

1853 NESBITT ISSUE
THE UNITED STATES' FIRST POSTAL STATIONERY

JOHN R. WEIMER

AS RECEIVED BY
THE EXHIBITION PHOTOCOPY COMMITTEE
OF THE
U.S. PHILATELIC CLASSICS SOCIETY, INC.
28 MARCH 1989

1 8 5 3 N E S B I T T I S S U E

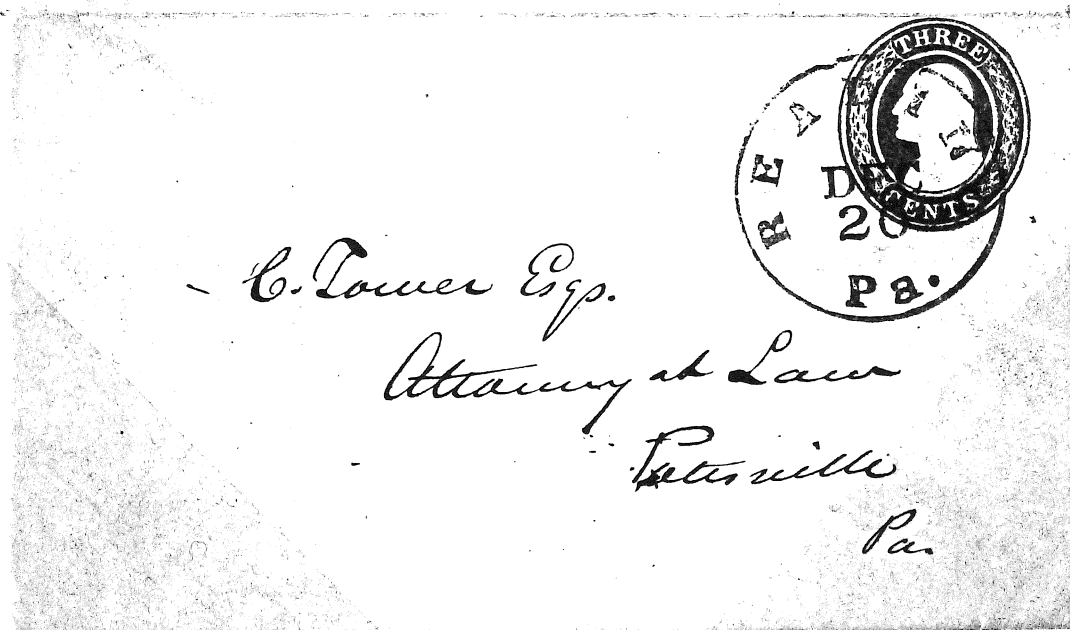
The United States' First Postal Stationery

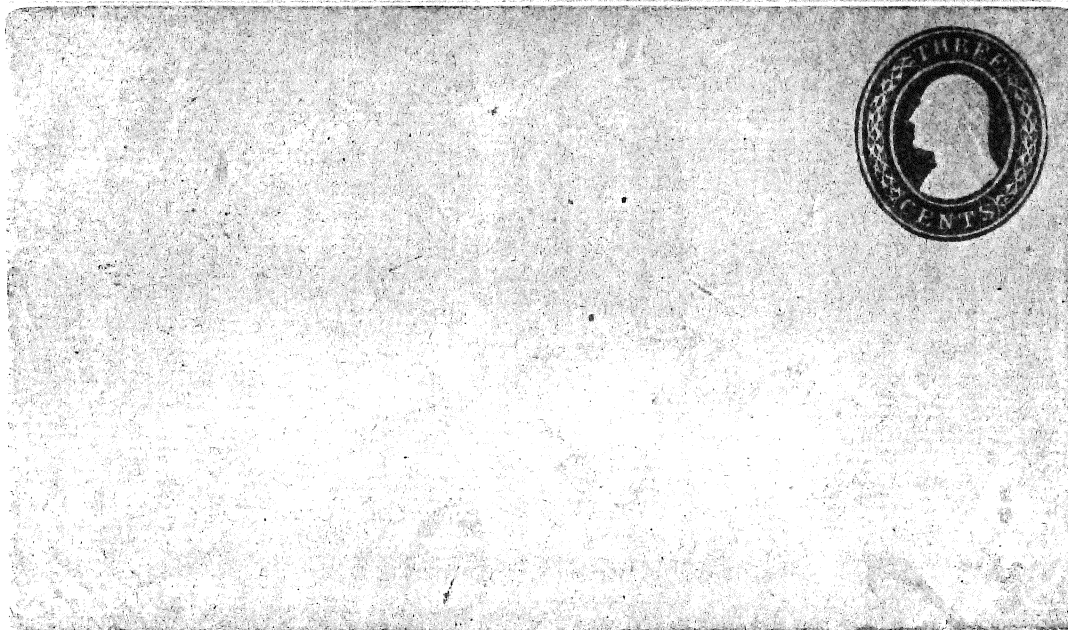
An Act of Congress March 3, 1845, effective July 1, 1845 fixed the rate of postage by weight instead of for the number of pieces or sheets of paper enclosed.

August 31, 1852 Congress passed an act authorizing the Postmaster General to provide "suitable letter envelopes, with such watermarks or other guards against counterfeits as he may deem expedient, and with one or more suitable postage stamps with such device and of such denominations and value as he may direct, printed or impressed thereon, which envelope shall be sold at the cost of procuring and furnishing same, as near as may be, with the addition of the value or denomination of the postage stamps so printed or impressed thereon." Also the envelope had to be sealed so the contents could not be removed without destroying the envelope. Further the date it was received was to be written or stamped on the envelope to prevent reuse.

The George F. Nesbitt Co. of NY, NY was awarded the contract for manufacturing these envelopes October 25, 1852. The first series of stamped envelopes in 3¢ and 6¢ denominations was delivered to the Postmasters in June 1853 and the 10¢ denomination appeared April 25, 1855. The envelopes were sold at 18¢, 20¢, and 32¢ per hundred for the note, letter, and official sizes respectively, plus the value of the stamps.

The first delivery of five million envelopes bore a Nesbitt Seal on the point of the back flap.

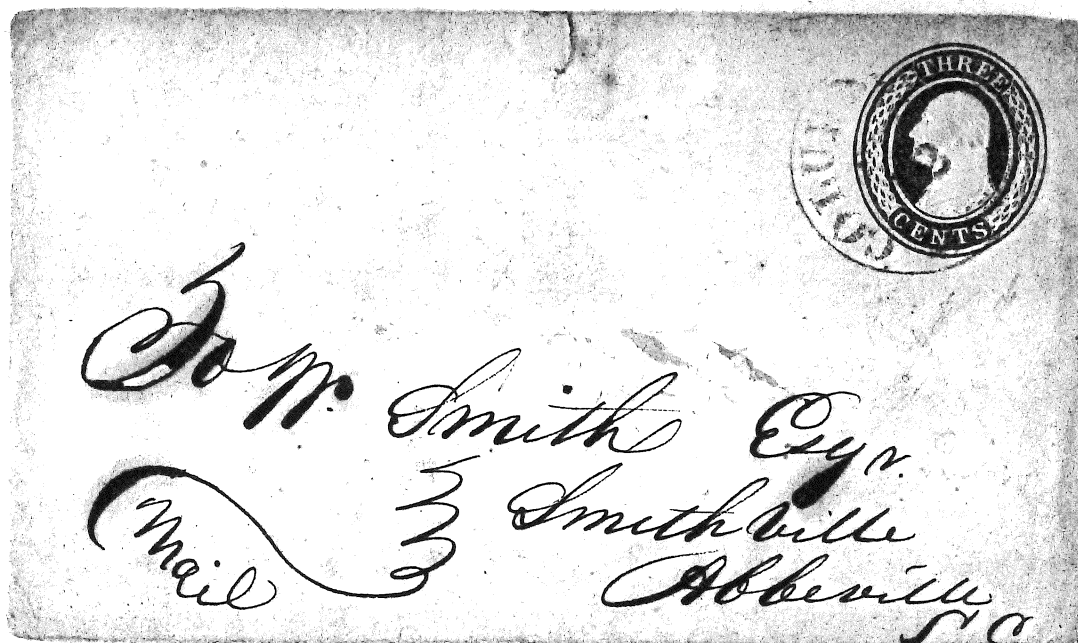




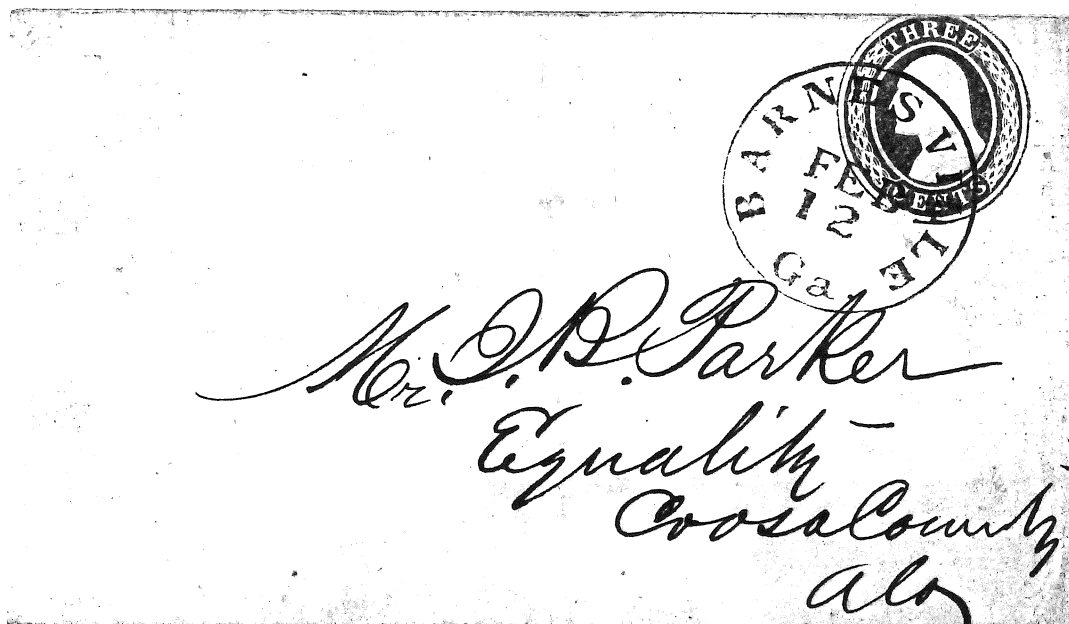
Die 1	Head V	Type 7	The FIRST U.S. Stamped envelope. See Thorp, P.H.: Envelope World; # 40, Aug. '63.
White	Red	1853	
Size 7		Knife 20	
Horizontal Laid, Wmk. Aligned			
Nesbitt Seal	1 ⁰ from Envl. B	; R/L	



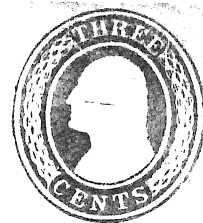
Die 1	Head 1	Type 1a
White	Red	1853
Size 7		Knife 20
Horizontal Laid, 2 ⁰ to Envelope B		
Wmk. Tiffany 1 , Nesbitt Seal, L/R		



Die 1 Head 1 Type 1a
 White Red 1853
 Size 7 Knife 20
 Hor.Laid, $\frac{1}{2}$ to envl.B, Tiffany Wmk.1
 CDS (B) Columbus O SEPT 12, Nesbitt Seal



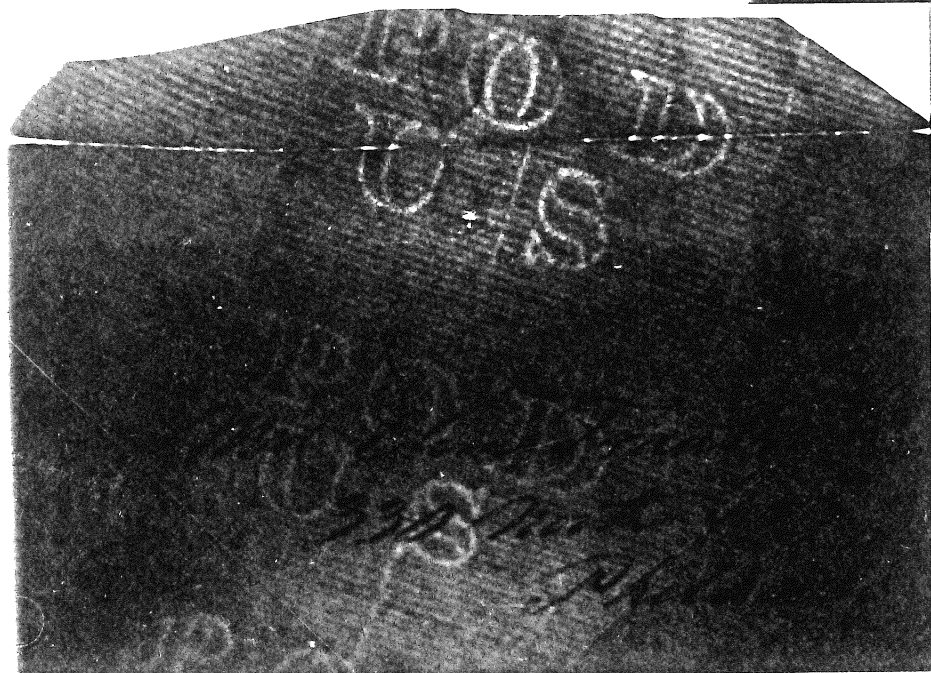
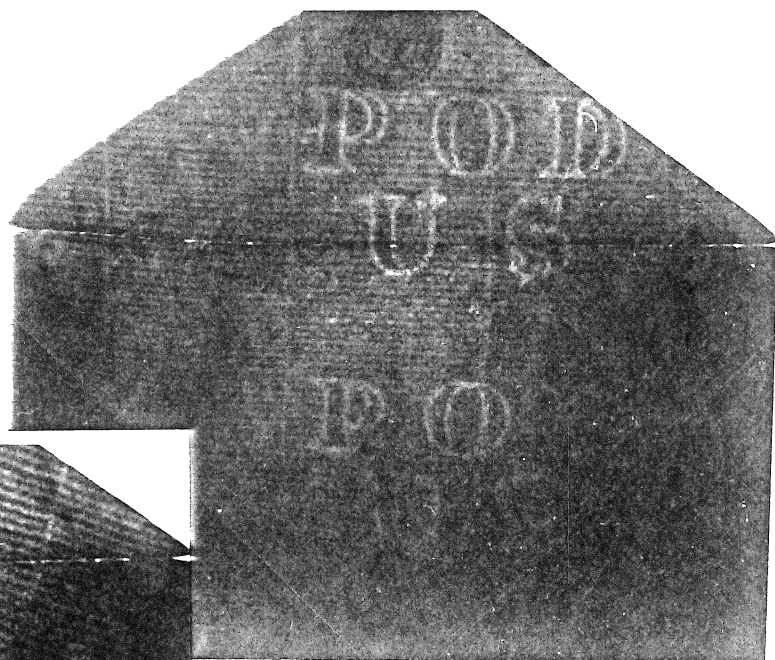
Die 1 Head 111 Type 5
 Size 7 Knife 20
 Hor.Laid; $\frac{1}{2}$ to Env. B, Wmk. Tiff.1
 CDS BARNESVILLE Ga. FEB 12 ; Nesbitt Seal



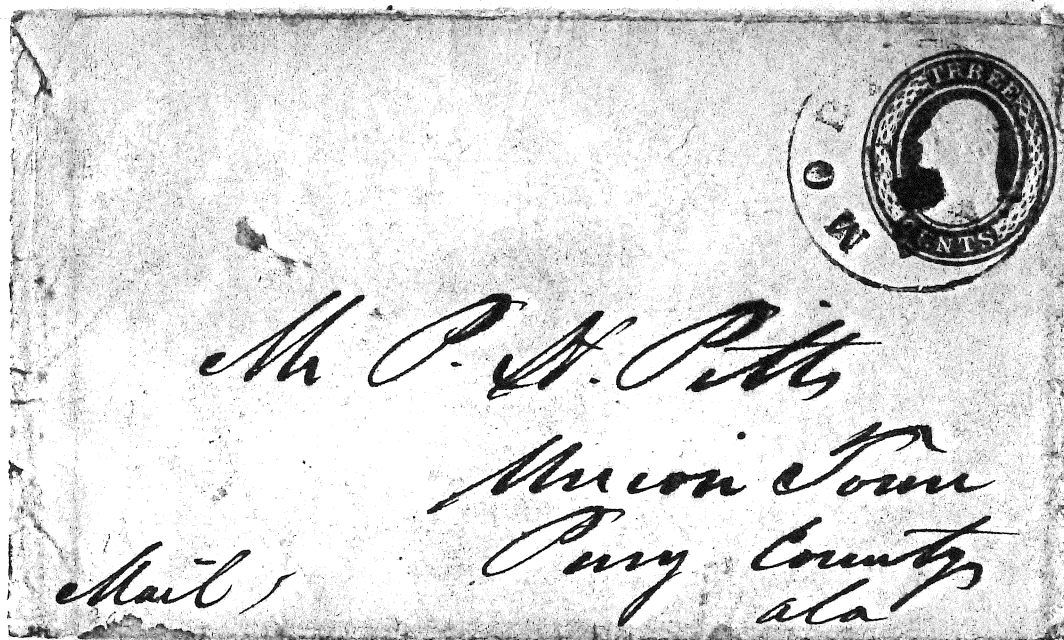
*Mrs Eliza Trantwine
330 North Sixth St.
Phila da*

Die 1 Head 1 Type 1a
White Red , 1853
Size 7 Knife 20
Ms PEN CANCEL REMOVED

HORIZONTALLY LAID
Wmk.: TIFFANY 1A
(VERTICALLY ALIGNED)

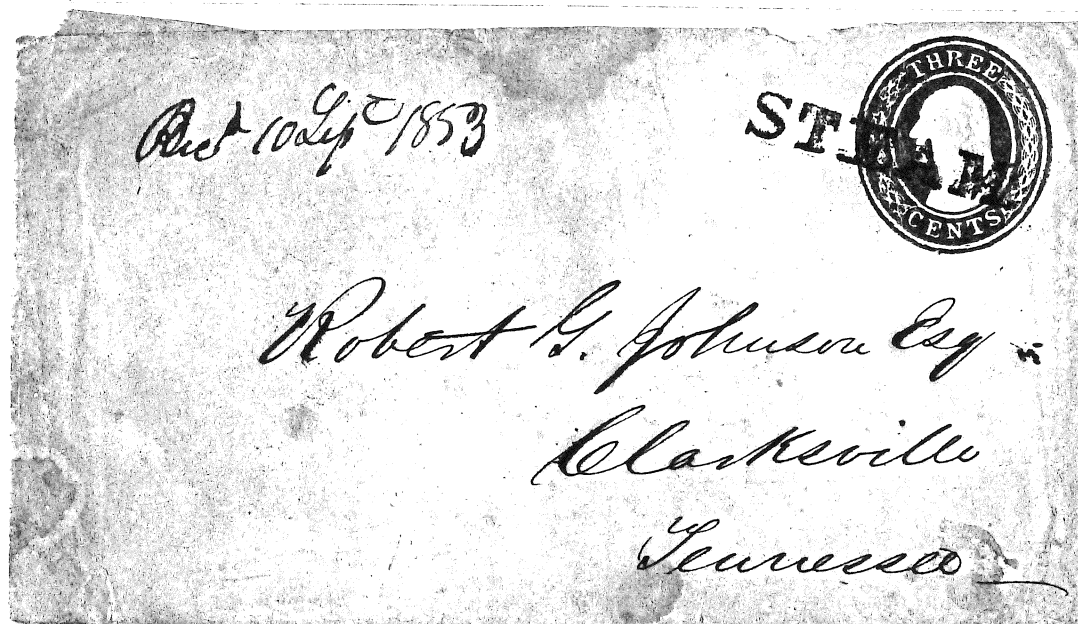


DIAGONALLY LAID (19 DEGREES)
Wmk.: TIFFANY 1A
DIE ROTATED ALSO

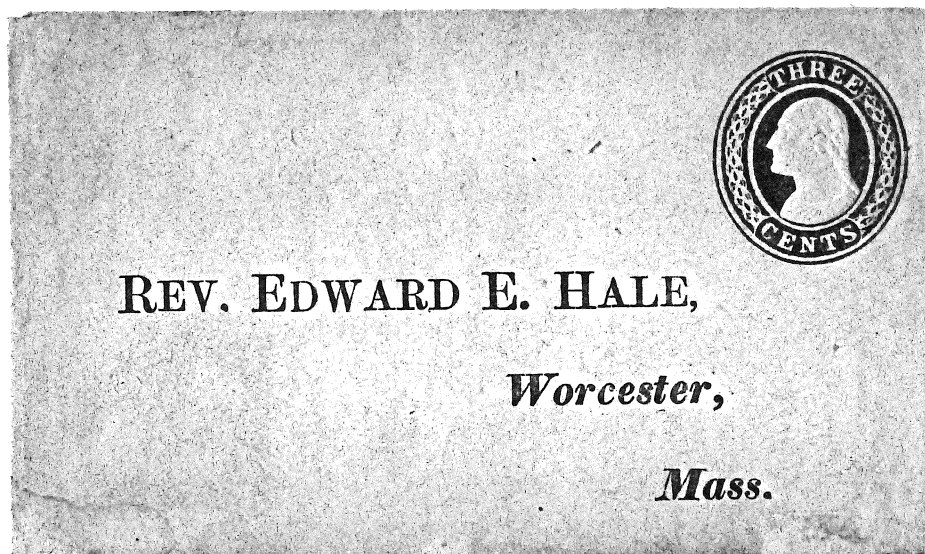


Die 1 Head 1 Type 1
White Red 1853
Size 7 Knife 20
CDS MOBILE ALA ,Dec. -- ..

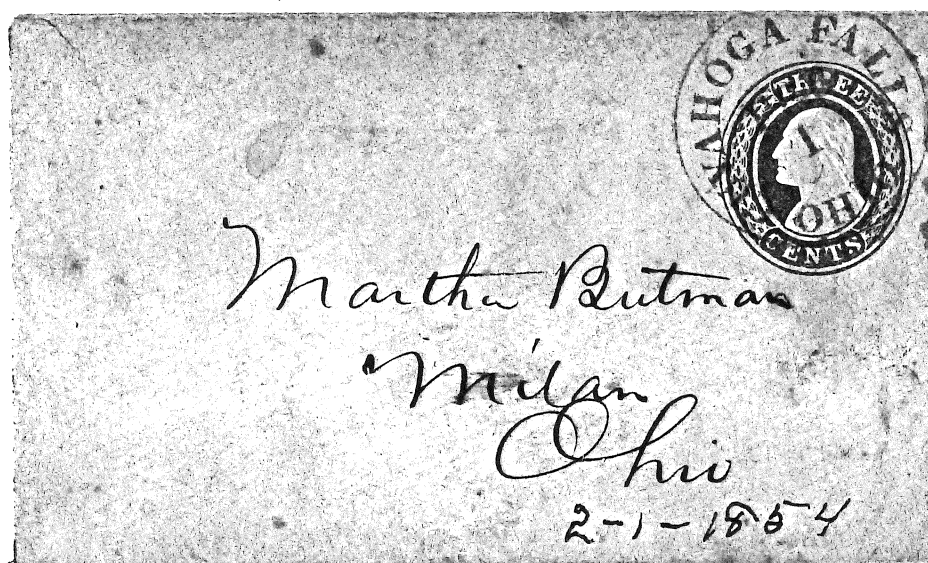
HORIZONTALLY LAID
WATERMARK : TIFFANY # 1



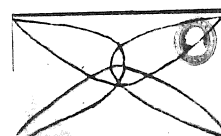
Die 1 Head III Type 5
White Red 1853
Size 7 Knife 20
SL STEAM Ms. Rcd. Sept. 10, 1853



Die 1 Head V Type 7
 White Red 1753
 Size 2 (1) Knife 2 (1)



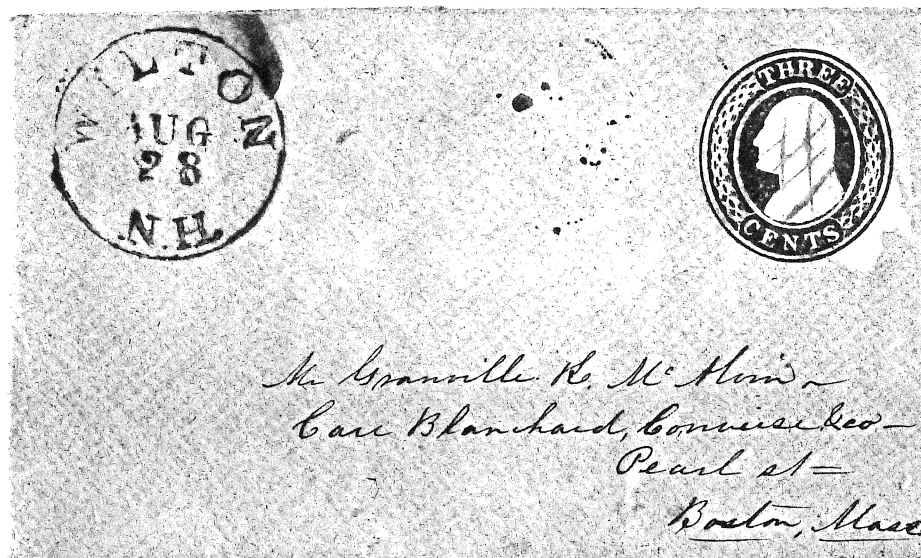
Die 1 Head V Type 7
 White Pale Red 1853
 Size 2 (1) Knife 2 (1)
 CDS Cuyahoga Falls O
 Feb. 1 , 1854



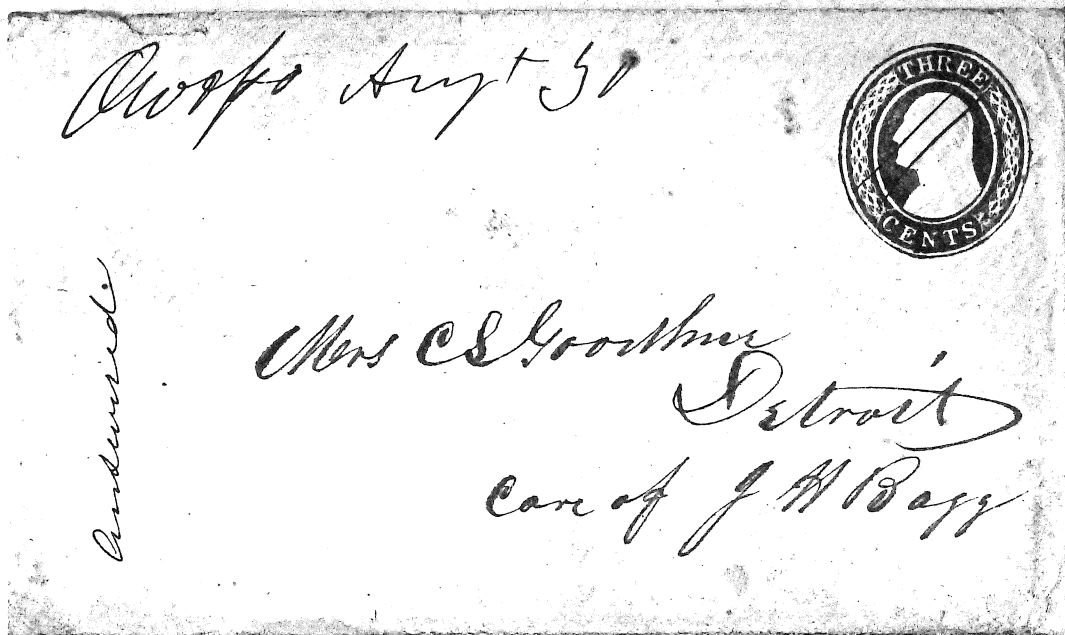


Die 1 Head II Type 4
 White Pale Red 1853
 Size 2 (1) Knife 2 (1)
 CDS Mount Holly VT Jan. 13

Heavy eyebrow & 2 side locks.
 1st only a fine line
 E of CENTS low

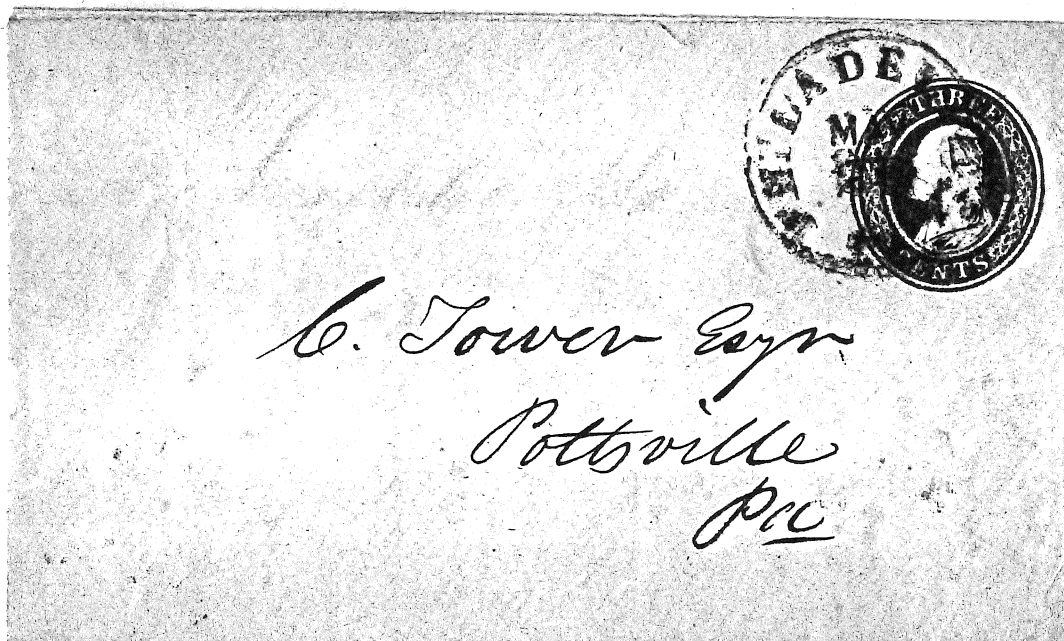


Die 1 Head VIII Type 10
 White Red 1853
 Size 2 (1) Knife 2 (1)
 CDS (R) Wilton NH Aug. 28

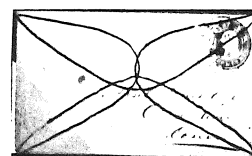


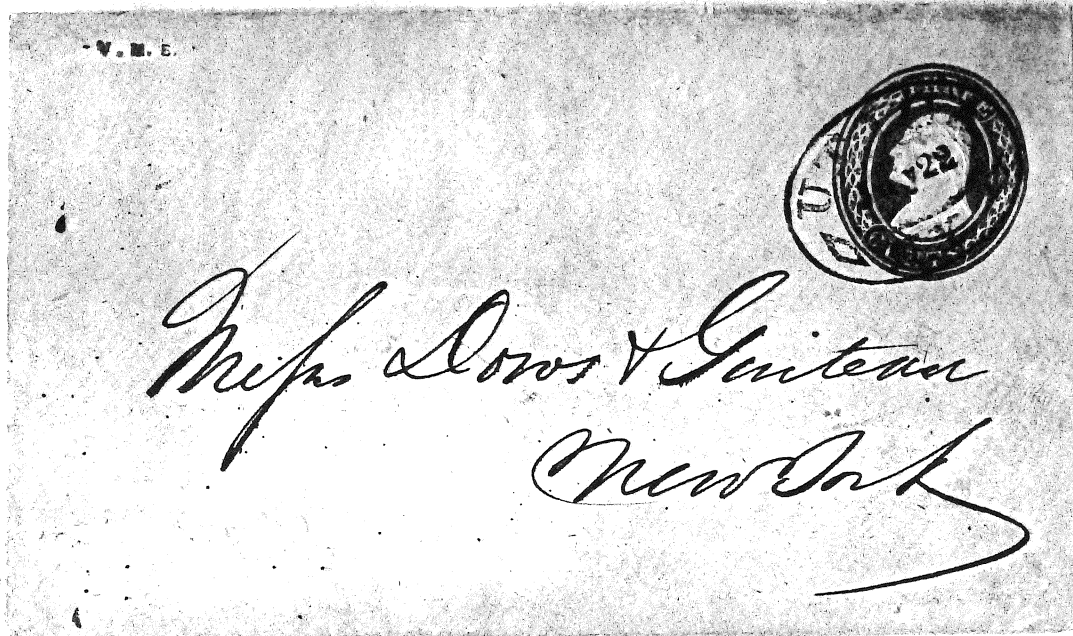
Die 1 Head 1 Type 1
White Red 1853
Size 7 (3) Knife 20 (2)
Ms Owopo Aug.30

H above T, 2nd E close &
close to curve, CENTS low,
CE wide, extended E below N



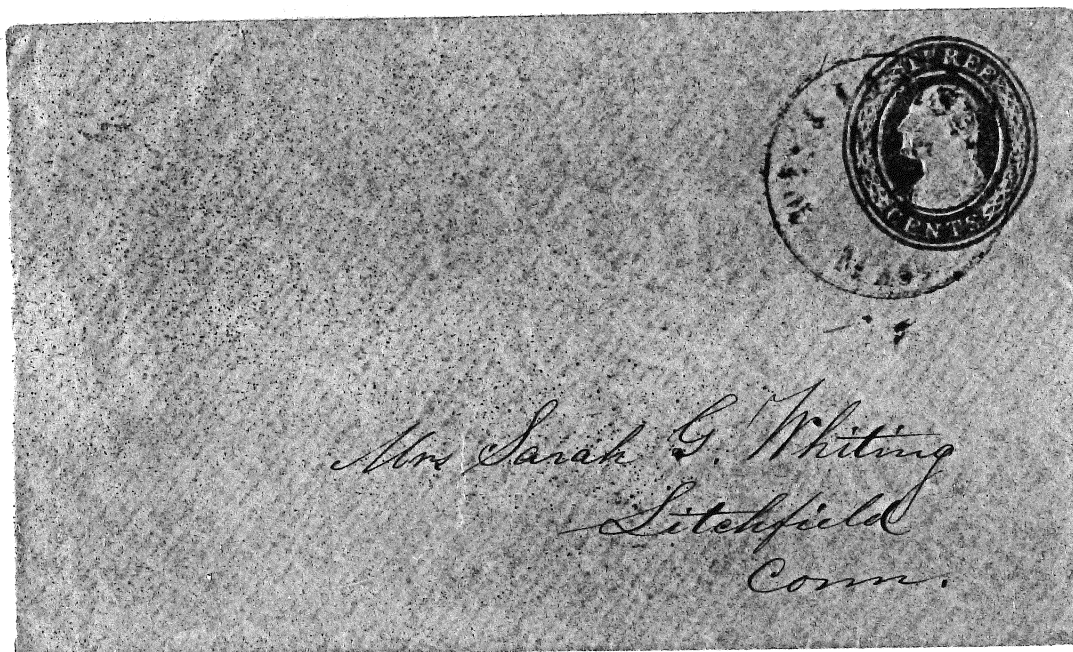
Die 1 Head I Type 1
White Deep RED 1853
Size 7 (3) Knife 20 (2)
CDS Philadelphia PA May 26





Die 1 Head I Type 1a
White Deep Red 1853
Size 7 (3) Knife 20 (2)
ODS Utica NY July 22

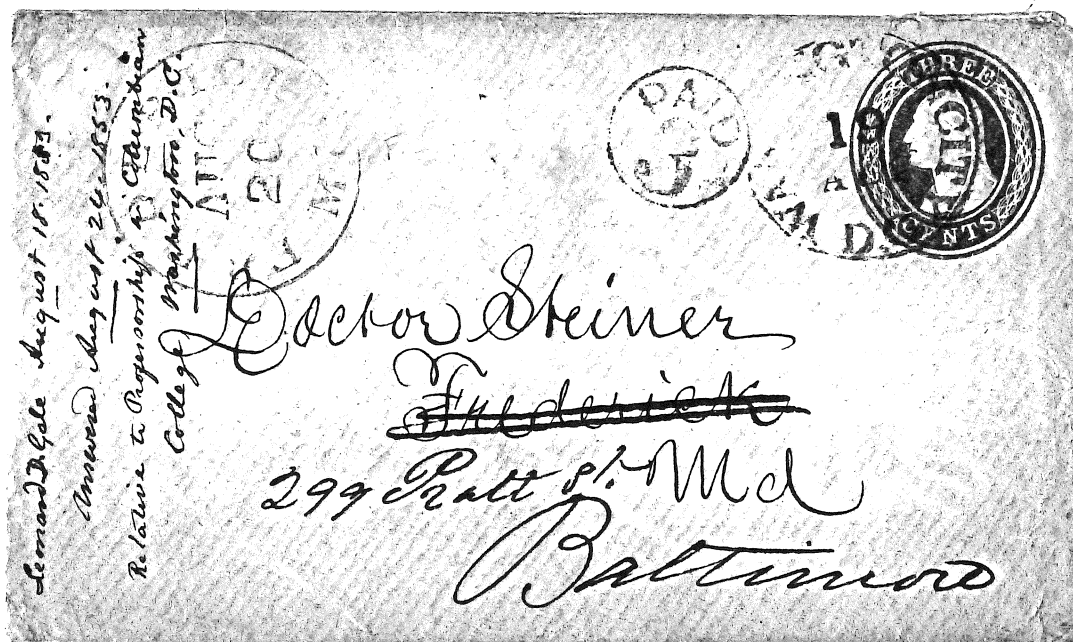
THREE well centered, C low
& wide, extended E below N
NT wide



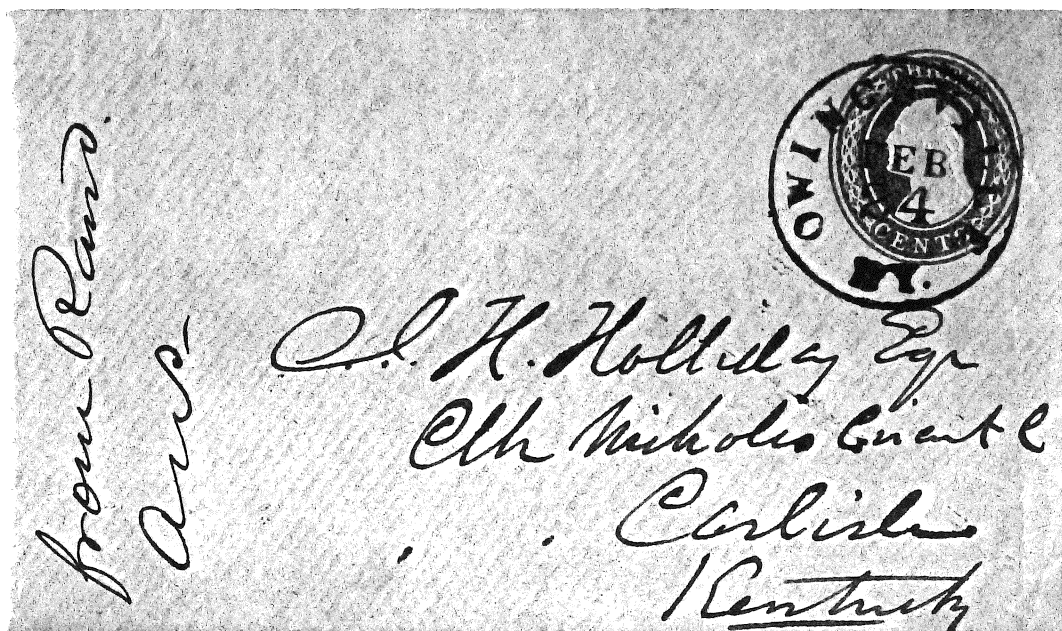
Die 1 Head 1 Type 1a
White Red 1853
Size 7 (3) Knife 20 (2)
CDS Williamstown MA Mar.14



Die 1 Head 1 Type 1a.
 White Red 1853
 Size 7 Knife 20
 CDS MIDDLETOWN Ct 3 PAID May 5

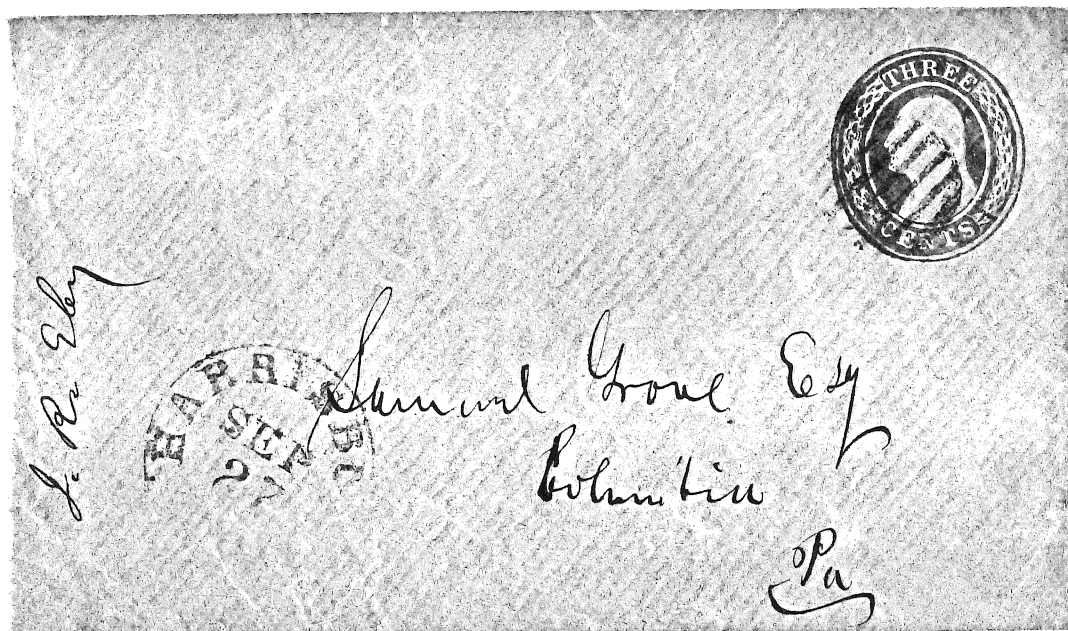


Die 1 Head 1 Type 2a
 White Red 1853
 Size 7 Knife 20
 CDS WASHINGTONCITY D.C. 19 AUG (1853)
 Red.(B1) FREDERICK Md AUG 20
 Rd. PAID 3 (B1)



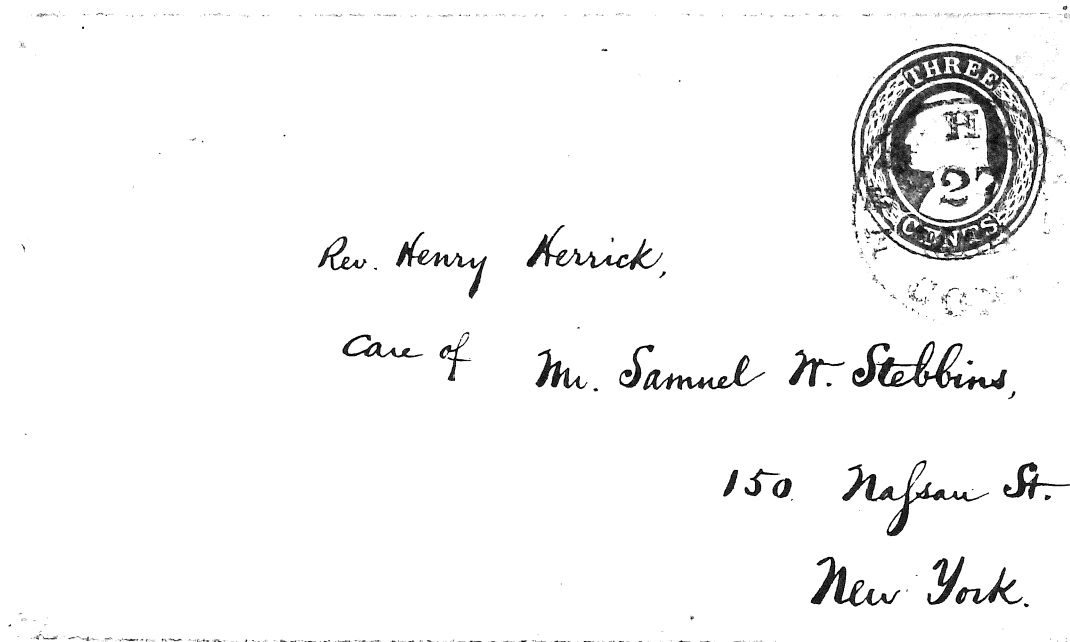
Die 1 Head 1 Type 2
Buff Red 1853
Size 7 (3) Knife 20 (2)
CDS Owingsville KY Feb.24

TH wide, R in center
CEN malaligned, E low
CE wide, N slants right
HR near at Bottom, RE wide



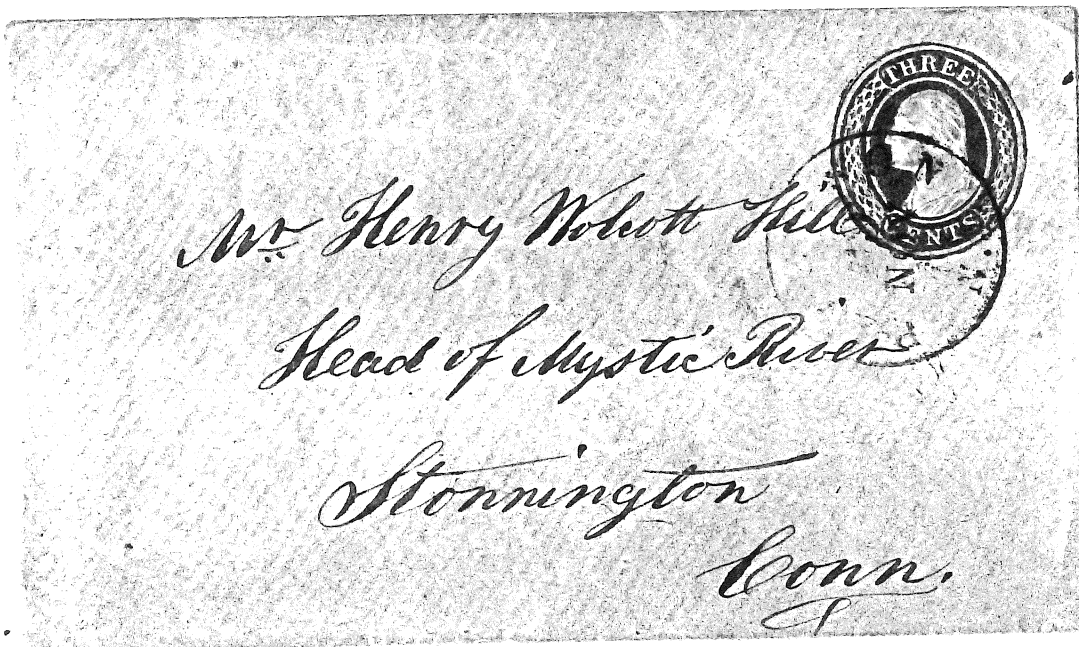
Die 1 Head 1 Type 2a
Buff Red 1853
Size 7 Knife 20
CDS (B) Harrisburgh PA Sept.27

Flaw in outer frame line
opposite nose, CENTS high

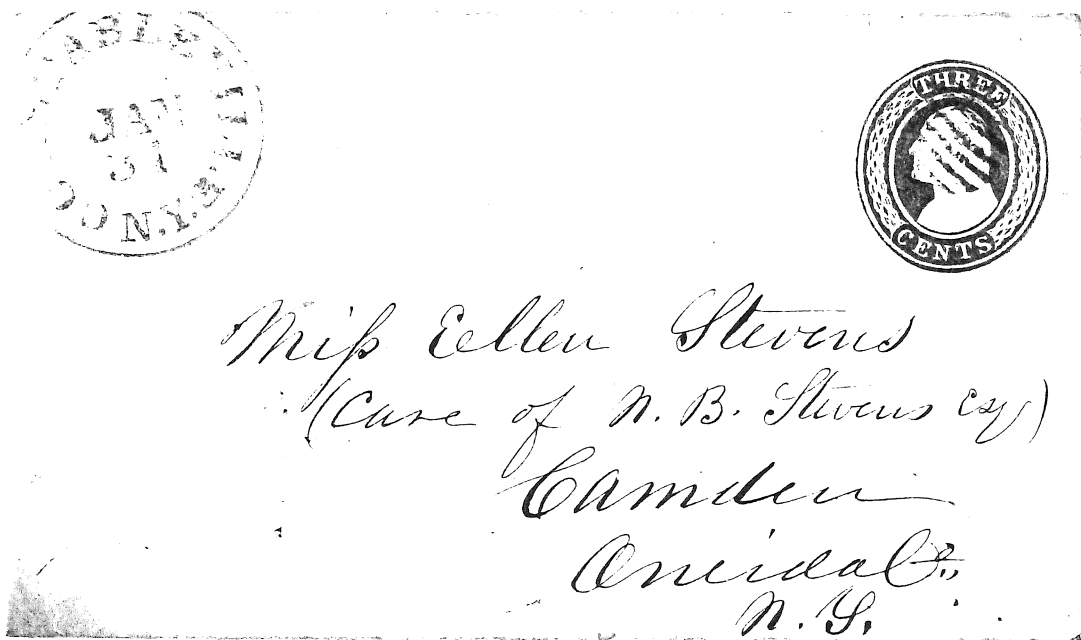


Die 1 Head 1a Type 3
 White Red 1853
 Size 7 (3) Knife 20 (2)
 CDS New Haven CONN Mar.27

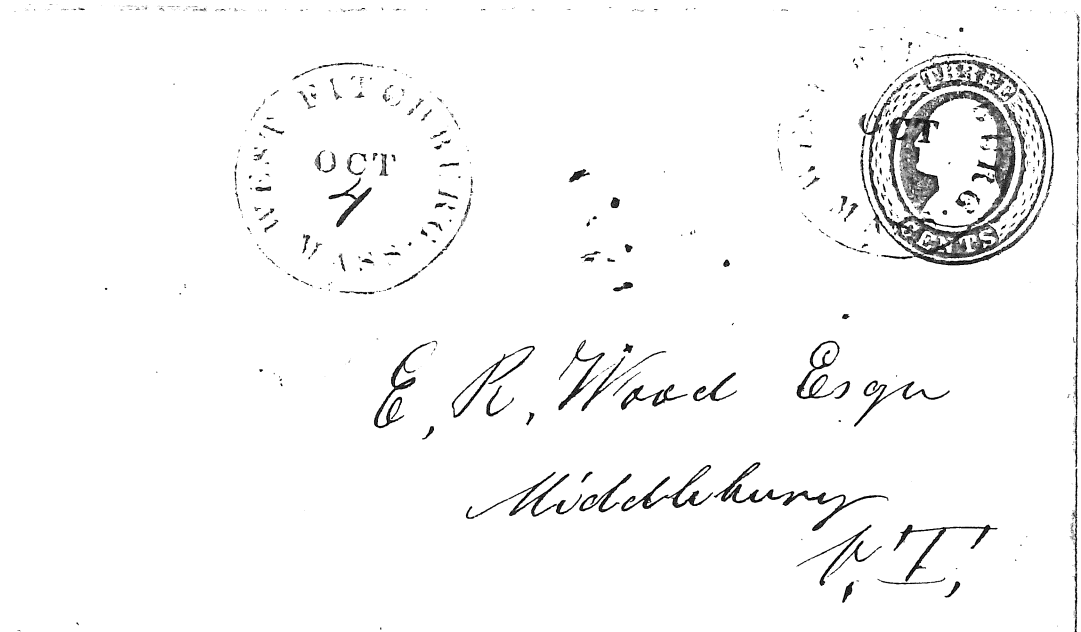
HR wide, C hugs left curve
 CE very wide



Die 1 Head 1a Type 3
 Buff Red 1853
 Size 7 Knife 20
 CDS Patterson NJ Nov. 29



Die 1 Head II Type 4
 White Red 1853
 Size 7 Knife 20
 CDS (B) Constableville NY
 Jan.31, DOUBLE IMPRESSION
 one uninked



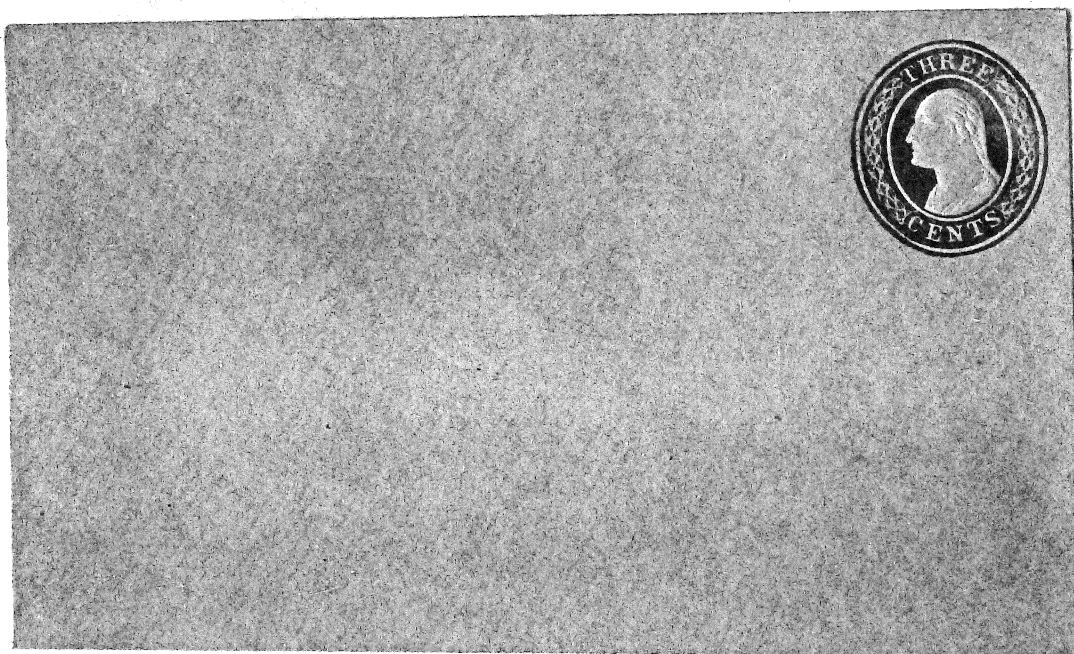
Die 1 Head 2 Type 4
 White Red 1853
 Size 7 Knife 20
 CDS (B) WEST FIRCHBURG MASS.Oct.4

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Die 1 Head III Type 5
 White Red 1853
 Size 7 (3) Knife 20 (2)
 CDS (R) GRAFTON Ms JUN 3
 Add. Fr.: # 10

TH wide, R vertical in center
 CENTS high, especially NT
 CE wide, C high, S close to
 curve, T leans R



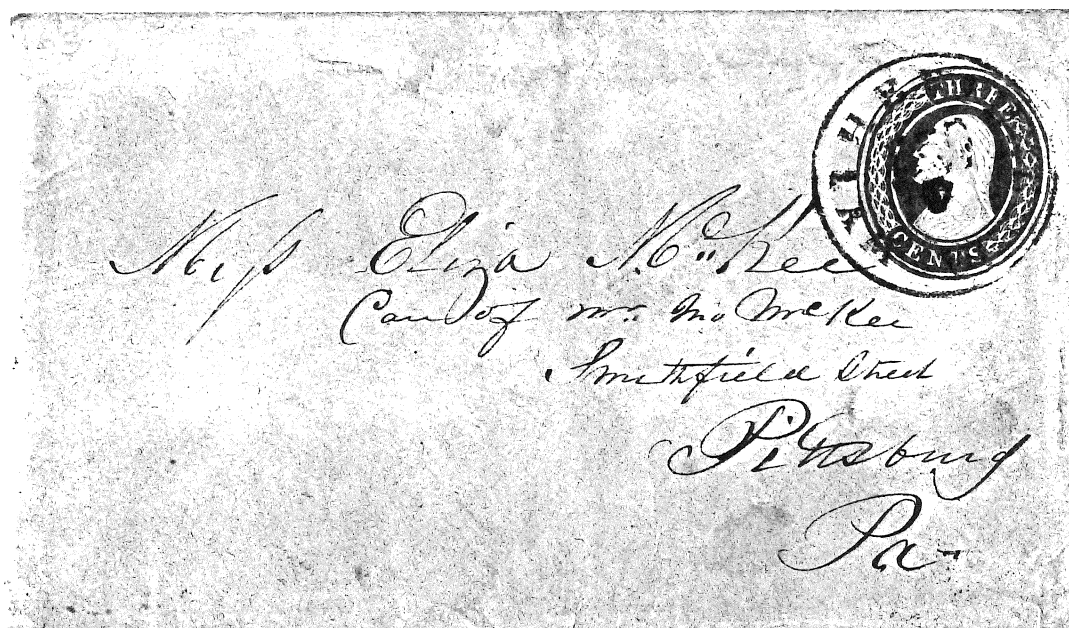
Die 1 Head III Type 5
 Buff Red 1853
 Size 7 Knife 20



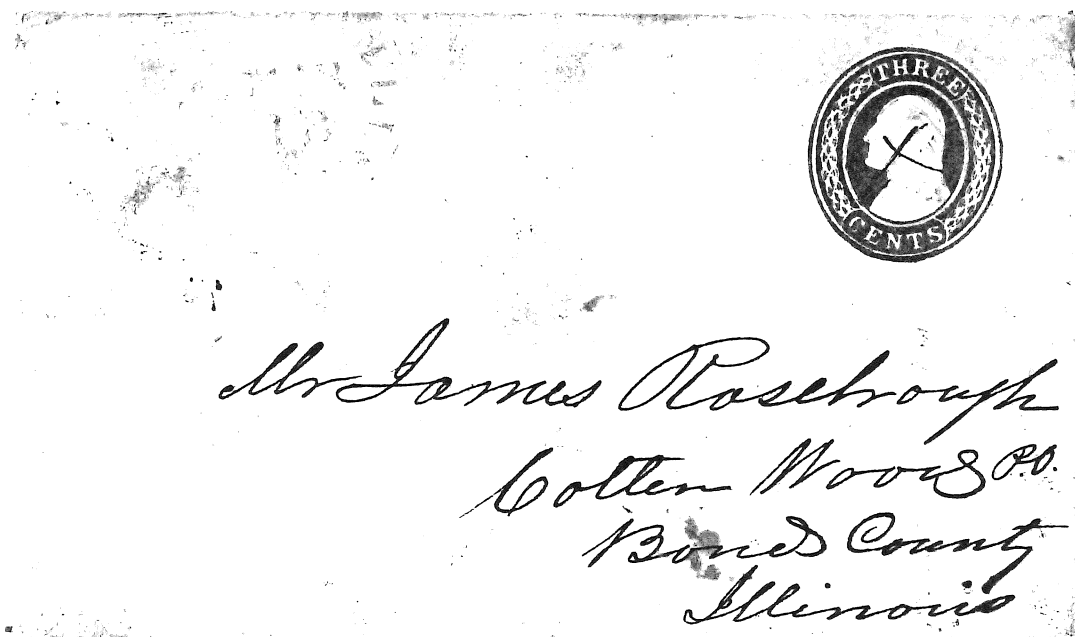
Mrs Geo. McKie.
South Easton.
Wash. Co. N.Y.

Die 1 Head IV Type 6
 White Red 1853
 Size 7 (3) Knife 20 (2)
 CDS Troy NY Nov. 14

THREE low, TH close, HRE wide
 CENTS well spaced, E low

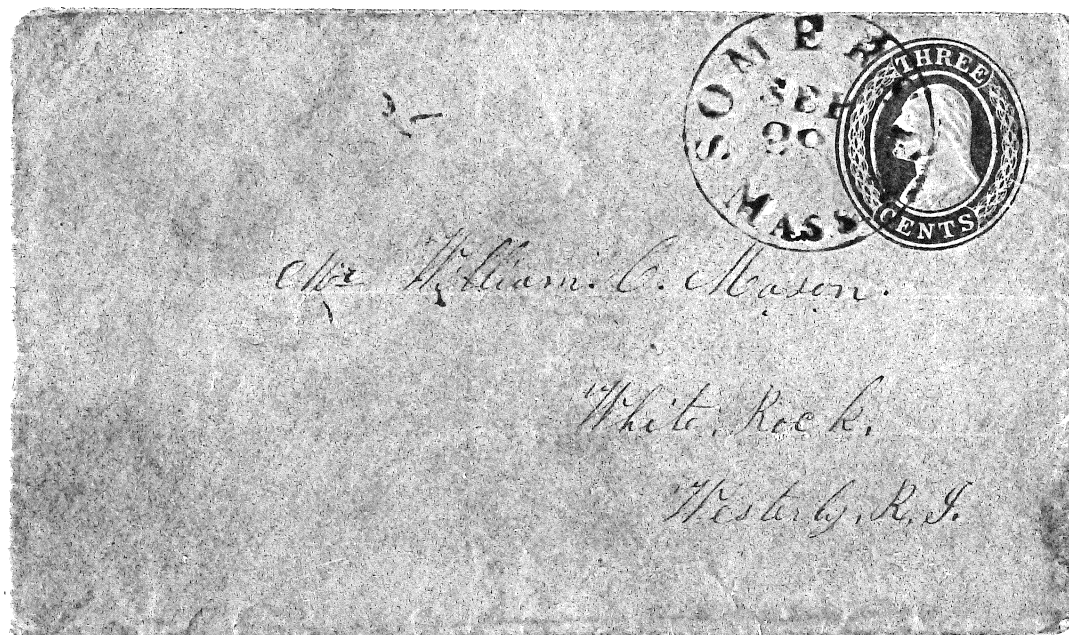


Die 1 Head IV Type 6
 Buff Red 1853
 Size 7 (3) Knife 20 (2)
 CDS Wytheville VA

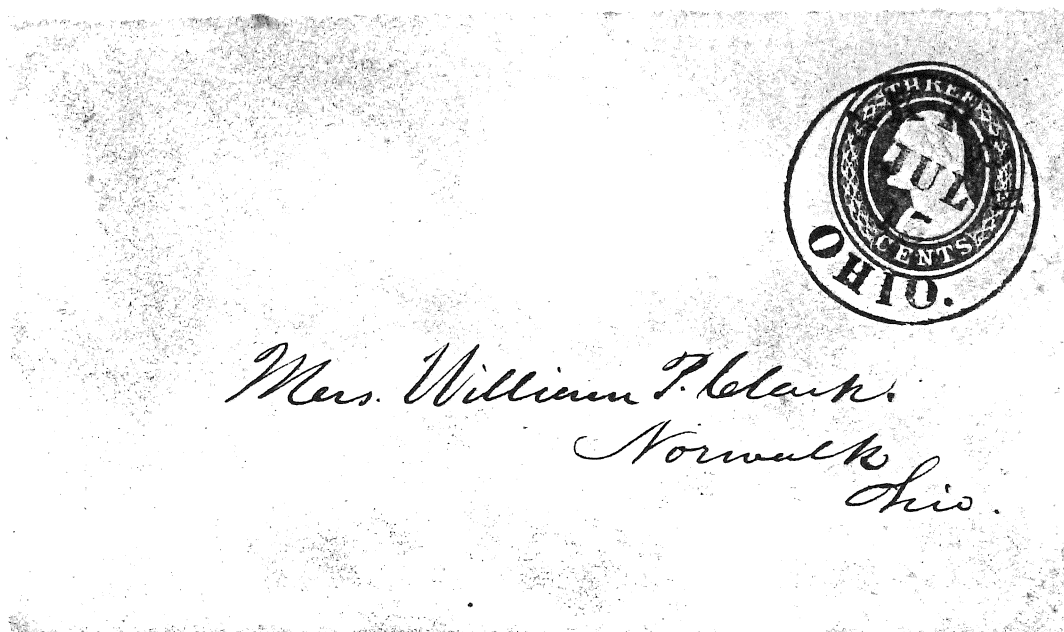


Die 1 Head V Type 7
 White Red 1853
 Size 7 (3) Knife 20 (2)
 CDS (R) ----ville Mar.18

T of THREE low, CENTS well
 spaced & low, E lowest



Die 1 Head V Type 7
 Buff Red 1853
 Size 7 (3) Knife 20 (2)
 CDS Somerset MA Sept. 28

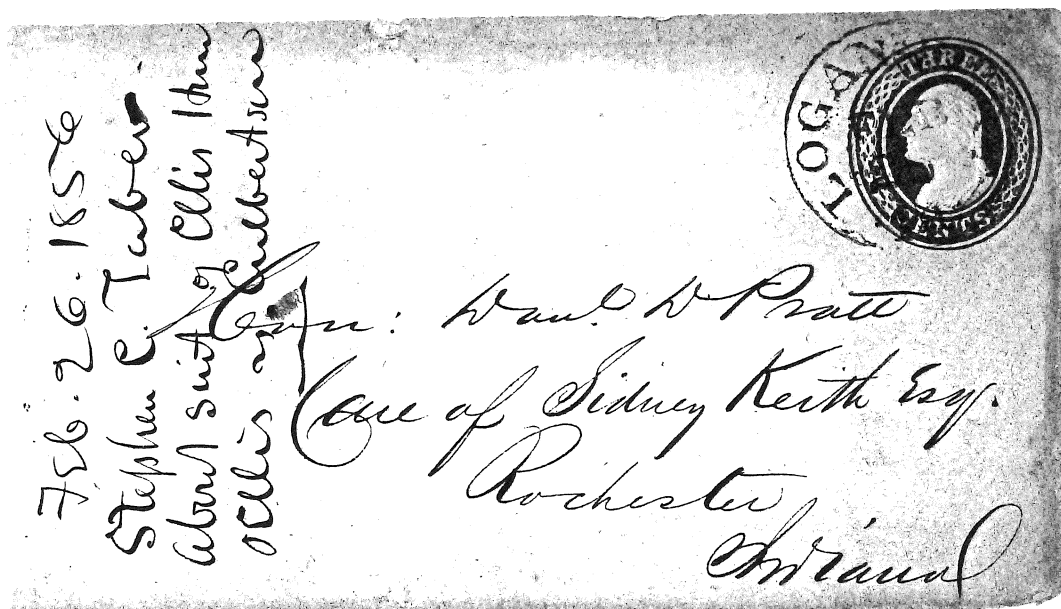


Die 1 Head VI Type 8
 White Red 1853
 Size 7 (3) Knife 20 (2)
 CDS Akron OH July 15

THREE low, CE wide, E low
 EN malaligned

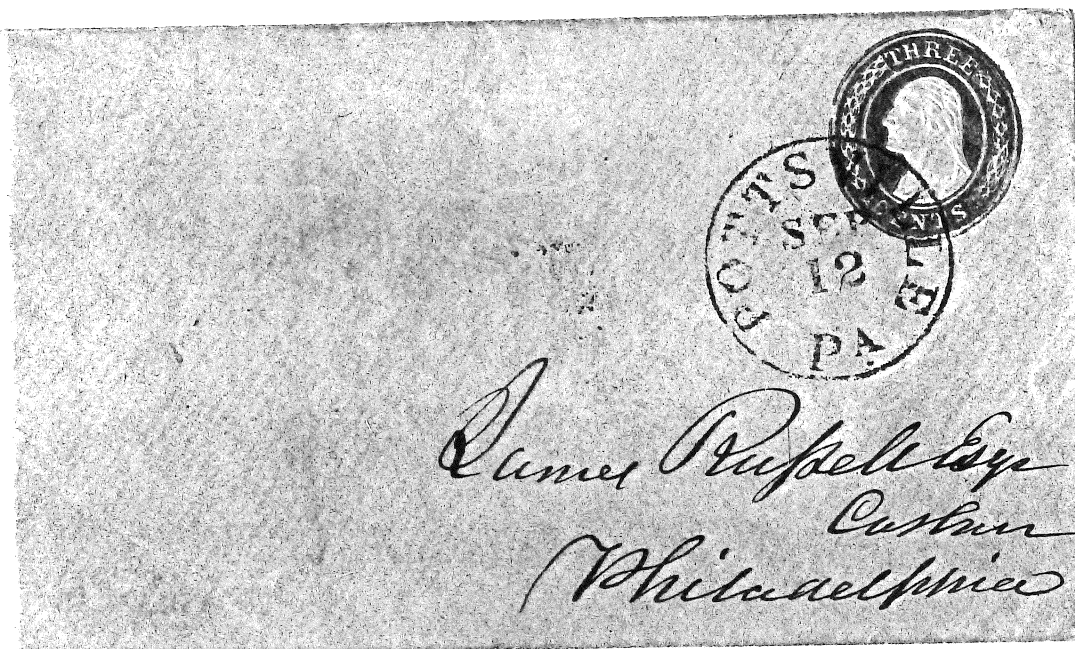


Die 1 Head VI Type 8
 Buff Red 1853
 Size 7 (3) Knife 20 (2)
 CDS Frankfort KY April 24

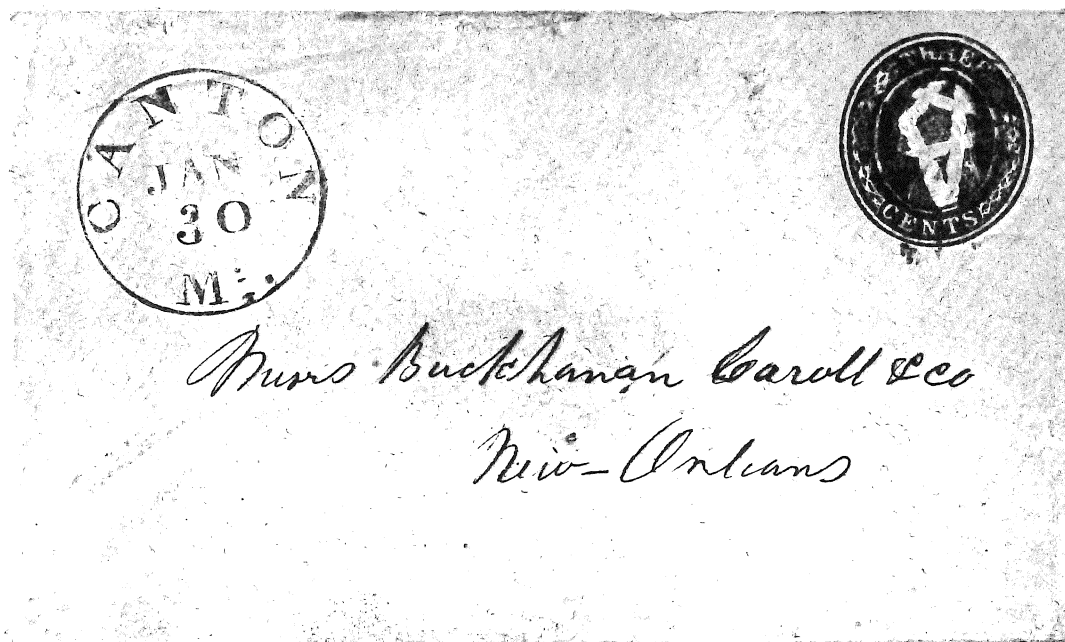


Die 1 Head VII Type 9
White Red 1853
Size 7 (3) Knife 20 (2)
CDS Logan'sport IA Feb. 20

CENTS high, CE near
E extended well into N

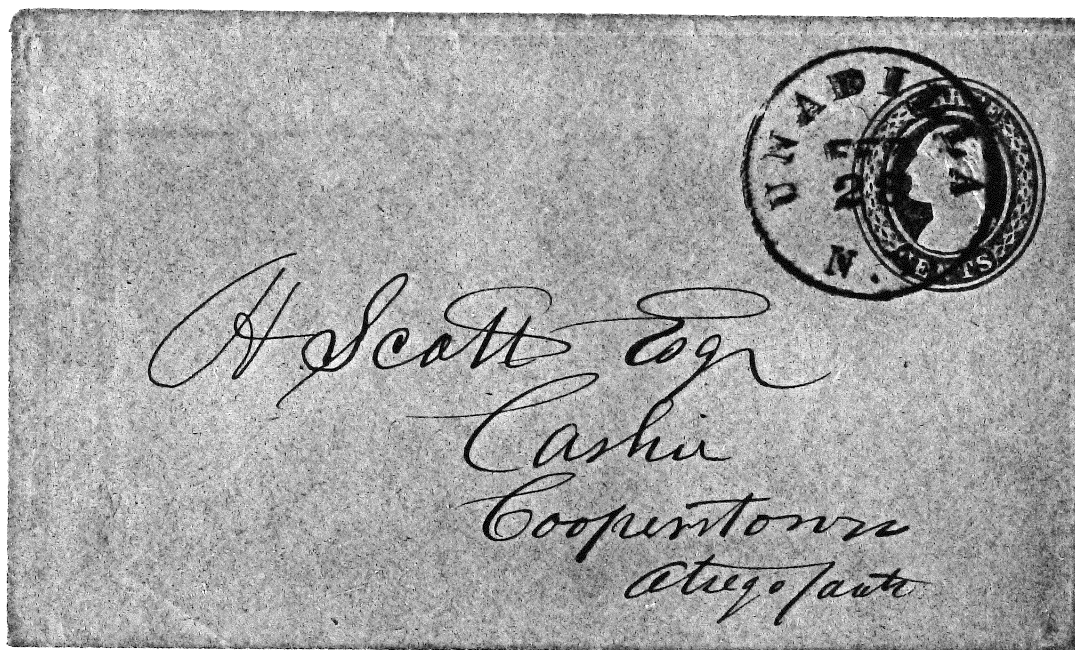


Die 1 Head VII Type 9
Buff Red 1853
Size 7 (3) Knife 20 (2)
CDS (B) Pottsville PA Sept. 12



Die 1 Head VIII Type 10
 White Red 1853
 Size 7 (3) Knife 20 (2)
 CDS Canton M- Jan. 30

THREE high, HR close
 CENTS low, E lowest
 N leans right

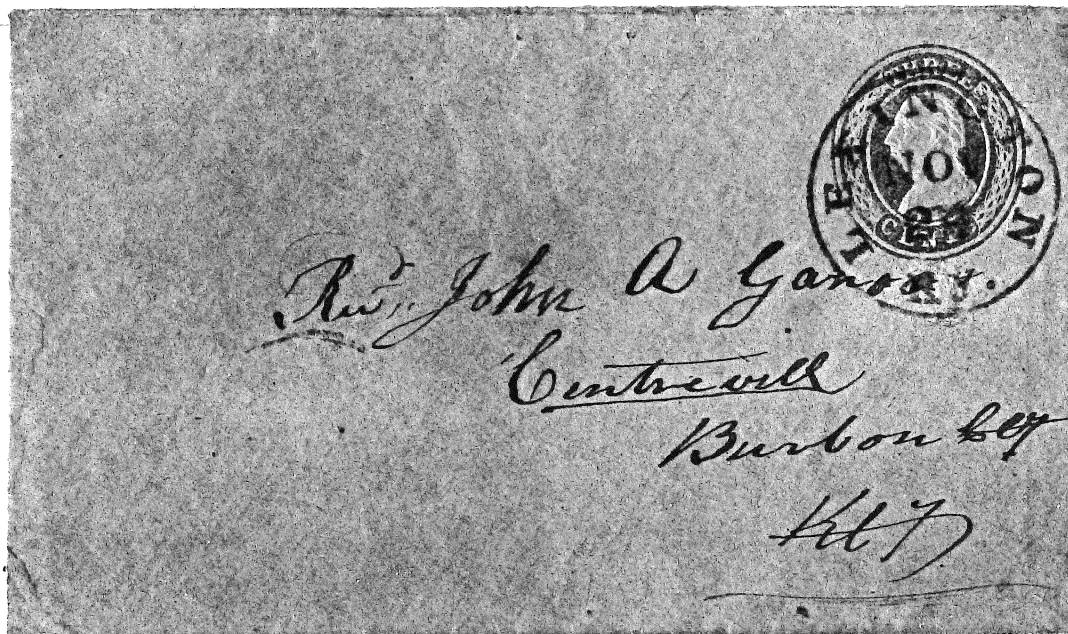


Die 1 Head VIII Type 10
 Buff Red 1853
 Size 7 (3) Knife 20 (2)
 CDS Unadilla NY Feb. 28

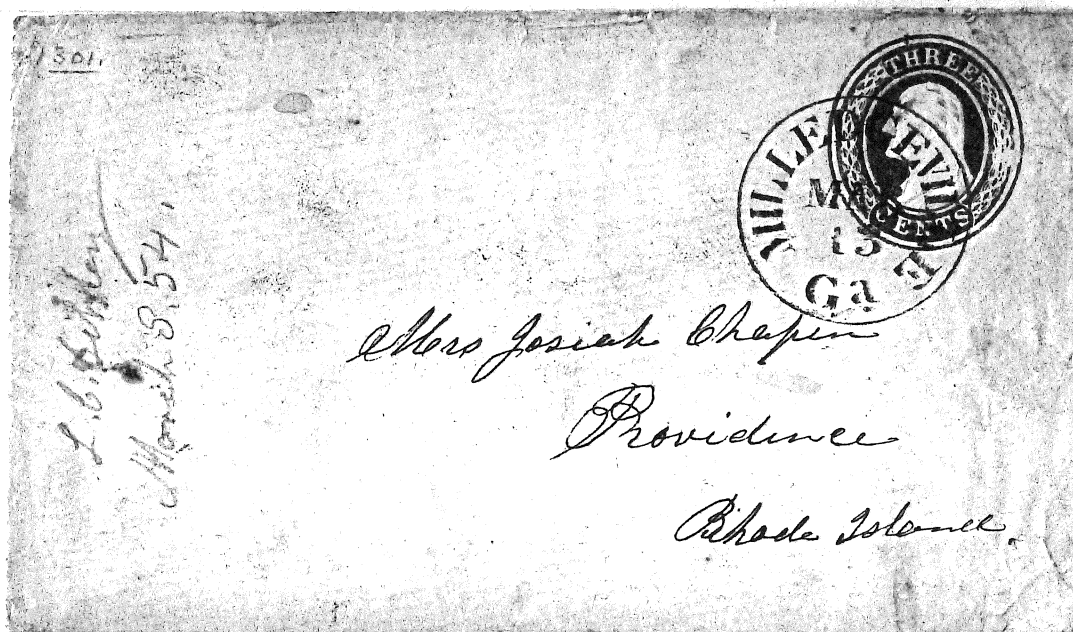


Die 1 Head IX Type 11
 White Red 1853
 Size 7 (3) Knife 20 (2)
 CDS (B) Baltimore MD Aug.18,1853

THREE low, CENTS high
 C high, CE wide, S close
 to curve

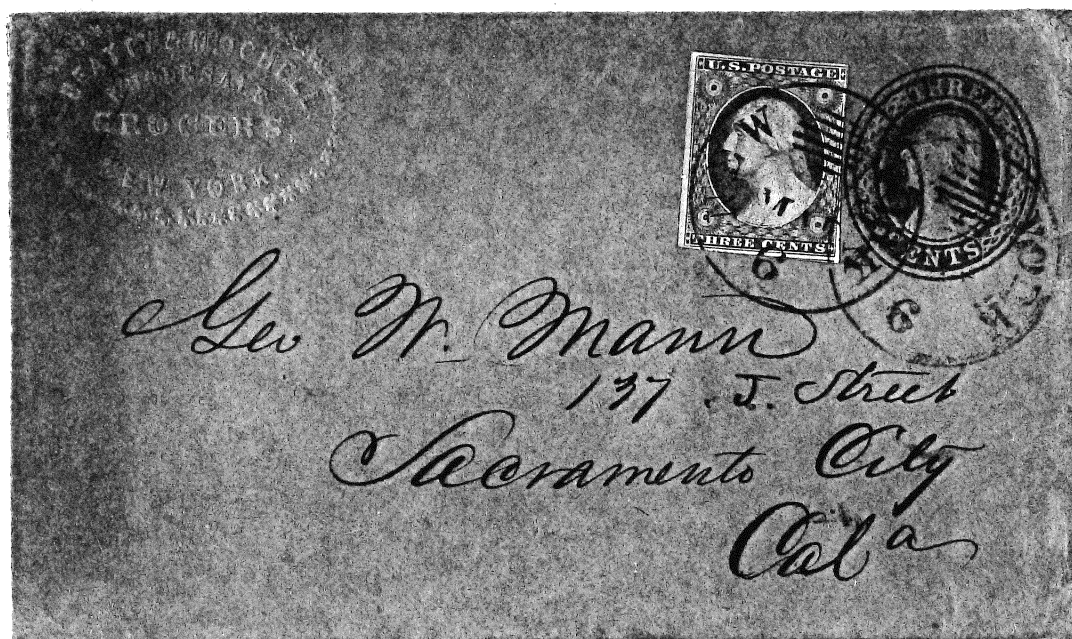


Die 1 Head IX Type 11
 Buff Red 1853
 Size 7 (3) Knife 20 (2)
 CDS Lexington KY Nov. 24

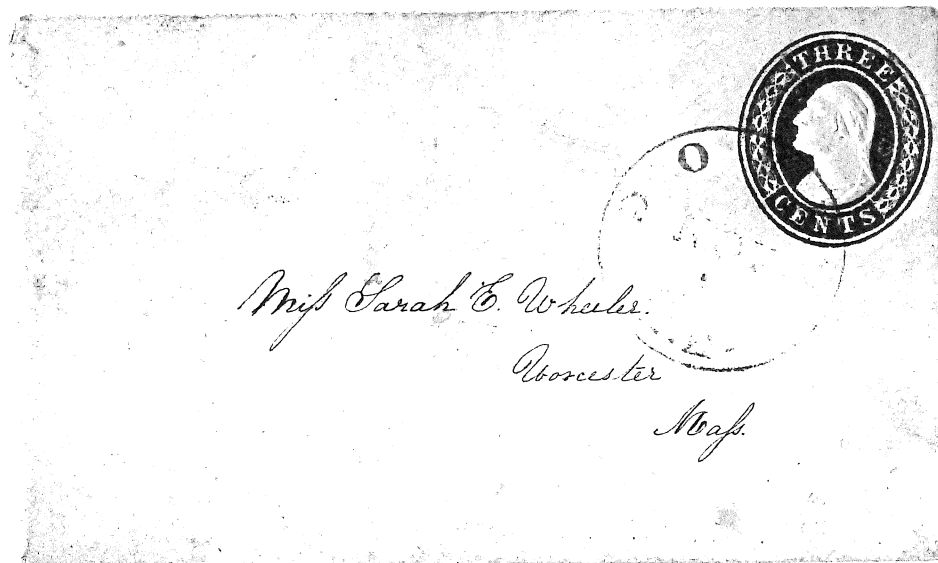


Die 1 Head X 1853
 White Red Type 12
 Size 7 Knife 20
 CDS Milledgeville GA
 March 13 (1854)

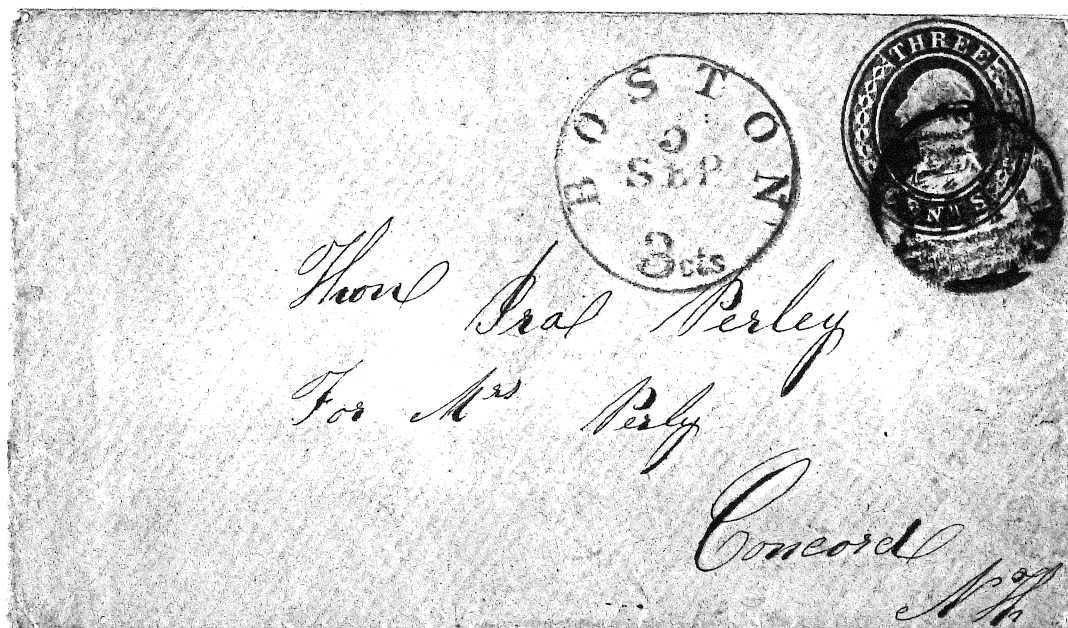
THREE low, CENTS high
 C high, NT wide at top
 S close to curve
 Head distinguishes Types 11 & 12



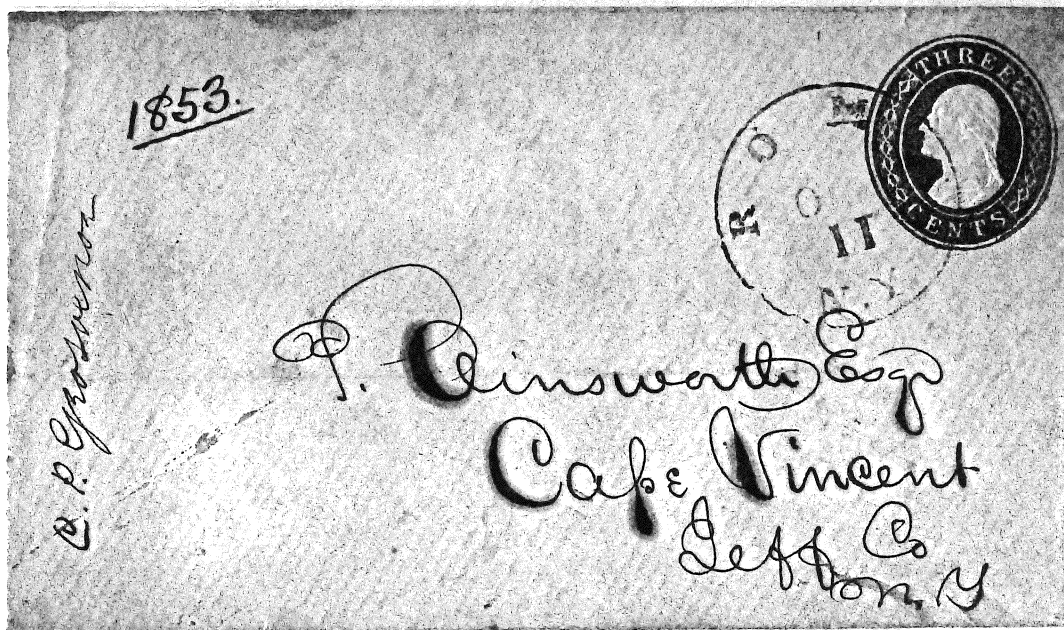
Die 1 Head X Type 12
 Buff Red 1853
 Size 7 Knife 20
 CDS New York Ocean Mail Mar. 6, 1854
 via S.S. Ohio to Panama (early)
 Add. Fr. #10 (Ashbrook)
 cc. : Adv. Wholesale Grocer



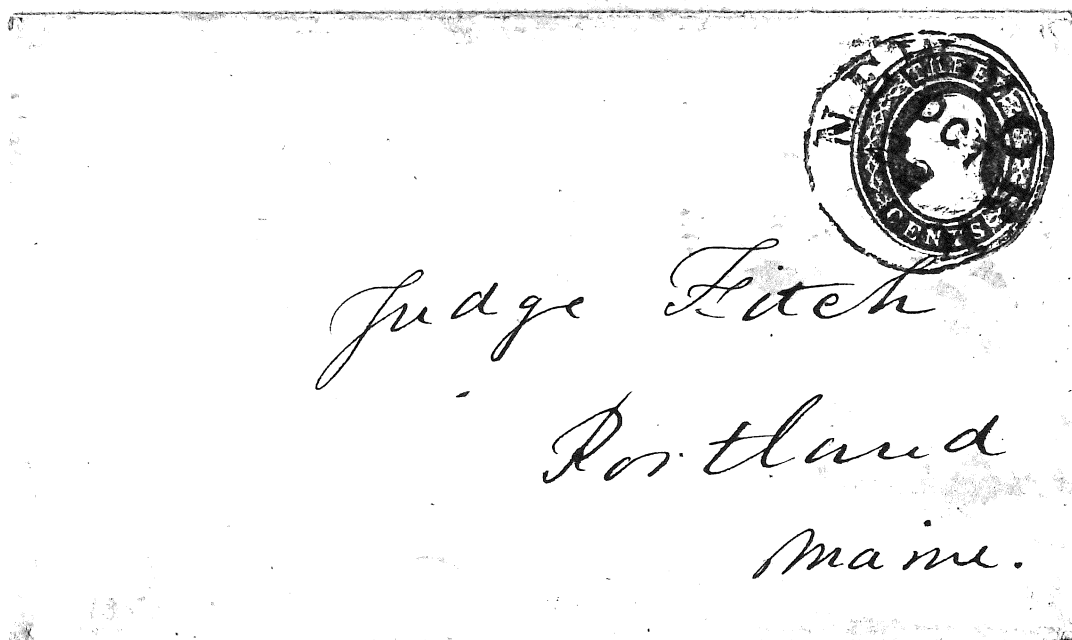
Die 2 Head XII Type 3
 White Red 1853
 Size 2 (1) Knife 2 (1)
 CDS (B) Dover NH Nov. 1



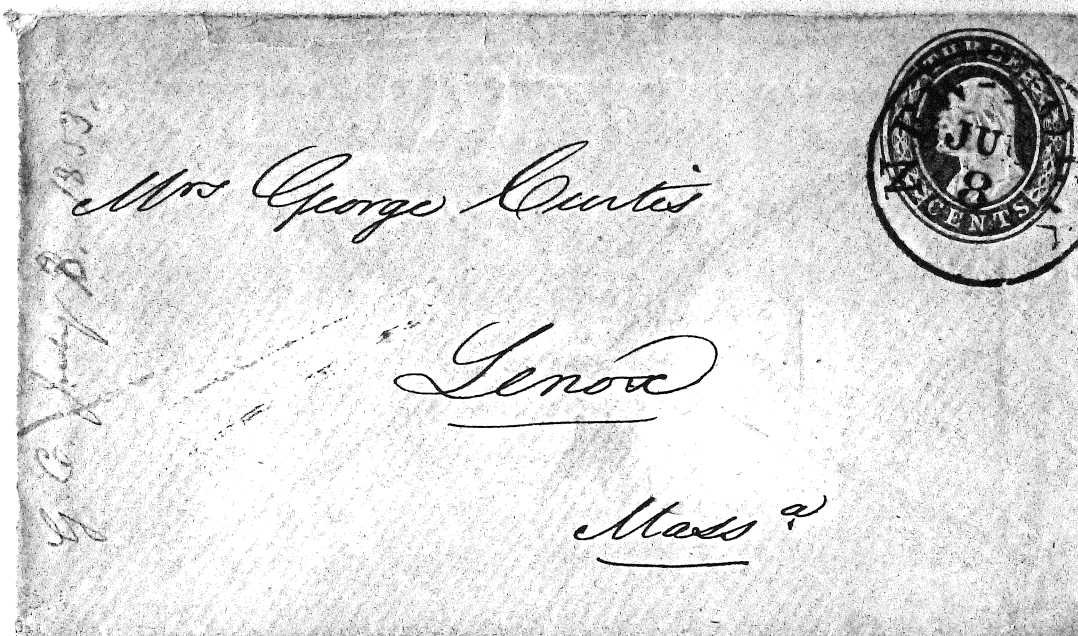
Die 2 Head 1 Type 1
 White Red 1853
 Size 7 (3) Knife 20 (2)
 CDS (R) Boston MA Sept. 5, 3cts
 Black PAID Grill



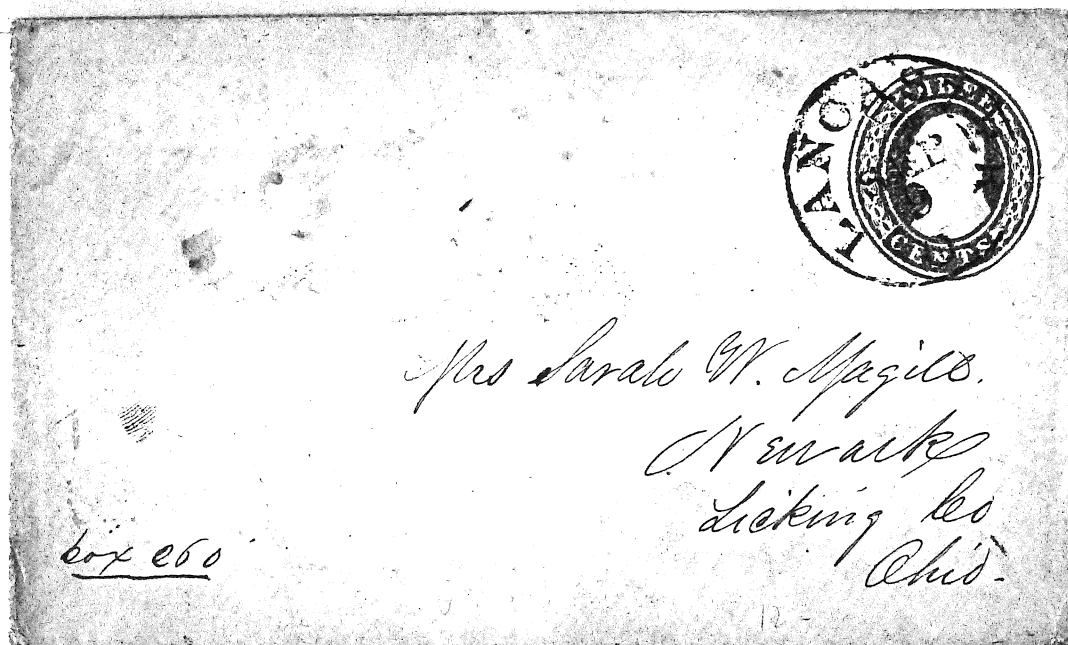
Die 2 Head XI Type 2
 White Red 1853
 Size 7 (3) Knife 20 (2)
 CDS Rome NY Oct. 11 (1853)



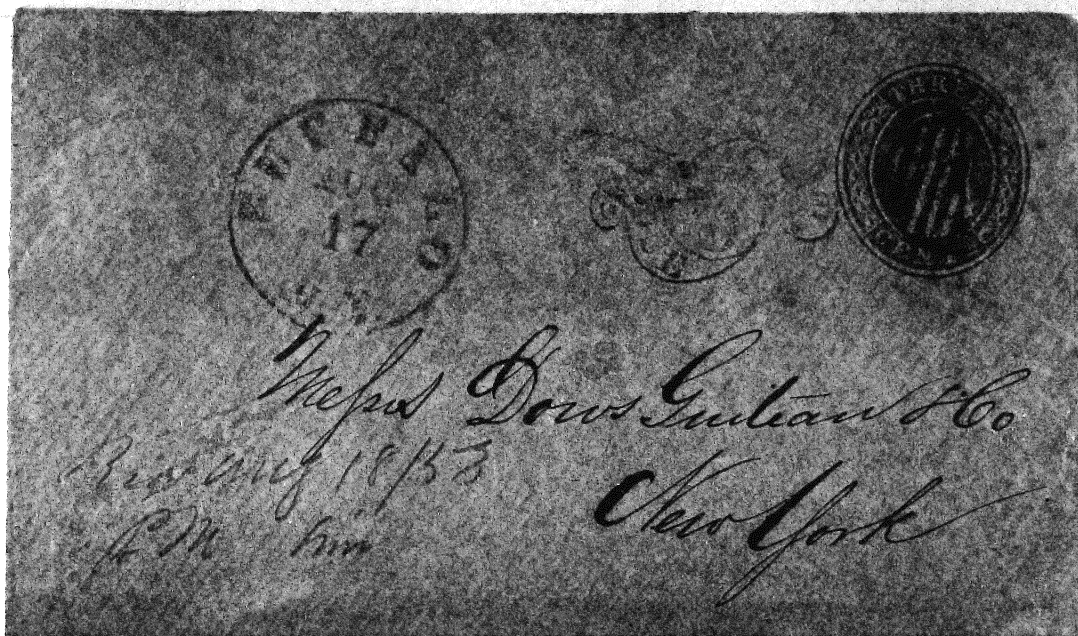
Die 2 Head XI Type 2
 White Red 1853
 Size 7 (3) Knife 20 (2)
 CDS New York NY Oct. 22



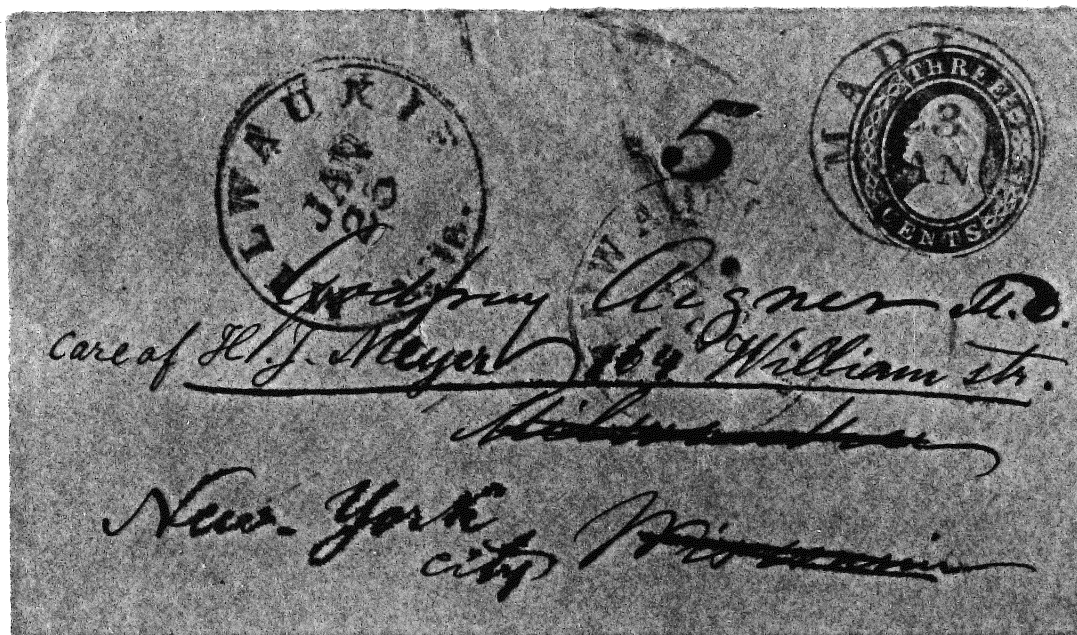
Die 2 Head XII Type 3
 White Red 1853
 Size 7 (3) Knife 20 (2)
 CDS New York NY July 8 (1853)



Die 2 Head XII Type 3
 White Red 1853
 Size 7 Knife 20
 CDS Lancaster O Sept. 9, 1853

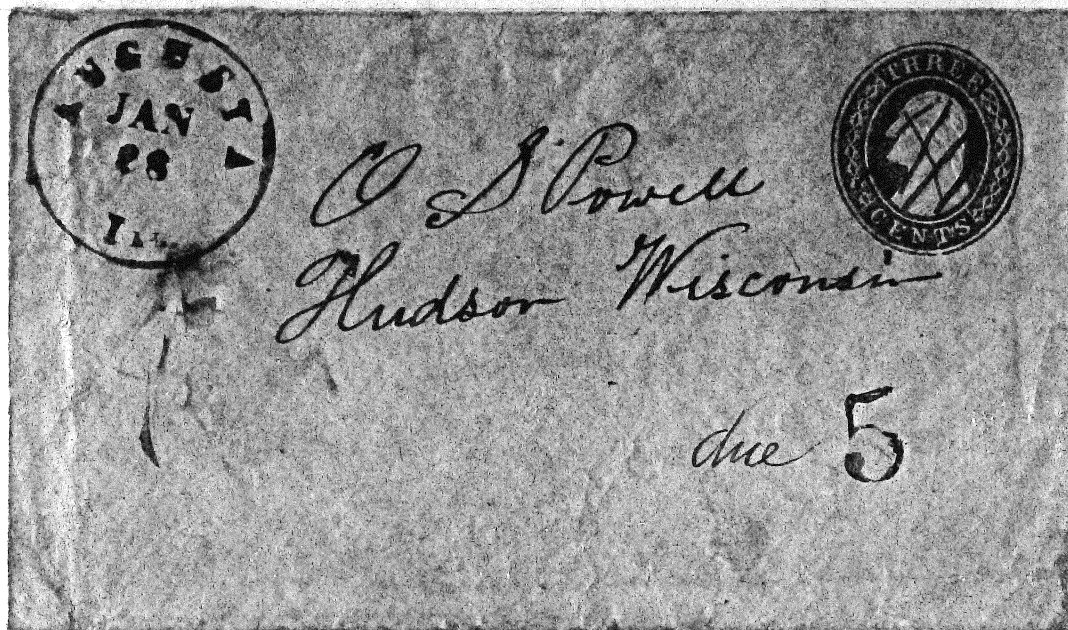


Die 2 Head I Type 1
 Buff Red 1853
 Size 7 (3) Knife 20 (2)
 CDS (B) Buffalo NY Aug.17
 (B) 5 cts. DUE

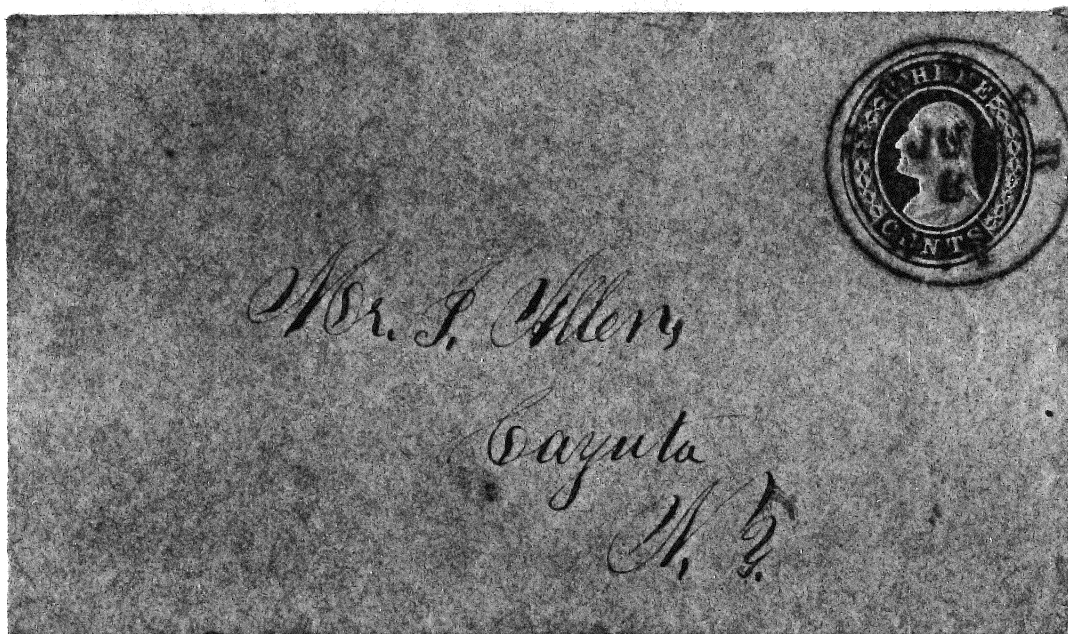


Die 2 Head XI Type 2
 Buff Red 1853
 Size 7 (3) Knife 20 (2)
 CDS (B) Madison WI Jan.23
 Rcd.Milwaukie WI Jan.25,5 DUE

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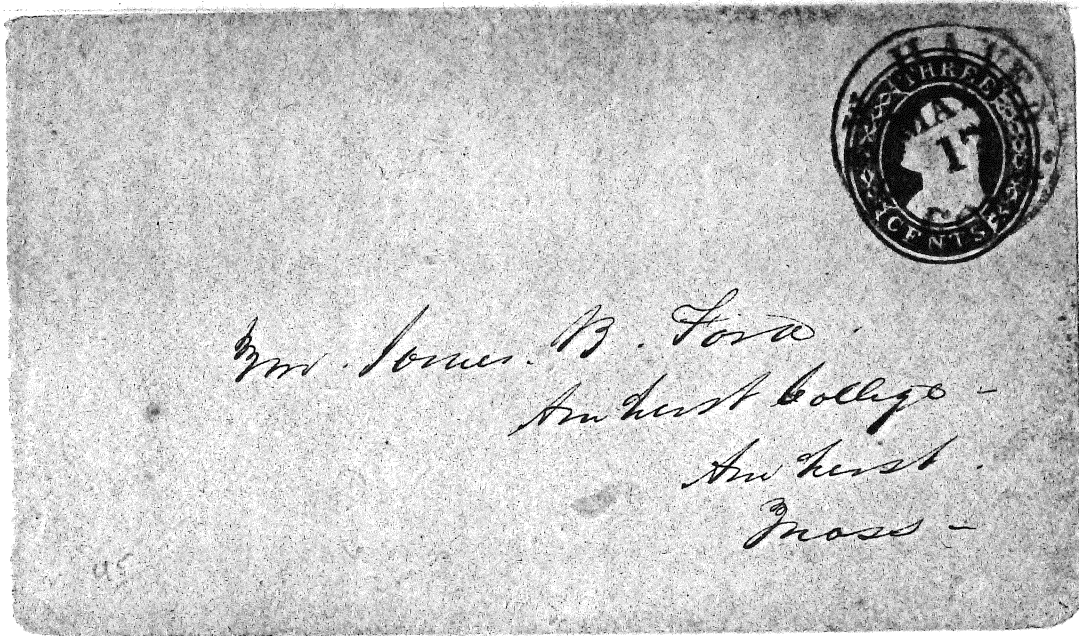


Die 2 Head XI Type 2
 Buff Red 1853
 Size 7 (3) Knife 20 (2)
 CDS Augusta IL Jan.28, 5 DUE

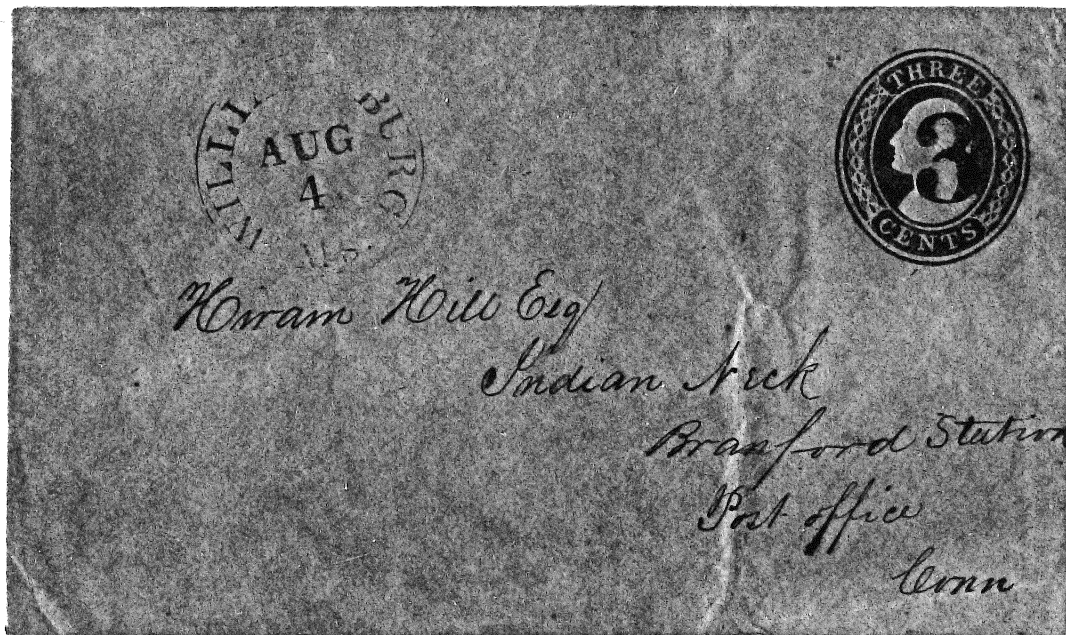


Die 2 Head XII Type 3
 Buff Red 1853
 Size 7 (3) Knife 20 (2)
 CDS Homer NY June 8

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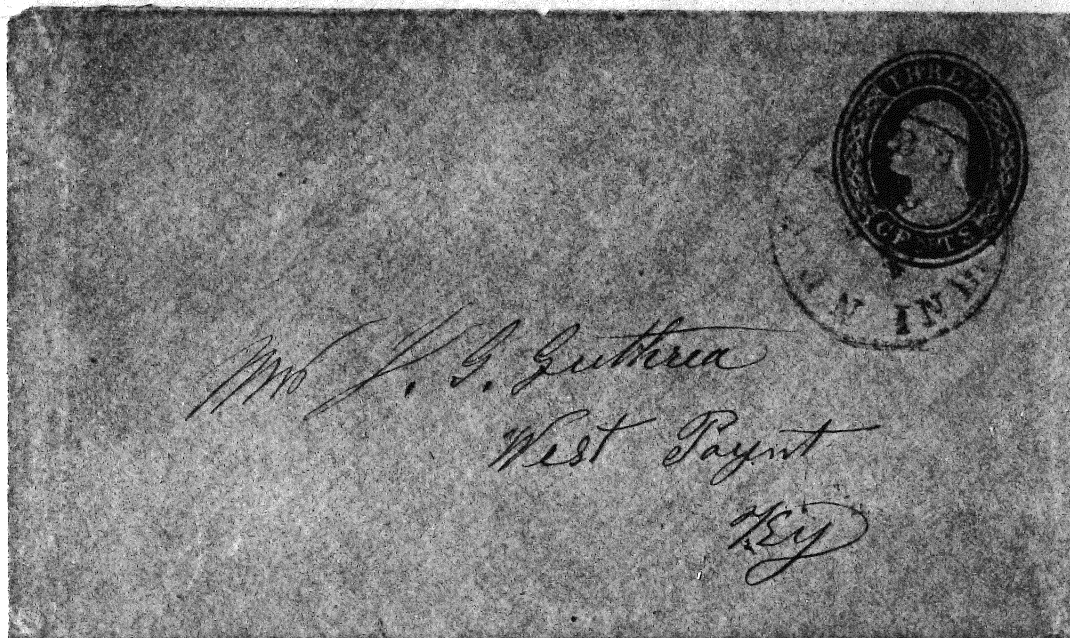


Die 3 Head XIII Type 1
 White Red 1853
 Size 7 Knife 20
 CDS NEW HAVEN CONN. May 17



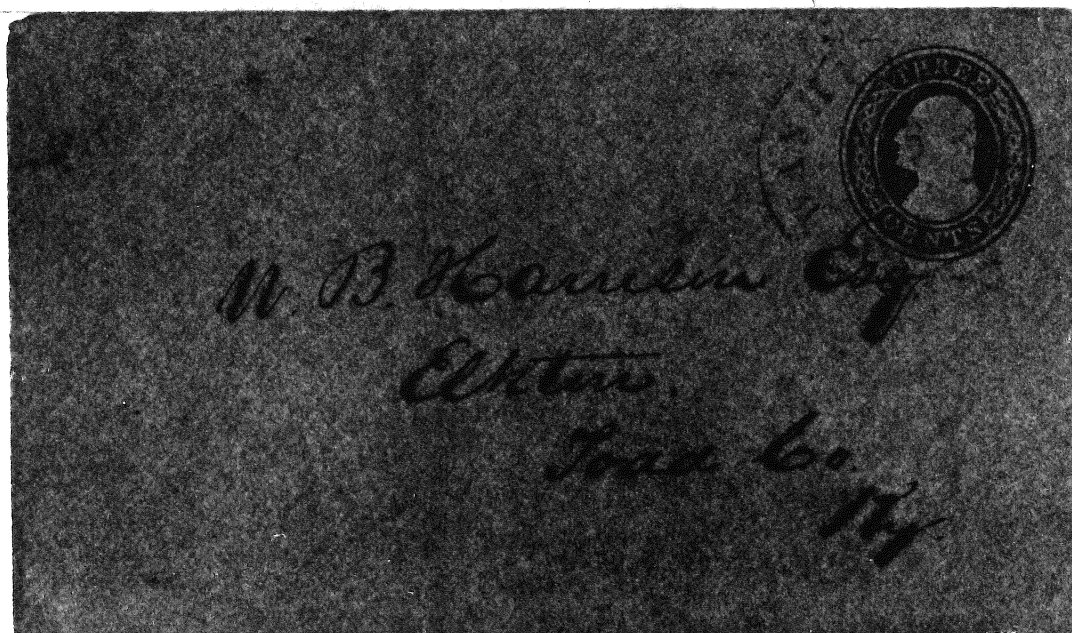
Die 3 Head XIII Type 1
 Buff Red 1853
 Size 7 Knife 20
 CDS WILLIAMSBURG Ms. Aug. 4 (3)

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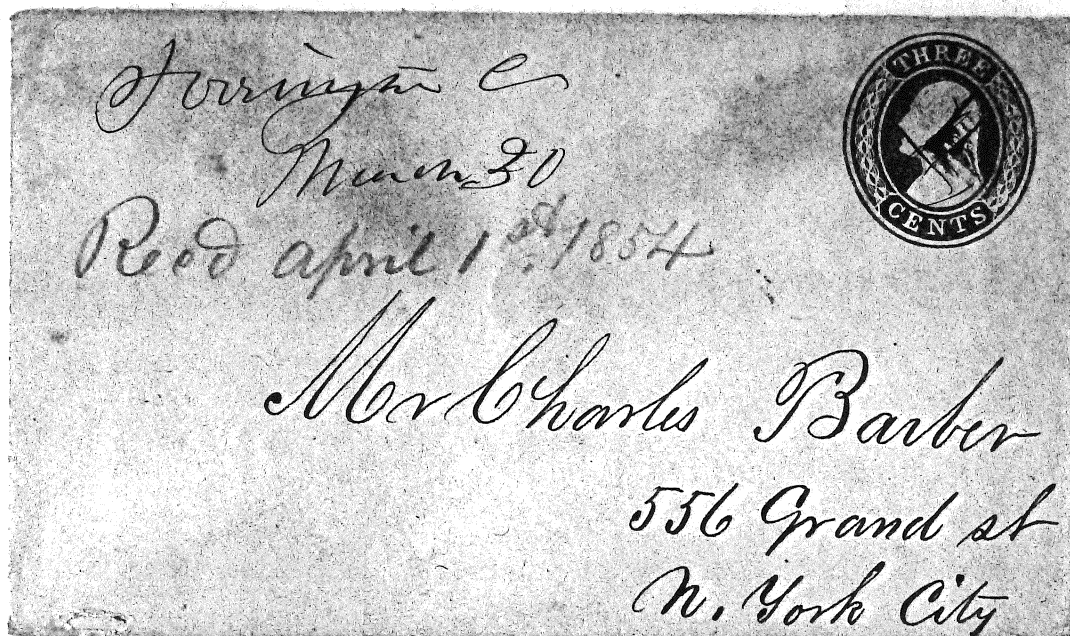


Die 3 Head XIII Type 1
 Buff Red 1853
 Size 7 (3) Knife 20 (2)
 CDS New Albany IN July 19

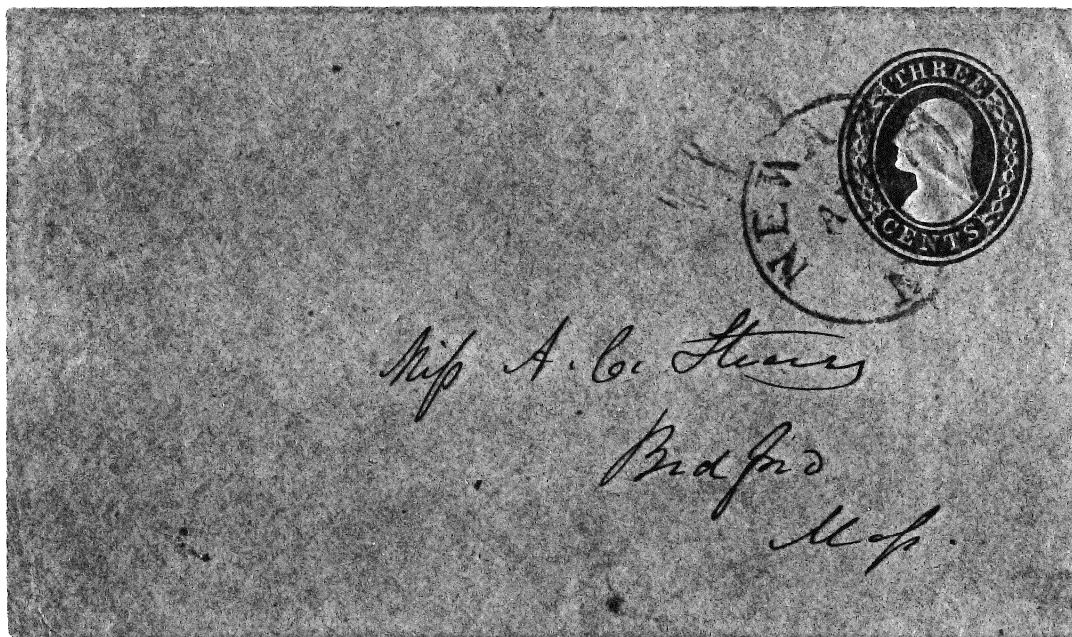
C of CENTS is low



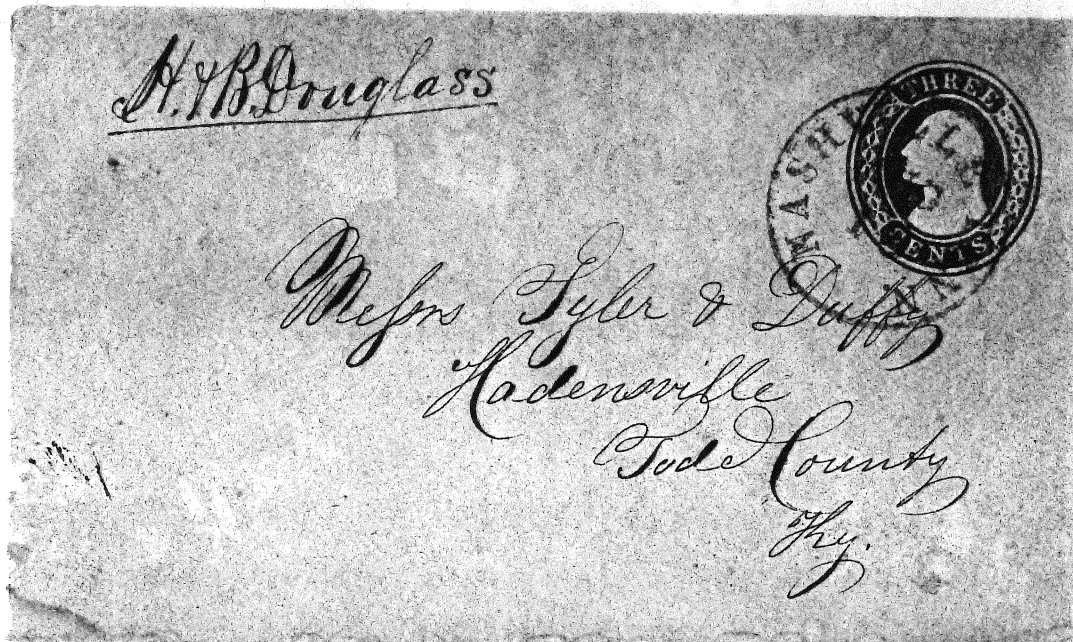
Die 3 Head XIII Type 1
 Buff Red 1853
 Size 7 (3) Knife 20 (2)
 CDS Washington DC Apr. 8



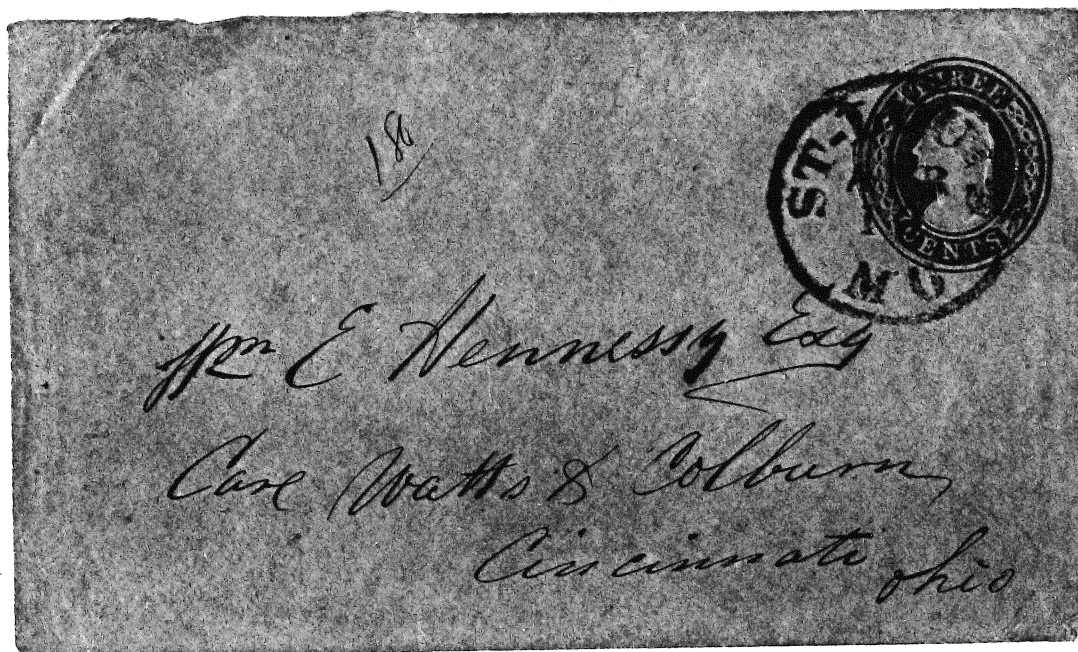
Die 3 Head XIV Type 2
 White Red 1853
 Size 7 Knife 20
 Ms.: Torrington Ct March 30 (1854)



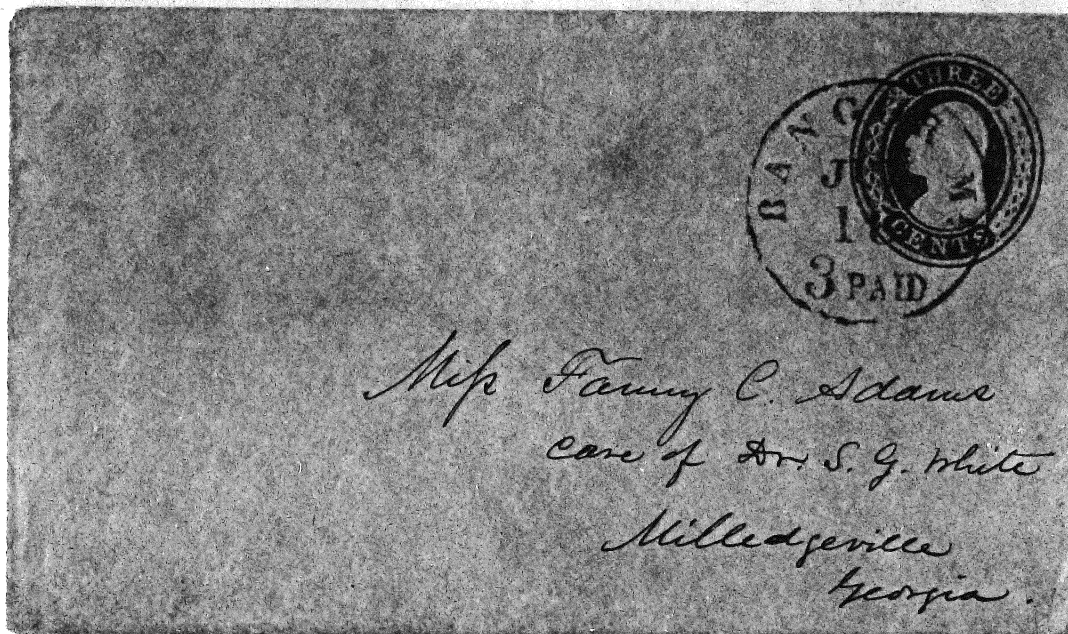
Die 3 Head XIV Type 2
 Buff Red 1853
 Size 7 Knife 20
 CDS NEWARK NJ APR 7



Die 3 Head XIV Type 2
 White Red 1853
 Size 7 Knife 20
 CDS Blue NASHVILLE TENN. Aug. 19

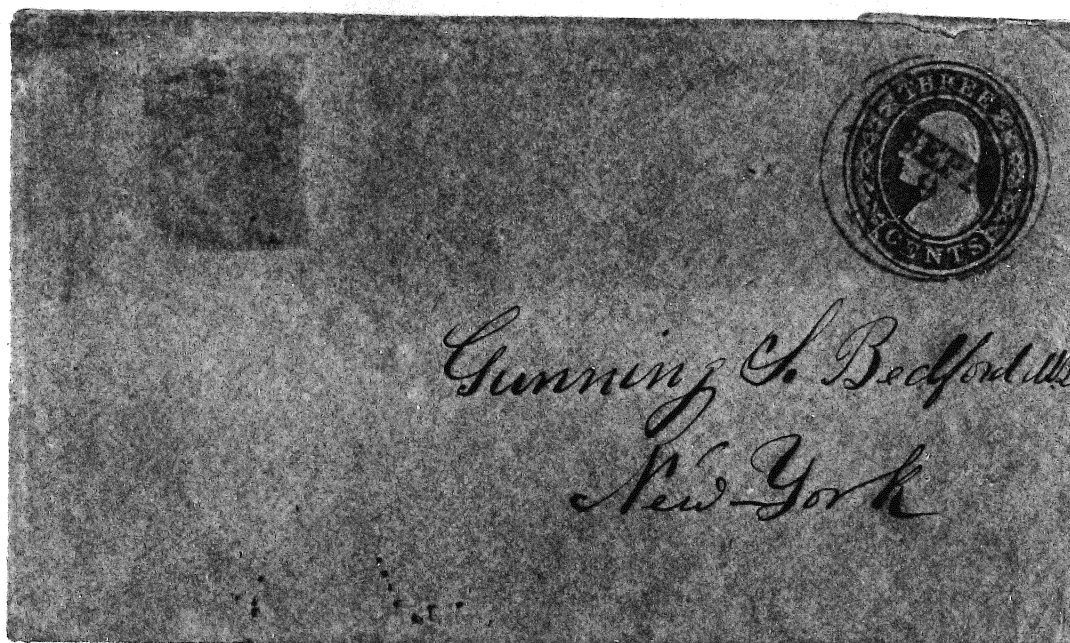


Die 3 Head XIV Type 2
 Buff Red 1853
 Size 7 Knife 20
 CDS ST-LOUIS MO APR 10
 DOUBLE IMPRESSION 1 uninked

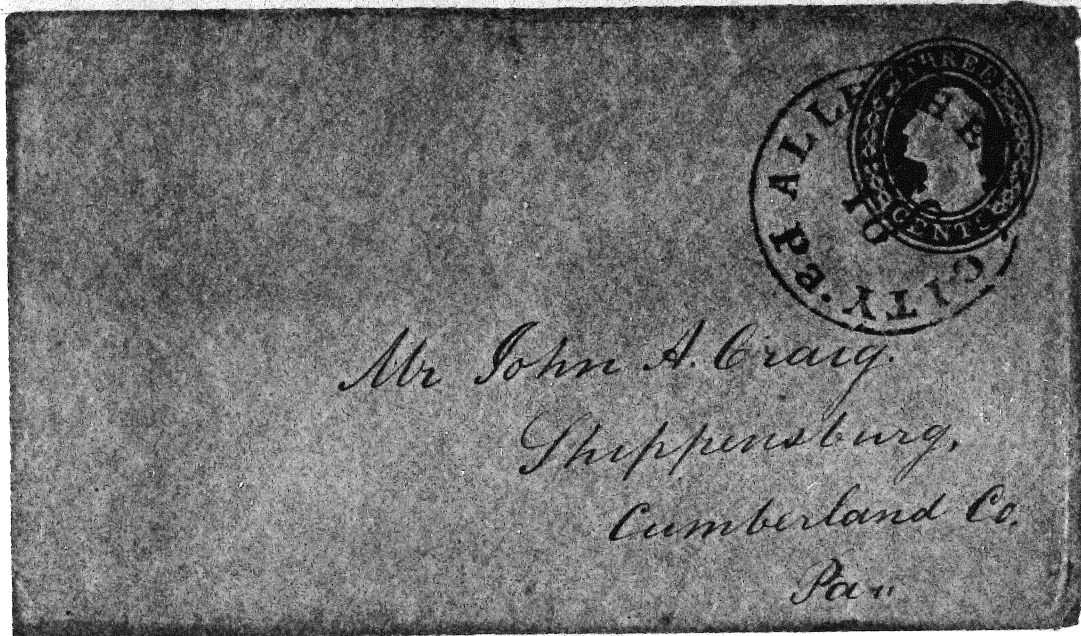


Die 3 Head XIV Type 2
 Buff Red 1853
 Size 7 (3) Knife 20 (2)
 CDS Bangor ME June 18
 3 PAID

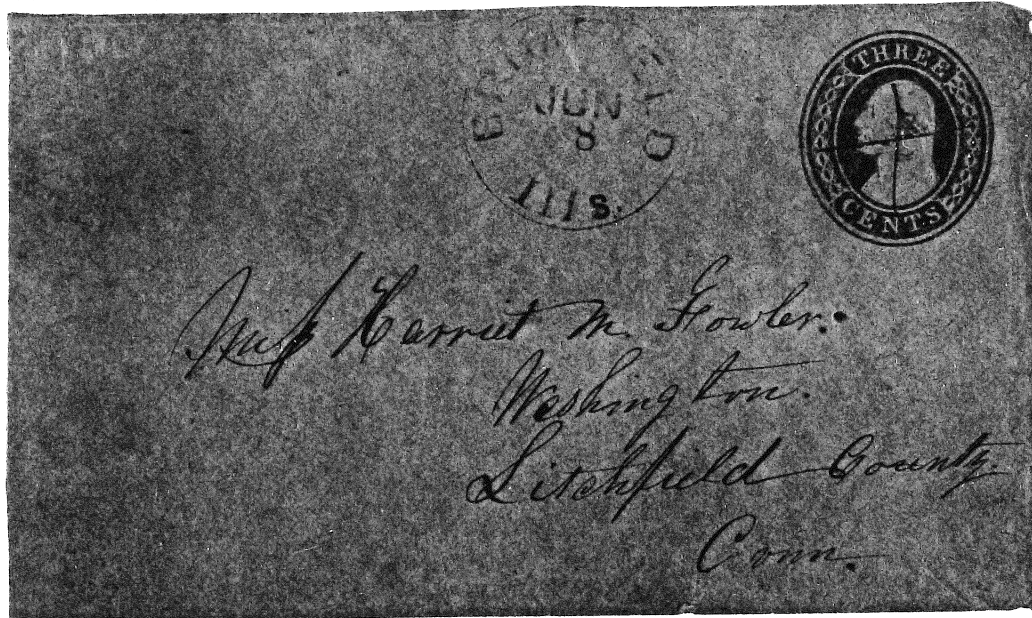
C of CENTS is high



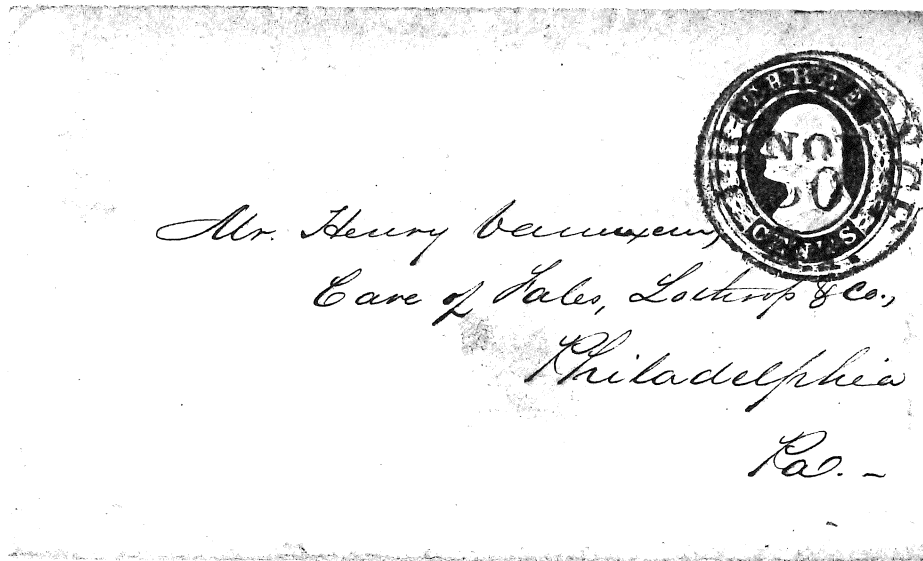
Die 3 Head XIV Type 2
 Buff Red 1853
 Size 7 (3) Knife 20 (2)
 CDS (B) Meridian NY Sept. 9



Die 3 Head XIV Type 2
 Buff REd 1853
 Size 7 (3) Knife 20 (2)
 CDS Allegheny City PA Dec.16

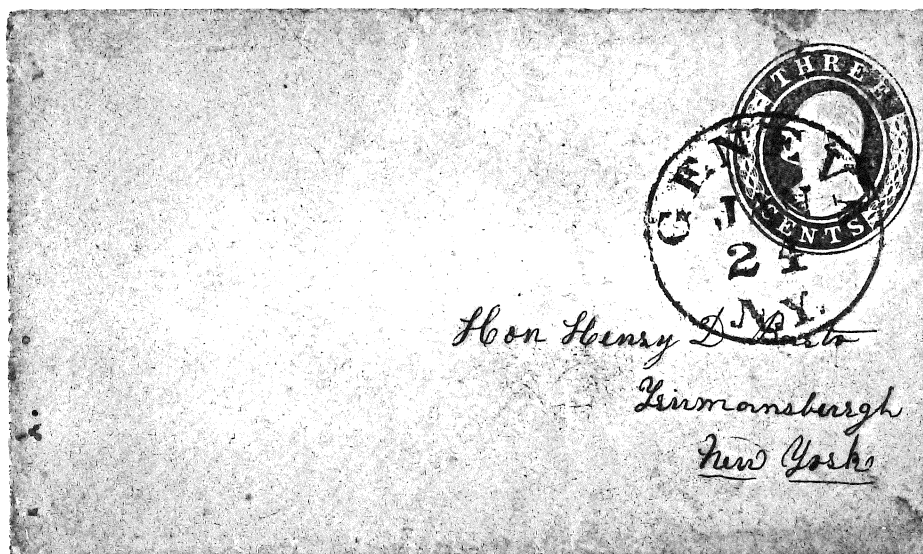


Die 3 Head XIV Type 2
 Buff Red 1853
 Size 7 (3) Knife 20 (2)
 CDS Brimfield IL June 8

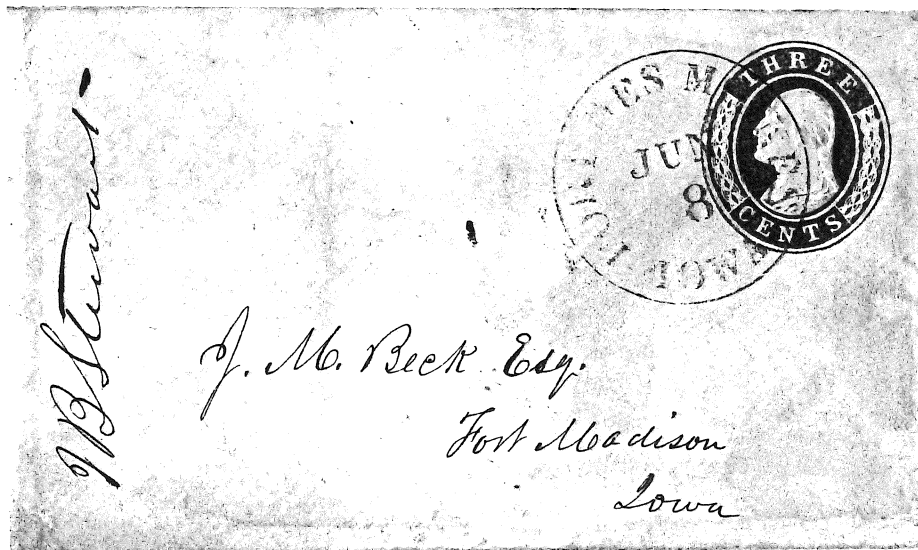


Die 4 Head 1
White Red 1853
Size 2 (1) Knife 2 (1)
CDS Providence RI Nov.30

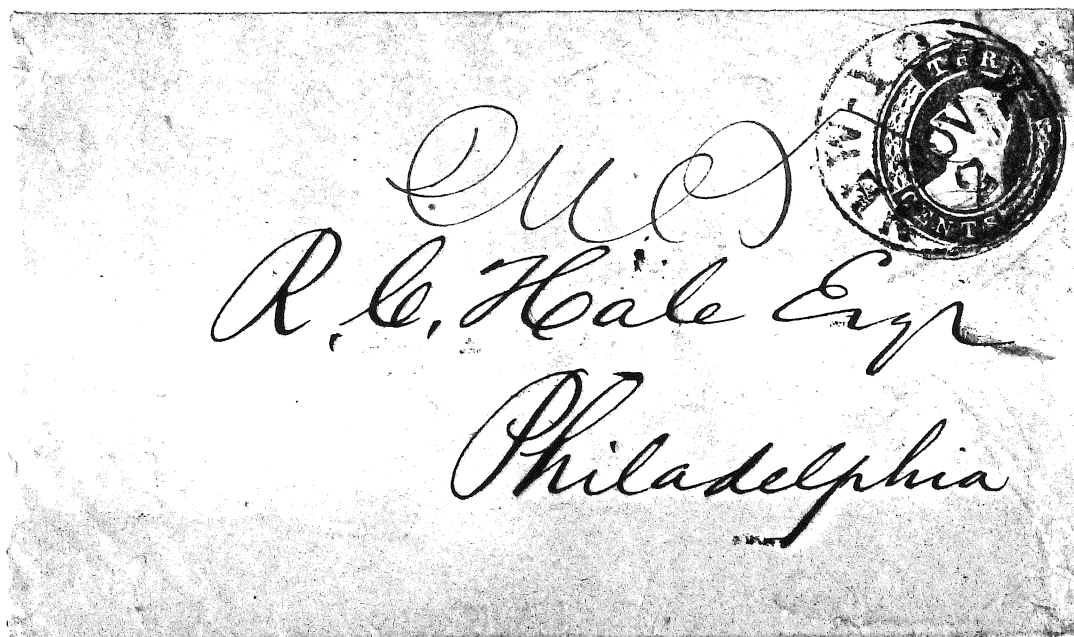
THREE in wide label
(25mm.) with straight
ends



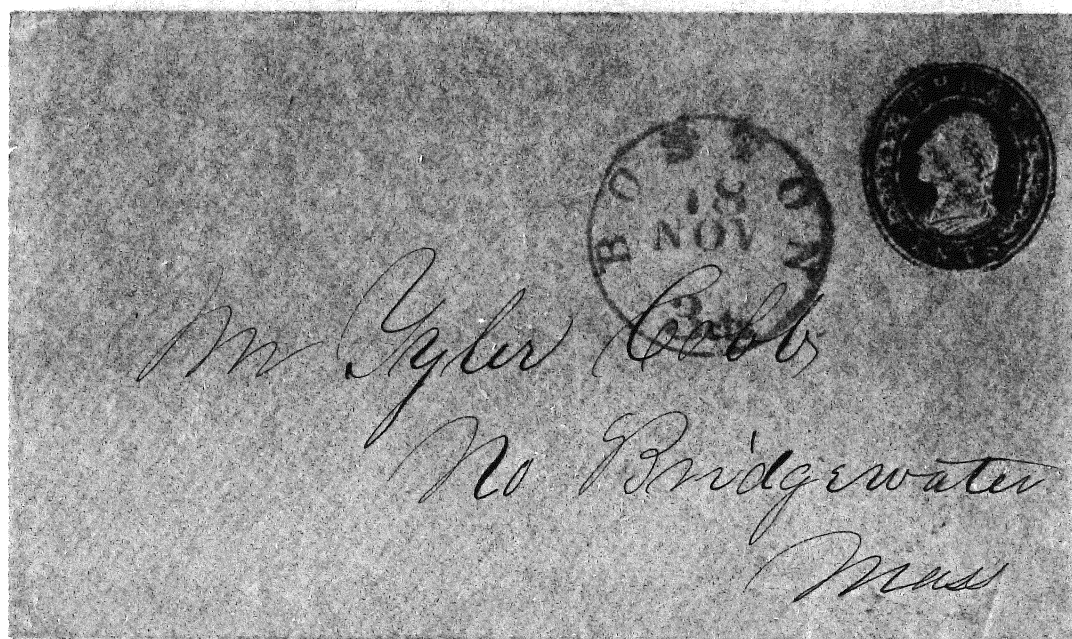
Die 4 Head 1
White Red 1853
Size 2 (1) Knife 2 (1)
CDS Geneva New York June 24



Die 4		Head 1
White	Red	1853
Size 2		Knife 2
CDS FORT DES MOINES IOWA. JUN 8		



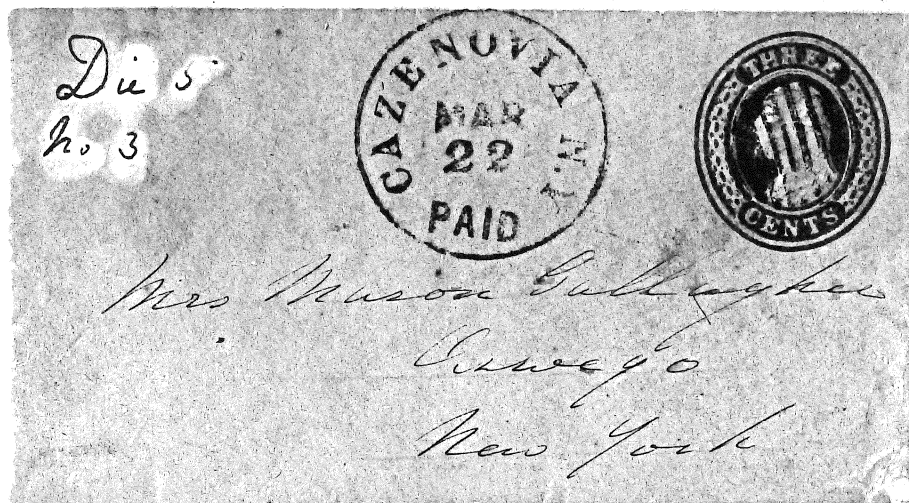
Die 4		Head 1
White	Red	1853
Size 7		Knife 20
CDS NEW-YORK Nov. 2 DUE 5		



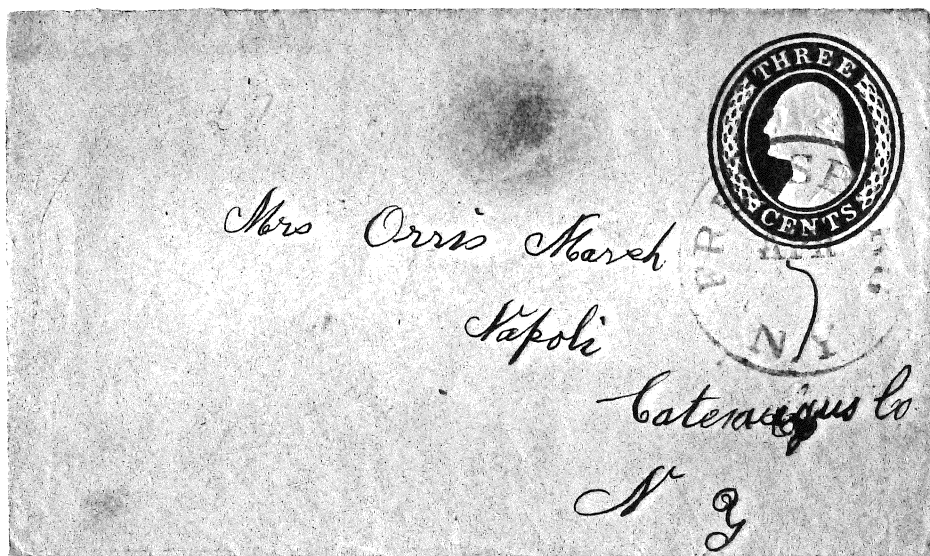
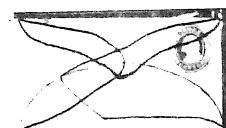
Die 4 Head 1
 Buff Deep Red 1853
 Size 7 (3) Knife 20 (2)
 CDS (R) Boston 3cts Nov.18



Die 4 Head 1
 Buff Red 1853
 Size 7 (3) Knife 20 (2)
 CDS Memphis TENN Jan. 4



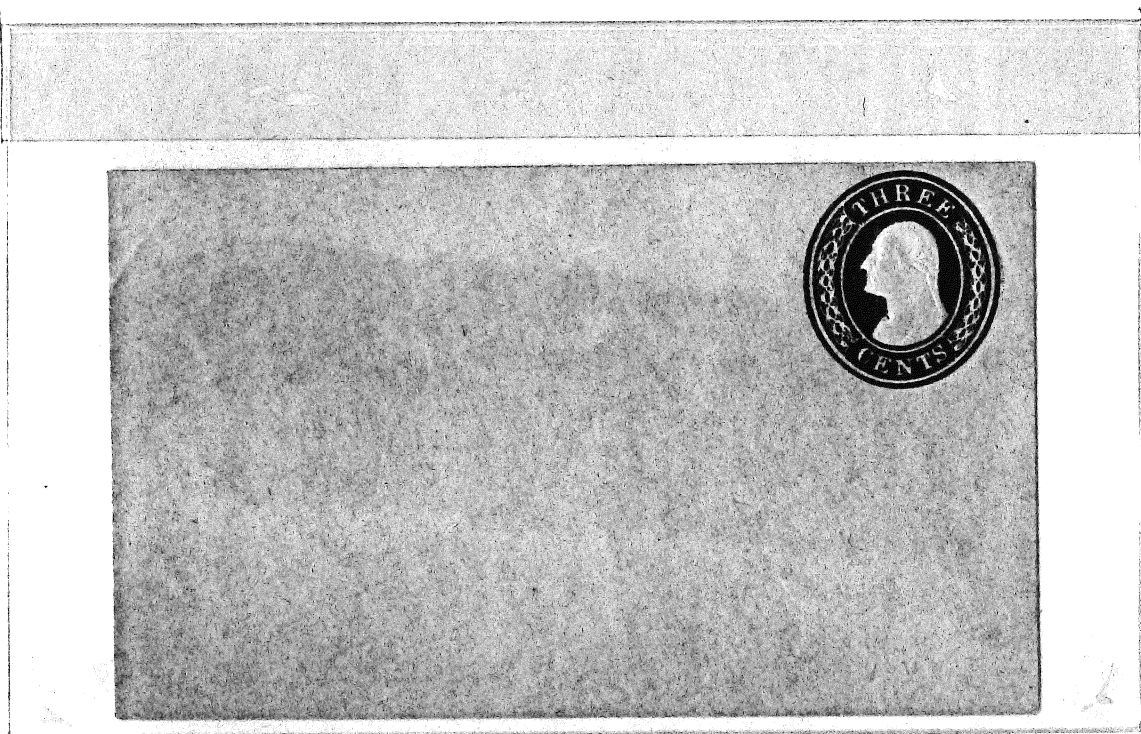
Die 5	Head XV	Type 29
White	Red	1853
Size 1		Knife 1
CDS CAZENOVIA	NY	MAR 22 PAID



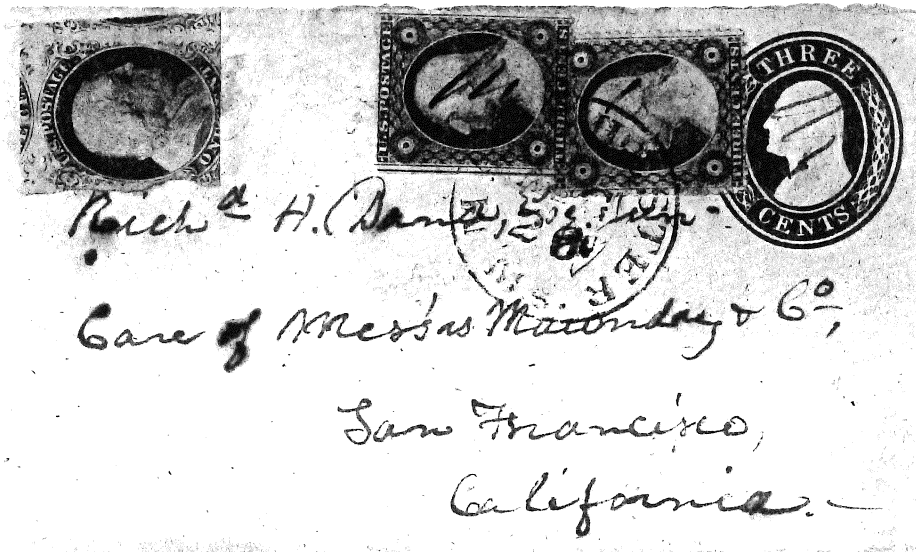
Die 5	Head XV	Type 4
White	Red	1853
Size 2		Knife 2
CDS FREWSBURG	NY	APR



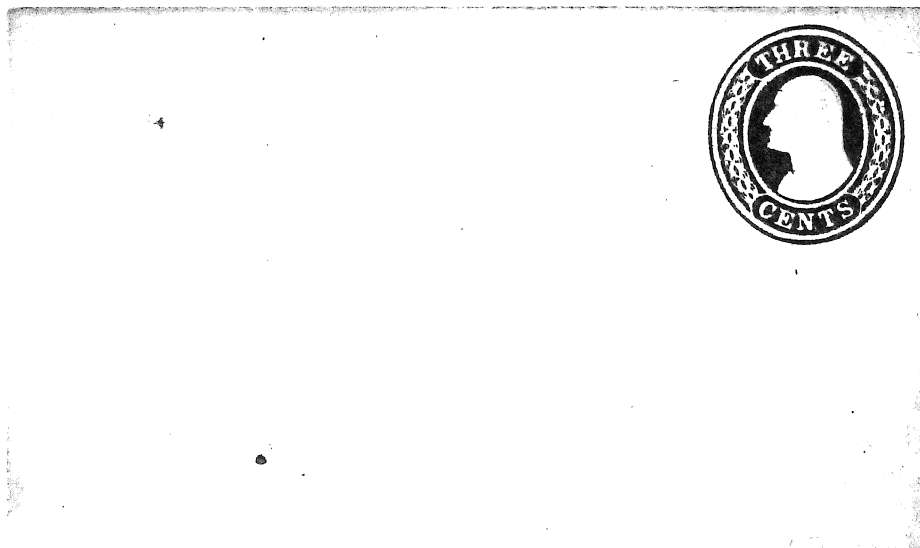
Die 5 Head XV Type 10
White Red 1853
Size 2 (1) Knife 2 (1)
CDS Frankfort KY Aug.26



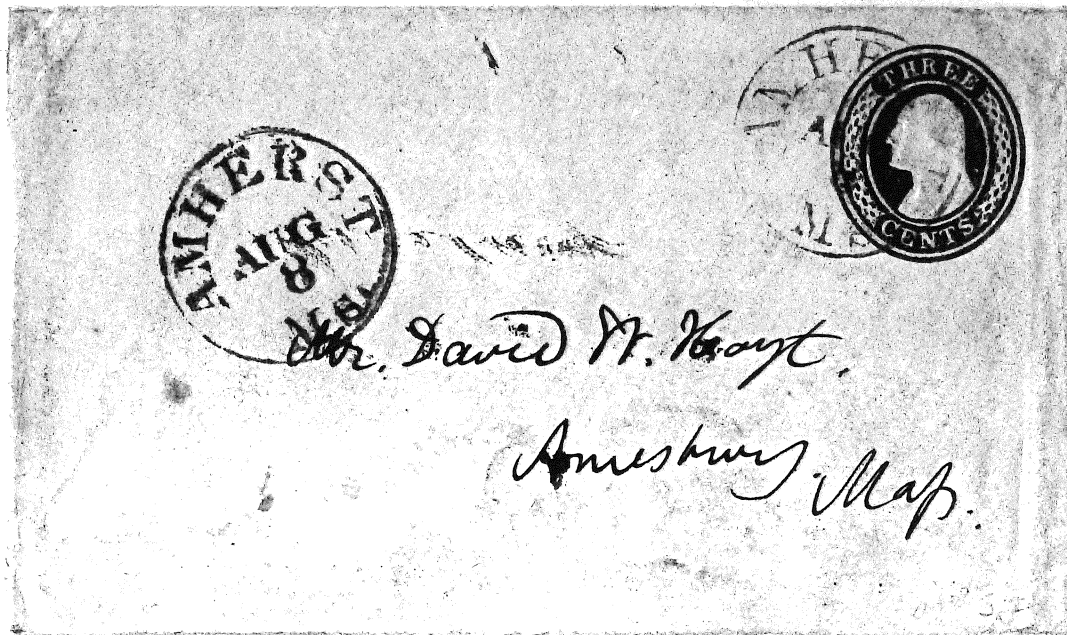
Die 5 Head XV Type 16
White Red 1853
Size 2 (1) Knife 2 (1)



Die 5 Group 2 Head XV Type 16
 White Red 1853
 Size 2 Knife 2
 CDS MANCHESTER Ms. Aug. 28
 Add.Fr.: #9 / # 26 X 2



Die 5 Group 2 Head XV Type 29
 White Red 1853
 Size 2 (1) Knife 2 (1)

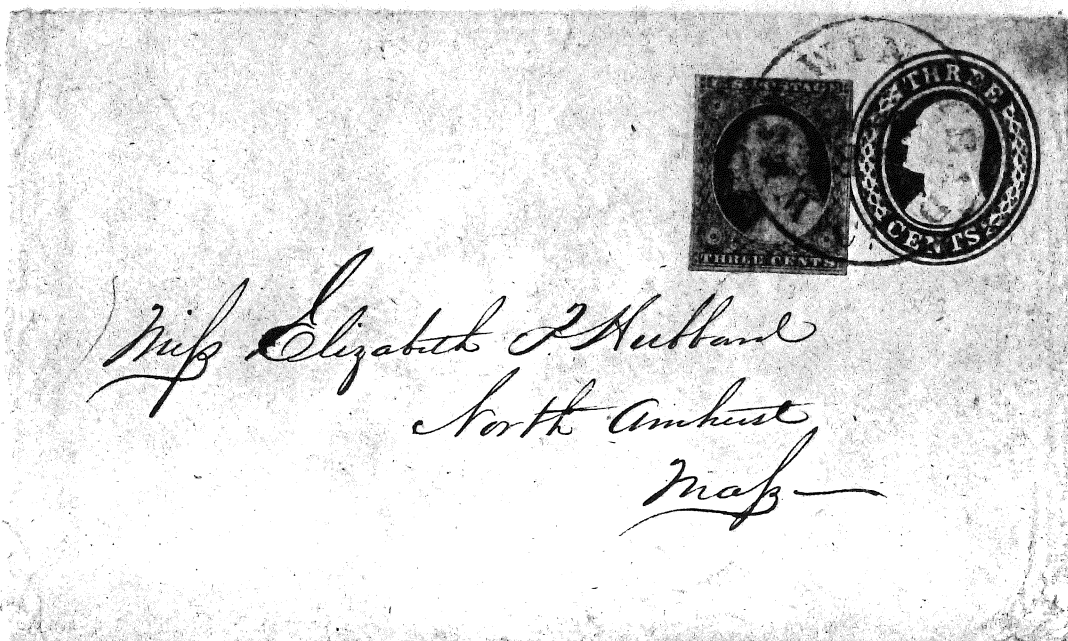


Die 5 Group 1 Head XV Type 1
White Red 1853
Size 7 (3) Knife 20 (2)
CDS Amherst MA (G) Aug.8(1854)

TH of three widely spaced
HR high & near, RE wide at top
C of cents large, NT wide, S high

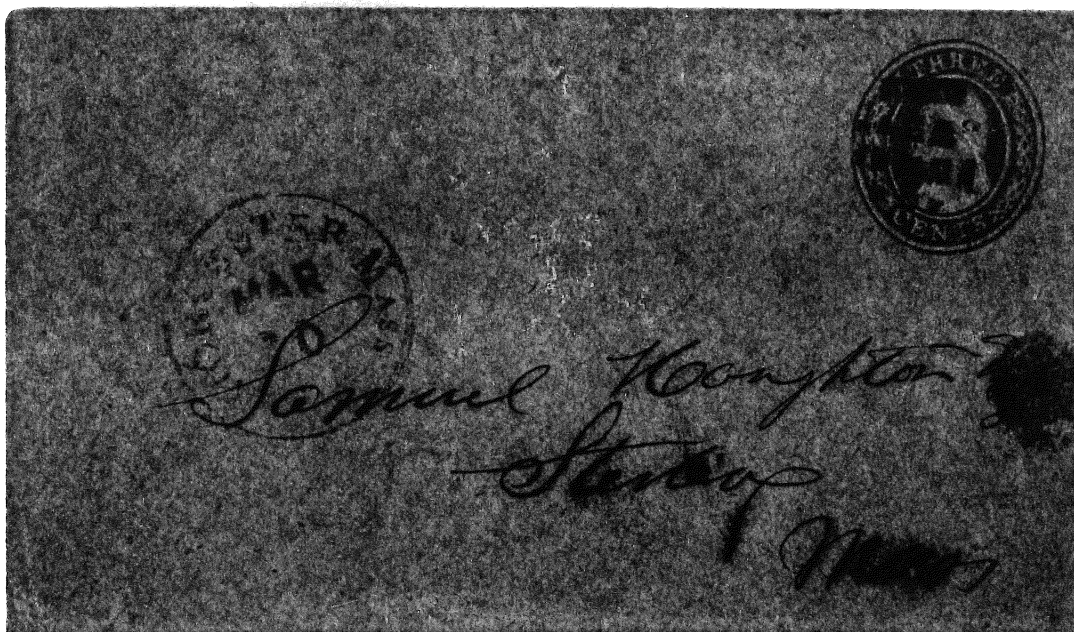


Die 5, Group 1, Head XV Type 1
Buff Red 1853
Size 7 (3) Knife 20 (2)
CDS Tuscaloosa AL Dec. 4

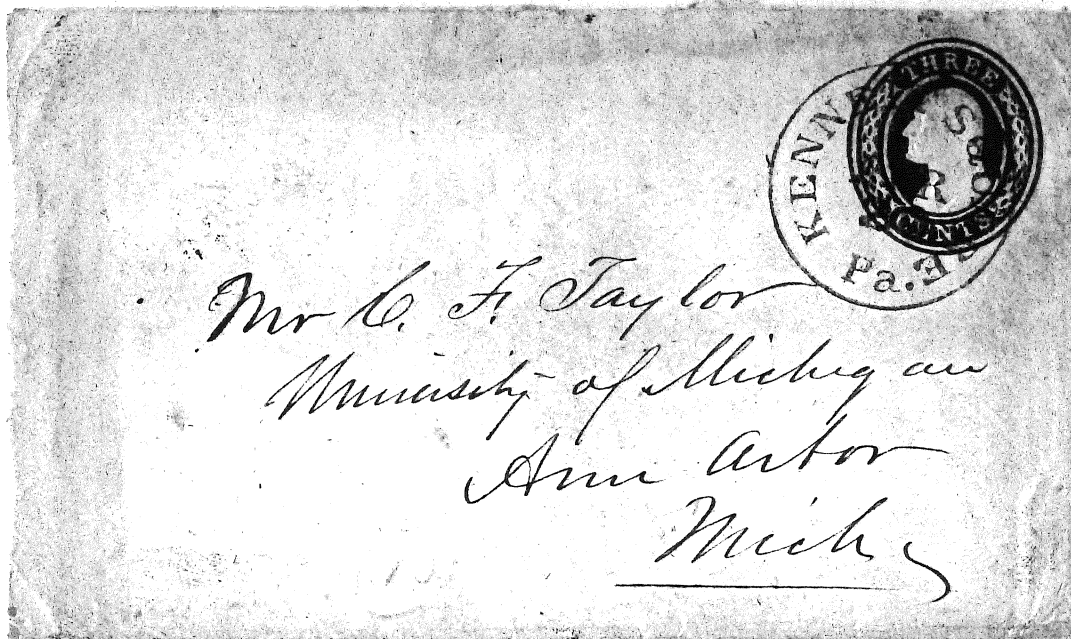


Die 5 Gp. 1 Head XV Type 2
 White Red 1853
 Size 7 (3) Knife 20 (2)
 CDS WEST WINSTEAD Ct Apr 30
 Add. Fr.: # 11

T of three near curve
 C of cents large, CE wide
 NT wide, S high

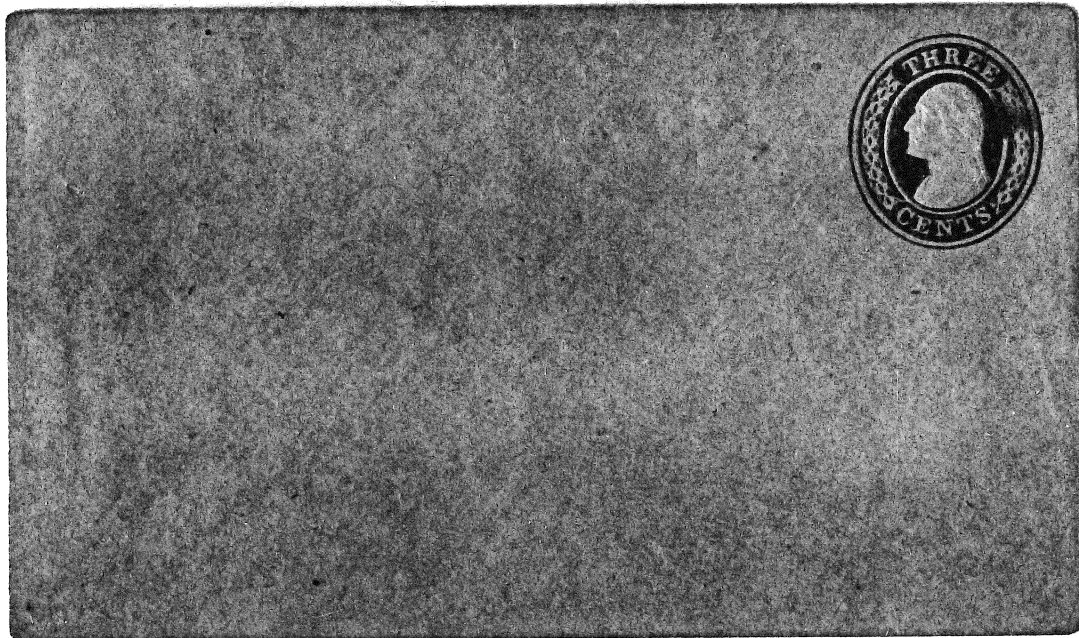


Die 5 Gp.1 Head XV Type 2
 Buff Red 1853
 Size 7 (3) Knife 20 (2)
 CDS Worcester MA Mar.20

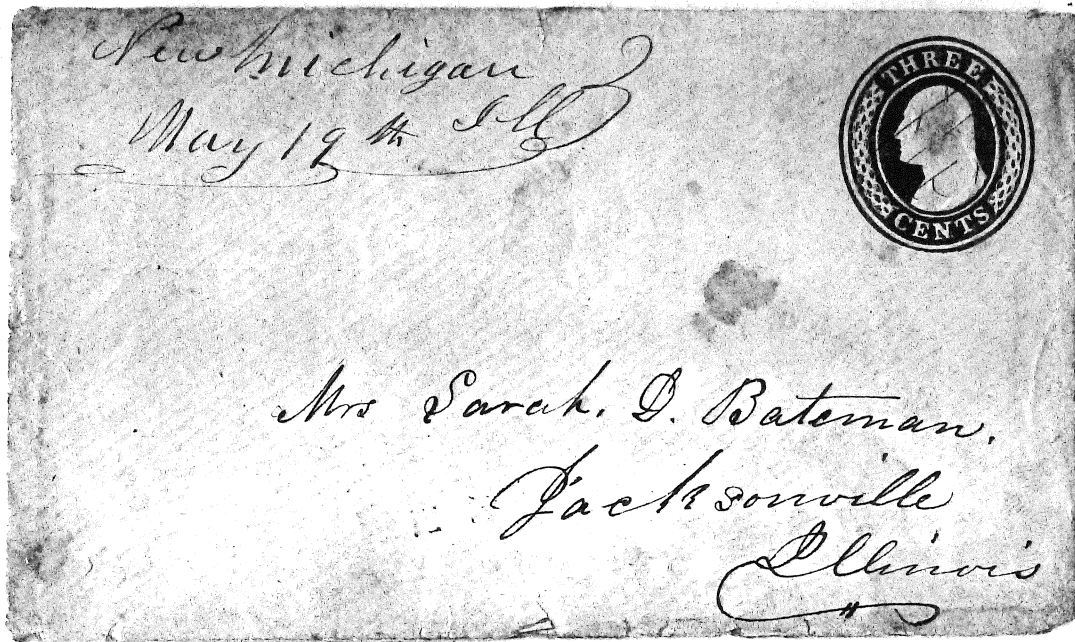


Die 5 Gp.1 Head XV Type 3
White Red 1853
Size 7 (3) Knife 20 (2)
CDS Kennett Square PA Apr.20

THREE well centered & spaced
T far from curve, R leans right
C low, EN close

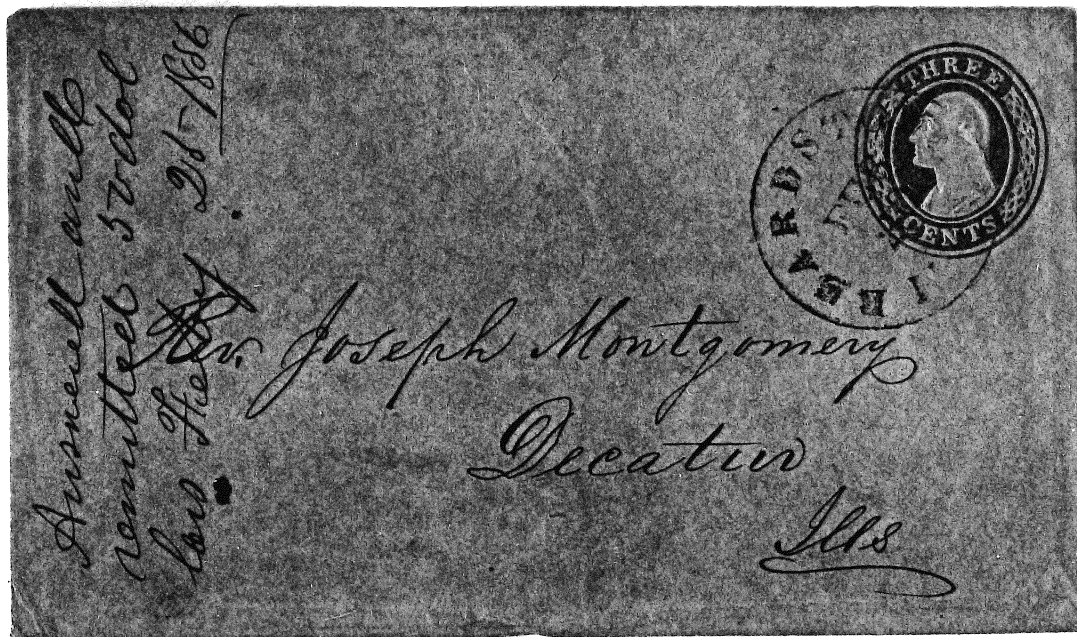


Die 5 Gp.1 Head XV Type 3
Buff RED 1853
Size 7 Knife 20

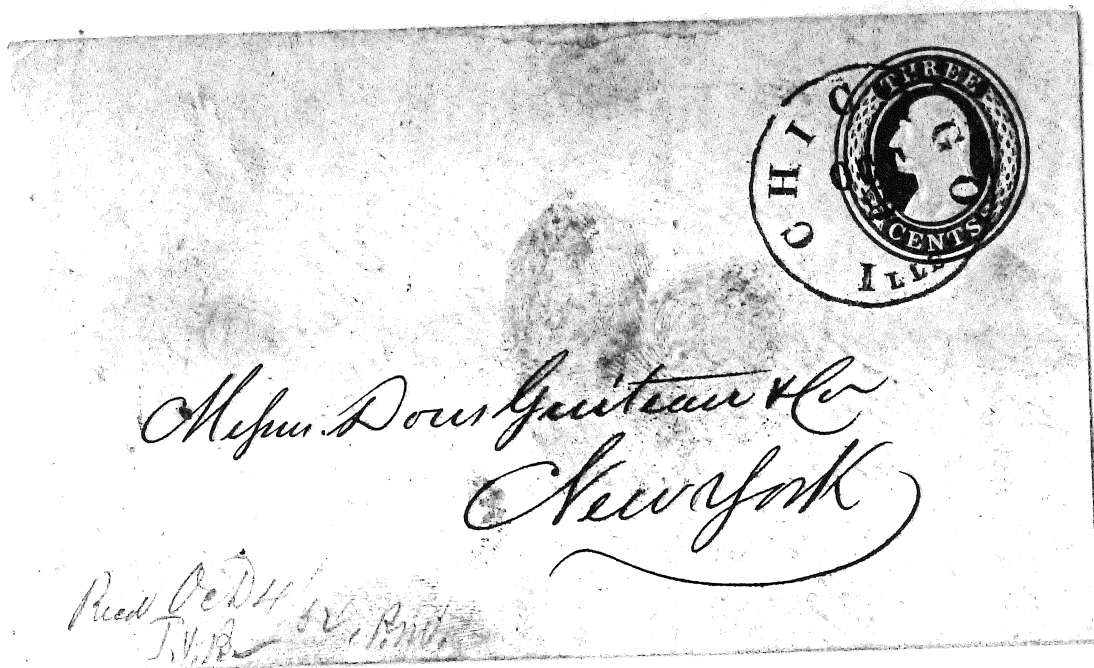


Die 5 Gp.1 Head XV Type 4
White Red 1853
Size 7 (3) Knife 20 (2)
MS New Michigan IL May 12 (1855)

T of three low, RE wide
EE wide, Lower left curve
falls away, N tall, NT wide

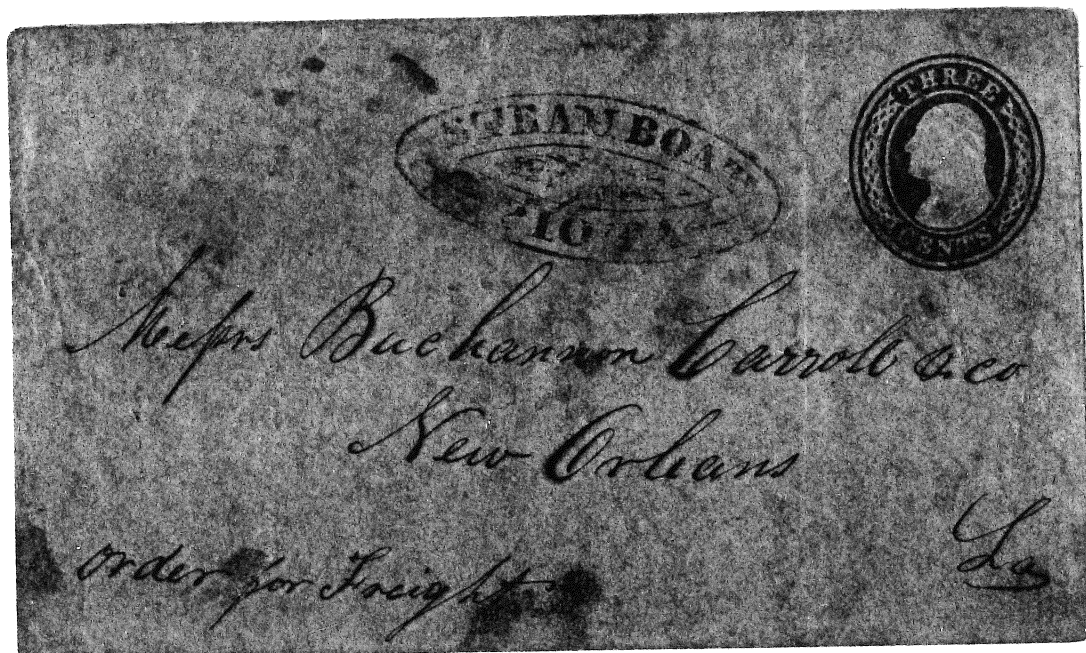


Die 5 Gp.1 Head XV Type 4
Buff Red 1853
Size 7 (3) Knife 20 (2)
CDS Beardstown Il Feb.20 (1856)



Die 5 Gp.1 Head XV Type 5
 White Red 1853
 Size 7 (3) Knife 20 (2)
 CDS Chicago Ills Oct. 2 (1854)

T of THREE low and parallel
 RU curve flattened and blurred
 EN close, NT far

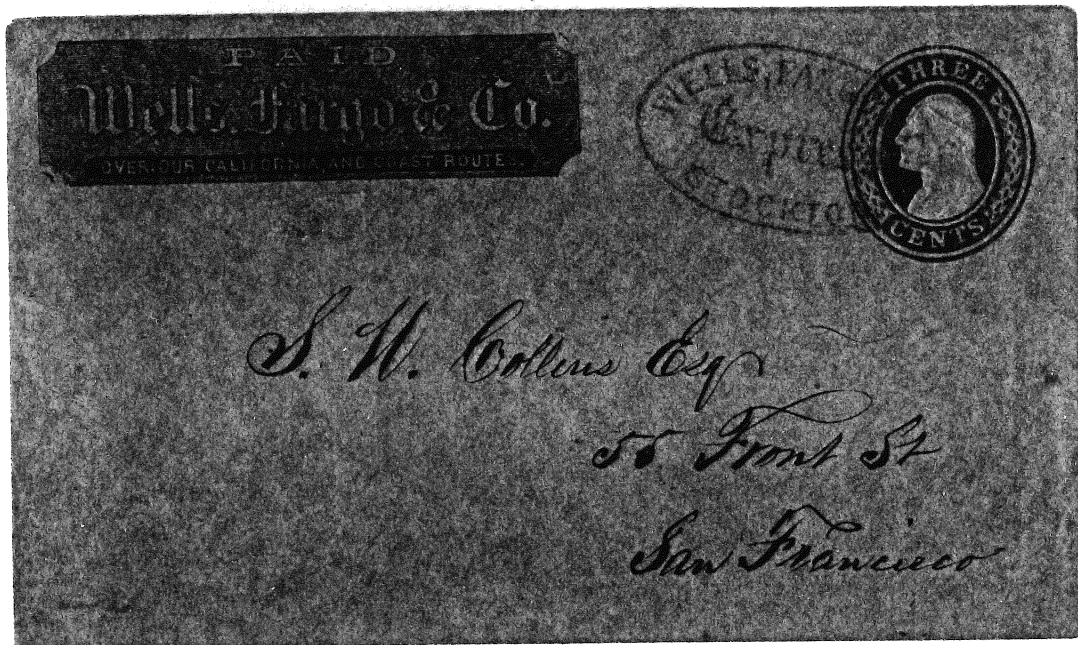


Die 5 Gp. 1 Head XV Type 5
 Buff Red 1853
 Size 7 Knife 20
 OS (B_G) STEAMBOAT PIOTA

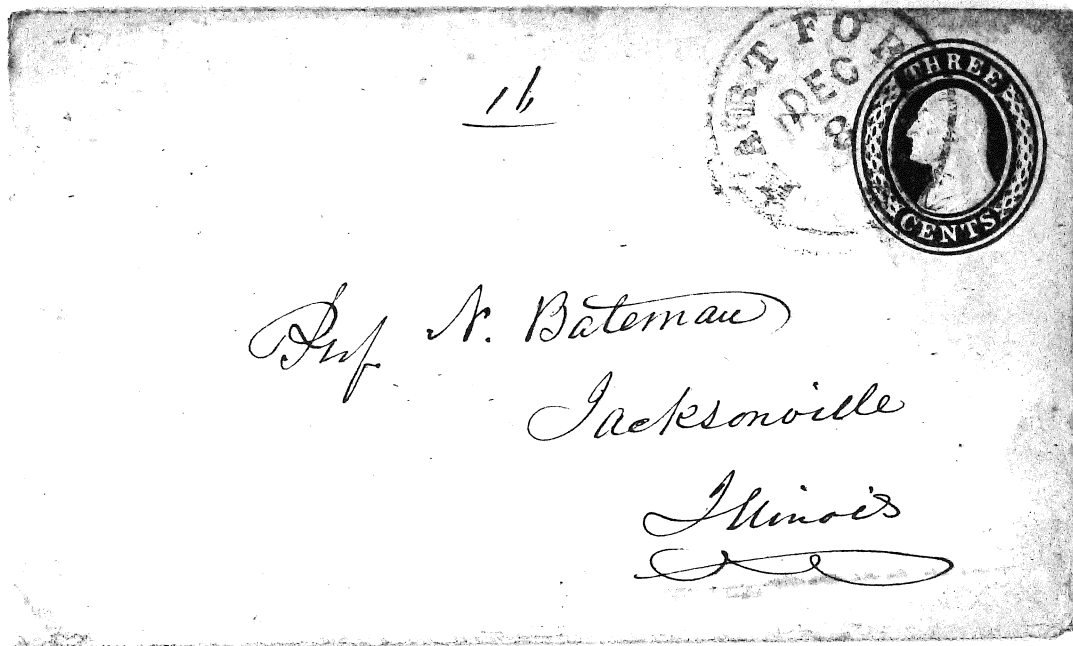


Die 5 Gp.1 Head XV Type 5A
White Red 1853
Size 7 (3) Knife 20 (2)
CDS --oia NY Jan.1-

CE of cents wide at base
NTS high with N above T

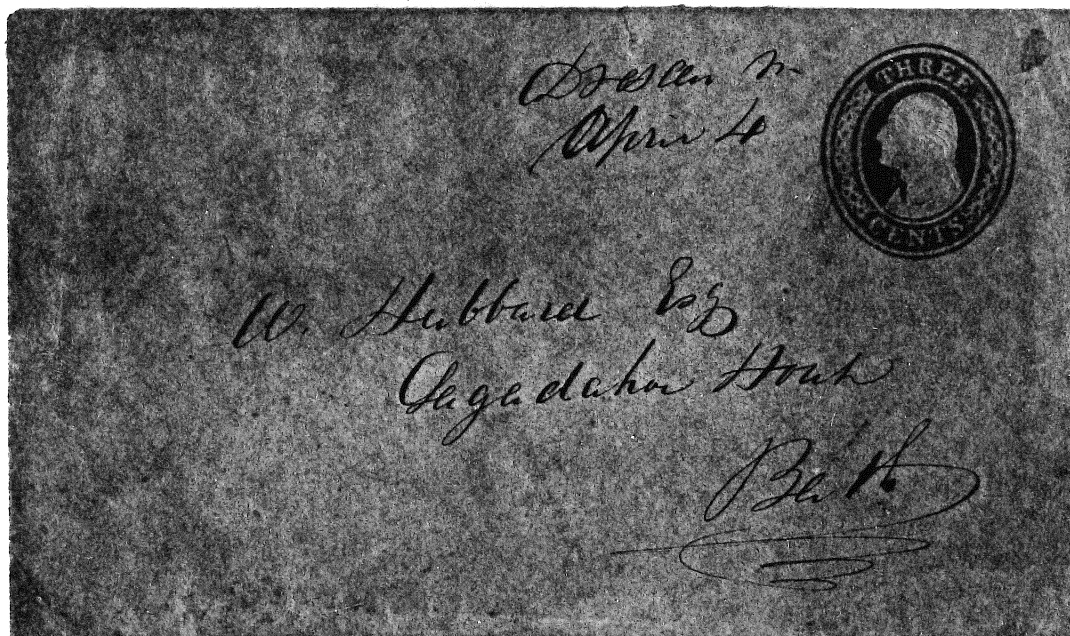


Die 5 Gp.1 Head XV Type 5A
Buff Red 1853
Size 7 (3) Knife 20 (2)
Oval (B) WF Stockton
Fr. WF Type 5 , Upper Left



Die 5 Gp. 1 Head XV Type 6
 White Red 1853
 Size 7 (3) Knife 20 (2)
 CDS Hartford CT Dec. 8 (1858)

T of three below H
 H slopes left, N large
 ENT of cents malaligned

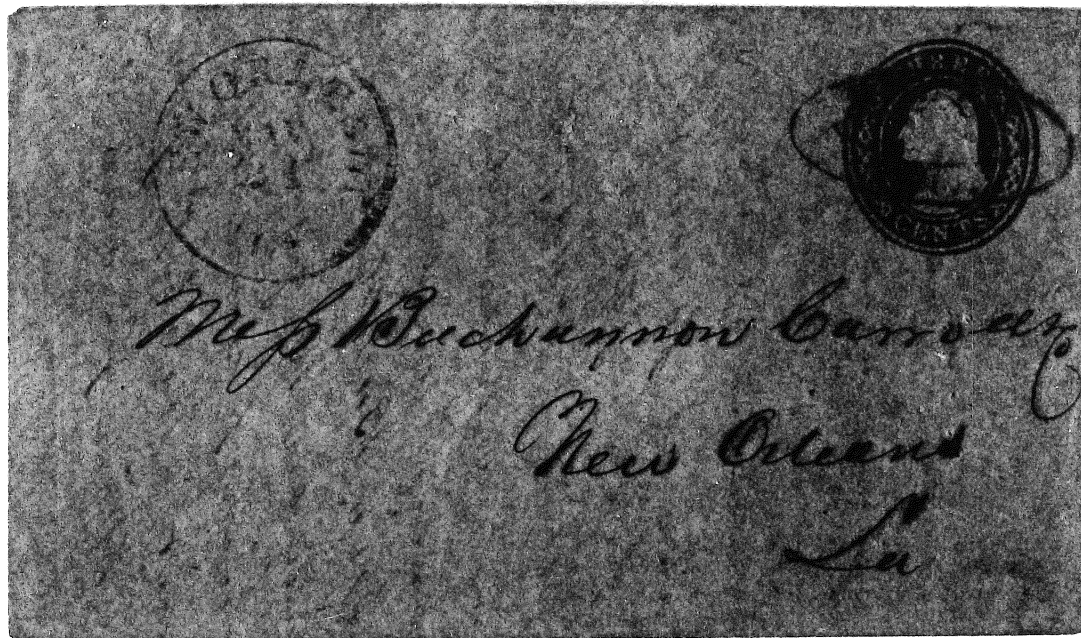


Die 5 Gp. 1 Head XV Type 6
 Buff Red 1853
 Size 7 (3) Knife 20 (2)
 MS April 4

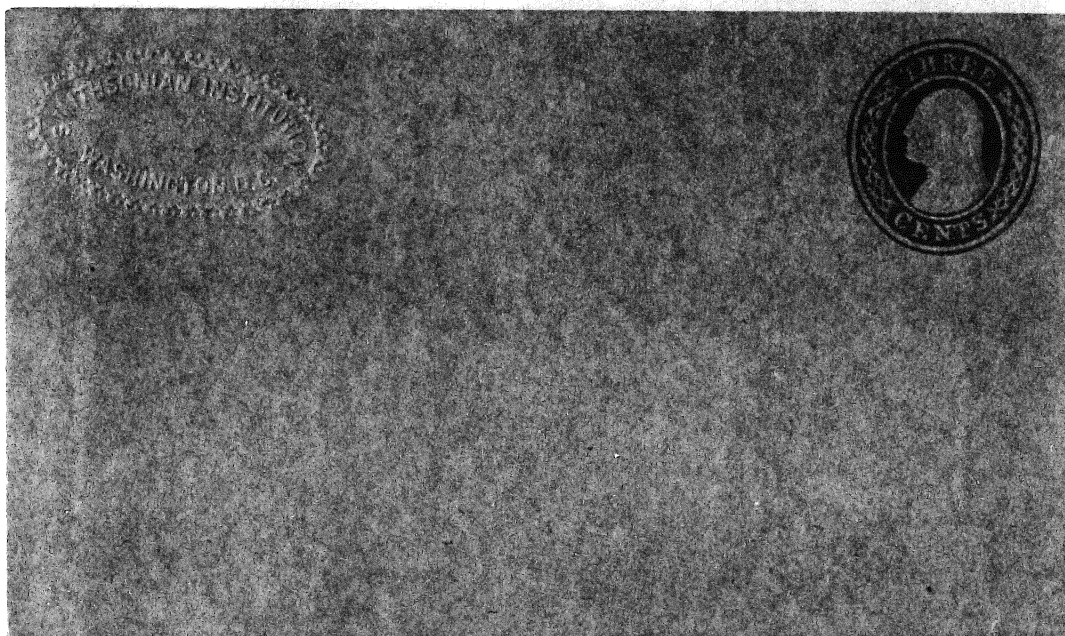


Die 5 Gp.1 Head XV Type 7
White Red 1853
Size 7 (3) Knife 20 (2)
CDS Montivallo AL Sept.

T of three high, HR near
EE wide, NT wide, S high
E of cents slants right

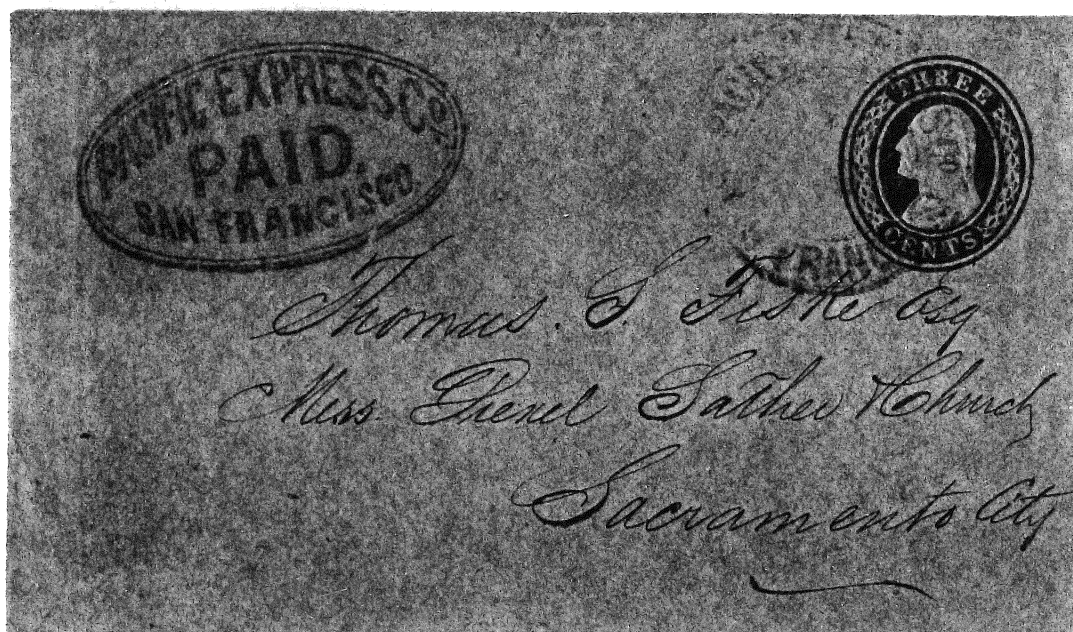


Die 5 Gp.1 Head XV Type 7
Buff Red 1853
Size 7 (3) Knife 20 (2)
CDS (R) New Orleans LA May 21
Route 7907

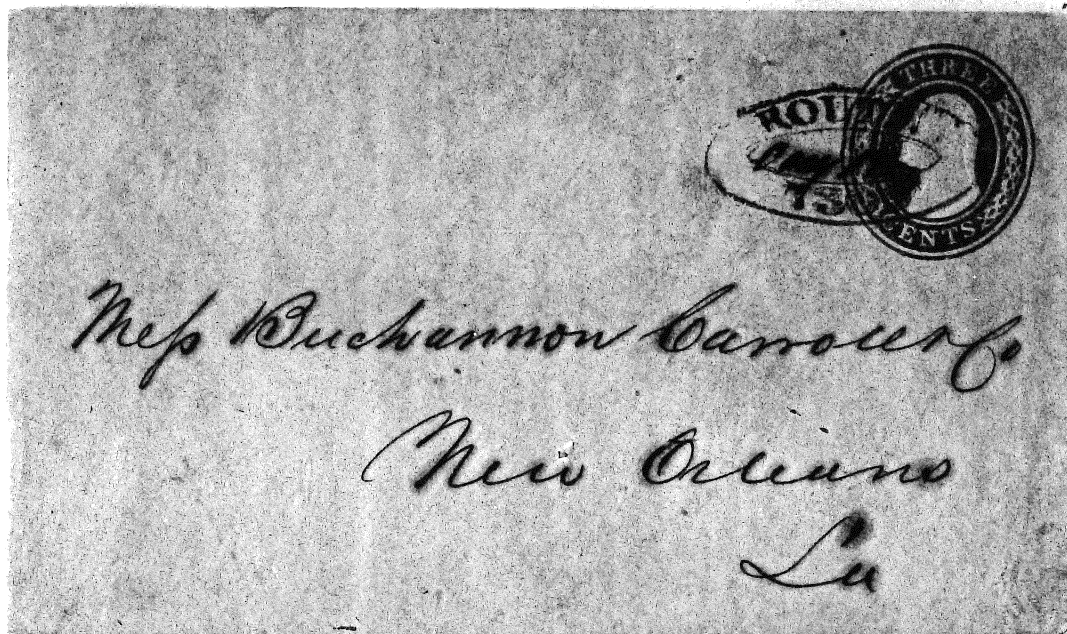


Die 5 Gp.1 Head XV Type 8
 Buff Red 1853
 Size 7 (3) Knife 20 (2)
 Embossed Smithsonian Inst.

Both curves far from THREE
 Left curve flatter, N touches T
 EN lean together

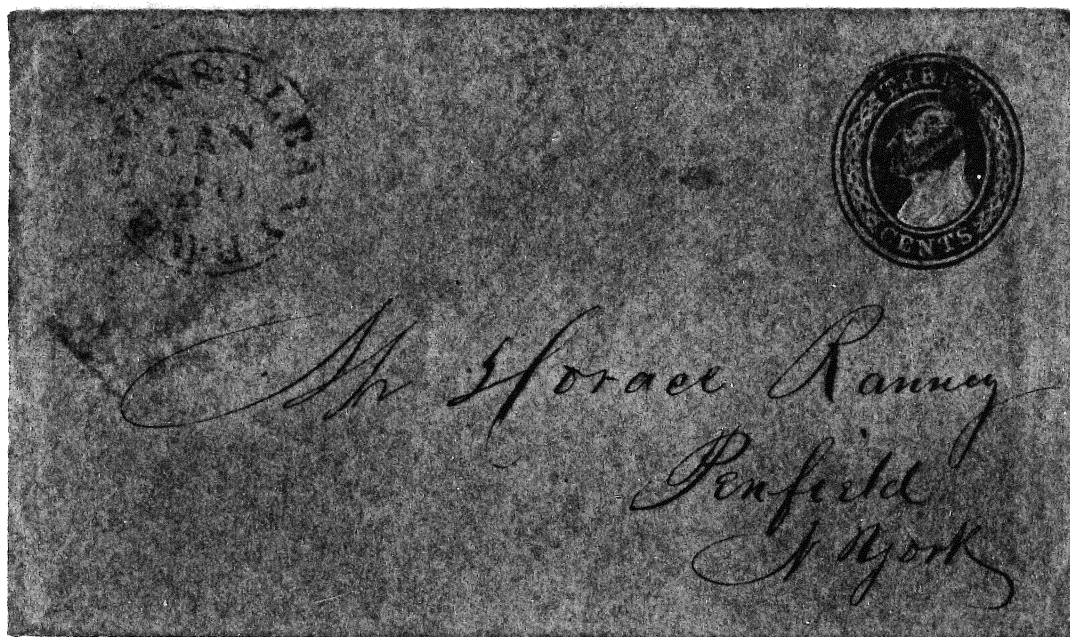


Die 5 Gp.1 Head XV Type 8
 Buff Red 1853
 Size 7 Knife 20
 CDS (B-G) Pacific Express Co.
 Fr: Pacific Exp.Co. PAID San Fran.Type 2

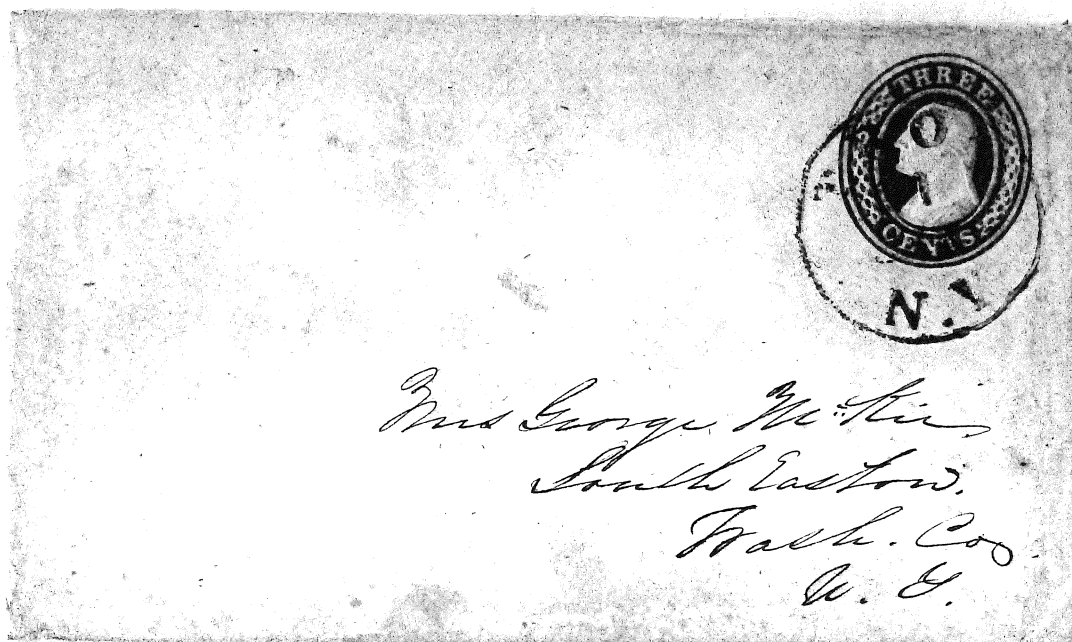


Die 5 Gp.i Head XV Type 9
 White Red 1853
 Size 7 (3) Knife 20 (2)
 Route 7309 Aug. 12

T of THREE close to flattened
 label, final E low, S close to
 curve, EN of CENTS close

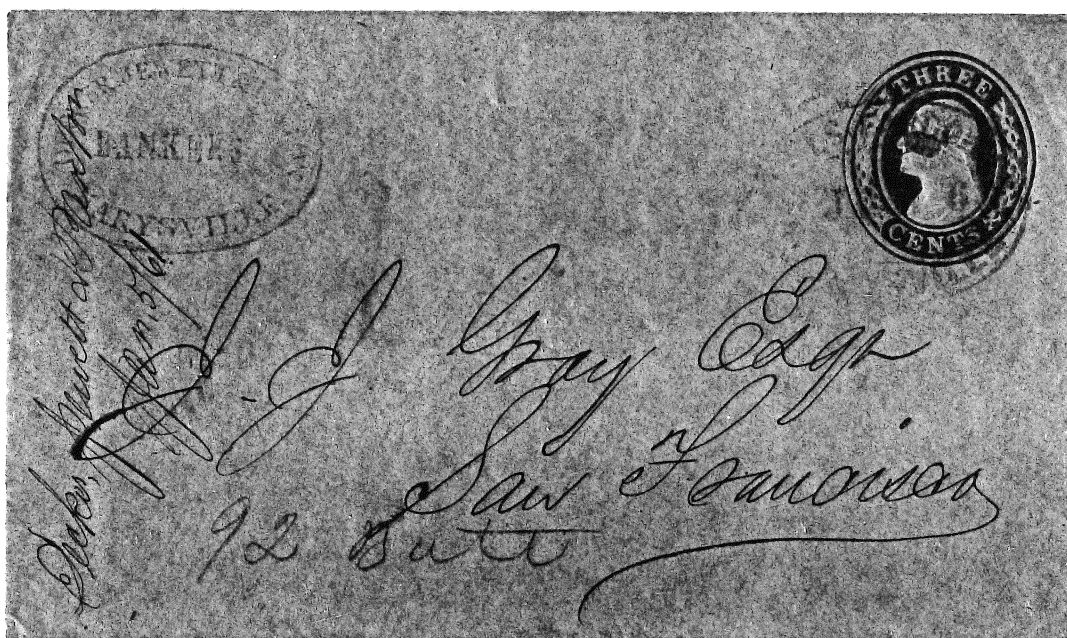


Die 5 Gp.1 Head XV Type 9
 Buff Red 1853
 Size 7 Knife 20
 CDS BOSTON & ALBANY RR Jan.20

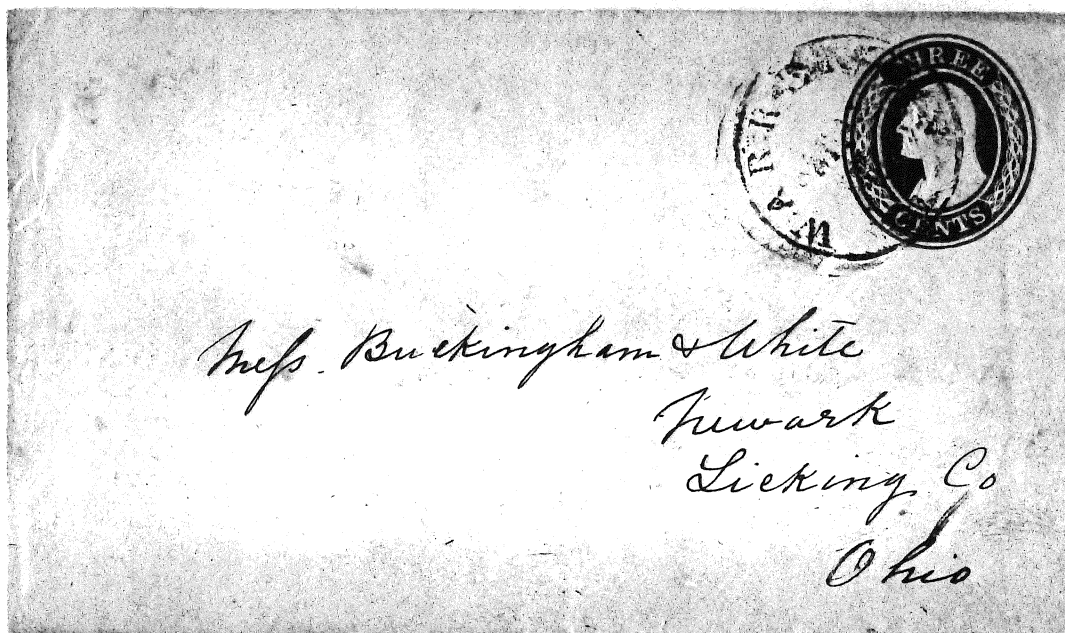


Die 5 Gp.1 Head XV Type 10
 White Red 1853
 Size 7 (3) Knife 20 (2)
 CDS Troy NY Apr. 19

T of THREE low & near curve
 HR near, CENTS high, NT close

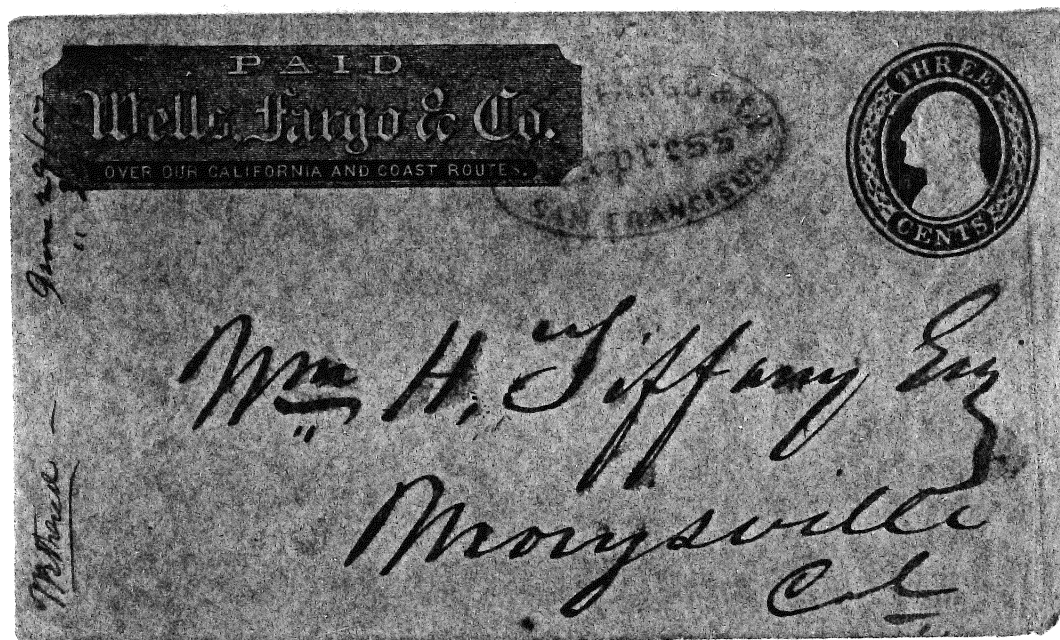


Die 5 Gp.1 Head XV Type 10
 Buff Red 1853
 Size 7 Knife 20
 ODS (B) W.F. & Co. Marysville CA Jan 6
 Adv. C.C.

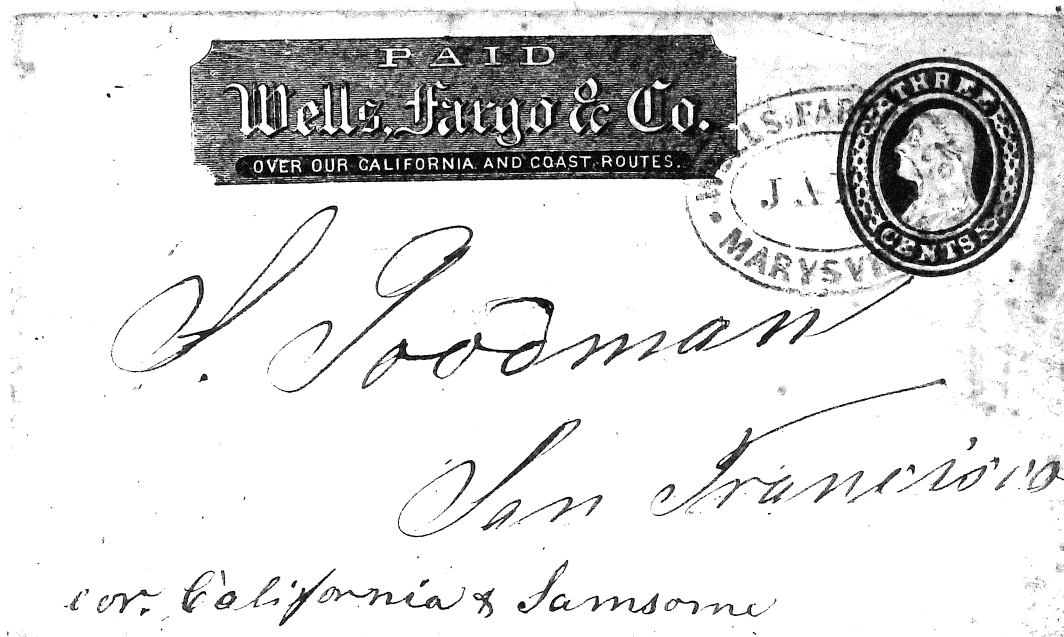


Die 5 Gp.2 Head XV Type 11
 White Red 1853
 Size 7 (3) Knife 20 (2)
 CDS Warrenton VA May 6

THREE low, TH close, HR wide
 RE very wide, E tilted right
 Last stroke N malaligned

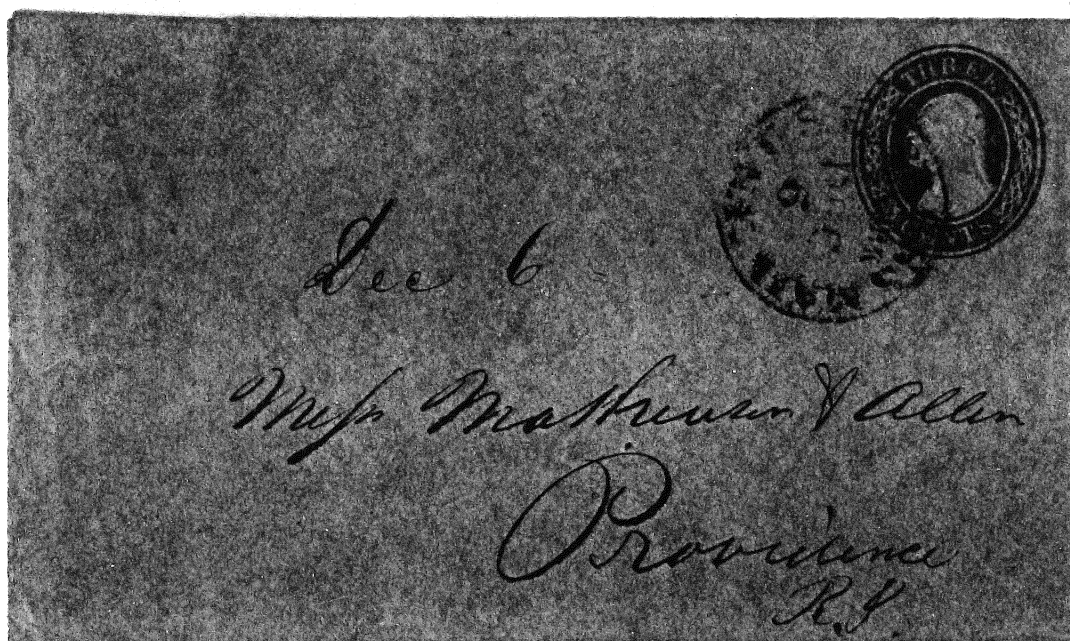


Die 5 Gp.2 Head XV Type 11
 Buff Red 1853
 Size 7 Knife 20
 ODS (B) W.F. & Co. San Fran.
 Fr.: W.F. & Co. Type E UL

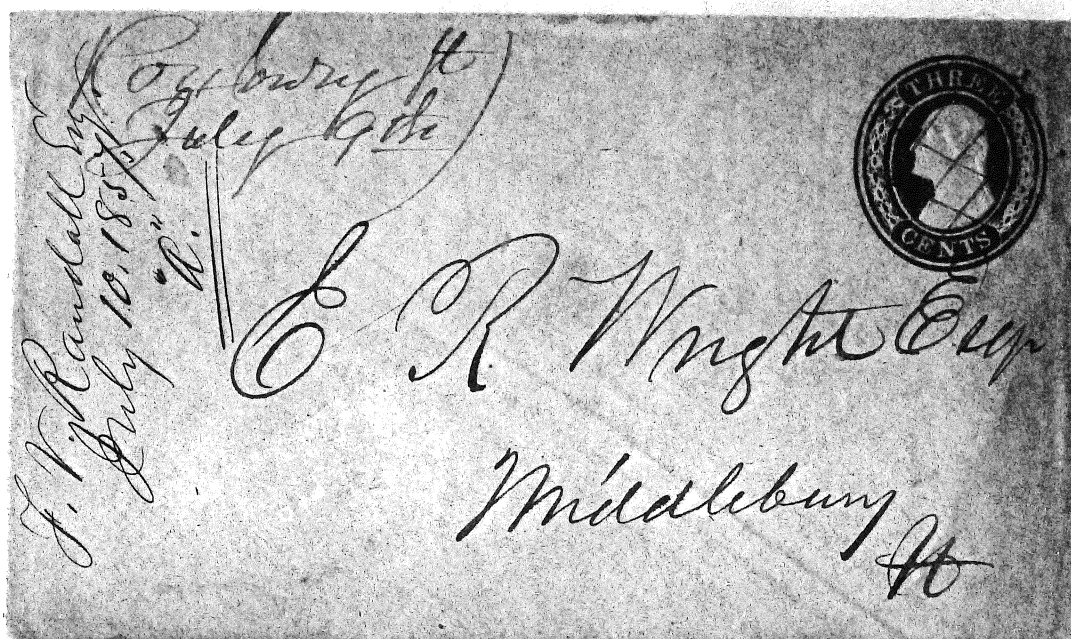


Die 5 Group 2 Head XV Type 12
 White Red 1853
 Size 7 (3) Knife 20 (2)
 WF Oval (B) Marysville Jan.1
 Fr. WF & Co. Type E

H of THREE tall & high
 REE low, N of CENTS low
 N has heavy middle line

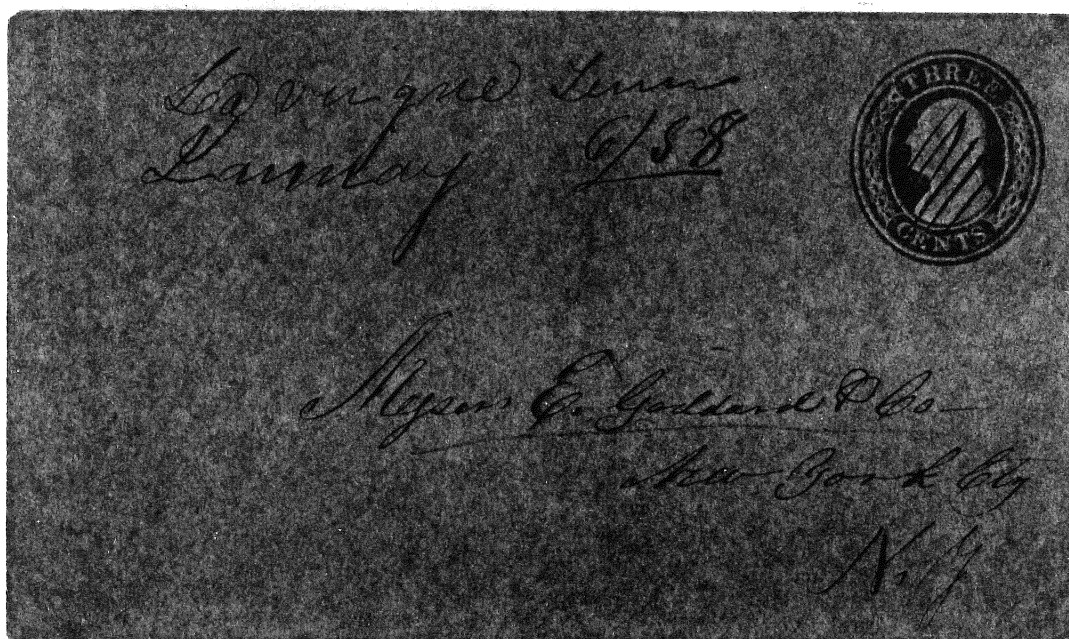


Die 5 Group 2 Head XV Type 12
 Buff Red 1853
 Size 7 (3) Knife 20 (2)
 CDS U.S.EXPRESS MAIL N.Y.N.YORK DEC 6



Die 5 Gp. 2 Head XV Type 13
 White Red 1853
 Size 7 (3) Knife 20 (2)
 Ms July 9 (1857)

Extra line from enginework
 to top of right curve of lower
 label, THREE low in label TH wide
 TS of CENTS close & parallel



Die 5 Gp. 2 Head XV Type 13
 Buff Red 1853
 Size 7 (3) Knife 20 (2)
 Ms La Vergne TE Jan 6, 1858