cut cork
Combined device



GRIDS



Date: 1873

Station: Central PO

Cancel: Cut cork - grid
Combined device



GRIDS

Return to THOS. C. WHEELER,
Canal Wharf, near Market House Bridge,
GEORGETOWN, D. C.,
if not delivered within 10 days.



*Jas. S. Hallowell
Brookville
Montgomery County
Md.*

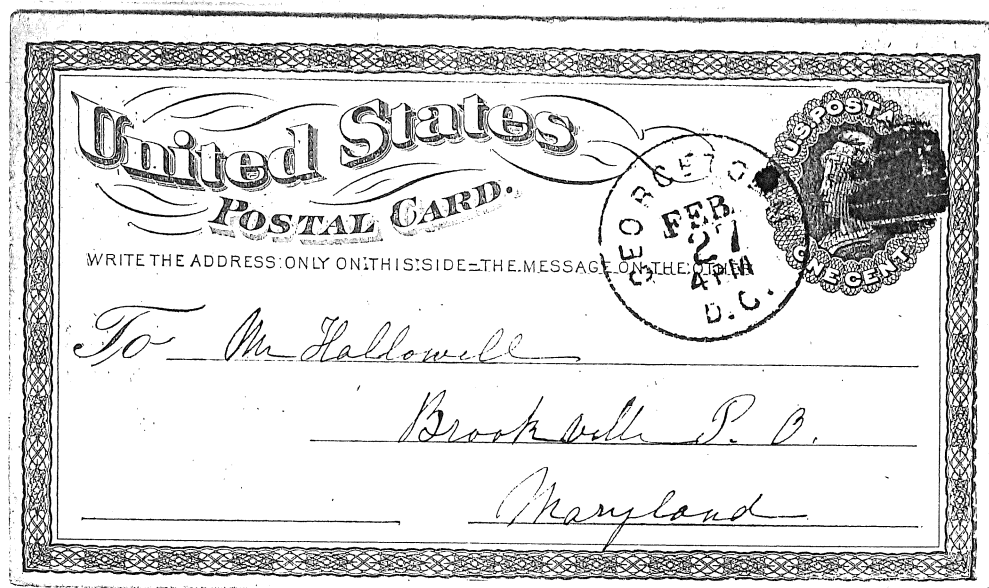


*Jas. f. Hallowell. Esq.
Brookville
Montgomery County
Md.*

Date: 1874
Station: Georgetown
Cancel: Grids
Combined device



GRIDS



Date: 1874

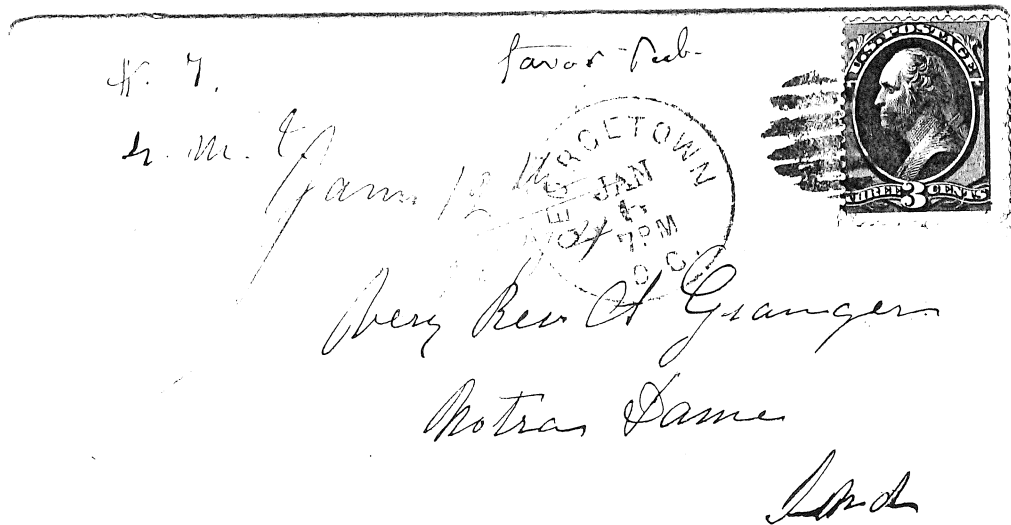
Station: Georgetown

Cancel: Cut cork - grid
Combined device



Beau

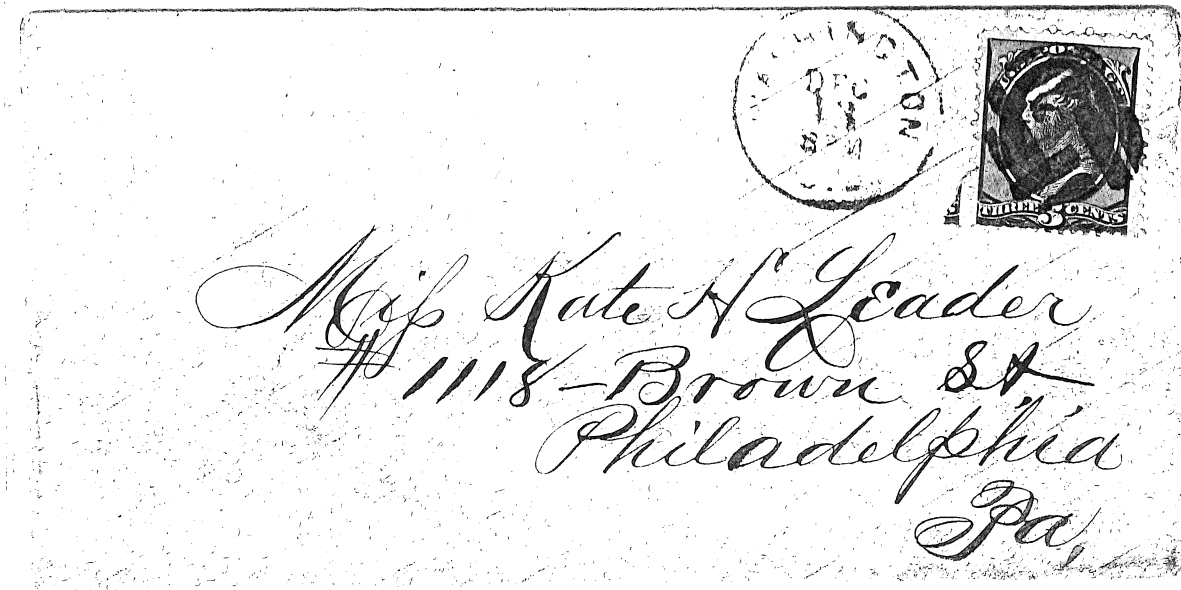
GRIDS



Date: 1874
 Station: Georgetown
 Cancel: Cut cork - grid
 Combined device



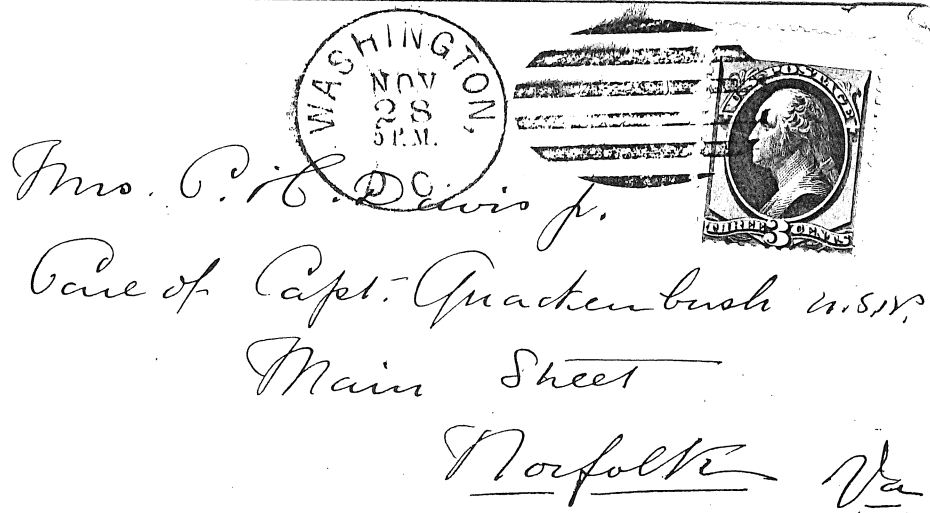
GRIDS



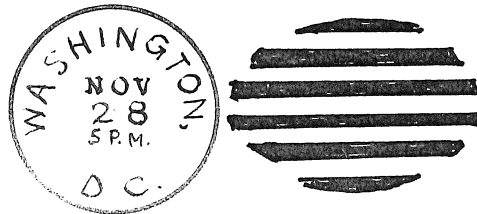
Date: 1874
Station: Central P0
Cancel: Cut cork
Combined device



GRIDS

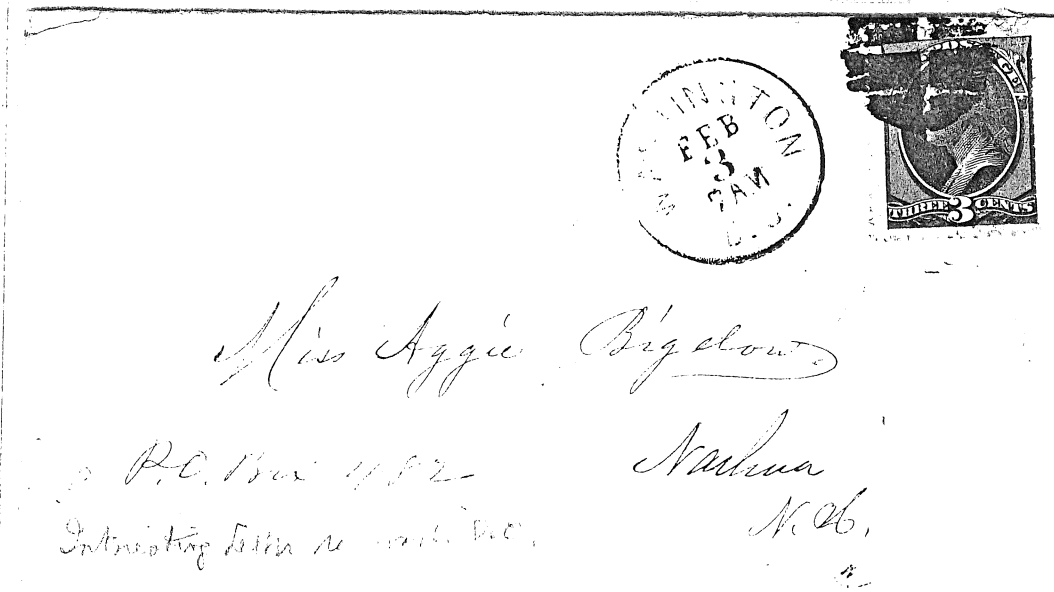
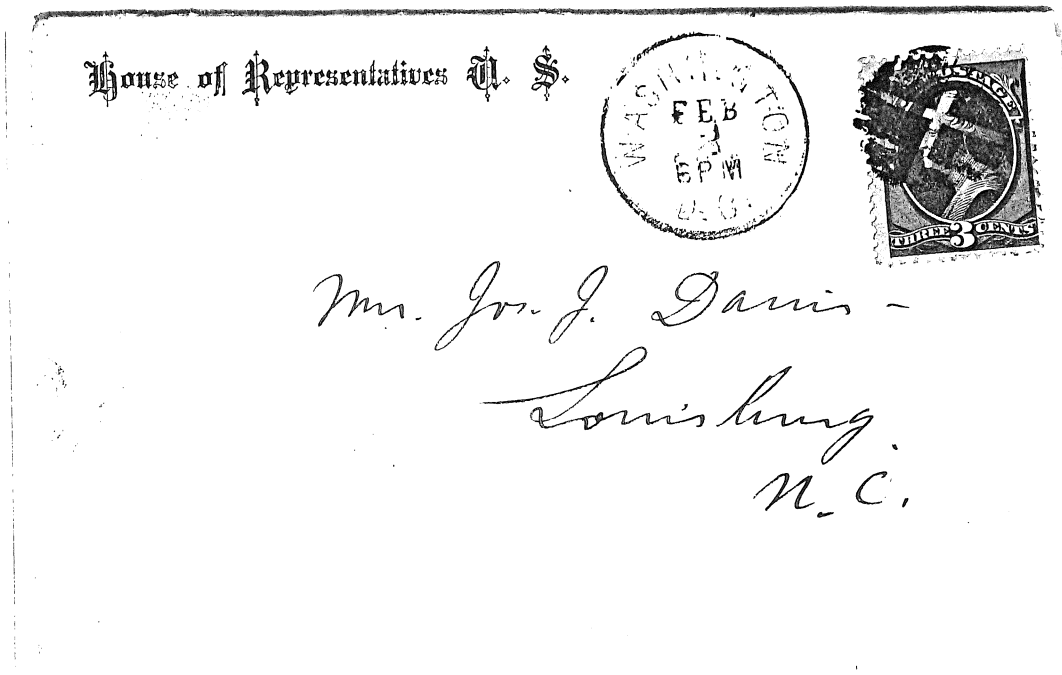


Date: 1876
Station: Central PO
Cancel: Oval grid - horiz.
Combined metal device



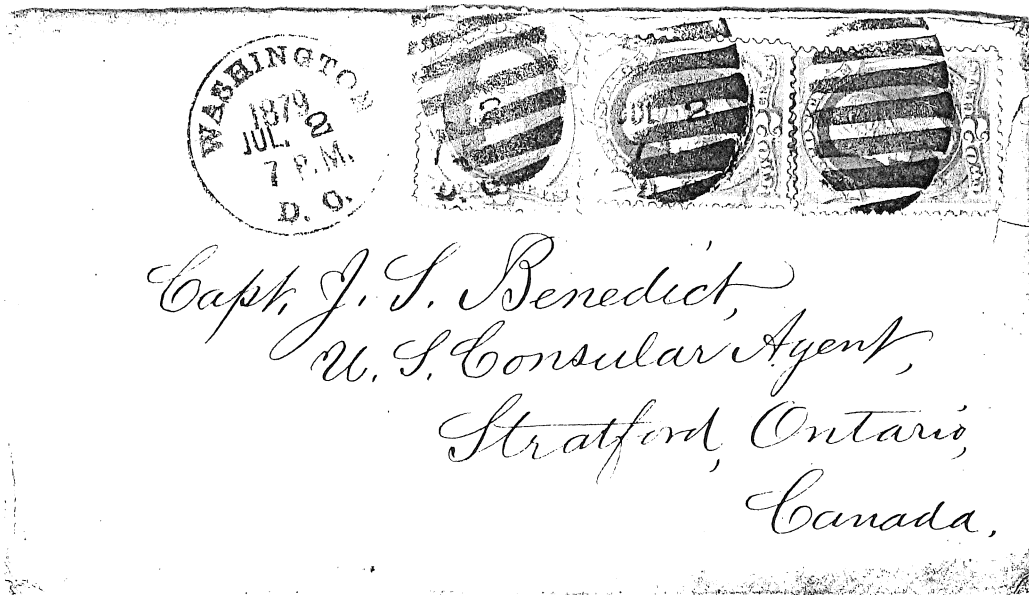
This is the rare Palmer machine cancel
used only for about 1 month in Washing-
ton.

GRIDS



Date: 1879
Station: Central PO
Cancel: Cut cork - grid
Combined device

GRIDS



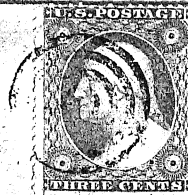
Date: 1879
Station: Central P0
Cancel: Metal grid
Combined metal device



TARGETS

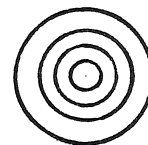


*Mr. C. F. Smith
Washington City
D.C.*

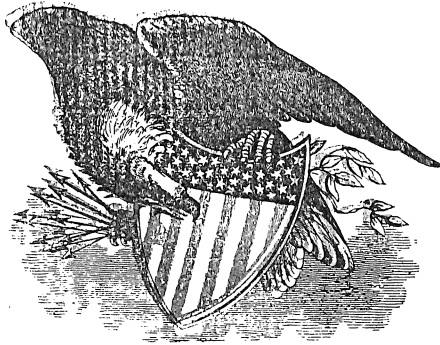


*Esq. S. Halliwell Esq.
Sandy Spring
Montgomery Co.
Maryland*

Date: 1861 - 1866
Station: Georgetown
Cancel: 4-ring target
Separate device

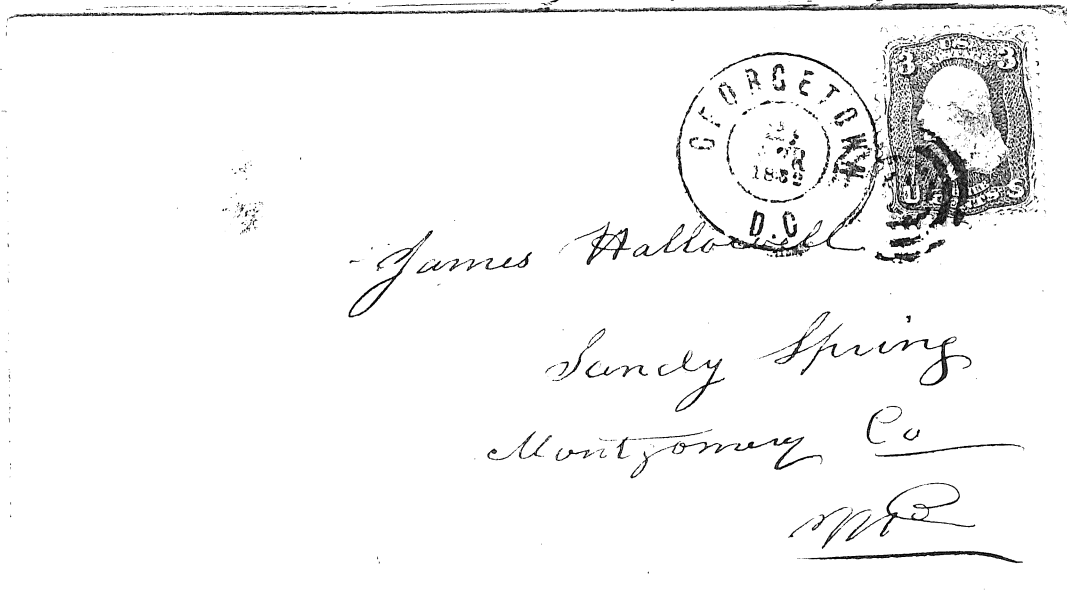


TARGETS

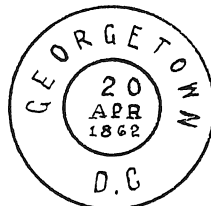


UNION!

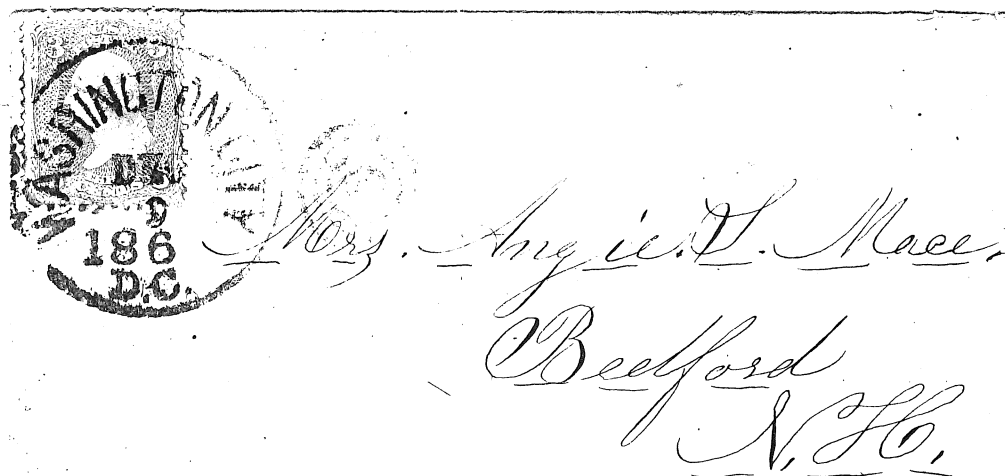
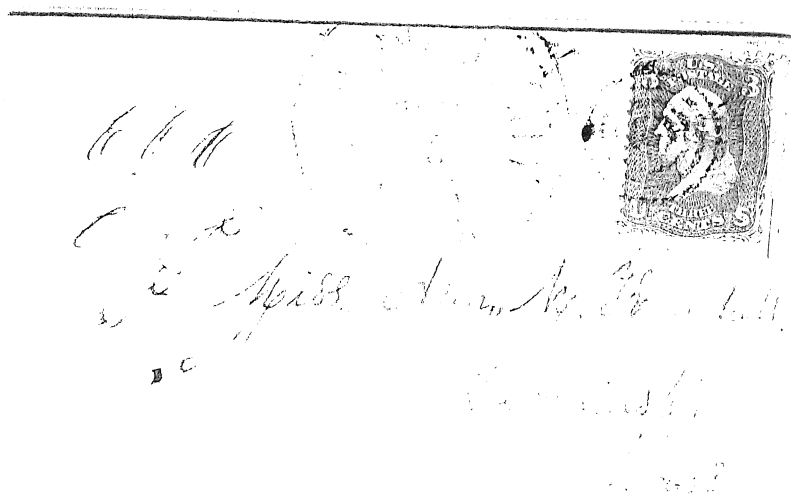
Georgetown D.C. Apr 20 - 62
Esteemed friend
J. S. Hollowell



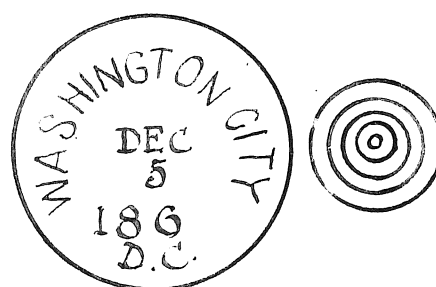
Date: 1861 - 1866
Station: Georgetown
Cancel: 4-ring target
Separate device



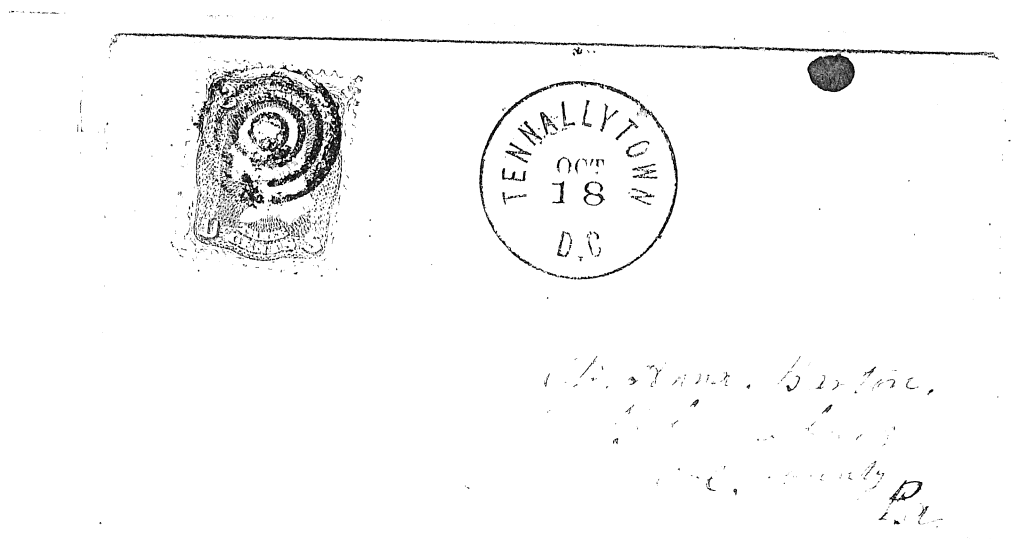
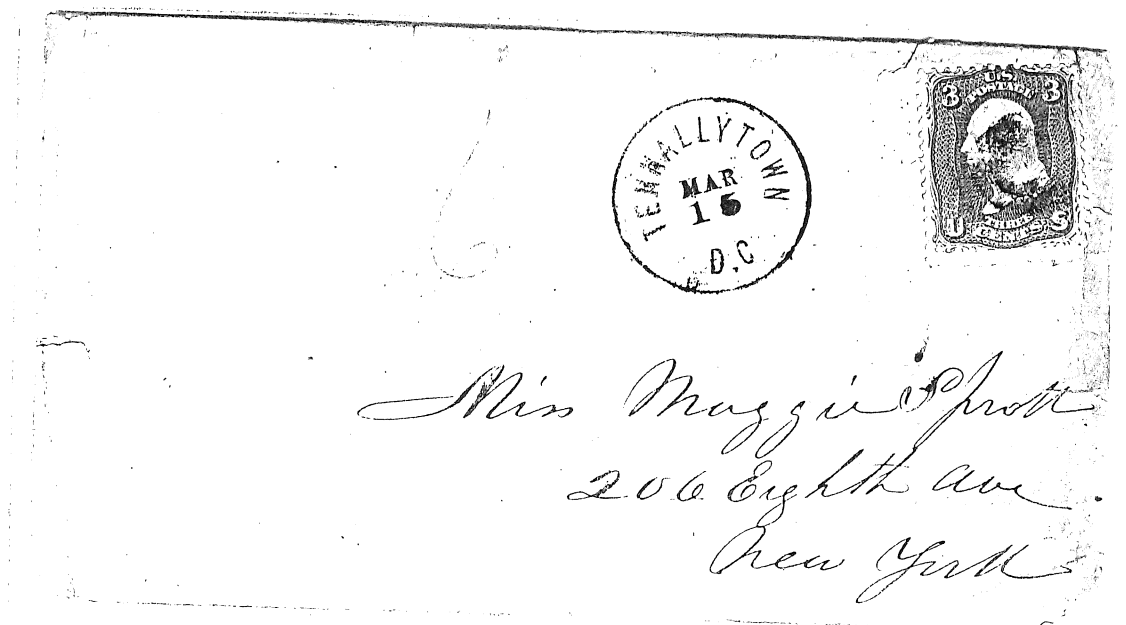
TARGETS



Date: 1862
 Station: Central PO
 Cancel: 5-ring target
 Combined CDS and killer

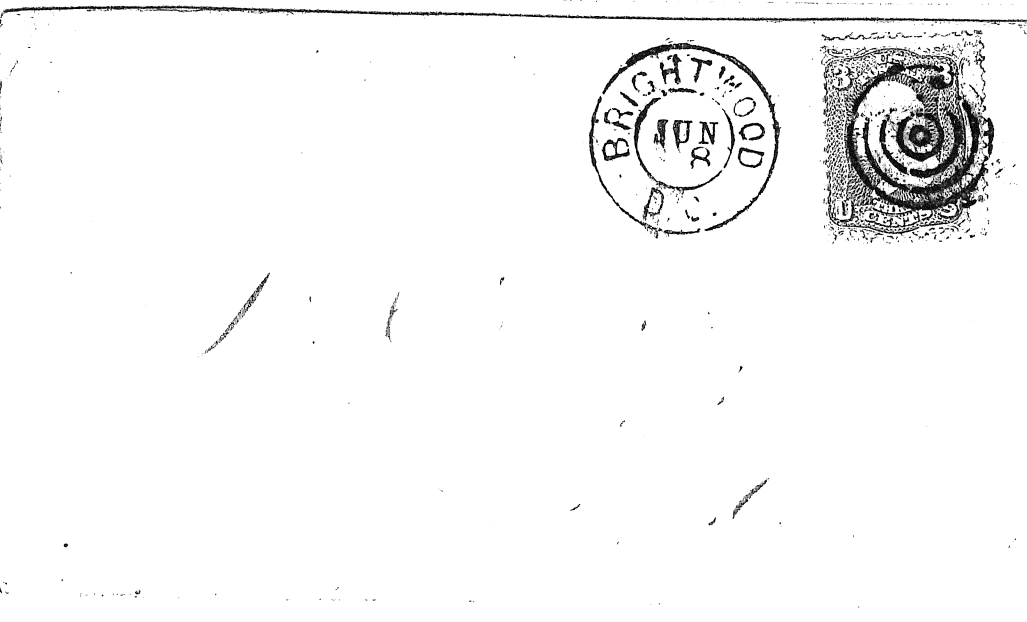
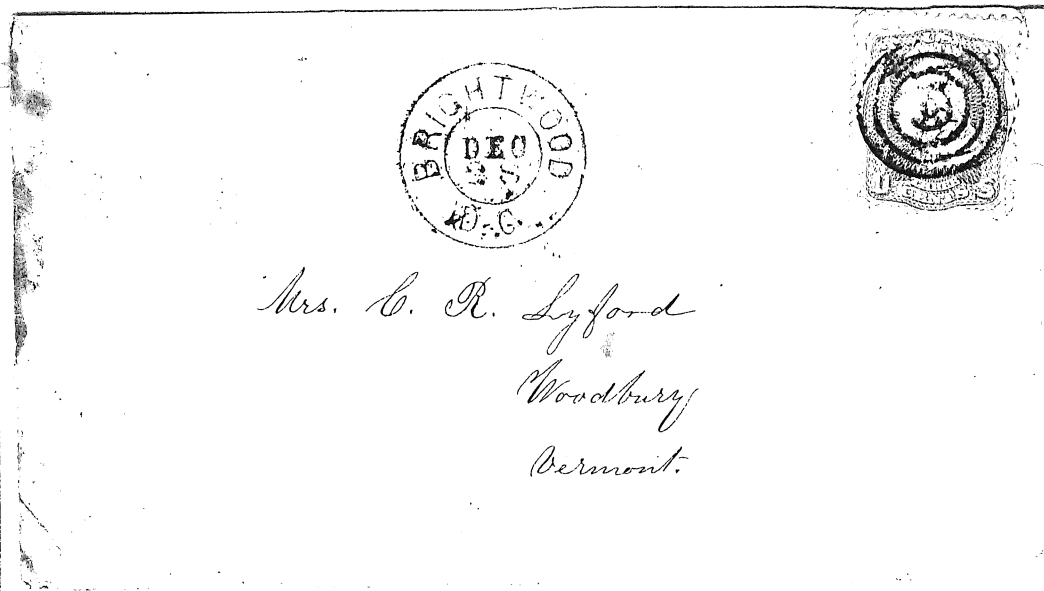


TARGETS

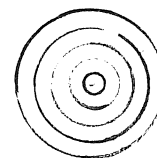


Date: 1861
 Station: Tennallytown
 Cancel: 4-ring target
 Separate device

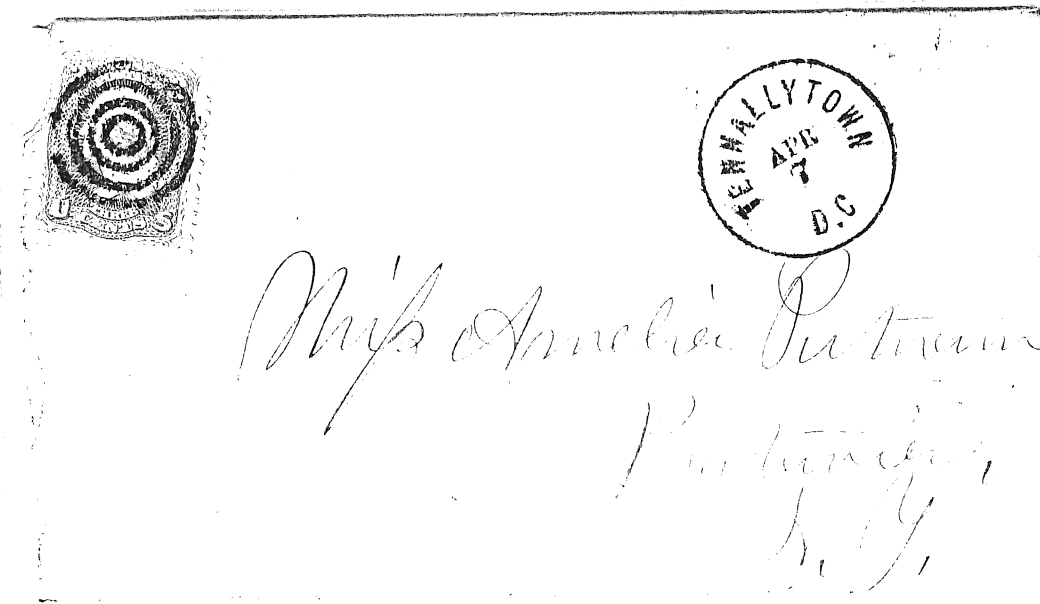
TARGETS



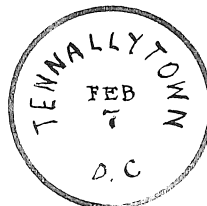
Date: 1860's
Station: Brightwood (formerly Oak Grove)
Cancel: 5-ring target
Separate device



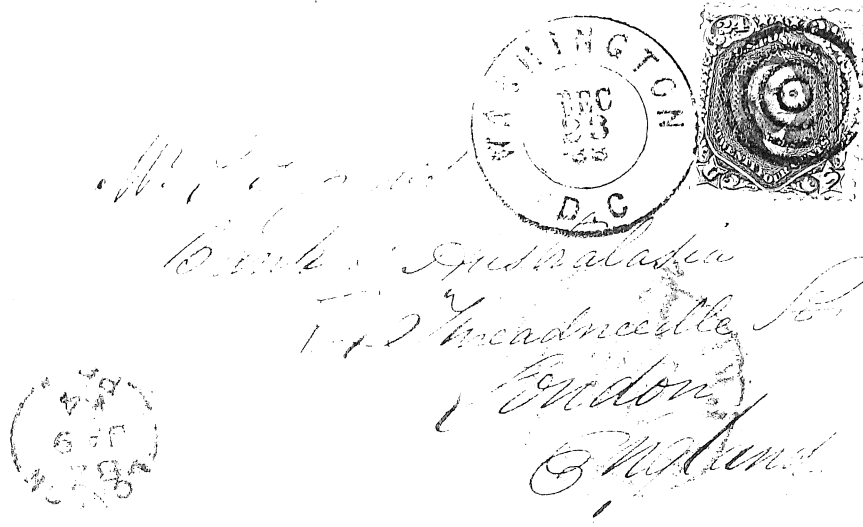
TARGETS



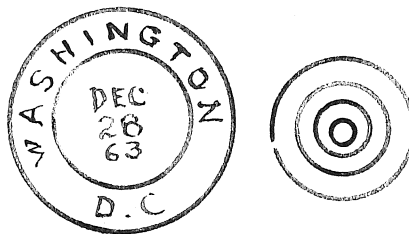
Date: 1862-65
 Station: Tennallytown
 Cancel: 4-ring target - black
 Separate device



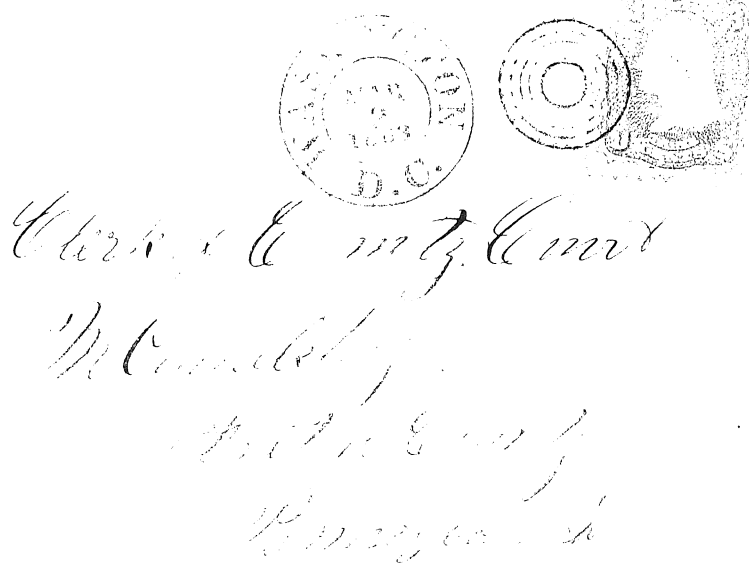
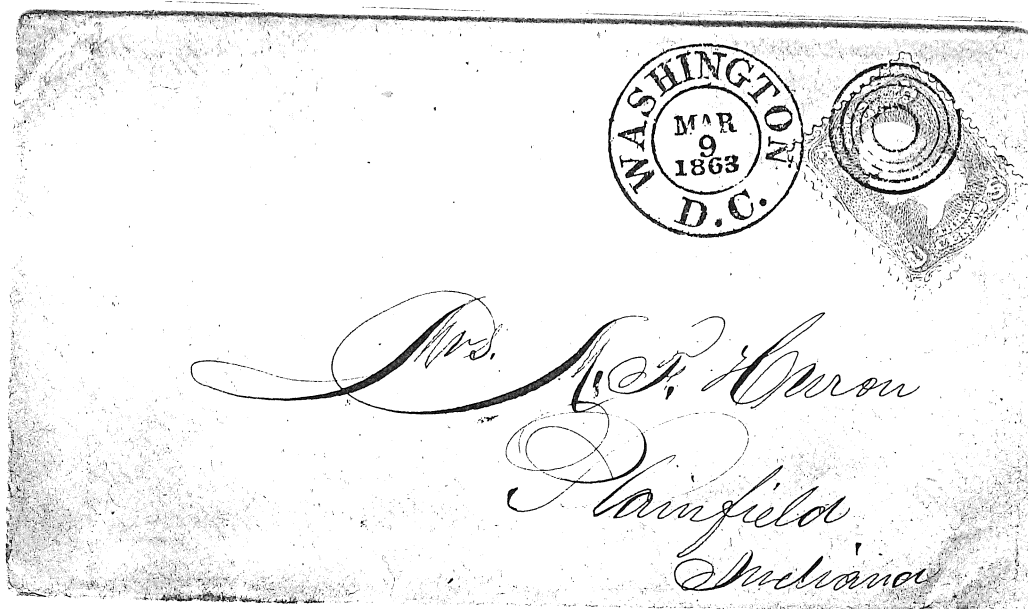
TARGETS



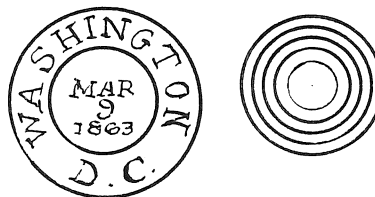
Date: 1863
Station: Central PO
Cancel: 4-ring target
Combined device



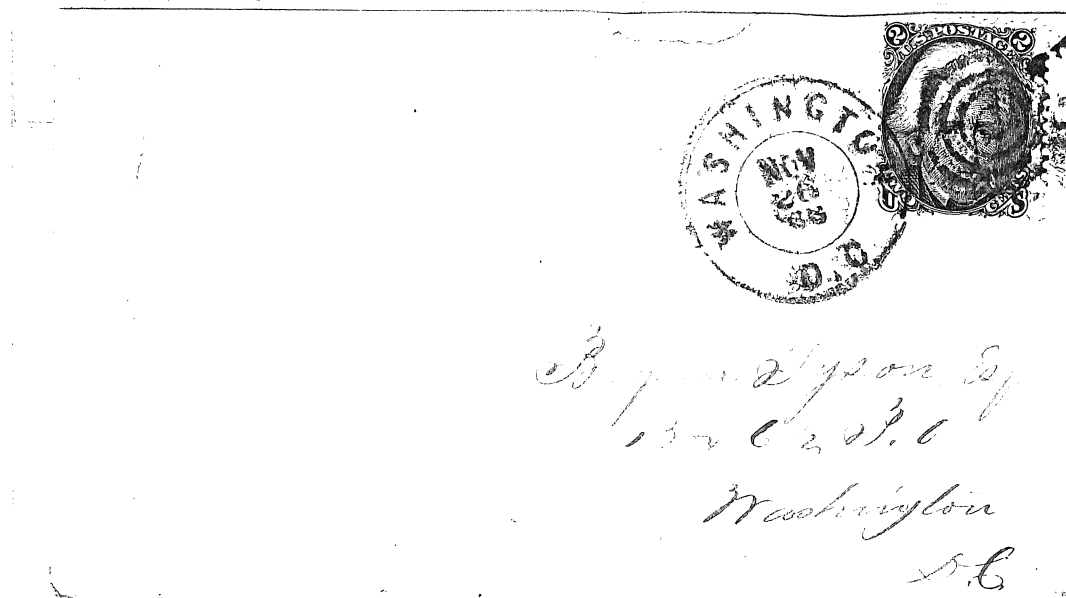
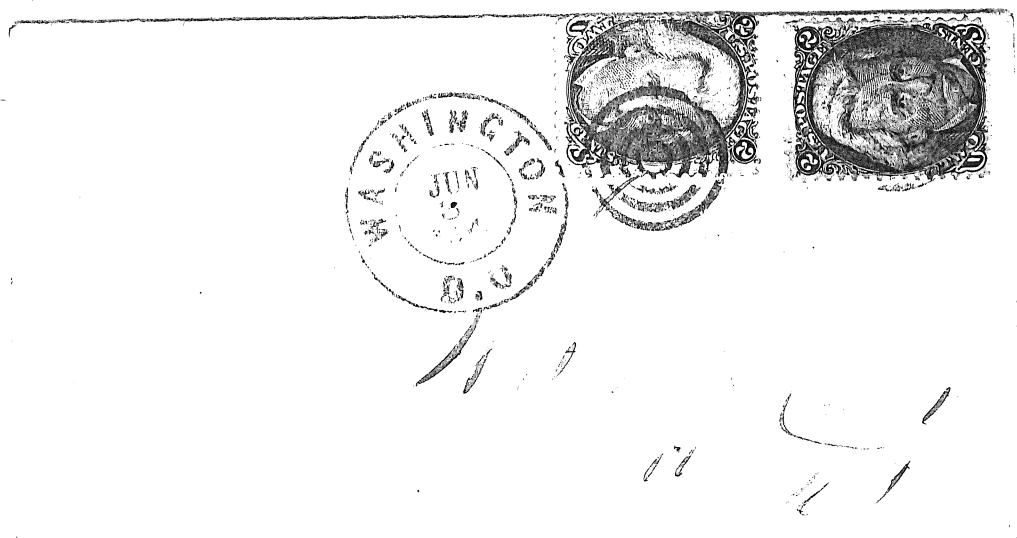
TARGETS



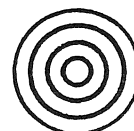
Date: 1863
Station: Central P0
Cancel: 5-ring target
Combined CDS and Killer



TARGETS

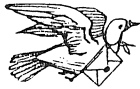


Date: 1863-64
 Station: Central PO
 Cancel: 4-ring target
 Combined CDS and killer

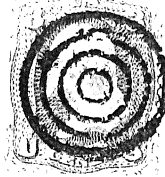


TARGETS

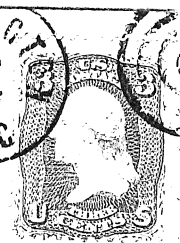
U. S. Christian Commission



SOLDIER'S LETTER.



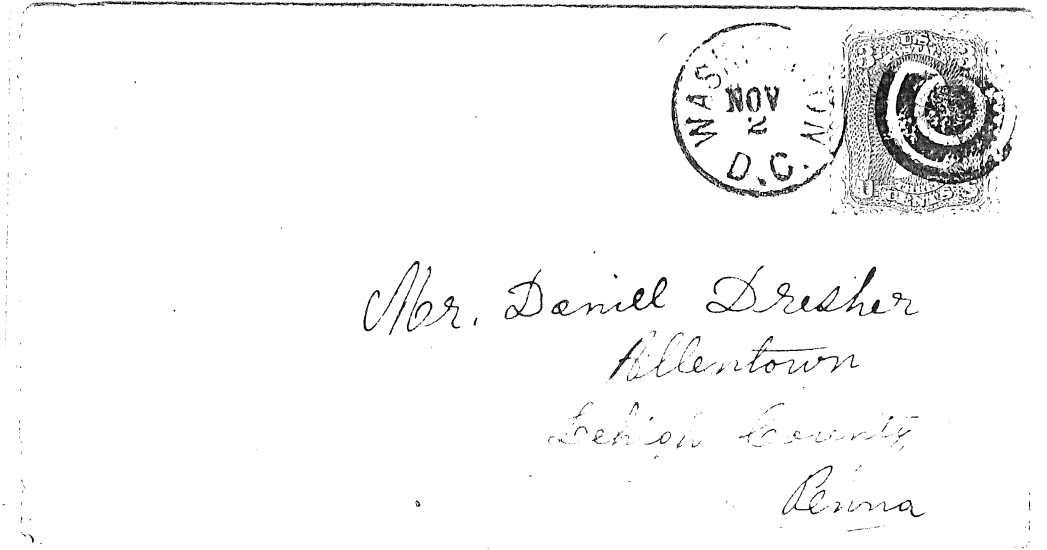
*Yours truly,
177
J. H. Hill*



*Mr. Frank. Hill
Dryden
Tompkins Co. N.Y.*

Date: 1865
Station: Central PO
Cancel: 4-ring target
Combined device

TARGETS

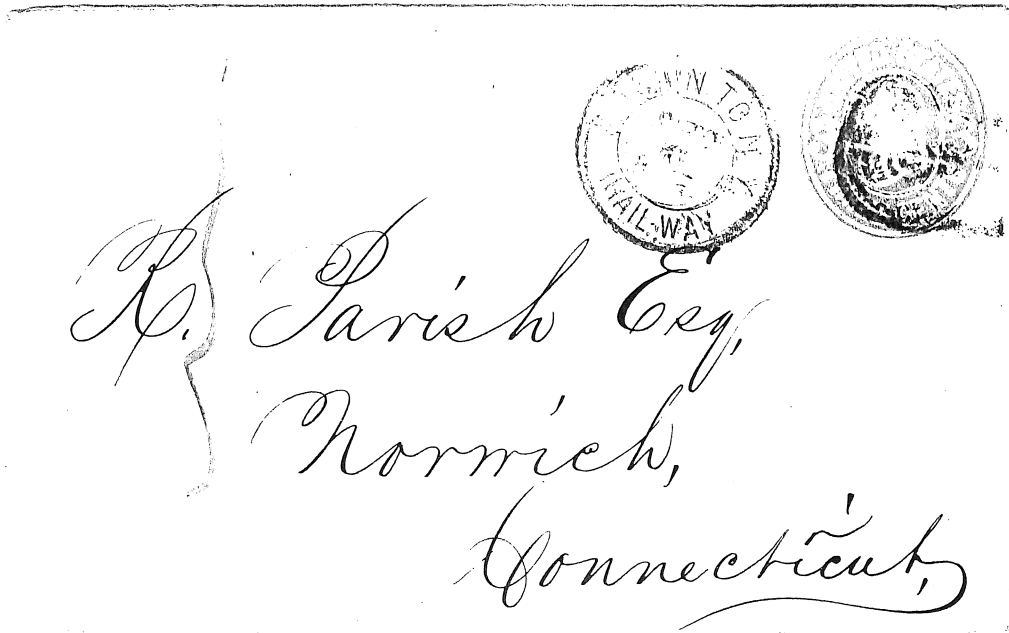


Date: 1865

Station: Central PO

Cancel: 2-ring target w/bullseye
Combined device

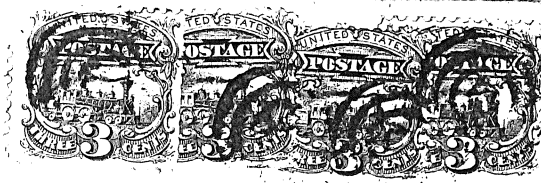
TARGETS



Date: Mid 1860's
Station: Washington RR
Cancel: 6-ring target
Separate killer

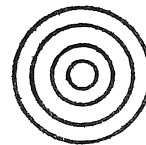


TARGETS



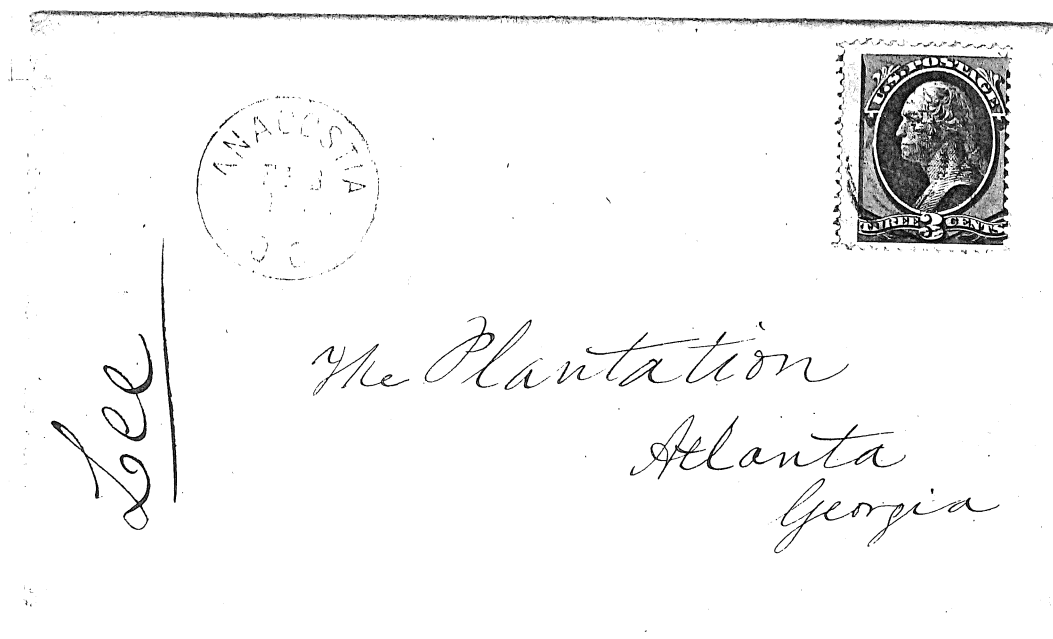
Miss Clara Barton
U.S. Consulate
Geneve
Switzerland

Date: May 1870
Station: Congressional
Cancel: 4-ring target
Killer not combined with CDS



Swiss backstamps

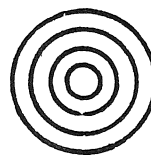
TARGETS



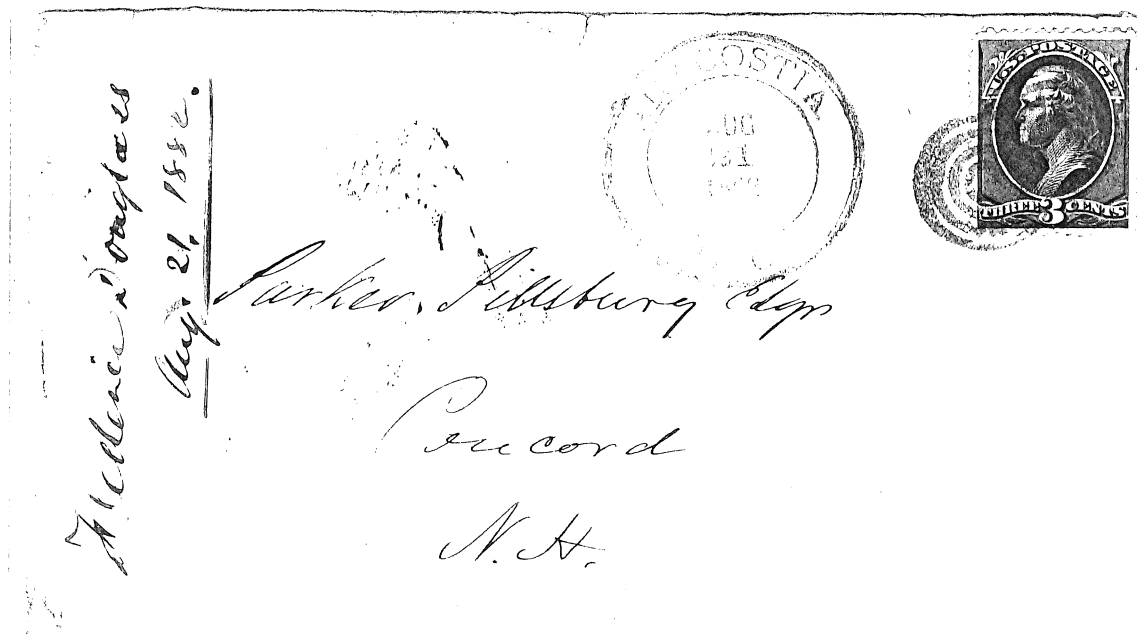
Date: 1871

Station: Anacostia

Cancel: 4-ring target
Separate killer



TARGETS



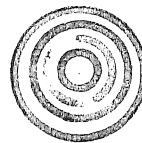
From early black leader Frederick Douglass

Date: 1882

Station: Anacostia

Cancel: 4-ring target

Combined device



Backstamps

TARGETS

U. S. Supreme Court.

CLERK'S OFFICE.



P. Henry Smyth Esq
Counselor at Law

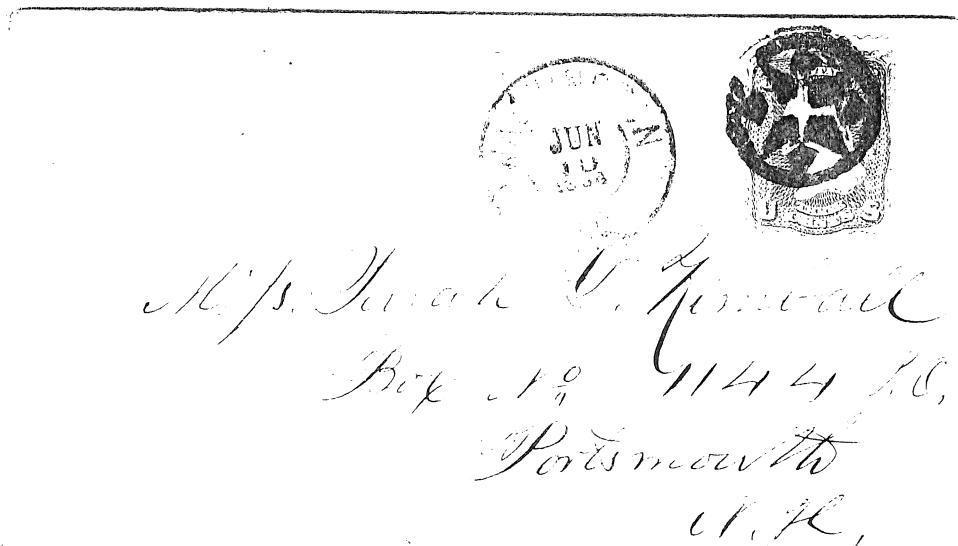
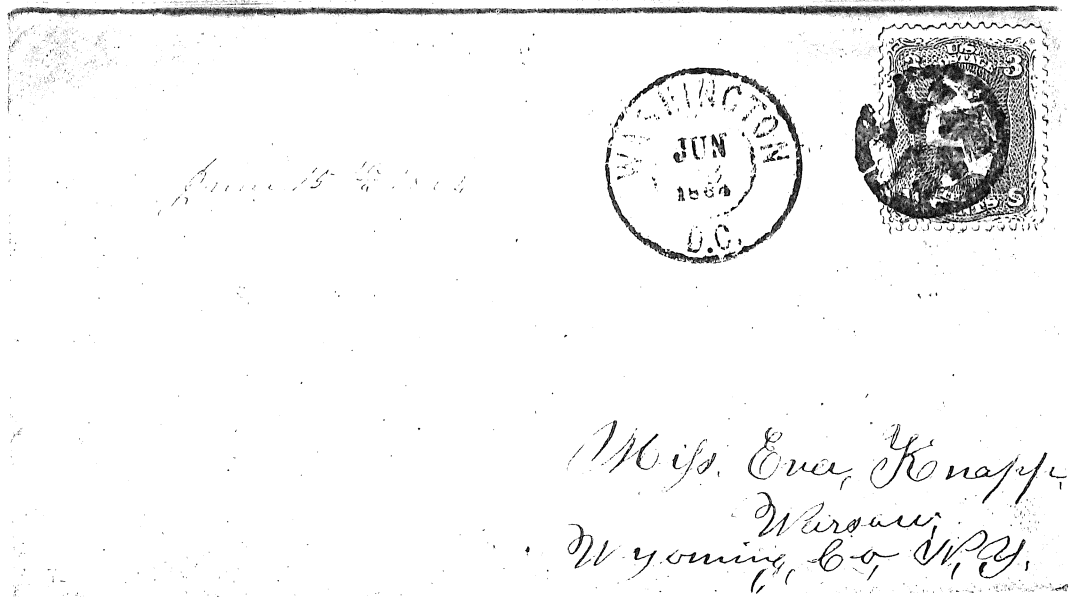
Burlington Iowa

Date: 1882
Station: East Capitol
Cancel: Broken oval
Combined device

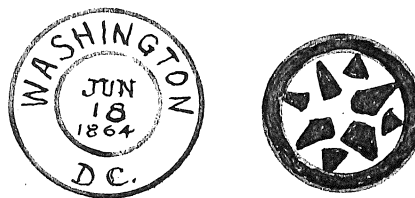


Senate PO stamp

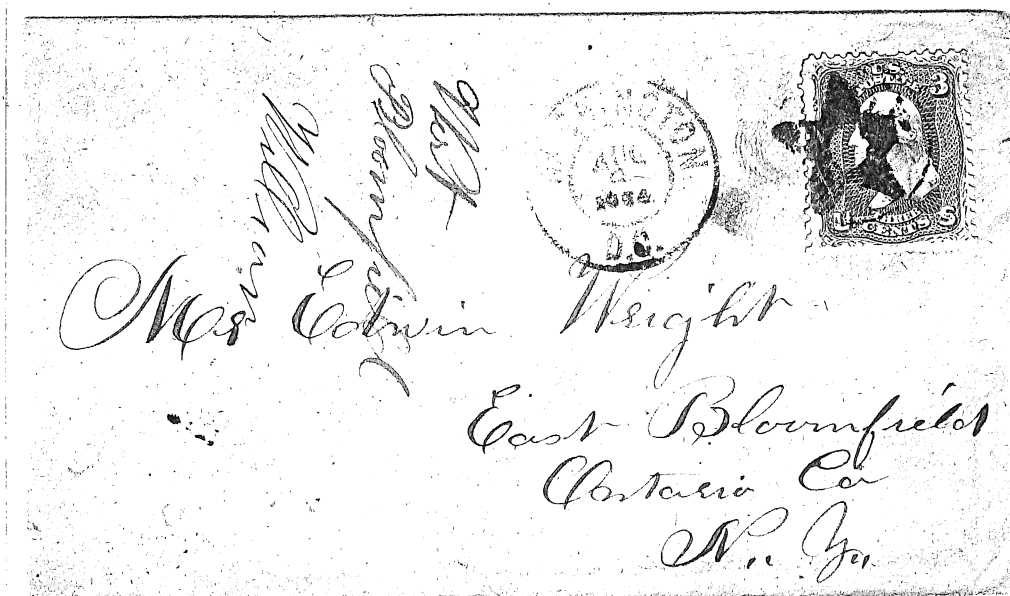
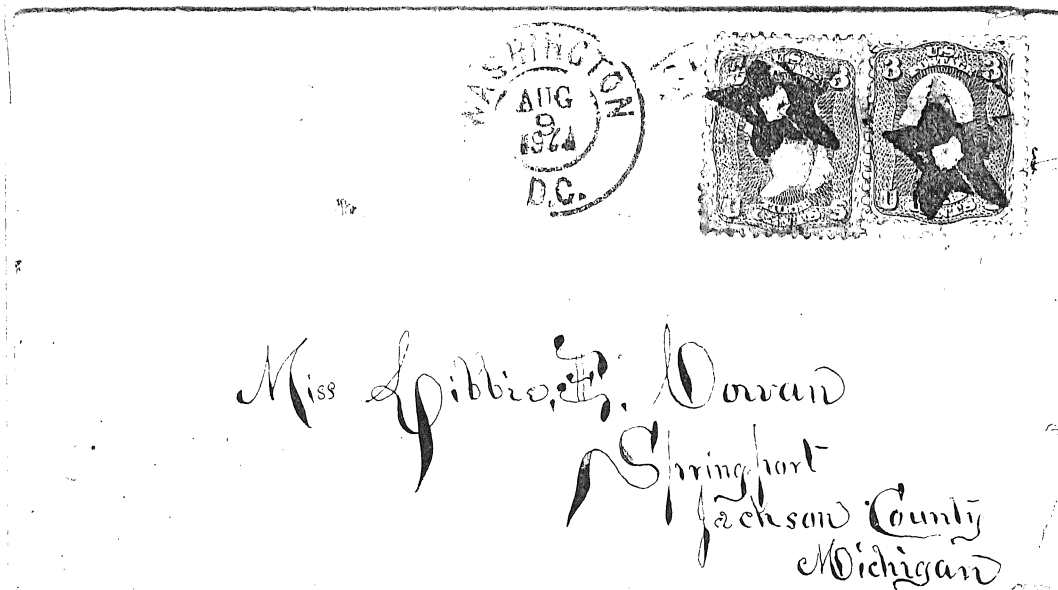
STARS



Date: June 1864
 Station: Central PO
 Cancel: Cut cork - circled star
 Combined device



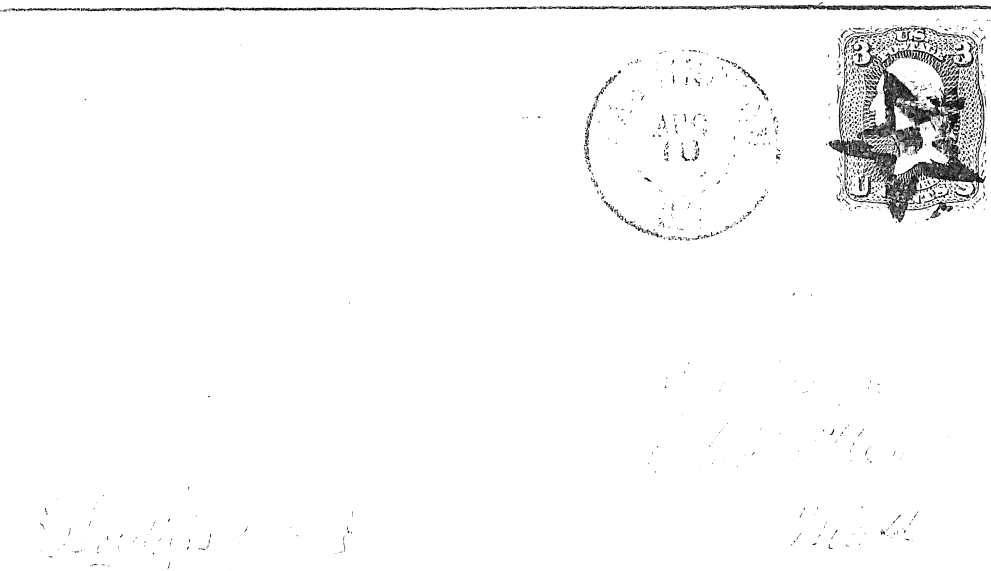
STARS



Date: August 9, 1864
 Station: Central PO
 Cancel: Cut cork - hole in star
 Combined device



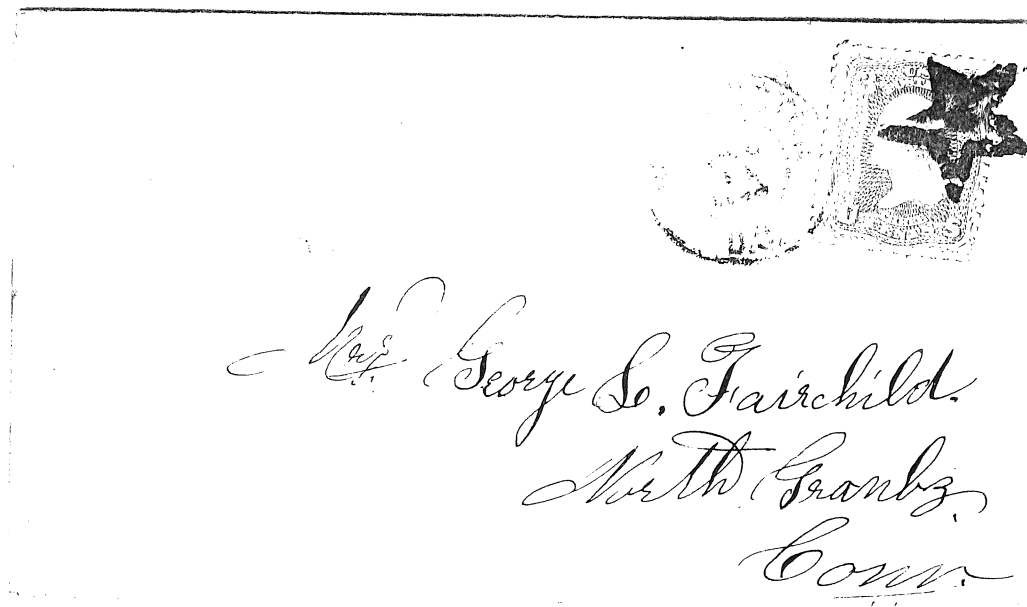
STARS



Date: August 10, 1864
 Station: Central PO
 Cancel: Cut cork - hole in star
 - hollow star w/ dot
 Combined device



STARS

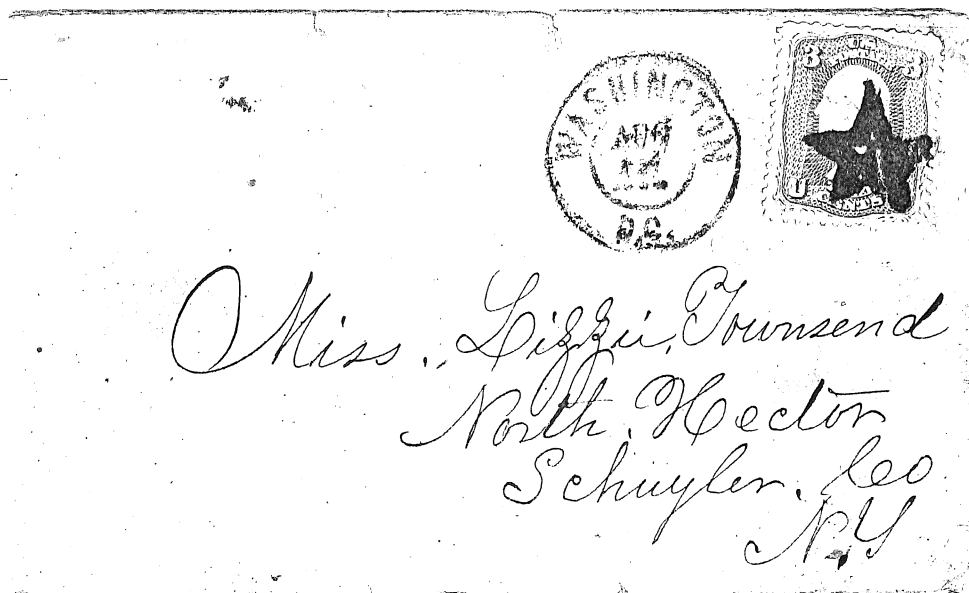


Date: August 11, 1864

Station: Central PO

Cancel: Cut cork - hollow star w/ dot

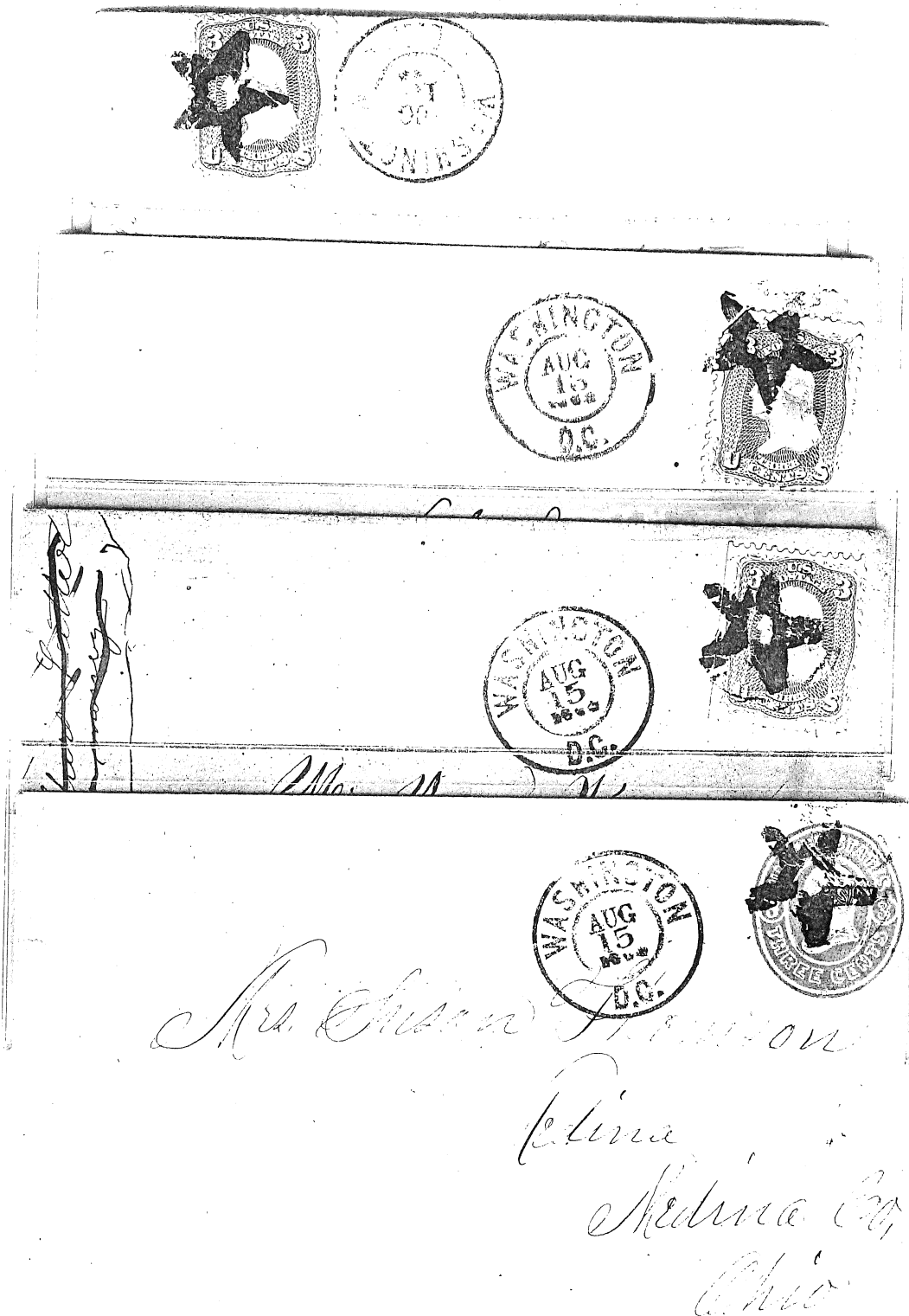
STARS



Date: August 12, 1864
Station: Central PO
Cancel: Cut cork - star w/cross
Combined device



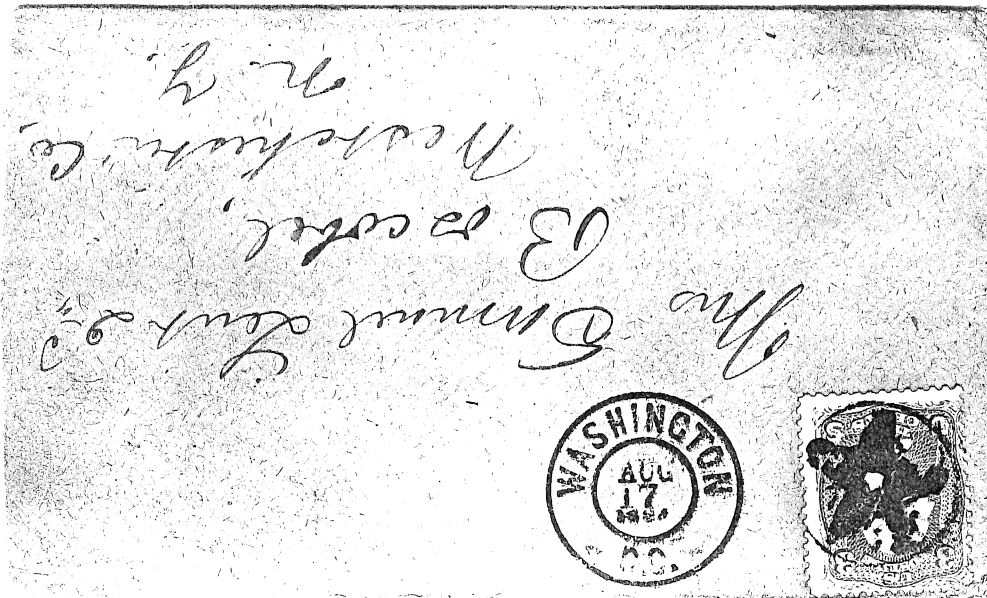
STARS



Date: August 15, 1864
 Station: Central PO
 Cancel: Cut cork - star w/hole
 Combined device



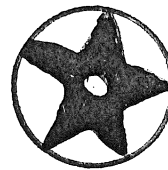
STARS



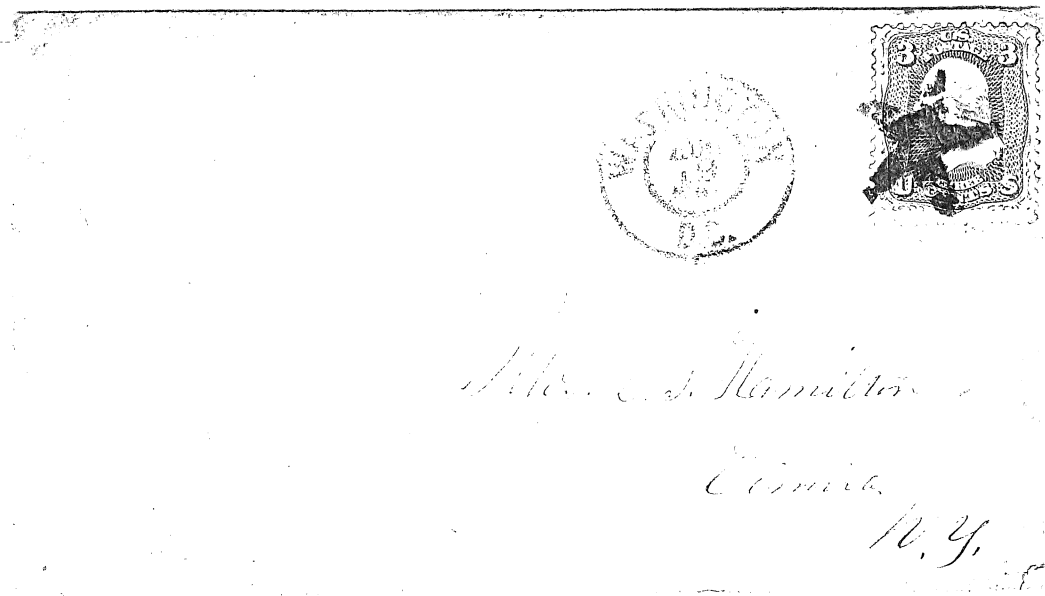
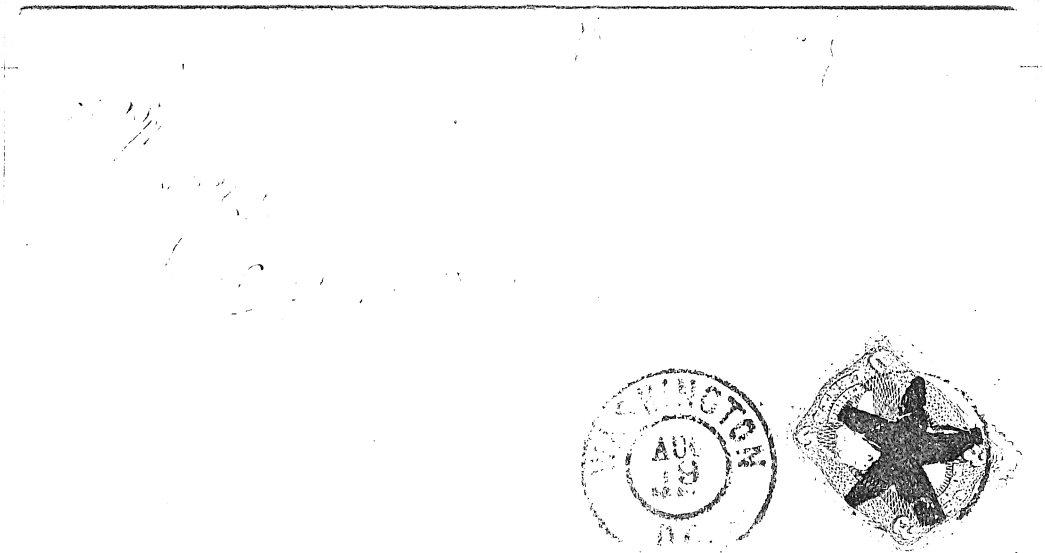
Date: August 17, 1864

Station: Central P0

Cancel: Cut cork - circled star w/hole
Combined device



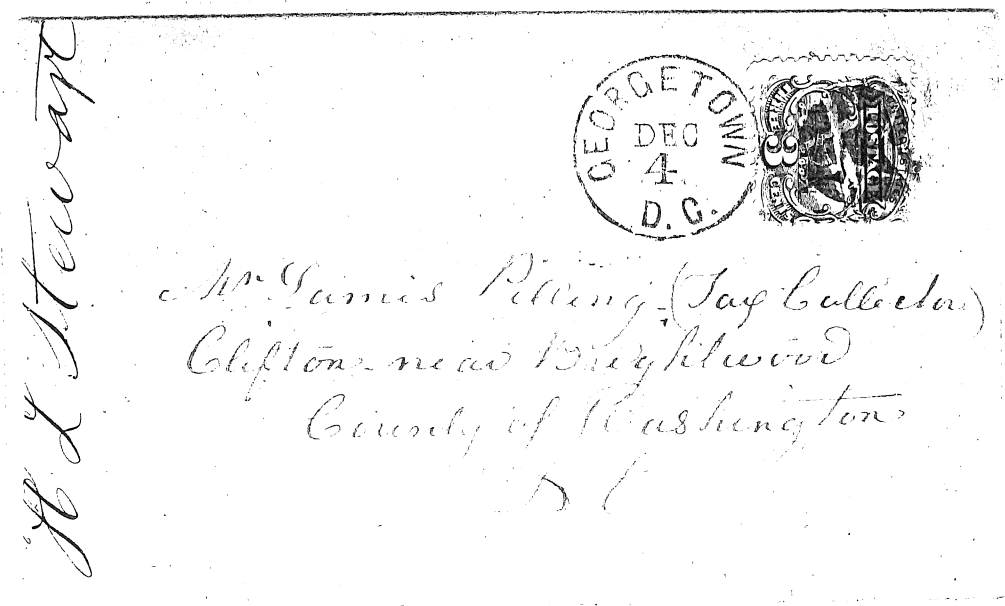
STARS



Date: August 19, 1864
Station: Central PO
Cancel: Cut cork - Circled star
Combined device

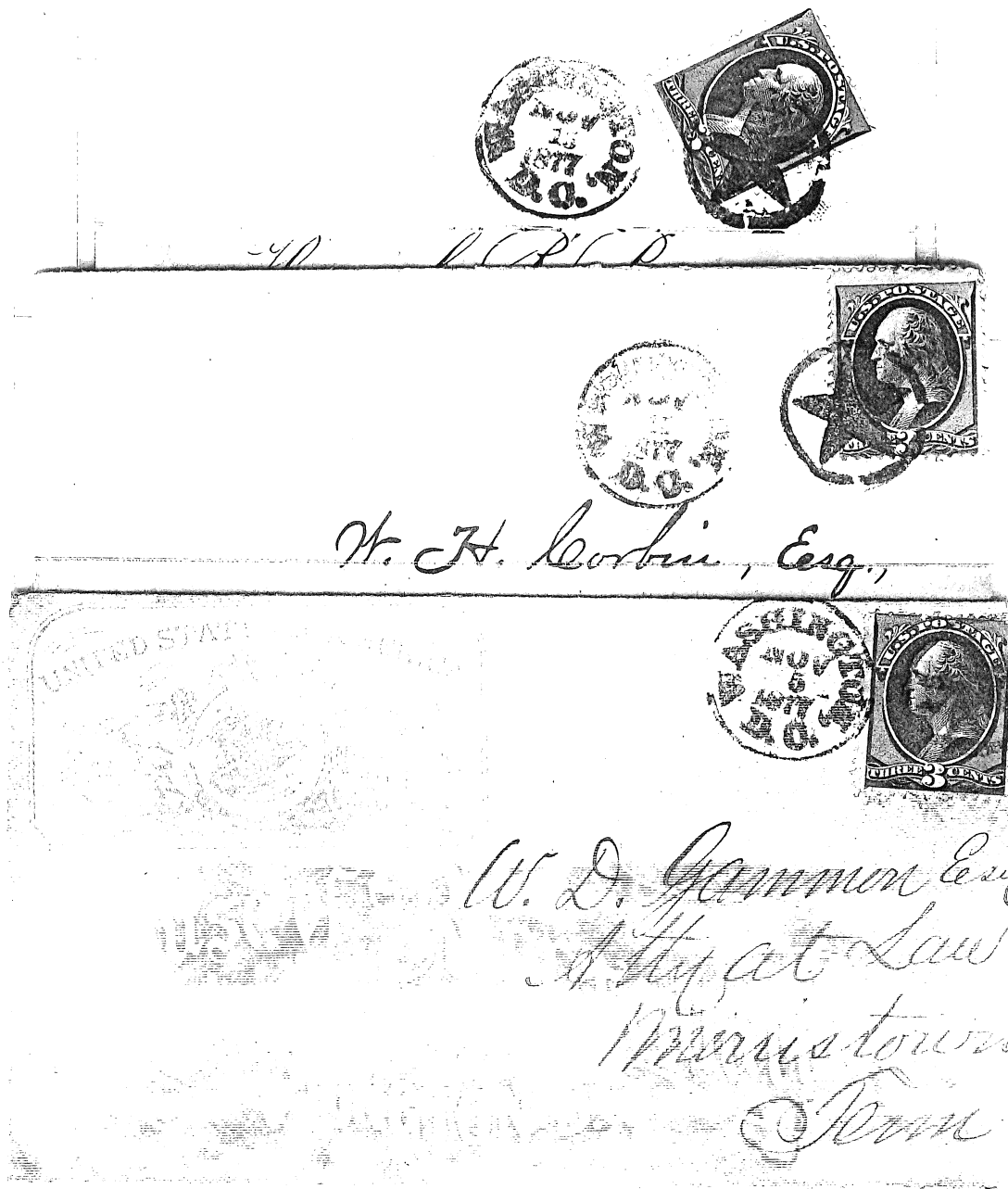


STARS



Date: 1870
Station: Georgetown
Cancel: Cut cork - star
Combined device





Date: November 1877
 Station: Central P0
 Cancel: Metal - star in circle
 Combined device



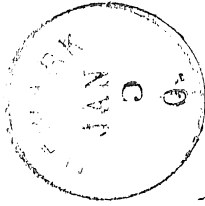
Blue black

STARS

Please return, if not called for in TEN days, to

A. ST. C. DENVER.

No. 1115 Penn. Avenue, Washington, D. C.

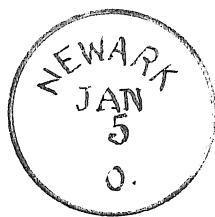
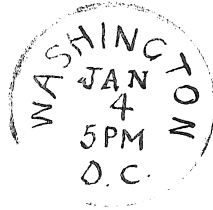


*Genl A W Denver
Wilmington
Clinton County
Ohio*

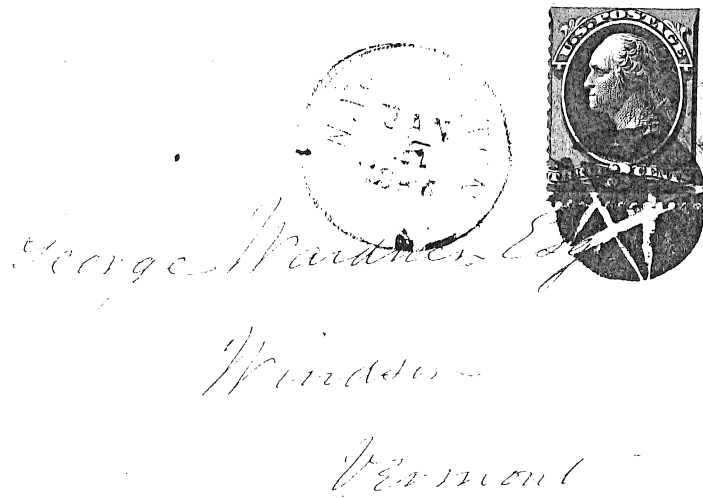
Date: January 1878

Station: Central PO

Cancel: Cut cork - star
Combined device



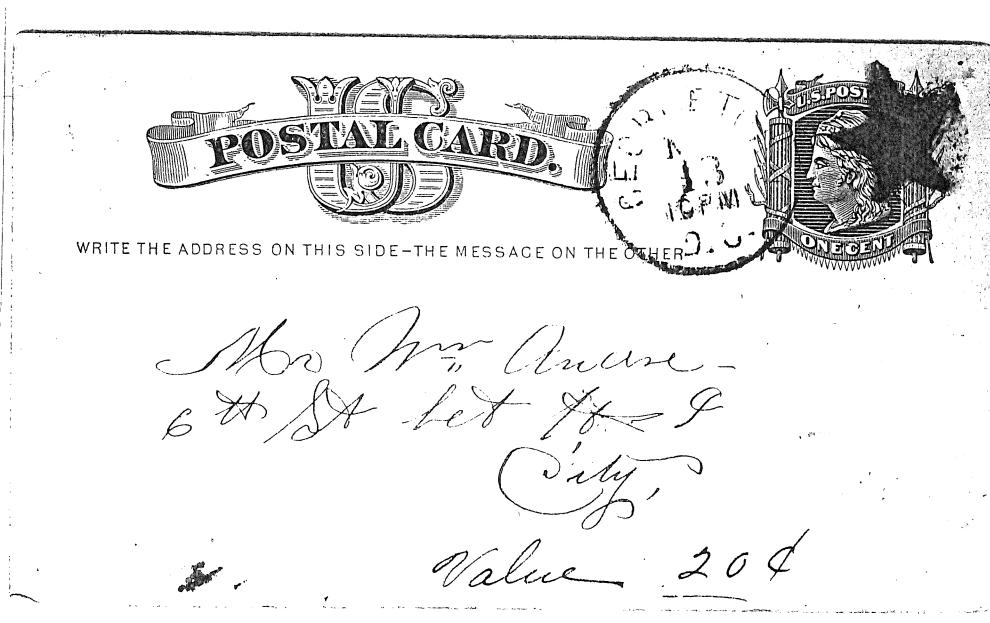
STARS




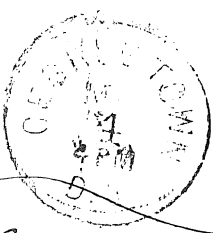
Date: 1878
Station: Central P0
Cancel: Cut cork - star
Combined device



STARS



Return to the
Farmers & Mechanics' National Bank,
GEORGETOWN, D. C.,
If not delivered within FIVE days.



J V Thompson Esq
1st Nat Bank Cashier
Georgetown D.C.

Date: 1878
Station: Georgetown
Cancel: Cut cork
Combined device



Purple

CROSSES

Return to E. W. METCALF,
ELYRIA, Lorain Co., Ohio,
if not delivered within 10 days.



7 Oct 11.75

E. W. Metcalf

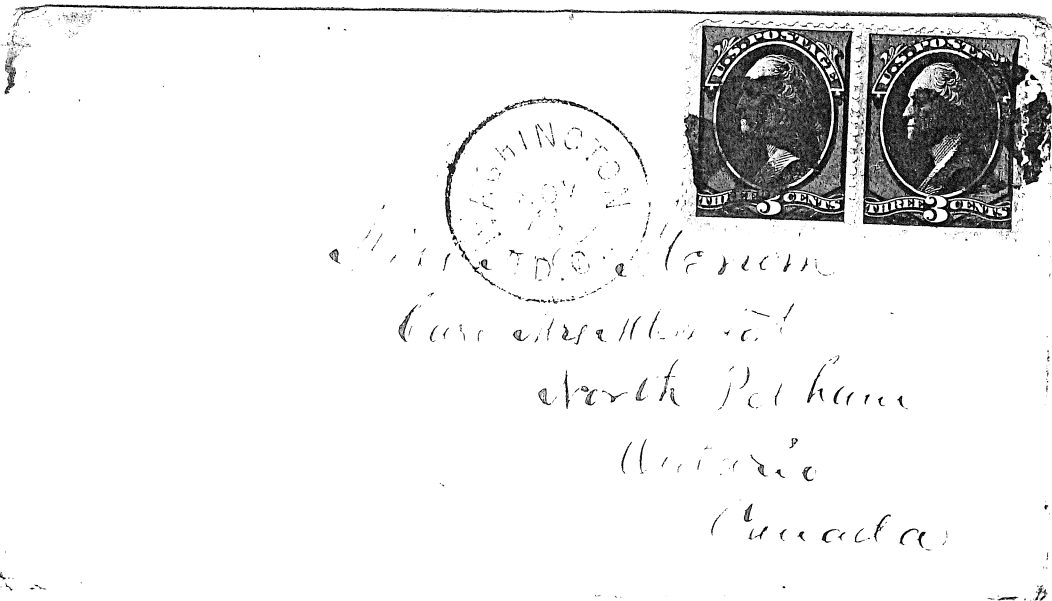
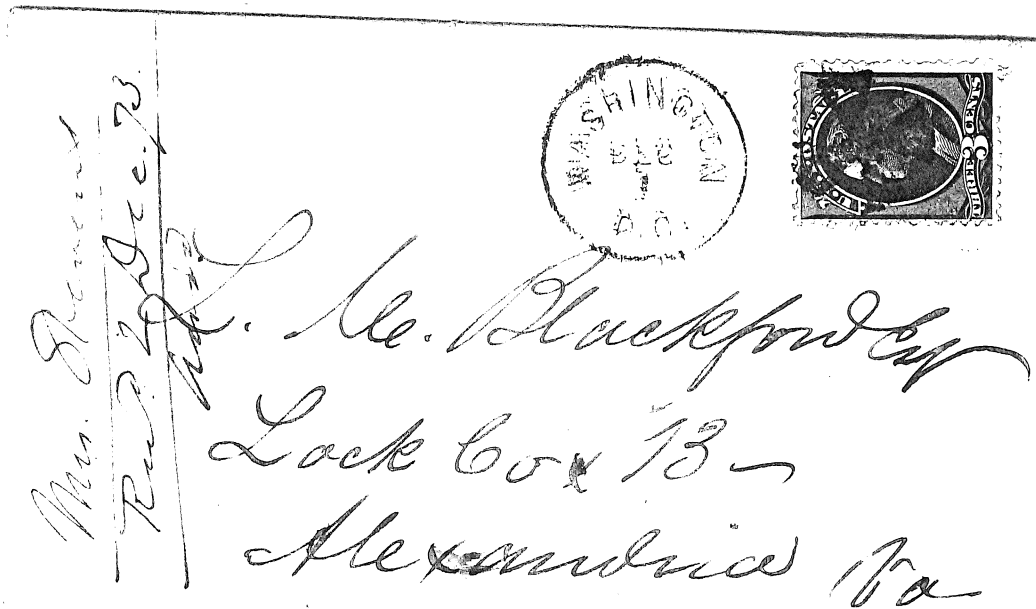
Hon. D. D. Pratt,
U. S. Senate.

Date: 1875
Station: Central PO
Cancel: Cut cork
Combined device

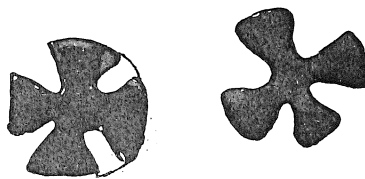


Red

CROSSES



Date: 1873
 Station: Central P0
 Cancel: Cut cork
 Combined device



CROSSES



Mrs. Colburn

1883

1534-14th st N.W.

City

Red



Prof. U.S. Academy

Washington

City

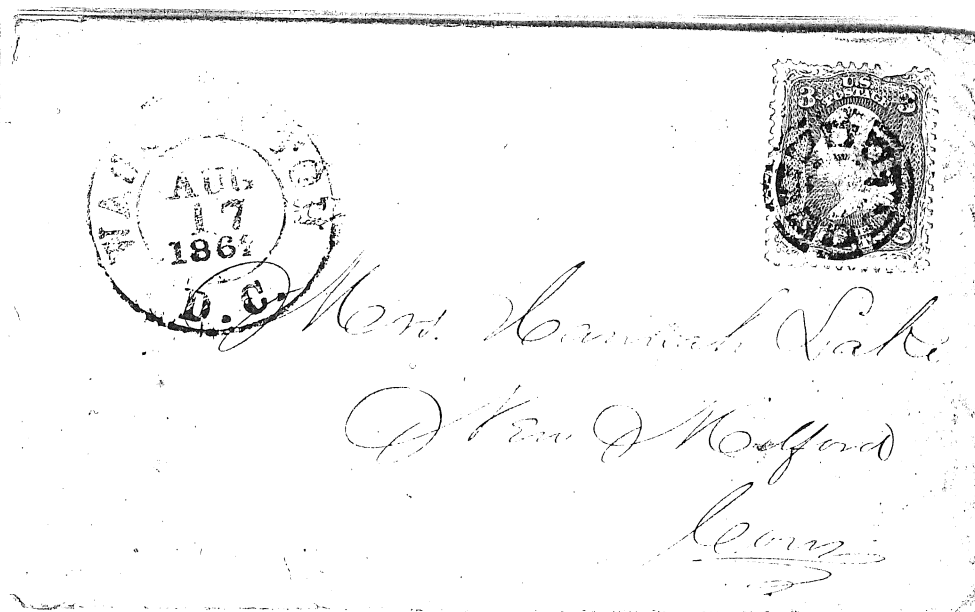
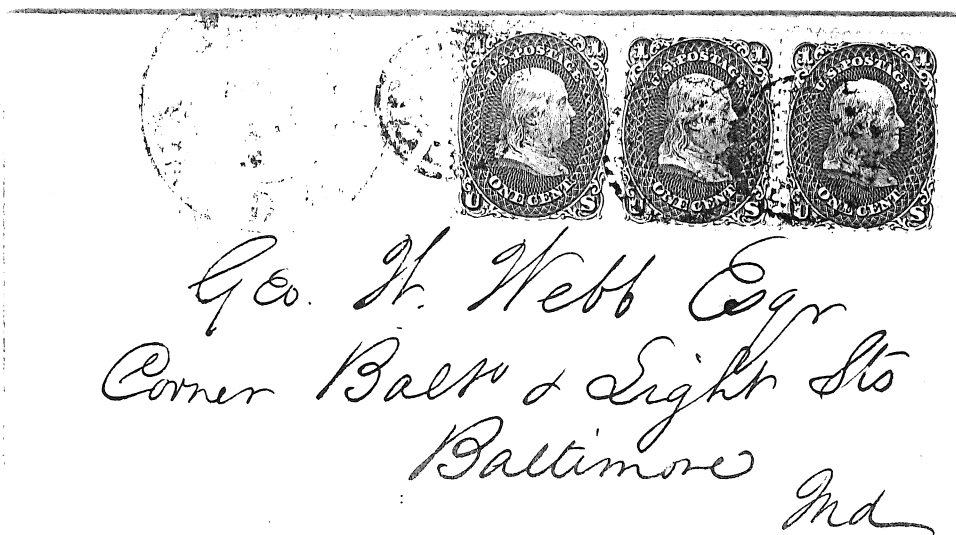
Date: 1875

Station: Central PO

Cancel: Cut cork

Combined device

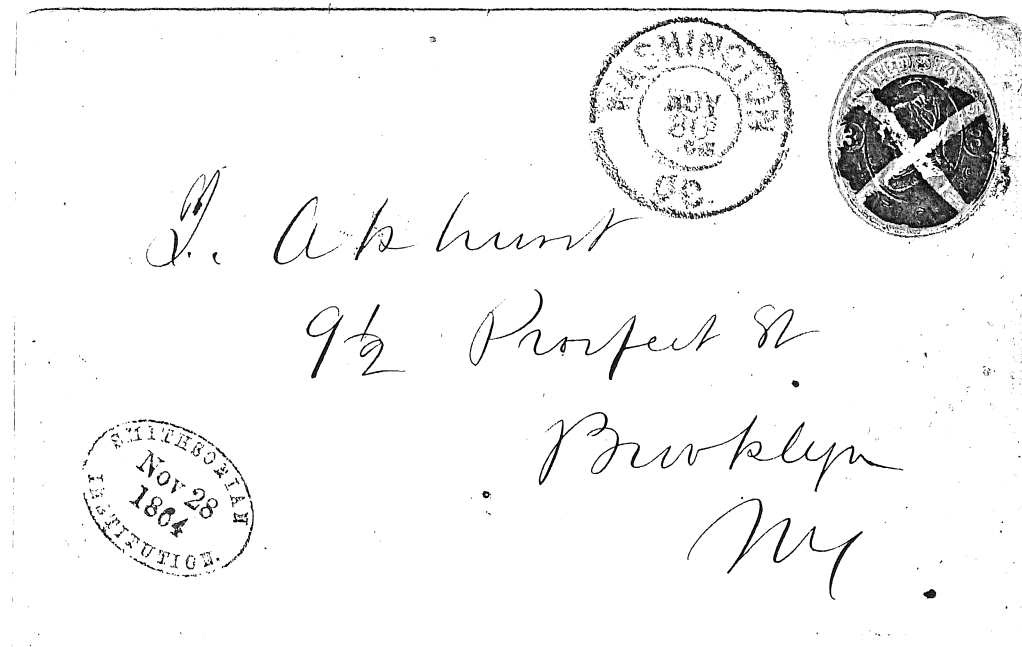
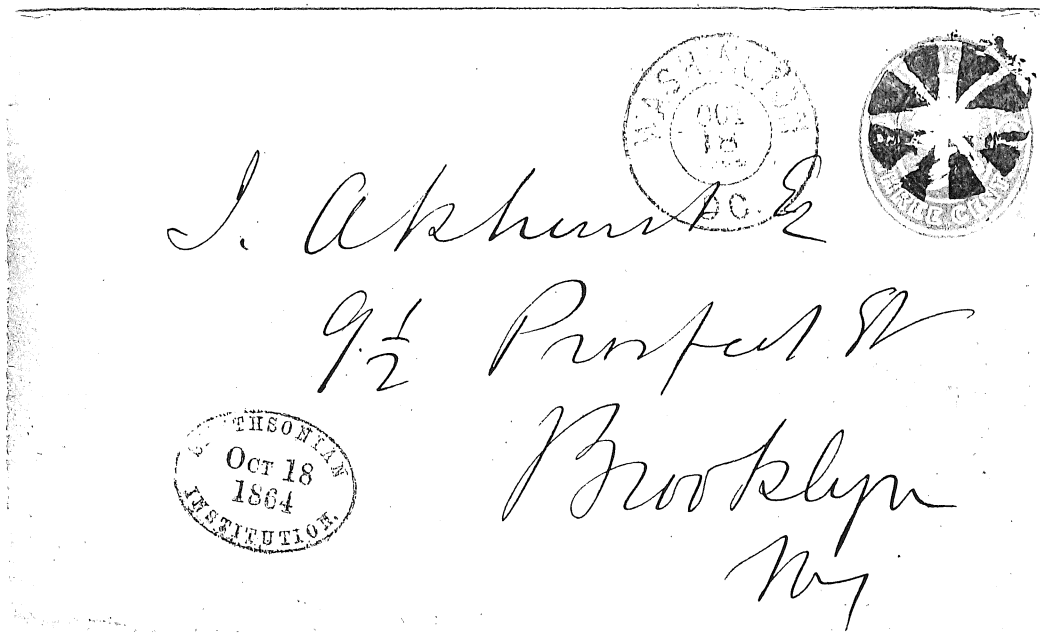
GEOMETRICS



Date: August 1862
 Station: Central PO
 Cancel: Cogwheel
 Separate metal device



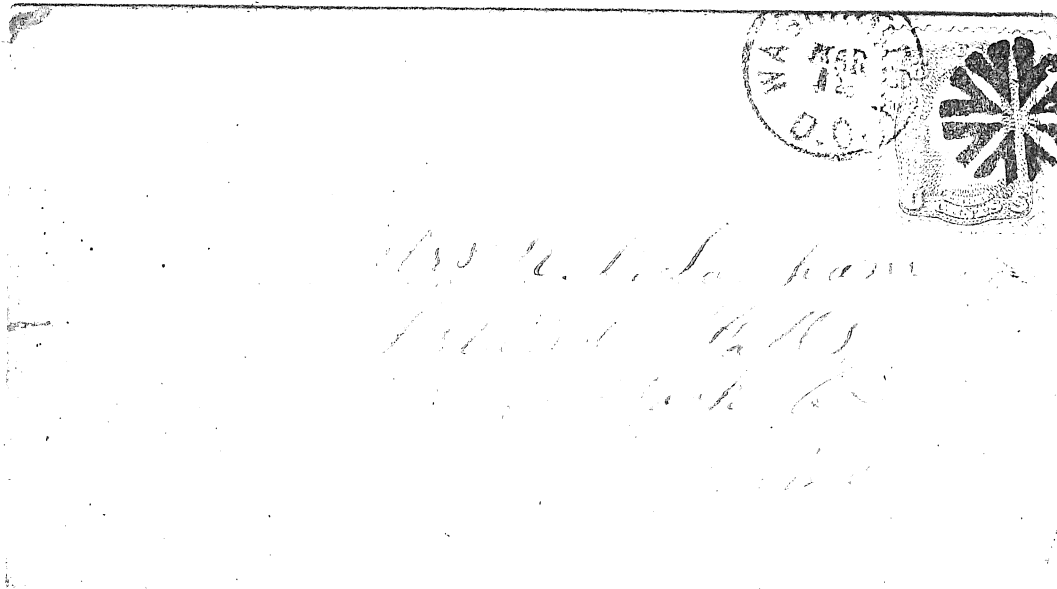
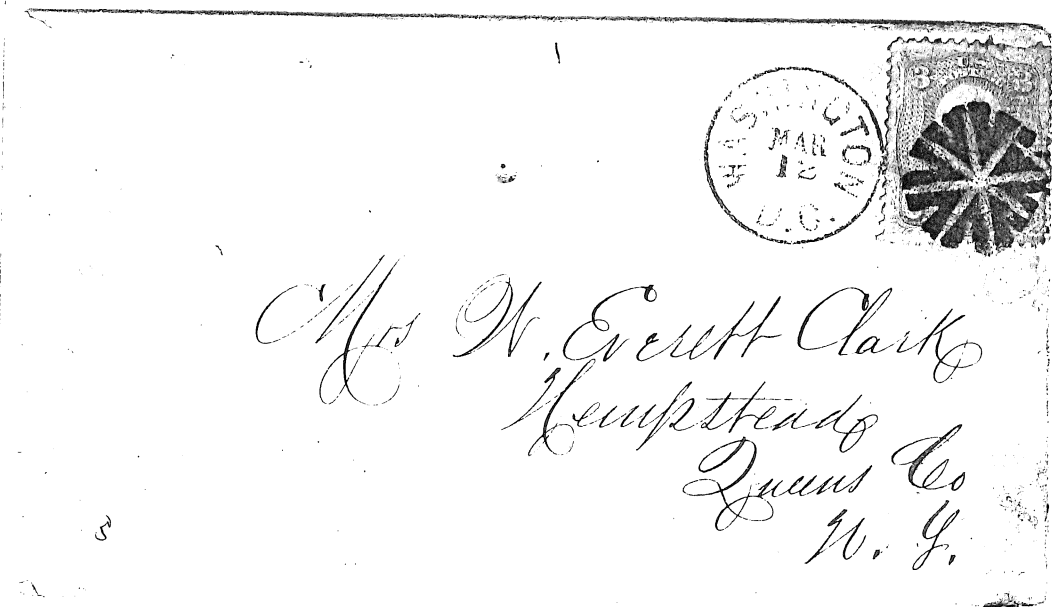
GEOMETRICS



Date: 1864
Station: Central PO
Cancel: Cut cork
Combined device



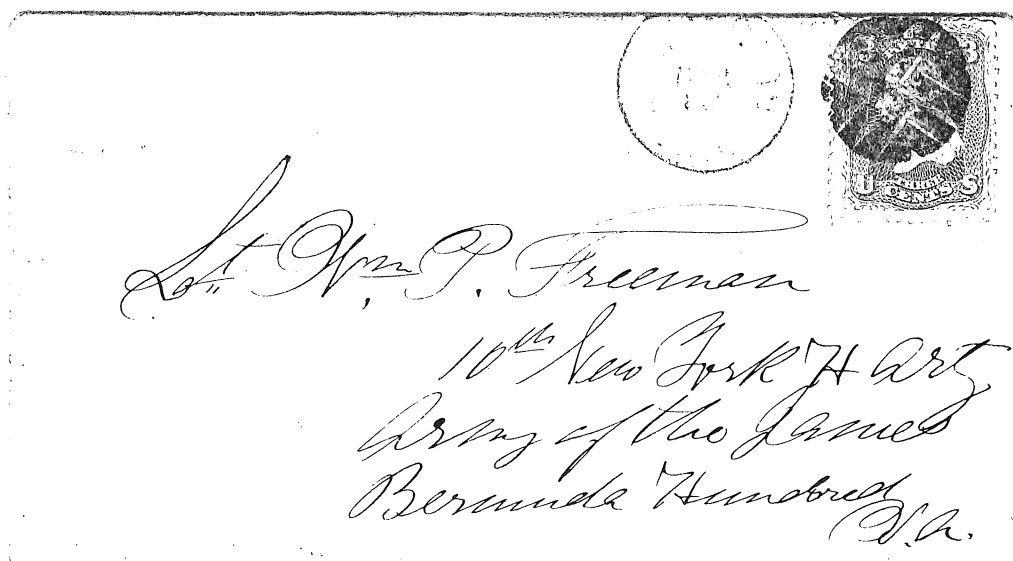
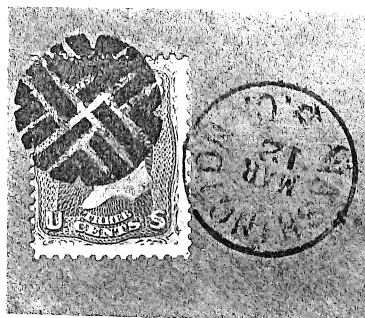
GEOMETRICS



Date: 1865
 Station: Central PO
 Cancel: Cut cork
 Combined device



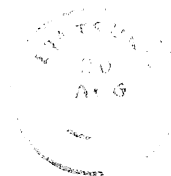
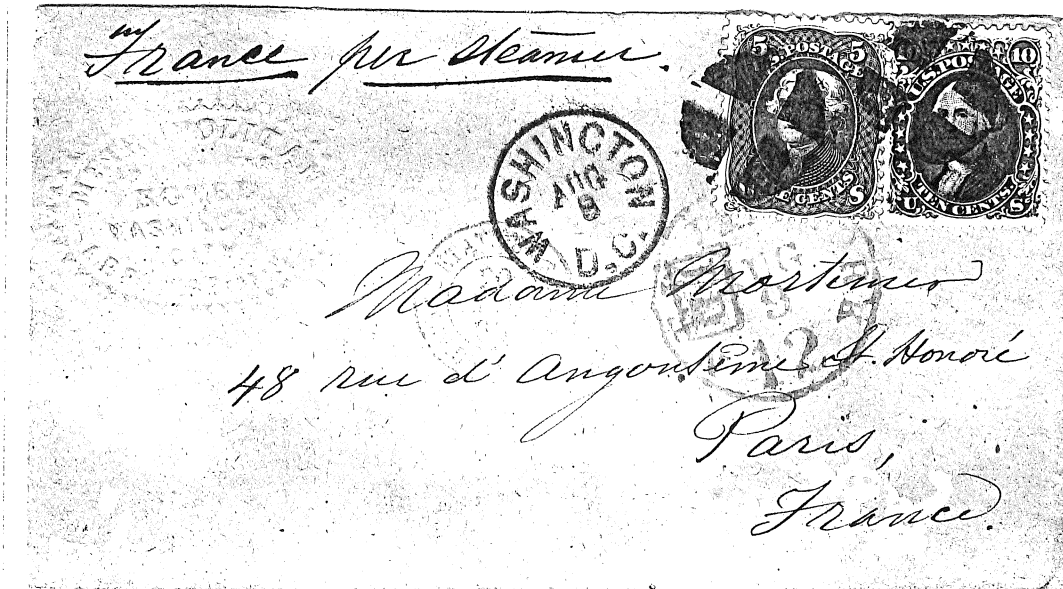
GEOMETRICS



Date: March 1865
Station: Central P0
Cancel: Cut cork
Combined device



GEOMETRICS

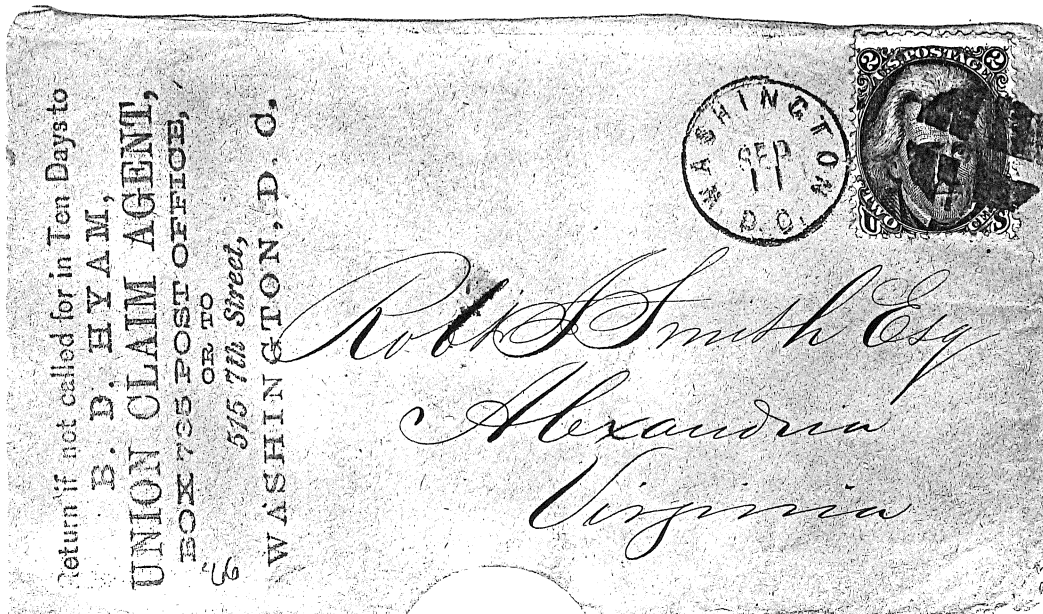


} red

Date: 1865
 Station: Central PO
 Cancel: Quartered cork
 Combined device



GEOMETRICS



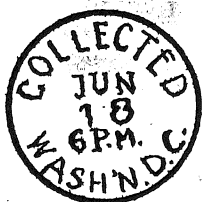
Date: 1866
Station: Central P0
Cancel: Cut cork - quartered
Combined device



GEOMETRICS



Date: 1866
Station: Central P0
Cancel: Cut cork
Combined device



↑
Orange



↑
Red

