

# The Used Stamp

## Freak printings

Perforated twice: horizontal and vertical examples



Errors caused by folded paper



*The rest of the stamp has been printed under the flap*

Battered plates



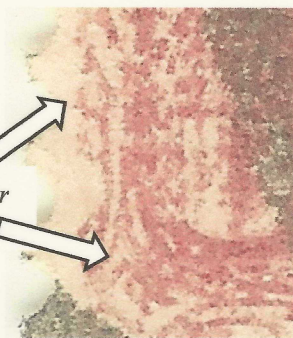
# The Used Stamp

## Plate varieties



Re-entry

Scan of major re-entry



Scan of normal for comparison

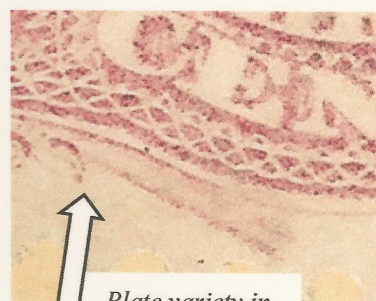
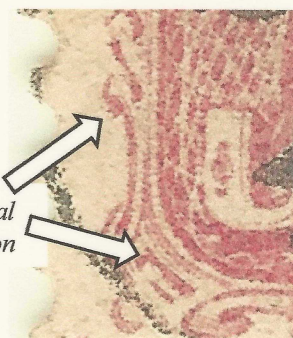
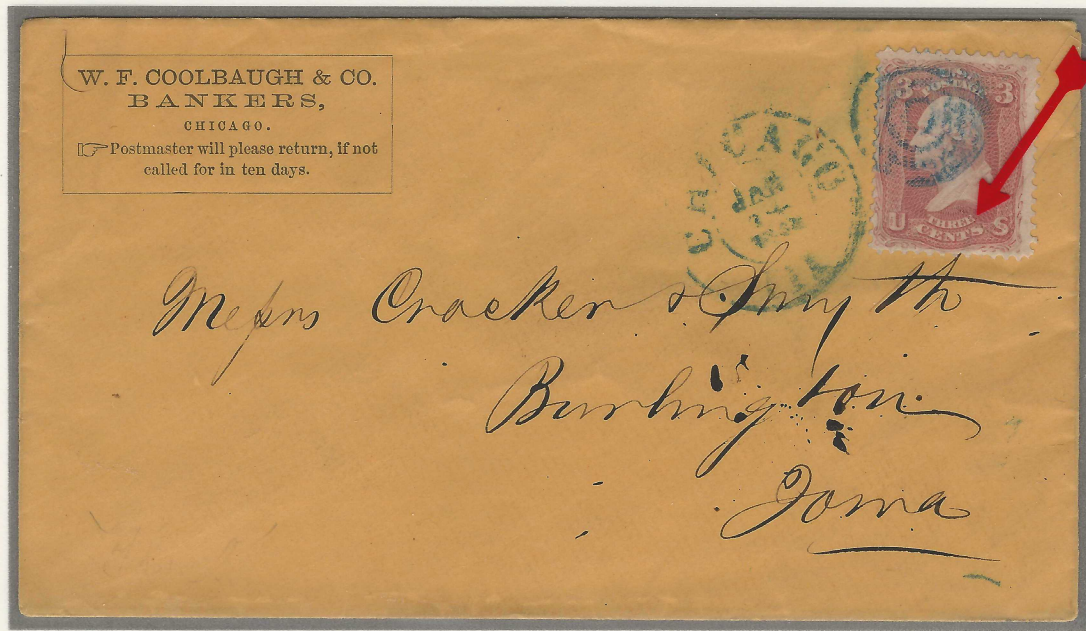


Plate variety in bottom frame

The only one known



The well-known 'Threb' variety - caused by a worn plate.

# The Used Stamp

**Rarities:** errors, varieties; and the postally used reprint

## Double Impression



*Normal*



*Double*

e: PF

*The Siegel Census records **eight** examples which, along with this one, makes nine.*

## Printed on Both Sides



*Scan of the front*

e: PF

*The Siegel Census records fourteen examples of which only **four are sound** including this one.*

## Vertically Laid Paper



*Scan of the front*

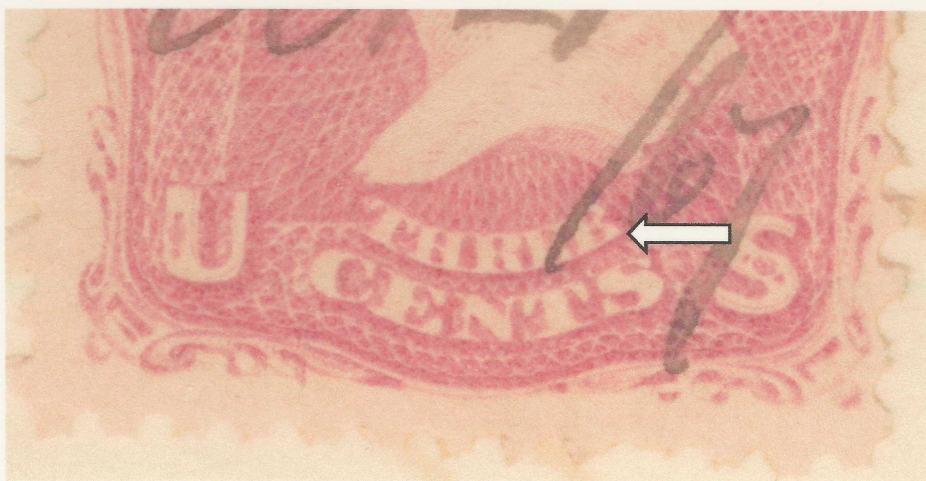
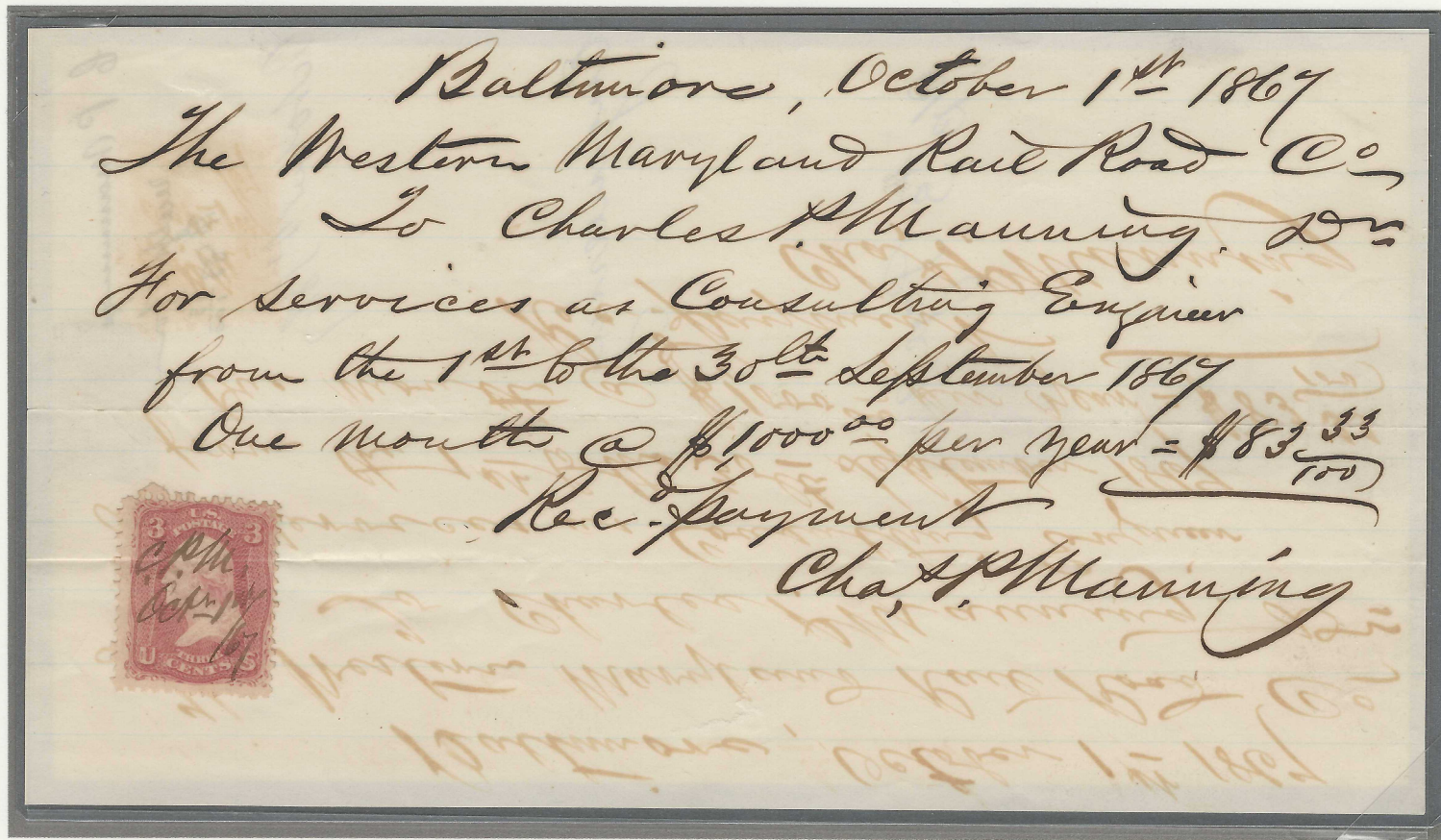
e: PF

*Examples are also known on horizontally laid paper. Sound copies are rare. This copy is sound though badly centered.*

## The Used Stamp

### To pay taxes

A receipt for the payment of services by a consulting engineer, Baltimore, 1867. Postage stamps were not supposed to be used to pay taxes, but the 3c rose has been accepted as payment for tax and overpays the rate by 1c.



The 'THREB' worn plate variety

# The Used Stamp

## To pay taxes

A receipt for 'making pants for Ellis'. Payment consisted of \$50 and four bushels of potatoes. The 3c rose has been accepted for payment of taxes. It overpays by 1c.

Recd Miller Howard of J. R. Walker  
 Sept 17  
 For Rent for Ed Howard \$66.00  
 " Making pants for Ellis 2.00  
 " " Trimmings " 1.50  
 " Making Trimmings " 4.50  
 " " " 8.00  
 " " Trimmings 6.00  
 " " " 25.00  
 Cash 20.00  
 4 Bus potatoes at 15.00 per 56.00  
 30.00  
 Total \$113.71  
 Recd the above in full \$57.71  
 J. R. Walker



# The Used Stamp

## Used in combination with a revenue stamp

10c pays the tax. 3c stamp pays the postage to mail the policy to the farmer. An unusual combination.

**OHIO FARMERS'**  
*el*  
**Insurance Company.**

Policy *No. 5588*

*Charles F. Forbes*  
*Ashtabula*  
*Ashtabula Co., O.*

Am't Insured, \$ *838*

Cash Premium, \$ *5.20*

Expires, *May 28<sup>th</sup> 1868*

*C. S. S. Griffing* Agent.

In communicating with the Office, send the No. of your Policy.

SANFORD, PRINTER & STATIONER, CLEVELAND, O.

**OHIO FARMERS'**  
**Insurance Company,**  
**LE ROY,**  
**MEDINA COUNTY, OHIO.**

Chartered Feb. 8th, 1848.

CAPITAL, - \$200,000.

CHARTER PERPETUAL.

THIS COMPANY INSURES  
**FARM PROPERTY,**  
— AND —  
Unexposed Dwellings and Barns,  
AND THEIR CONTENTS,  
**AT LOWER RATES**  
THAN ANY OTHER RESPONSIBLE CO. KNOWN.

*el* **LOSSES** *el*  
HONORABLY ADJUSTED AND PROMPTLY PAID.

N. B.—In case of a loss, notice must be given within 30 days.

## The Used Stamp

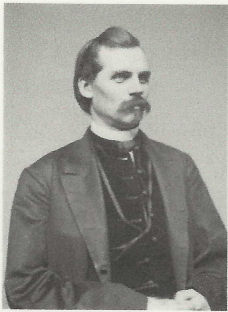
Used in the USA: to prepay local rates

Letter dated Jan 2<sup>nd</sup>, 1863 (San Francisco to Boston): 10c prepays the rate for distances of 3000+ miles, prior to July 1<sup>st</sup> 1863.

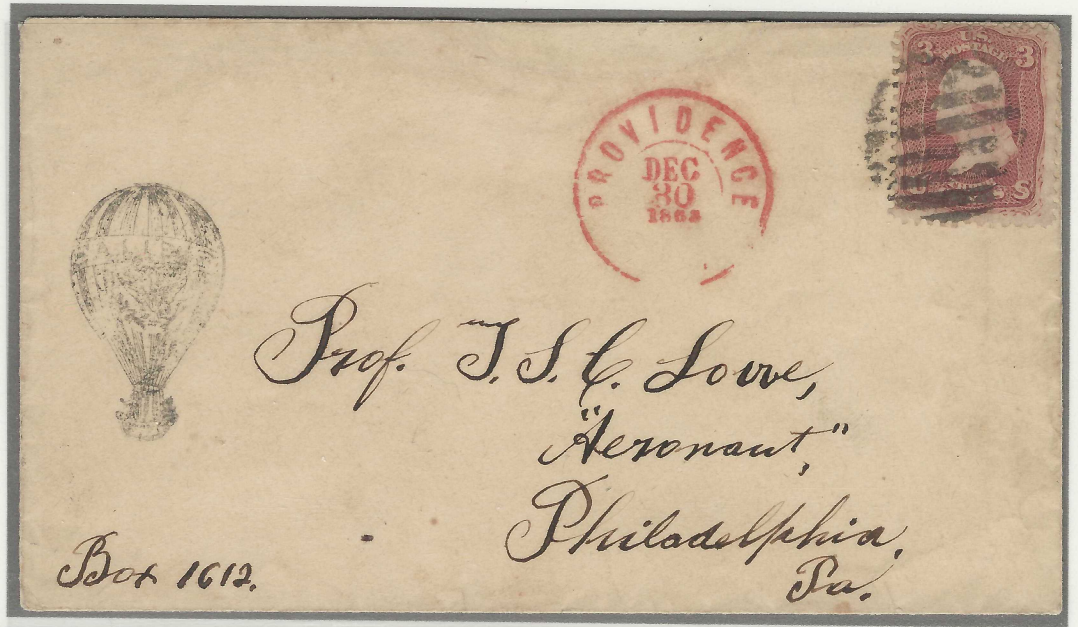


Letter dated Dec 30<sup>th</sup>, 1863

3c pays the rate to anywhere in the USA



Prof. Thaddeus Lowe, the father of aerial military intelligence. It is tempting to think that this could be the first ever 'balloon mail' but there is no proof.



Letter dated July 14<sup>th</sup>, 1865

3c pays the rate to anywhere in the USA



e: PF

A beautiful strike of the Northampton Honey Bee

## The Used Stamp

Used to pay postal rates in the USA

i) 6c pays the double-weight rate for a letter between ½ oz and 1 oz

e: PF



The Waterbury **Baseball Diamond** fancy cancel, used for one day on the 8<sup>th</sup> Sept, 1867. It was created by postmaster **John W Hill** to celebrate a local team league victory. Hill is surely the best known creator of fancy cancels in history.

*This is the only recorded cover with three strikes.*

ii) 12c pays the registered letter rate



Registered letter from Philadelphia to New York on a patriotic cover.

The magenta numbers at the bottom register the receipt.



## The Used Stamp

Local posts evolved to carry the post where the United States Post Office had poor coverage.  
Most of them were eventually shut down.

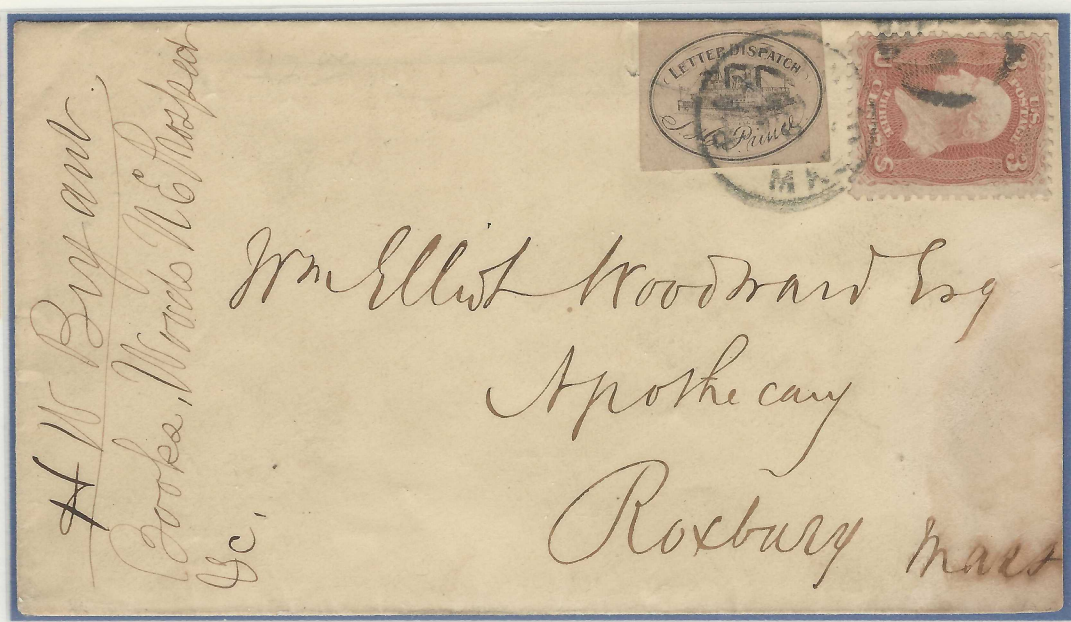
### Used in conjunction with local carriers



#### Prince's Letter Dispatch

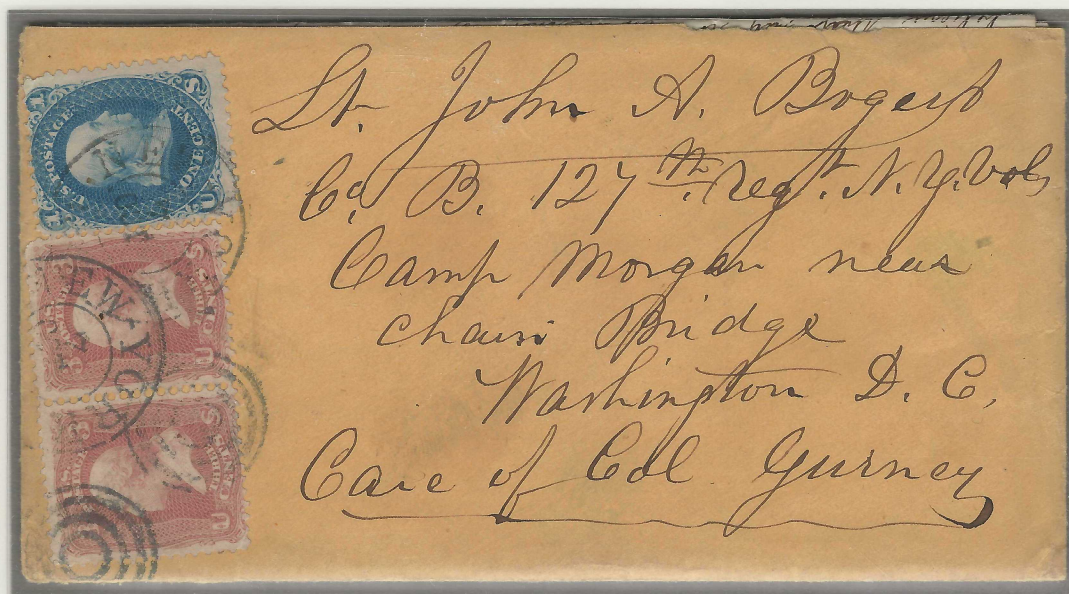
Carried mail by steamboat from  
Portland, Maine; to Boston.

Genuine used are extremely rare.  
Larry Lyons records only eleven  
on cover.



6c pays the double-weight letter rate.

1c pays a local carrier collection fee to get the letter from the sender to the local post office.

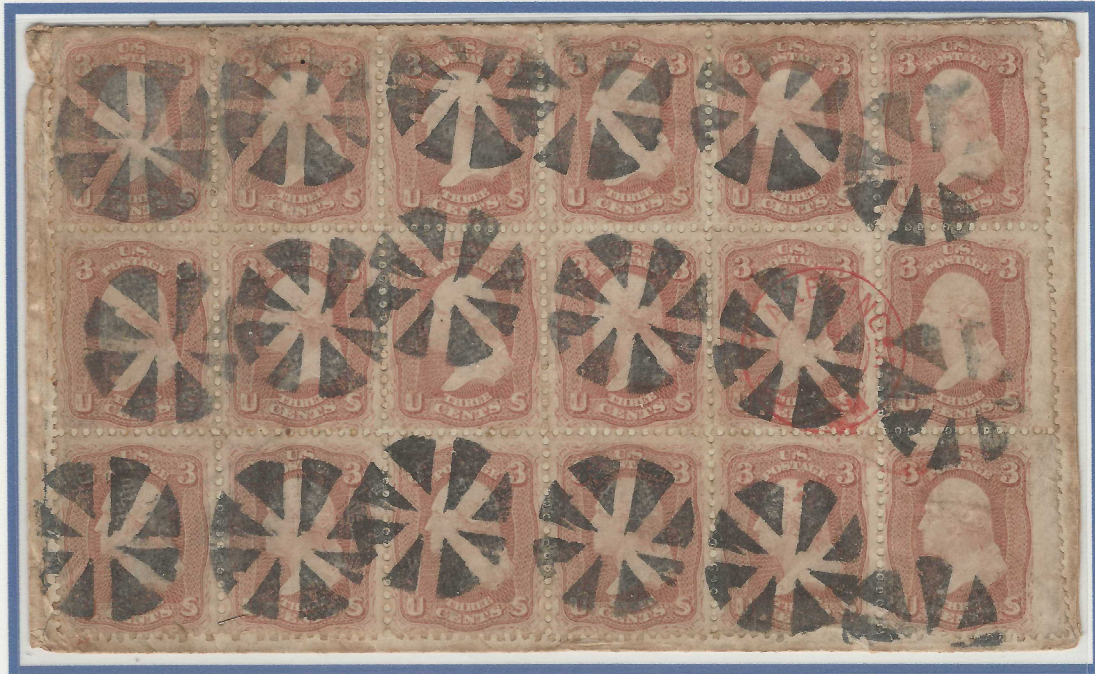


## The Used Stamp

### Pays the postage to the Netherlands

The single block of **20 x 3c** stamps prepays the rate to the Netherlands via London. One might think that the sender made a mistake by failing to take into account the 'paid for' 3c postal stationary. But regulations stipulated that it couldn't be included in the payment for mail of this kind.

This is probably the largest single block on cover



Scan of the front

# The Used Stamp

## Pays postage to Switzerland

Carried to Zurich by Prussian Closed Mail via the Aachen route (March 26). **Ten x 3c pink** pays 30c (15c per ¼ ounce). Rare multiple copies of 3c pink on an international cover.



e: PF



Back stamped



Tied by New York grid cancel with matching 'N. York Am Pkt. Paid Apr 28'. Paid the 15c rate to Bremen. But the rate to Switzerland via Bremen was 19c. Though short, the letter was delivered. The 16c magenta foreign services credit has been crossed out and changed to 4c. Transit cancels through Bremen and Lucerne. Arrived in Basel: 12 May, 1863.

## The Used Stamp

### Part pays the postage to France

Prior to 1864, post to France was carried by British steamers. This letter entered France through Calais (red transit cancel on the front of the cover: 27 May, 1862); and then travelled via Paris to Bordeaux.

3c plus 12c pays 15c per ¼ ounce to France. New York cancel recognizes 12c due to foreign postal services.



Back stamped



Paris



Bordeaux

From Charleston: April 27, 1867 to Paris: 13 May, 1867. Carried by French mail through Calais (12 May, 1867). New York transit cancel recognizes 12c due to foreign postal services, but to no avail (see below).

Back stamp



Paris



The letter must have weighed more than ¼ ounce because it's stamped 'short paid' with 30c postage due. Under the treaty, partial payment was not recognized. The 15c pre-paid therefore counted for nothing. The full amount of 30c had to be paid for a letter between ¼ and ½ ounce.

## The Used Stamp

Part pays the postage to Canada and Peru

To Canada from  
Andover Depot.

Back stamped Lanark:  
Feb 21, 1867.

3c x 2 plus 2c x 2 makes  
the 10c rate to Canada.

In effect from July 1,  
1859 – March 31, 1868.



To Peru: 3c plus 1c plus 30c pays the 34c rate to Peru. Tied by San Francisco target cancel with magenta date stamp (Oct 30). 24c credit to foreign carriers. Transit through Panama. Back stamped Lima: Dec 8, 1867.



# The Used Stamp

Part pays the postage to the Cape of Good Hope and to China



Boston  
Jan 22 (1862)



Cape Town  
March 16, 1862



3c plus 30c pays 33c to Port Elizabeth, **Cape of Good Hope**. Tied by Boston Paid cancel. 28c credit to foreign carriers. Transit via London and Cape Town. Received in Port Elizabeth: March 19, 1862.



3c plus 30c plus 12c pays the 45c overland rate to **China** through Northampton. Exeter date stamp: Aug 14, 1865. Red 'N. York Am. Pkt. Paid Aug 19'. Red 1<sup>d</sup> franking credits the colonial service. Back stamped Hong Kong: Oct 25, 1865.

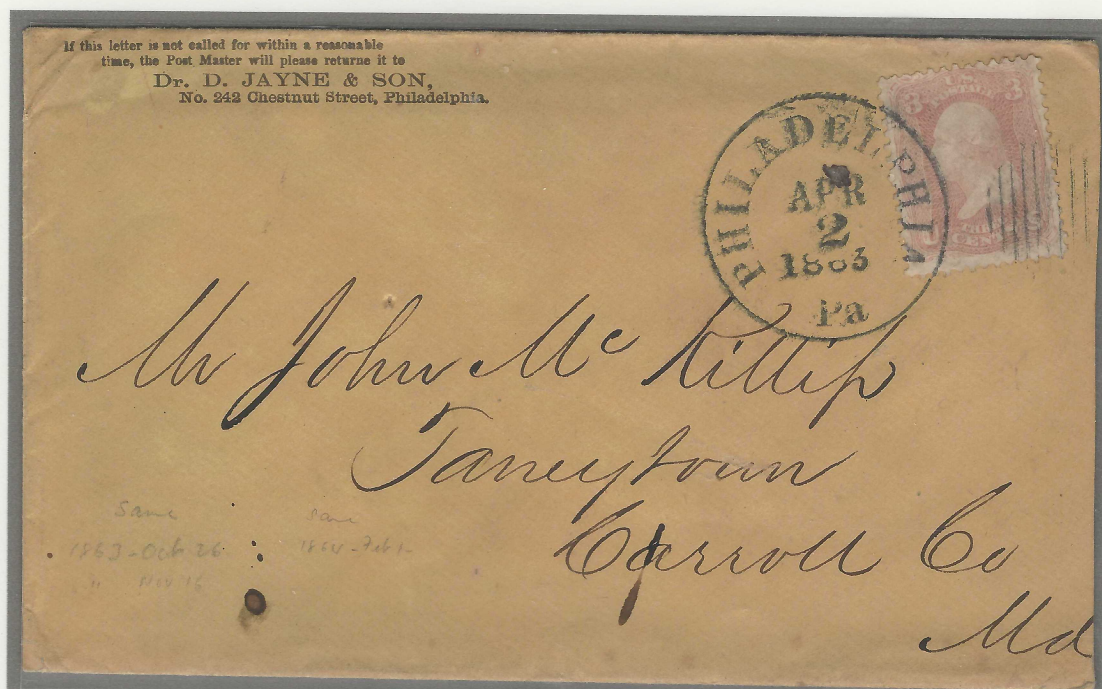
## The Prevention of Reuse

The 1861-69 period was characterized by many ingenious ideas to prevent the reuse of stamps. This section exhibits the essays based on patented ideas. I show:

- Examples of patent cancellations
- The Morison-Leeds envelope (including **unique** personal correspondence from the Leeds estate)
- Examples of Loewenberg's many patents (including signed essays and the rare se-tenant USA-France)
- Patents that were tried but not adopted: Gibson, Harmon, Francis, Macdonough, Wyckoff, Steel

There are a great many patent cancellers. Most were designed to cut, punch holes into, or scrape the stamp (**blades, pins, circular ridges** respectively). The problem with effective cancellers is that they sometimes damaged the envelope and letter.

### Patent cancellations: blades



**Philadelphia: April 2, 1863**

The 12 blade canceller used from 1861 - 63.

This is a duplex canceller.

The blades were intended to cut the stamp

**Philadelphia: April 30, 1863**

Postal regulations required the CDS to be clear of the stamp.

In this case, the position of the stamp made that impossible.

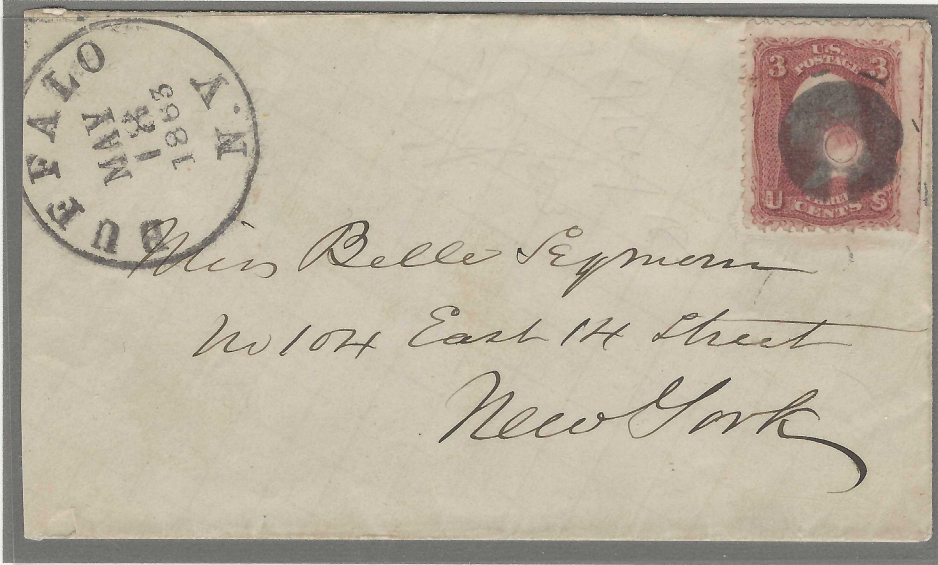


## The Prevention of Reuse

### Patent cancellations: scraping, cutting, and punching

**Buffalo, New York: May 18, 1863**

A central cutting circle surrounded by a thick wheel, used from 1863 – 65. Twisting the canceller when striking the stamp was supposed to scrape the surface of the stamp.



**Fall River, Massachusetts: November 3, 1863**

A combination of short blades and pins, used in 1863 to cut and punch holes in the stamp.

