

# 1869 Times

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Vol. 14, No. 3



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# 1869 Times

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# ON THE COVER

Pictured on the cover is the second largest multiple of the 10¢ 1869. Only Michael Laurence's bottom imprint block of 15 (5 x 3) is larger. The unused, og block of nine on the cover sold for \$4,950 at the 1984 Robert Siegel Rarities of the World sale in New York City. It then cataloged \$8,850. There are 21 blocks of four or larger of the 10¢ 1869, according to Laurence's article on the 10¢ stamp in *Times* 48, February, 1990. Inside this issue, beginning on page 3, Laurence discusses 10¢ proofs on card.

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*Advertisements: Robert A. Siegel, Inc., American Philatelic Brokerages & Jack E. Molesworth, Inc., all inside front cover; Ivy, Shreve & Mader Philatelic Auctions, Inc. (p.7); Christie's Robson Lowe, New York (p.15); University Stamp Co., Inc. & Ventura Stamp Co., inside back cover; Raymond H. Weill Co., back cover.*

## FROM THE EDITOR'S DESK

Jacques C. Schiff, Jr. has assured me that all lots in his Dec. 8, 1990 Elite Auction XIV sold, either on the floor or to the book. This sale was the second part of the marketing of the Frederick W. Lopez, Sr. 1869 material. Lopez is especially well known for his study of 1869 essays. We reported on the Schiff sale in *Times* 51 (pp.3-4) and suggested that some of the rare envelope essays did not sell. Schiff has assured me that they did.

In the same *Times* 51 Bill Wickert reported on a new 3¢ 1869 bisect used on cover. An illustration of the cover appears on p.8. The cover was mailed from Lynchburg, Va., to Big Lick, Va. It turns out that the owner of the cover, Boston stamp dealer Jack Molesworth, had some doubts about its authenticity. The "tying" grid appeared odd and, more importantly, there was some gum residue in the upper left hand corner of the cover. An examination under ultra violet light showed a clear outline of a full-size stamp in the left corner. Molesworth concluded that a whole 3¢ stamp had been removed, and the 3¢ bisect added to the right corner, then tied with a fake killer cancel. After two different examinations by the Professional Stamp Expertising Service (Miami, Fla.), the PSE issued a certificate (#15148), signed by three examiners, declaring the bisect "is not a genuine usage on cover," Wickert reports. Our thanks to Jack Molesworth, one of our faithful advertisers, for correcting the record.

# BRAZER CARD PROOFS POSE QUESTIONS

By Michael Laurence PRA 7

Cardboard plate proofs (Scott P4 types) are one of the cheapest forms in which 1869 stamps, especially the higher values, can be collected. As a junior collector, my first exposure to the breathtaking bi-colored 1869 denominations came from cardboard proofs I acquired "on approval" from a dealer named A. Merritt Brundage. The items were affordable (in 1950) to a 10-year-old with a stamp budget of 75¢ a week. Card proof sets for the entire 1869 series today are available for under \$500 (Scott: \$728).

The Scott U.S. Specialized catalog says about 19th century U.S. cardboard proofs: "card (stock) is a plain, clear white card of good quality, which is found in varying thicknesses for different printings. Plate proofs on card were made in five printings in 1879-93. Quantities range from 500 to 2,500..."

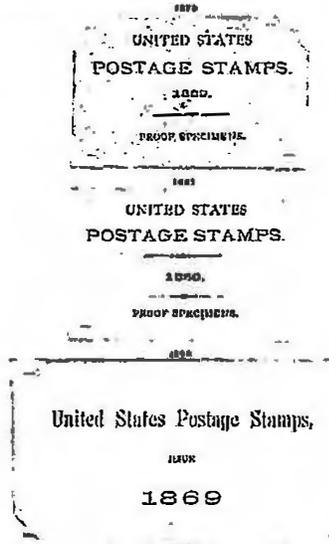
Differentiating the products of these five different printings has challenged specialists for many years. Distinctions have been attempted both on the basis of color and on the thickness of the card stock on which the proofs are printed. For the 1869 stamps, I'm not sure either approach is totally satisfactory.

Scott's information about the five different printings of card proofs probably derives from research done by Clarence W. Brazer. First published in 1941, Brazer's catalog, "Essays for U.S. Adhesive Postage Stamps," remains, half a century later, the most authoritative source for information on proofs and essays. In a very useful introduction to his catalog, Brazer discusses the five different printings of card proofs. If I read Brazer's words correctly (1977 Quarterman reprint, p. xiv), the most accurate way to distinguish the five different printings is by the envelopes in which they were originally housed.

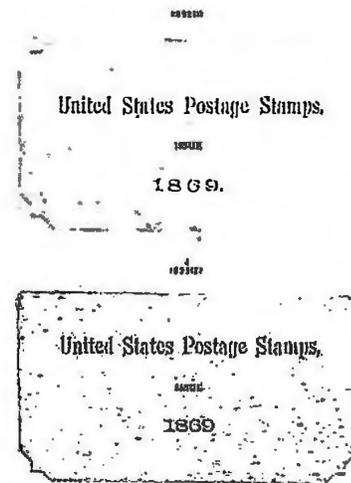
Brazer says the first of the card proof printings occurred "about 1879," when the Post Office Dept. requested the American Bank Note Co. to prepare sheets of cardboard proofs from the plates that had been used for the 1875 re-issues. These proof sheets, representing 171 different items, were then broken into individual sets and placed in small envelopes. The 1879 envelopes, Brazer said, were about 3½ by 2¼ inches, and entitled "United States Postage Stamps" with the year of the set and "PROOF SPECIMENS." See Figure 1 on next page. According to Brazer, "these were distributed freely by Congressmen in the same manner as they now distribute garden seeds and were quite popular."

"About 1885 the above procedure was again followed with an emission of 184 pieces in normal colors in 17 envelopes 91 by 59 millimeters, according to Dr. Chase's article in the *American Philatelist* (Vol.38, p.204). About 1890 another emission appeared in larger envelopes with 194 proofs. " And, finally, "about January, 1893 another emission of cardboard proofs was reprinted in envelopes about 5" by 3"...in which the numerals of the date are widely spaced with a period thereafter. Sometime after (the issuance of the 8c Columbian stamp), there was another emission of cardboard proofs in similar envelopes, with the numerals of the date of issue closely spaced and without the period."

U.S. POSTAGE PROOFS  
ISSUE OF 1869  
ENVELOPES WHICH CONTAINED CARDBOARD SETS PRINTED IN 1879, 1885 & 1890



U.S. POSTAGE PROOFS  
ISSUE OF 1869  
ENVELOPES WHICH CONTAINED CARDBOARD SETS PRINTED IN 1893(1) & 1893(2)



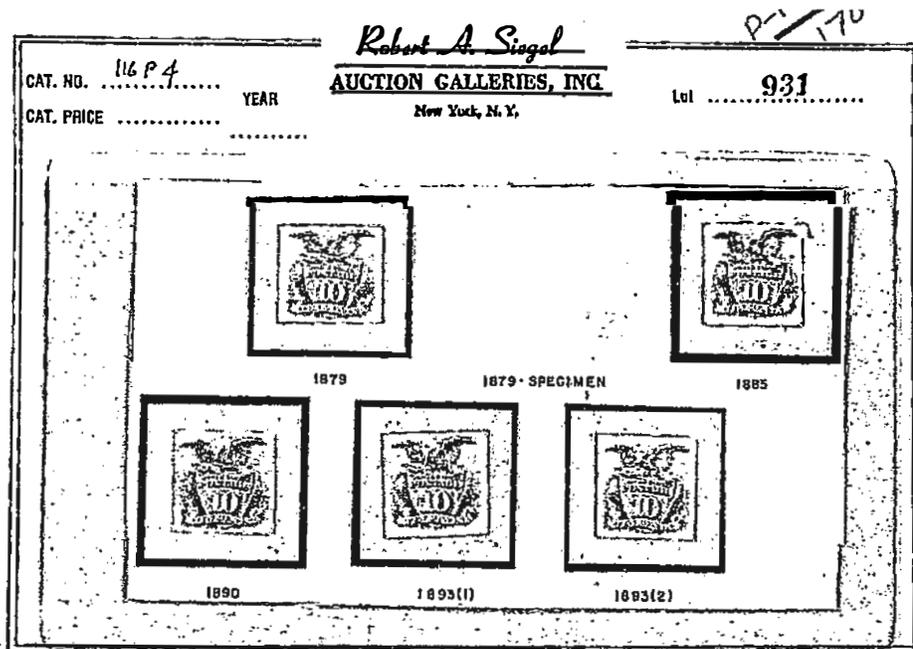
**Figure 1** (left) shows original envelopes which contained 1869 Issue card proofs printed (top to bottom) in 1879, 1885 & 1890. **Figure 2** (right) illustrates envelopes for both 1893 proof printings. Album pages from the Clarence Brazer Collection. (Photos courtesy Michael Laurence).

An architect by profession, Brazer became a part-time stamp dealer during the Depression, and was quite active in the 1940s and early 1950s. He was a tireless promoter of proof and essay material in an era when it was generally disdained. He was never a very public man and rarely exhibited his material. After his death in 1956, his extensive personal collection seemed simply to vanish. Some speculated that it had been stolen and secretly dispersed. But it surfaced in 1990 as part of the estate of Morton Dean Joyce, a retired New York stockbroker whose vast and wide-ranging collections are just now beginning to come back into the marketplace.

Joyce had purchased the entire Brazer holding from the Brazer estate, and so far as anyone could tell, had kept the holding intact. The Brazer Collection, as part of the Joyce estate, was offered by Robert A. Siegel in a three-day sale, June 27-29, 1990, in New York City. Veteran dealer Lou Robbins wrote up the collection, which realized about \$1,240,000. The Siegel catalog, along with the prices realized, constitute one of the landmark references in the literature of U.S. proofs and essays.

Lot 971 in the Brazer sale consisted of the five envelopes that originally housed the five different cardboard proof printings of the 1869 stamps. These are shown in Figures 1 and 2 (above), on Brazer's own album pages, just as Brazer had mounted them in his collection. As the photos should indicate, and as Brazer's research quoted above confirms, the five different envelope types are quite distinctive. Whether the proofs they originally contained are equally as distinctive is another question entirely.

Lot 931 in the Brazer-Joyce sale was Brazer's set of five different 10c 1869 card proofs. Several of these proofs are keyed, via Brazer's notations on the



**Figure 3** The five 10¢ 1869 card proofs mounted on a portion of Clarence Brazer's album page. (Laurence photo)

hinges, to the envelopes shown in Figures 1 and 2. It is obvious that Brazer had assembled this showing from proof sets he acquired, during the 1920s and 1930s, still housed in their original envelopes.

Brazer's five 10c 1869 proofs are shown in Figure 3 (above), just as I received them from the auctioneer, mounted on a piece of Brazer's album page. As noted, specialists have attempted to distinguish the five different card proof printings by the thickness of the card. But at least respecting the 10c card proofs in Figure 3, paper thickness by itself doesn't seem a sufficient determinant.

I carefully measured Brazer's 10c proofs with a micrometer, and determined the thickness of the card on the five types to be as follows: 1879: .012" / 1885: .010" / 1890: .0125"-.0135" / 1893 (I): .014" and 1893 (II): .012".

In his book, Brazer did not assign a date to the last printing of the cardboard proofs. He simply said they were issued sometime after the 8c Columbian stamp, which was released in March, 1893, about two months later than the other Columbians. Proof specialists generally date the two 1893 printings of card proofs as having been prepared in January and March of 1893. Whether this is an extrapolation from Brazer's information, or represents subsequent information Brazer didn't have, I can't say.

Specialists have made other assumptions that don't conform to the evidence suggested by the Figure 3 proofs. continued on page 16...

# AUCTION REPORT

*By Jon Rose, Editor*

**Editor's Note: All prices realized include 10% buyer's premium.**



**Christie's Robson Lowe New York**

**Sale 71**

**March 12, 1991**

This sale featured some high quality off-cover 1869 stamps, but the highlights were the inverts, chiefly from the holdings of the late Frank G. Back, San Francisco dealer. A very fine used 12c Adriatic sold for \$165 against current Scott retail of \$90. An unused, extra fine 30c (Sc. #121) with PFC sold to the floor for \$2,310, just above Scott. Twelve 90c Lincolns, including two scarce used pairs, sold according to condition. The horizontal pairs sold for \$1,760 and \$1,870, respectable prices, considering both are defective and the first is reperfed. The best of the five unused 90c singles sold for \$3,850, the worst went for \$528 (reperfed and off-center; Scott \$6,000). A nice used single sold to a floor bidder at \$1,540, despite having a corner bend.

Marvelous unused and used copies of the 30c 1869 inverted flags (illustrated above, left) were the stars of the 1869 rarities section. The unused copy, a newly discovered seventh recorded copy, sold to dealer Harry Hagendorf, president of Columbian Stamp Co., Scarsdale, NY, for \$170,500. He prevailed against a telephone bidder. Frank Back's used 30c invert, centered and sound but for two slightly creased corner perf tips, sold for \$60,500 to New Orleans dealer Raymond Weill, bidding by telephone. Although this was a high price for a used 30c invert, it has been exceeded on as many as three other occasions, the latest being at Robert Siegel's Rarities of the World Sale, held May 19, 1990 in New York City. There, a fresh and sound copy with black wedges cancel, realized a huge \$71,500. At the Christie's sale two used 15c 1869 inverts sold for \$9,900 and \$8,250, while three used 24c inverts (all ex-Back) sold for \$8,800, \$7,700 and \$8,800, respectively. Each has a PF certificate.

**Ivy Shreve Mader Philatelic Auctions 1991 ASDA INTERPEX Sale March 14-16, 1991**

Strong points in this vast sale were the choice, unused 1869 singles. But top condition stamps from other periods also broke records. A mint, never hinged 2c 1869 soared to \$935 (Sc.1988, \$160); a similar mint 3c stamp went for \$880; and a beautiful mint 3c Locomotive with split grill (pictured above) rocketed to an almost unbelievable \$1,815 (cat., \$145). Two choice used copies of the 6c ultramarine Washington sold for \$330 and \$660, respectively, the latter with a red cancel. A used 12c 1869 with red cancel jumped to \$577.50. A fairly well-centered 90c Lincoln with almost full og went for \$6,325. And an extra fine, certified used 90c (illustrated at top, right) was bid to \$2,420.

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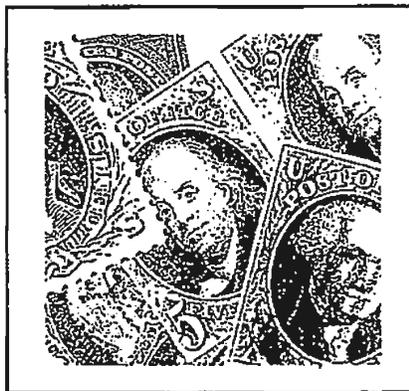
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# THE 1869 ISSUE PRINTING CONTRACT: A DISASTER AVERTED

By W. M. "Bill" Wickert PRA 373

Editor's Note: Fitch Shepard, president of the National Bank Note Co., was a shrewd businessman, who was able to secure the government printing contract for the 1869 Issue despite competition from three other firms. He was also prophetic, as events were to show.

Although National did not submit the lowest bid (Butler & Carpenter of Philadelphia did), the firm did have the single greatest advantage, namely the "sole and exclusive right to manufacture embossed (grilled) postage stamps under my patent for embossed stamps," as inventor Charles F. Steele wrote Postmaster General Alex W. Randall. The Post Office insisted on the stamps being grilled, both as a security measure and to enhance stamps' adhesive properties.

But there was another factor which probably weighed heavily in the Post Office's awarding the contract to National, as the following article will show.

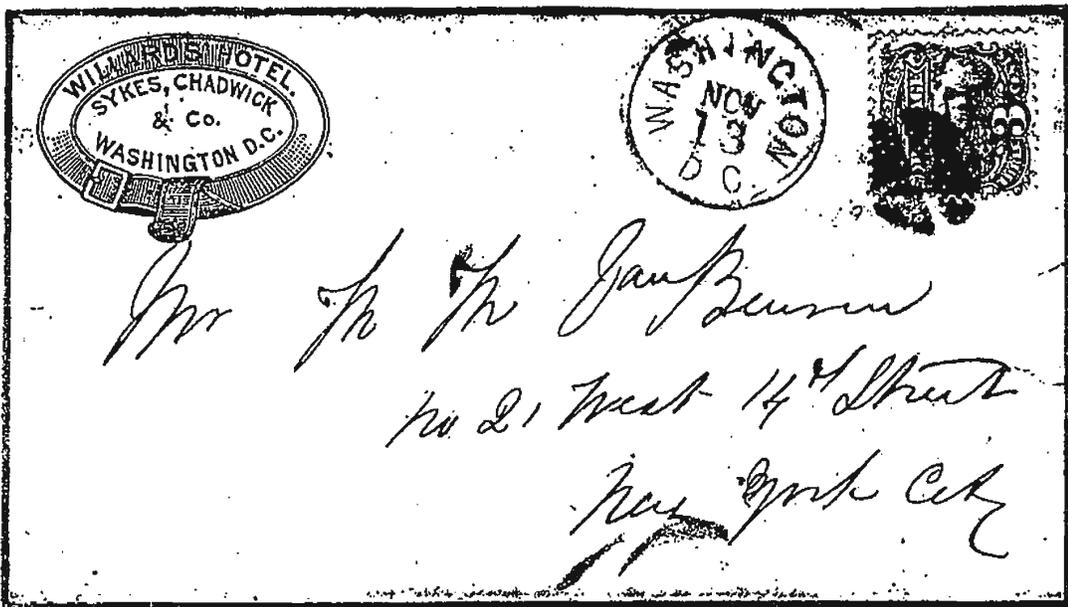


Figure 1. 3c Willards' Hotel corner card cover from Washington, 13 Nov. 1869.

When I acquired the rather ordinary looking 3c 1869 cover illustrated above in Figure 1, I did not know of the connection between Willards' Hotel and the 1869 Issue.

Printing proposals for the 1869 Issue and, as it turned out, some of the "Bank Note" issues, had to be received at the Post Office Dept. by noon July 22, 1868. The very next day Fitch Shepard sat down at his desk in Willards' Hotel in Washington, D.C. Using hotel stationery, including perhaps the same type envelope illustrated here with the 3c 1869, he wrote Postmaster Gen. Alex W. Randall. The letter, reproduced below, argued against awarding the stamp printing contract to Butler & Carpenter of Philadelphia, the firm which had just submitted the apparent lowest stamp printing bid. Shepard pleads that for safety reasons neither Butler nor bidder George T. Jones should be awarded the printing contract. Near the end of his letter Shepard issues a thinly veiled warning, which was to burst into fiery reality less than four years later.

The letter:

WILLARDS HOTEL

SYKES, CHADWICK, & CO.,

Washington, D.C., July 23, 1868

To: Hon. A.W. Randall  
Postmaster-General

The undersigned President of the National Bank Note Co. of New York begs leave most respectfully to protest against the consideration of the proposals for Postage Stamps submitted by Messrs. Butler and Carpenter of Philadelphia, Pa. by the Post Office Department for the reason that Said Butler & Carpenter are not in occupation of fire proof premises, as required by the terms of the Advertisement to be, in order to have their proposal considered. And that they do not propose nor offer to manufacture the Stamps in fire proof premises.

And the undersigned hereby offer to prove that his assertions herein made are correct and true, and refers to the terms of the proposals of said Butler & Carpenter as evidence thereof. The undersigned further for the same reasons respectfully protests against the reception or consideration of the proposals of Mr. George T. Jones and submits that a compliance with the terms of the advertisement for proposals and the Manufacture of Stamps in thoroughly fire proof premises involves additional expense over and above the expense of such manufacture in premises not fire proof and that his Company having complied in all respects with the conditions of the advertisement for proposals, and being in occupation of thoroughly fire proof and approved premises, the bids or proposals of others not complying with such terms and conditions ought not in justice and right to be considered in competition with the proposals of the Company which the undersigned represents.

The undersigned begs leave to add that in the character of work and artistic execution of engraving, he challenges all opposition; and that it is not at all upon such grounds that he opposes & protests against the reception of the bids aforesaid, but solely that all bidders may stand upon an equal footing, and that bids from parties not now engaged in the business of engraving & printing, or from parties proposing to do the work in an inferior manner or in premises risky & dangerous, and exposing the Department to the risk of having the supply of stamps suddenly cut off, ought not to be considered in competition with proposals in all respects complying to the terms of the advertisement for proposals.

The National Bank Note Co. further protests and represents that said Company has the sole and exclusive right and privilege to manufacture embossed stamps from the patentee of the same, and would feel constrained in order to protect its rights and property, to enjoin and estop all other persons from manufacturing or supplying the same.

I have the honor to be

Very Respectfully Yours,

F. Shepard  
(President)

Four companies competed for the stamp printing contract: National Bank Note Co.; Butler & Carpenter, Philadelphia; American Bank Note Co., New York; and George T. Jones, of Cincinnati, Ohio.

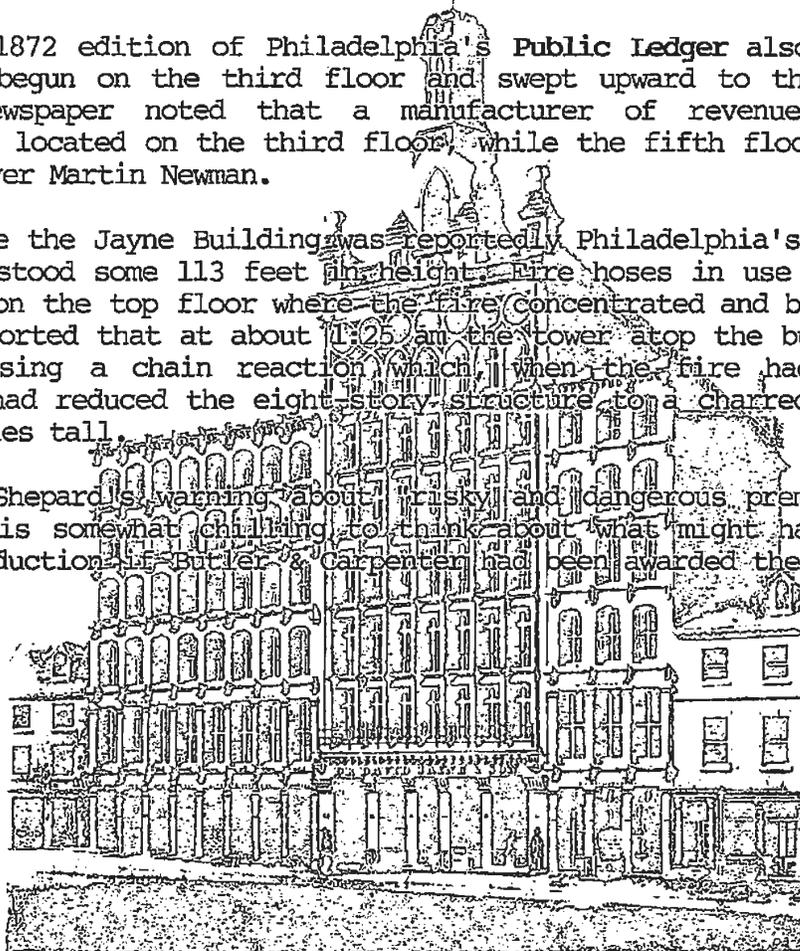
National went to great efforts to win the bidding. While each bidder submitted specimens of engraving and paper, National sent in complete sheets of finished stamps in different colors and on several types of paper. Some of these stamp sheets were gummed and perforated. And, as we saw above, Shepard felt compelled to submit the letter reproduced here. Just how much influence National's specimens and Shepard's letter had upon the awarding of the contract we don't know. At any rate, although a review committee voted to give National the contract on July 28, 1868, the actual contract was not signed until Dec. 12 that year. It was for a term of four years beginning on Feb. 1, 1869. Stamps were to be furnished at the rate of 25½ cents per thousand. Delivery began in March, 1869.

The contract included a provision requiring "all the work connected with the manufacture and delivery of the stamps shall be done in a fire-proof building." National complied. The building in which the lowest bidder, Butler & Carpenter, was to have printed the stamps was known as the Dr. David Jayne & Son Building. Less than four years after the 1869 stamp printing contract was awarded--and while it was still valid--the Jayne Building in Philadelphia burned down.

The Mar. 5, 1872 edition of Philadelphia's *Public Ledger* also reported that the fire had begun on the third floor and swept upward to the eighth floor tower. The newspaper noted that a manufacturer of revenue stamps, J.R. Carpenter, was located on the third floor, while the fifth floor was the work place of engraver Martin Newman.

At the time the Jayne Building was reportedly Philadelphia's tallest. Built in 1849-50 it stood some 113 feet in height. Fire hoses in use then could not reach windows on the top floor where the fire concentrated and burned fiercely. The *Ledger* reported that at about 1:25 am the tower atop the burning building collapsed, causing a chain reaction which, when the fire had finally been extinguished, had reduced the eight-story structure to a charred heap standing but three stories tall.

President Shepard's warning about "risky and dangerous premises" had been prophetic. It is somewhat chilling to think about what might have happened to U.S. stamp production if Butler & Carpenter had been awarded the stamp printing contract.



**Figure 3.** The Jayne Building, Philadelphia, as it looked before the fire in March, 1872. The conflagration reduced the eight-story tower structure to three stories of rubble.

# TWO-CENT 1869 BISECT COVERS NOW NUMBER THIRTY-ONE

By Jon Rose, Editor

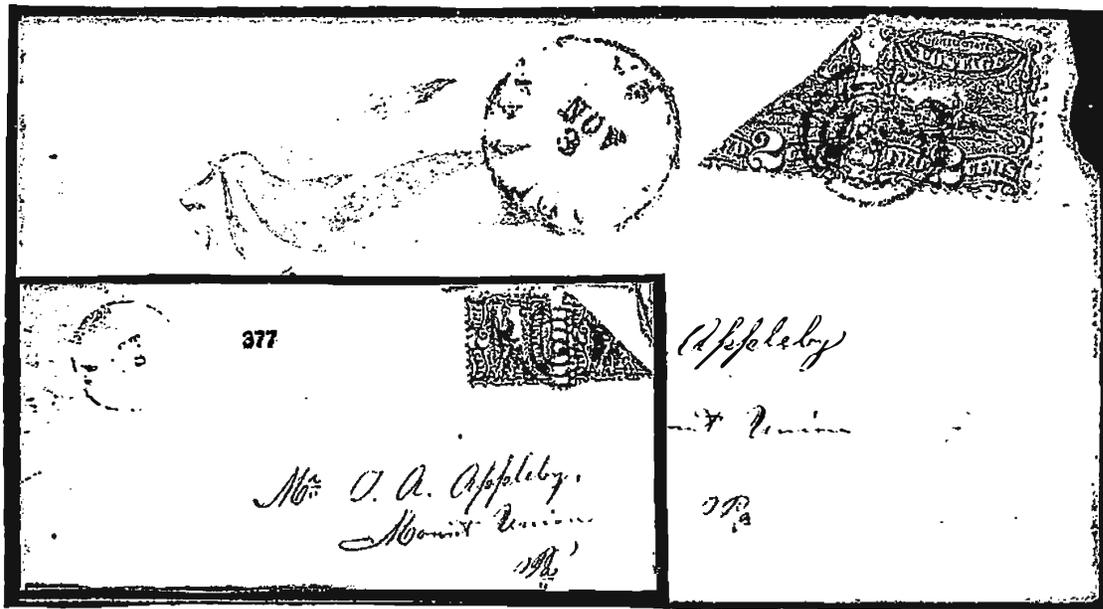
Fifteen years ago in the 1976 Register, the 1869 PRA'S first published book, I listed 17 covers known to me which bear some form of 2c 1869 bisect to make up 1c postage. That list resulted from a search of more than 1,000 auction catalogs going back at least 40 years.

Less than two years later, in the May, 1978 issue of the 1869 Times (No. 11), I updated the listing with the addition of nine new 2c bisect covers, raising the total to 26. Three more bisect covers were added and described in the August, 1982 edition of The Chronicle of the U.S. Classic Postal Issues (August, 1982, #115). In that article, "The 2c 1869 Stamp on Domestic Covers," I discussed the varied internal usages of the 2c horse and rider. The 2c stamp was used chiefly "for carrier delivery and drop letters in cities; unsealed circulars and certain 2nd and 3rd class matter.

With 29 two-cent bisect covers listed for almost ten years, I was beginning to think all might have been accounted for. Not so, Thanks to William A. Fox Auctions, Inc., of Springfield NJ, and Brad Arch, PRA director from Clifton, NJ, we can now report two more bisect covers.

The two additions, both of which are illustrated here, are from the same correspondence, Shade Gap, PA, To Mt. Union, PA. Both feature lower right diagonal bisects attached to whole copies of Scott #113. One is a horizontal "pair," the other vertical. Both have PF certificates. The first was mailed on Nov. 3, 1869 (an enclosure dated November, 1869, is included), and the other, the vertical, was almost certainly mailed on October, 1869. Both "pairs" are tied by four-ring targets.

Because the listing of 2c bisect covers is now spread out in four different sources, I have taken the liberty of listing all 31 covers here in Times 52 with some updating. Any additions or corrections from readers are most welcome. Write the editor.



Two new 2-cent 1869 bisect covers

# A DETAILED LISTING OF THE 1869 BISECT USED ON COVER

No.	Type Bisect	Used With	Pos. on Cover	From	To	Date	Tied	Certif.	Source/Remarks
1.	Lower horiz.	Alone	UR	Washington, D.C.	Local Usage		Yes, Blk. cork		Stephen Brown sale, 10/30/'39. Harmer-Rooke, L-1303, sf \$55
2.	UR diag.	113 overlap	UL	Centre, PA	Duncannon, PA	May 5, 1870	Yes, Blk. Cork	ss, Ashbrook	HR Harmer sale, May 5-6, 1971, L-386/sf \$380
3.	LL diag.	113 attach.	UR	Clermont, IN		Jan. 18	Yes. 2 mss lines		R. Siegel, Henry A. Meyer coll., 6/25-26, '69, L-479, \$105
4.	Diag.	Alone		Surrey, VA tax notice	Local usage	1870	mss. "X"		R. Siegel sale, 8/9-12/66, L-367 sf \$42.50
5.	UR diag.	113 attach	UR	Mechanicsville, N.Y.			Yes, blk. 3-ring tgt.	PFC	R. Siegel sale, 8/27-28/'74, L-349, sf \$425
6.	LR diag.	113 attach	UR	Colorado City, Colorado Territory	Providence, RI		Yes, 4-ring blk. tgt.		R. Siegel sale, Apr. 21-22, 1959
7.	LR diag.	113 attach	UR	Granger, Ohio	Canfield, Ohio		Yes, 3-ring blue tgt.	PFC	R. Siegel, Oct. 5-6, 1962 sale, L-157 J. Rose coll.
8.	Left vert. overlap	113	UR	St. Cloud, MN	St. Louis, forwarded to New Orleans, LA	Dec. 25	Yes, blk.	PFC cork	Stephen Brown sale, 10-30/11-4, '39, L-1304, \$59.
9.	Right vert.	2c org env., U-80	Cent R	E. Clarendon, VT	Mt. Holly, VT	3/17	Black pd. in circle	W.H. Colson	HR Harmer, Wm. Moody sale, 11/6-8/50, L-27
10.	Left vert. overlap	113	UR	Mansfield, CT	Maine	Jan. 2	2 pen marks		R. Siegel May 20-21, 1969, L-525 sf \$85 (Matthies)
11.	Left vert. attach	113	UR	Frederick, PA	Frederick, PA	1876	oval pmk	PFC	R. Siegel, Apr. 6-7, 1972, L-619, sf \$625.

# A DETAILED LISTING OF THE 1869 BISECT USED ON COVER

No.	Type Used	Pos. on Cover	From	To	Date	Tied	Cert.	Source/Remarks
12.	Left vert. attach	UR	New York City	Leavenworth Kansas	Feb. 17, 1870	Yes, black cork	PFC	R. Siegel, Jan. 9, 1973, L-68, sf \$900, J. Rose coll.
13.	Left vert. unattach	Cent. Lf	Orangeville, PA		Sept. 22	Yes, blk 4-ring	PFC tgt.	R. Siegel, 8/27-28, 1975, L-350 (ex-Gibson), sf \$500
14.	Left vert. unattach	UR	St. Louis, MO	Troy, Ohio	9/24	Yes, blk 3- ring	tgt.	R. Siegel, Mar. 22, 1956, L-288
15.	Each w. 2 #113 vert. (2 prs.) bisects	UR	Clove, NJ	Newton, NJ	mss. Oct. 19, 1870	No(?)		R. Siegel, Sept. 15-16, 1965, L-1362
16.	Left vert. unattach	UC	Cabell, Ct. House, West VA	Pt. Pleasant, West VA	June 8	Yes, 4- ring green	tgt.	R. Siegel, Aug. 17- 21, 1965, sf \$145
17.	Vert. 113(?)		Ft. Kent, NJ	Jay, NY				HR Harmer, NY, Nov. 28-30, 1955 L-74
18.	Left vert. attach	LL	Mongaup, NY	Alfred, ME	unclear	Yes		HR Harmer, NY, S. Hessel sale 6/76 L-688, sf \$700
19.	Right vert. attach	UR	PA	Gettysburg, PA	7/15/72	Yes	PFC no opp.	M. Mack coll.
20.	Left vert. (U80)	UC	E. Clarendon, VT	Salem, NY	Nov. 3	circ. PAID	PFC	E.H. Coulter coll.
21.	UR diag	UL	Shepardstown, W. VA	Jefferson Co. local	Feb. 16 (1876?)	Yes	PFC	Tied by fancy wedge ex-Marc Haas coll.
22.	UL diag	Cent.	Luray, VA	Luray, VA local	3/26/70	Yes mss.		Only known 2c en- tire Luray Tax notice. Kenedi 1965 R. Siegel S #529

# A DETAILED LISTING OF THE 1869 BISECT USED ON COVER

No.	Type Bisect	Used With	Pos. on Cover	From	To	Date	Tied	Cert.	Source/Remarks
23.	LR diag	113 attach	UR	Martinsburg, VA	Altoona, PA	6/17/70	yes tgt.	PFC	Wolffers, SF Sale 58, L-43 sf \$550
24.	Lf vert.	113 attach	UR	Paxton, PA	Dauphin, PA	2/6/74	yes mss.		Ex-Chapman coll. C.Storch sale 6/77
25.	Low Horiz.	Alone	UR	New York City	Local Usage		yes		2nd NYC usage 2nd horiz. bisect
26.	Vert.	113 attach	Unk	Plymouth, PA	Philadelphia, PA	1/20 Phil. Rec.	yes	PFC	Bisect not accept. at Phil."Due 1." Soth. Juhring L- 675
27.	UL diag	113 attach		Tower City, Dakota Terr.	Schuylkill Co., PA	6/14	No		mss. cancel ex-Eugene Klein
28.	UR diag	113 attach	UR	Pigeon Cove, MA	Boston, MA	Aug.10	yes, blk cork grid		
29.	Right vert.	113		Henlock (?) PA	Alfred, Maine	July 6	yes, pen strokes		H. Shaw correspondence
30.	LR diag	113 attach	UR	Shade Gap, PA	Mt. Union, PA	Nov.3 1869	yes, 4-ring tgt.	PFC	11/69 encl,Dove env; Wm.A.Fox 2/6/ 90,L-376,sf \$2000
31.	LR diag	113 attach vert.	UR	Shade Gap,PA	Mt. Union, PA	10/69	yes, 4-ring tgt.	PFC	Add:T.A.Appleby Wm.A.Fox, 2/6/90, L-377, sf \$1700

Space has been provided to make additions to listing.



\$170,500



\$60,500

## Results from March

The unused 30-cent Inverted Flags from our March 12 and 13 sale realized a world-record price.



Estimate: \$8,000



Estimate: \$8,000

## Auction in June

Our June 12 and 13 sale features the 15-cent and 24-cent 1869 Issue Inverts from the Frank G. Back Stock.

We are now accepting consignments for our forthcoming sales for the Fall of 1991. For further information contact Tor Bjork, Scott Trepel, Elizabeth Pope or Robert Scott in New York.

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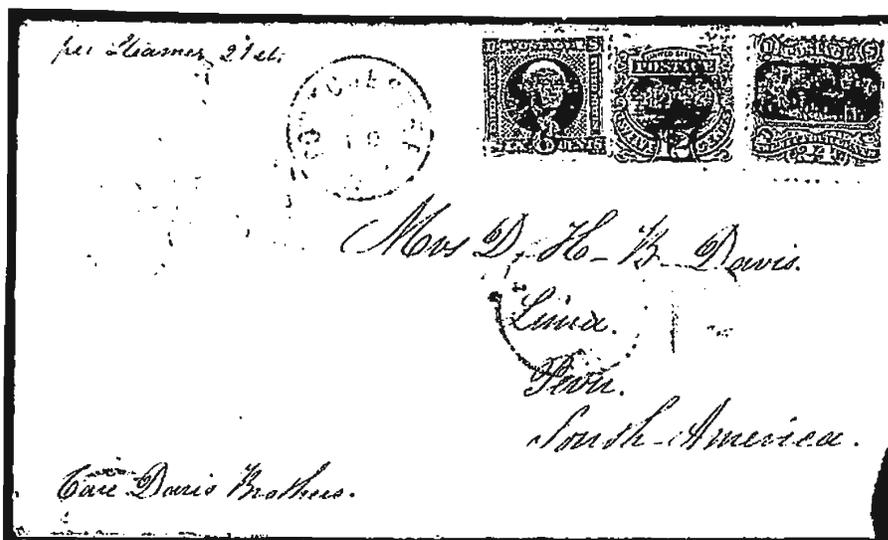


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## The 1869 Issue In Pictures



LOVELY COMBINATION — A 6c, 12c, and 24c 1869 pay double 22c per half ounce rate, Mar. 19, 1870, on this Davis correspondence cover from Port Chester, NY, to Lima, Peru. Almost! If double rate, 2c postage is missing. But red credit "12" to England indicates single rate of 22c, indicating overpayment. Cover not listed in *The 1869 Issue on Cover: A Census and Analysis, 1986 PRA publication.*

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## BRAZER CARD PROOFS POSE QUESTIONS

By Michael Laurence

Continued from page 5

The card thicknesses on Brazer's 10c proofs, as described above, do not generally conform to the conventional wisdom about card thickness that specialist collectors have accepted, for some years, in typing the five different card proof printings.

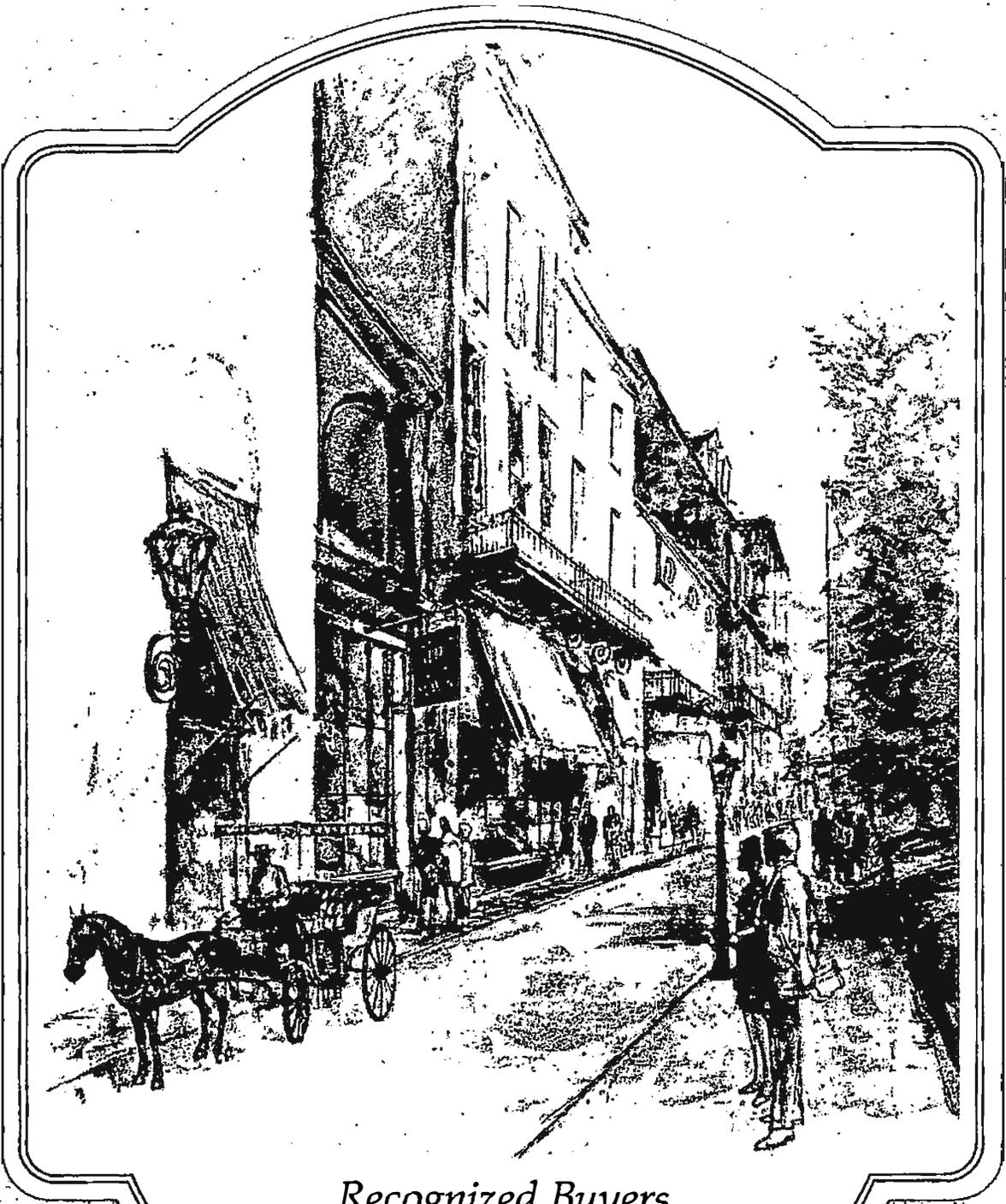
The conventionally accepted thickness, as I have seen it presented on album pages in various specialized 1861 and 1869 collections, is as follows: 1879: .007"-.010" / 1885: .012"-.015" / 1890: .012"-.013" / January, 1893: .010"-.013" and March, 1893: .012"-.014".

Note that three of the Brazer-typed proofs in Figure 3 (the 1879, 1885 and 1893 Type I) do not fit into these thickness categories. I have no explanation for this, and would welcome suggestions from readers who do.

With some of the other 1869 values, and with many of the other stamps of earlier and later series for which card proofs were printed, it is possible to link the proof printing with the color of the stamp. But from looking at just 10c 1869 proofs, my conclusion is that color by itself is not a useful determinant. Can anyone offer assistance?

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