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The Elusive New Germantown Straightline Handstamp



This long lost straightline handstamp has been found used on a 3 cent orange brown (#10) cover originally in the Tracy Simpson collection, which establishes its erroneous listing as an 1815 stampless marking. More inside.

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NEW JERSEY POSTAL HISTORY SOCIETY, INC.

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WELCOME TO NEW MEMBERS! We are glad to report the following new members: Harold W. Gingery, James E. Kenney, Andrew Kupersmit, David Levine, Frederick J. Mancuso, Ronald A Margulis, Phillip J. Marks, Bruce Mosher, Frederick C Skvara, and Edward W. Werbany. For further information on these members, see page 96. Reinstated: Victor B .Krievins.

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

I know that many of you attended StampShow 2002 in Atlantic City last month since I got to meet a number of new faces whose names were familiar to me from our Society's membership roster. This was the first major national show at which our Society staffed its own booth. I am pleased to report that we signed up nine new members at the Show and distributed a number of applications to potentially interested collectors. Several of the Society's officers and members helped staff the booth during the course of the four-day Show. With apologies to anyone whom I have omitted, I wish to thank Jim Mason, Jean Walton, Bob Zanoni, and George Crawford. I extend a special thanks to Gene Fricks who spent the better part of three days at the Society's booth extolling the virtues of membership to all who stopped by the booth. I especially enjoyed the quality time I spent chatting with Gene and a number of our members, including long-time member Len Frank, whose knowledge of North Jersey postal history is truly encyclopedic. Our Society's slide presentation, the "*Best of New Jersey Postal History*," was well attended with a number of new faces whom I hope we can convert into members. There were several New Jersey exhibits shown by our members including Jim Mason's wonderful *Atlantic City*, which he showed on a non-competitive basis. In the competition, Nate Zankel's *New Brunswick* and Sid Morginstin's *Bordentown* exhibits both took silvers. My *New Jersey Stampless Covers* exhibit was awarded a gold.

My thanks to our indefatigable treasurer, Bob Zanoni, who again staffed the Society's table at MERPEX. Congratulations to Society member Don Chafetz whose *Morris County* exhibit won the Grand Award.

Finally, please be sure to watch for our Society's initial participation in the e-bay auction. If you intend to auction your New Jersey postal history material on e-bay, please send these items to Arne Englund. If you wish to participate as a bidder and would like notification when the lots are posted on e-bay for auction, please make sure that you have provided your e-mail address to Arne. We are grateful to all who responded to the postal card inquiry regarding emails, and if you have returned this card with your email and indicated you would like to be notified, these have already been passed on to Arne.

Robert G. Rose



CONGRATULATIONS TO NJPHS AWARD WINNERS!

APS STAMPSHOW ATLANTIC CITY Aug 15-18, 2002

WORLD SERIES PRIX D'HONNEUR

U.S. Domestic Mails 1776-1869

George J. Kramer

~ ***~

OPEN COMPETITION

GOLD

The Development of the Airmail - Link Between Latvia and Germany 1921-1940

Arnold Engel

also

American Air Mail Society Gold

New Jersey Stampless Covers: Handstamp Marcophily 1775-1855

Robert G. Rose

200+ Years of Madeira Postal History

Stephen S. Washburne

also

International Society for Portuguese Philately Best Portuguese Postal History Exhibit

VERMEIL

Postal History of Riga, Livonia 1765-1918

Arnold Engel

SILVER

18th & 19th Century Bordentown, New Jersey

Sidney D. Morginstin

Postal History of New Brunswick N.J. until 1900

Nathan Zankel

SINGLE FRAME

SILVER-BRONZE

We Want Bert Mail

James H. Mason

A Trip to Madeira - MAXIMAPHILATELICALY

Stephen S. Washburne

~ ***~

PERIODICALS

SILVER-BRONZE

NJPH, The Journal of the New Jersey Postal History Society

New Jersey Postal History Society

~ ***~



MERPEX XXVI
Aug 30 -Sept 1, 2002

Donald Chafetz *Development Of Morris County Mail Service, Colonial & Stampless Period*

Grand Award

Best Exhibit by an APS Member

Best Postal History Exhibit

Postal History Society Certificate

New Jersey Postal History Certificate

MERPEX Gold

Donald Chafetz *Study Of Israel's Dateless Cancellations, 1948-1955*

Federman Award (Best One Frame Exhibit)

American Association of Philatelic Exhibitors, Award of Honor

2nd Best Postal History Exhibit

MERPEX Silver

Paul Schumacher *Not Quite President Of The U.S. – Non Competitive*

MERPEX Participation Certificate

~ *** ~



BALPEX 2002
August 30 - September 1, 2002

VERMEIL

Postal History of Riga, Livonia 1765-1940

Arnold Engel

SINGLE FRAME

BRONZE

Airmail Stamps of Latvia

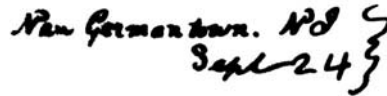
Arnold Engel

~ *** ~

THE NEW GERMANTOWN STRAIGHTLINE HANDSTAMP

by Robert G. Rose

The elusive New Germantown Straightline handstamp has been the subject of study in two previous articles published by this author in *NJPH*.¹ Both the *Coles Book*² and the *American Stampless Cover Catalog*³ list a straightline script style handstamp listing with a presumed usage in 1815. The *Coles Book* records only one example of this marking, illustrated below, while the ASCC gives it a value of \$500 reflecting its rarity.



Simpson's U.S. Postal Markings, 1851-61⁴ illustrates this marking and is based on the earlier studies by Ashbrook⁵ and Chase⁶ which list this handstamp with the identical description: "1851 New Germantown N.J. (Black) in one straight line. Date below in manuscript." David Petruzelli, a student of the 1851 issue usage in New Jersey, writing in *NJPH* in 1986 questioned as initially did I, whether the *Coles Book* and the ASCC listing of this marking as an 1815 straight line handstamp was actually "a typo."⁷ Petruzelli suggested that the marking may have been used on a 3¢ 1851 cover which was in a portion of Tracy W. Simpson's collection sold by Robert A. Siegel in the early 1960's.

The description of the Simpson cover in a 1963 Siegel auction sale, confirms the usage of a 3¢ orange brown tied by a "clear New Germantown N.J. in script str. line additional ms. cancel, V.F."⁸ Unfortunately, the cover with Simpson's own estimated value of \$100-\$150 was not photographed so that it was impossible until recently, to compare it with the tracing of the marking in the *Coles Book*. However, the estimated value of the Simpson cover in the 1963 sale strongly suggested that it was struck with a handstamp straight line in a script style.

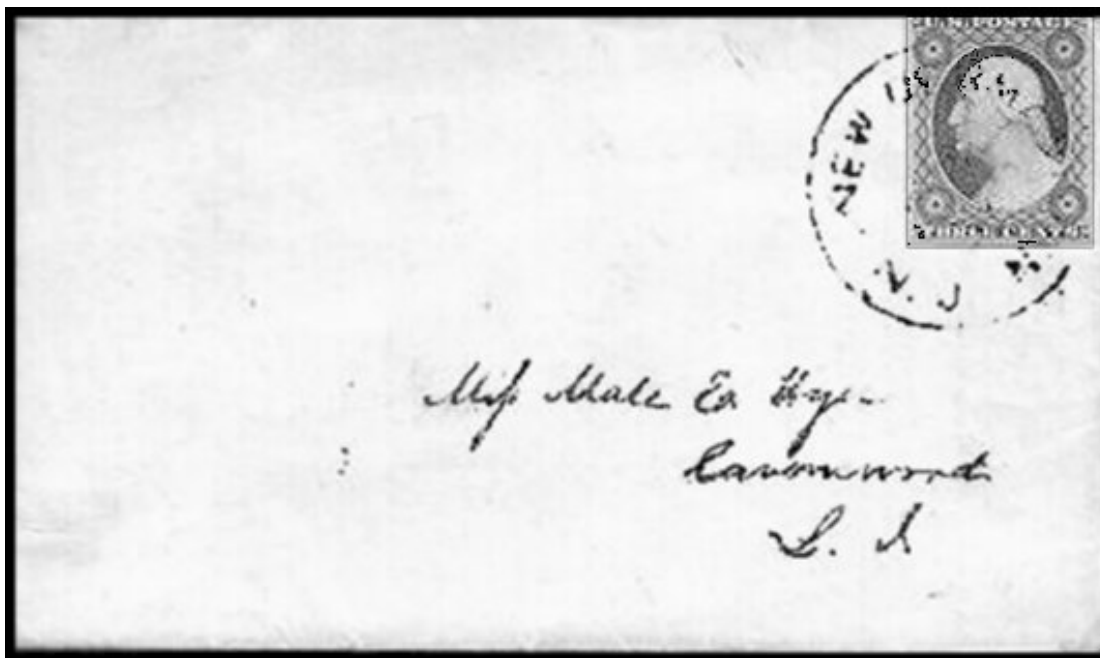
Further study of this marking has resulted in locating the Simpson cover in a recent Robert A. Siegel auction.⁹ Siegel Sale 810, held on April 27-29, 1999 included Lot 1151 with the following description:

3¢ Orange Brown (10). Pl. 5E ample margins to just touching, rich color, ms "x" cancel, tied by "New Germantown NJ" straightline hs in script with ms. "Sept 24" date on buff cover to Readington N.J., Very Fine, the basis of Simpson listing.

The cover was estimated with a value of \$200-\$300 and was photographed in color. It sold for a hammer price of \$800 plus a ten percent buyer's premium reflecting its unique usage in combination with the 3¢ Orange Brown 1851 Issue. Through the courtesy of its present owner, the full cover is illustrated on the front cover of this issue of *NJPH* and below:



While it is possible that this 1851 usage of a handstamped marking could have also appeared on stampless covers, none have been seen to date. In fact, it appears that the straightline handstamp had a brief period of use. Illustrated below is a 3¢ Dull Red (Scott No. 11) with a New Germantown circle handstamp which was offered for sale in an E-Bay auction.



The Coles Book lists this very same marking, N40, with usage on stampless covers in the 1852-55 time period.¹⁰ Illustrated below is the Coles Book tracing of this stampless marking and an undated cover from the author's collection.

Coles N40



Stampless cover showing N40



Unless and until an example of the New Germantown straightline turns up on a stampless cover from the 1851-55 time period, the single reported stampless cover listing with a purported 1815 usage, based on the erroneous reference to the Simpson cover, should be removed from both the Coles Book and the American Stampless Cover Catalog.

Endnotes

- ¹ Rose, Robert G. "Straight Line Town Markings on New Jersey Stampless Covers: Some Catalog Listing Anomalies," *NJPH*, Vol. 29, Whole Number 141, March 2001, pg. 7; "The New Germantown Straight Line Revisited," *NJPH*, Vol. 29, Whole Number 144, November 2001, pg. 169.
- ² Coles, Jr. William C. *The Postal Markings of New Jersey Stampless Covers*, Chicago, 1983, pg. 225.
- ³ Phillips, David G. *American Stampless Cover Catalog*, Vol. I, 5th ed., North Miami, 1997, pg. 227.
- ⁴ Alexander, Thomas J. *Simpson's U.S. Postal Markings, 1851-61*, Second ed., Columbus, Ohio, 1979, pg. 28.
- ⁵ Ashbrook, Stanley B. *The United States One Cent Stamp of 1851-1857*, Vol. II. New York, 1838, pg. 107.
- ⁶ Chase, Carroll. *The 3¢ Stamp of the United States 1851-1857 Issue*, Revised ed., Springfield, Mass., 1942, pg. 246.
- ⁷ Petruzelli, David. "The 1851-61 Issue in New Jersey: A Preliminary Survey," *NJPH*, Vol. 14, Whole Number 68, May, 1986, pg. 39.
- ⁸ Robert A. Siegel Auction Galleries, Inc., Sale No. 236, December 12-13, 1963. The cover sold for only \$40.00.
- ⁹ Robert A. Siegel Auction Galleries, Inc., Sale No. 810, April 27-29, 1999.
- ¹⁰ Coles, Jr. William C. *The Postal Markings of New Jersey Stampless Covers*, Chicago, 1983, pg. 225.

Some reminders for members ~ Your help is needed!

Updating the William C. Coles Jr. book

The Postal Markings of New Jersey's Stampless Covers

Donald A. Chafetz has agreed to undertake this important project, but he cannot do it alone. Stampless cover collectors - check your covers against Coles, and if you can add any new items, varieties, or colors, or correct any mistakes, this will be an important contribution.

Copies for Don of all new items should be sent to Robert G. Rose, P.O. Box 1945, Morristown, New Jersey 07962-1945 or e-mailed with a scan to:

rrose@pitneyhardin.com.

New Jersey Postal History Society Auctions on Ebay!

Arne Englund has agreed to run auctions for us on Ebay - described in the last issue of the NJPH Journal - but this is a project that requires your participation. He will gladly put up New Jersey postal material you have for sale, and both the Society and we as members will benefit.

Details for sending material are in the July issue of NJPH. Send your material to Arne Englund, P.O. Box 57, Port Murray, NJ 07865 or email him at **alenglund@aol.com** with questions.

**Remember to look for NJPHS
on Ebay!**

WE NEED ARTICLES NOW!

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

New Jersey postal history are always welcome.

**PLEASE submit these to your Editor: Robert G. Rose
at PO Box 1945**

**Morristown, NJ 07962-1945
or rrose@pitneyhardin.com**

SOUTHARD NOTEBOOKS: Part XVI

by Jean R. Walton



Mr. Southard: A Political Man

Notes

It may perhaps not be said of Samuel Southard that he was a great man. He made no definitive change in the history of our country (unless the Missouri Compromise was authored by him, for which no archival proof exists, only a story repeated by his son-in-law to Lucius Elmer many years after the fact). While he was very well regarded within his time, and considered a New Jersey “favorite son,” history does not hold him in special esteem. Yet he did do one simple thing which makes him worthy of a longer look: he saved almost every piece of correspondence he ever received. And because of this, he has given us a window into the past.

His ambition for office, and his service in both the State and Federal Government, give us a broader look into his era than would have been the case if he had been a simple farmer or store keeper. He interacted with many other people in many different ways. His correspondence gives us a look into those times in a unique and interesting way. So I have no illusions that this was a man who changed history, but he definitely contributed to it, and has brought it alive for us.

For those of you who wonder just why it is important that we record these letters of Southard's, I argue that they are in our caretaking, for whatever pleasure we derive from collecting the postal markings. But they are also part of a larger historical picture. For that reason, their content should be a part of the public record, as so many other of his letters already are - at Princeton, at Rutgers, at the New Jersey Historical Society, in the New York City Public Library, the Naval Archives, and in the Library of Congress. Students of history should be able to access this material, and by transcribing these, we give back a little to the history we are allowed to keep in our hands. A single letter may not always be significant, but taken as part of a larger picture, or in conjunction with other letters, may become more meaningful in a way we may not comprehend from our limited perspective. Even within our own Society, sharing these with each other has let us see other letters from the same correspondent, or items which bear on one another. So should other letters become available, I will happily transcribe them and include them in this record. My thanks to all who have contributed to this work.

Historical Background

For all the different facets of Southard we have seen, perhaps the most essential is that he was a politician in an older sense - a man who wanted the prominence of public office, combined with a desire to serve, and a set of moral principles he felt should be upheld. He was a party man, and his political life was given over in large part to the building of his political party. But this was not entirely for the achievement of personal power. His purpose in his own words:

“Let us not forget that it is for our country we act - for principles that we should contend. Under our system, parties will arise, conflicts of opinion be waged. Let them be parties founded upon principle, not on names; let them be conflicts for right, not for place or power.”¹

¹ Southard, *Address Before the Newark Mechanics' Association, July 5, 1830*
Vol. 30/No. 3
Whole No. 147

This was not to be the case. The elections of the last decade of Southard's life were not based so much on principle as they were a conflict of personalities. Issues and platforms were lost in favor of rhetoric and counter-accusations.

It seems useful in understanding Southard to provide an overview of the political parties on the national scene during this period in time, and how they changed.

The earliest party was the Federalist Party, expounding the principles of Alexander Hamilton - the advocacy of a strong national government under executive leadership [and a somewhat distrustful eye to the common man as able to govern himself - a belief that the best government was that of an elite]. They believed in active government involvement in (and encouragement of) finance, industry, commerce and shipping, with a sympathetic ear to creditors. The Federalists were loath to completely separate themselves from their British heritage.

There soon developed an opposition party under the principles of Jefferson, called the Democratic Republicans whose principles were based more on a democratic agrarian society built on the individual property owners. Their beliefs rested on a stronger respect for the individual to self-govern, and a simpler view of life, a more pastoral society, free of industrialization, urbanism and organized finance. They tended to favor the debtor, and to reject a privileged elitist view which smacked too much of the British point of view. These were the starting points, but like many things in life, they evolved to points quite different than one might expect. Southard was born into a family which strongly espoused these simple Jeffersonian principles of the common man with a strong national pride.

In the years of his maturing - 1800 to 1820 - The Federalist Party slipped from a strong contending opposition, to a party that did not even offer a candidate by 1820. In the 1796 election, the electoral votes were almost evenly divided between John Adams, the Federalist, and Jefferson, the Republican. The early years saw Hamilton proposing a national bank, with opposition from the Republicans who felt that the government that governed least governed best. But with the exception of the years of the War of 1812, when there was strong feeling against a war with "those from whom we are descended" amongst remaining Federalists, Federalist opposition began to dwindle.

In 1820, James Monroe was unopposed in his candidacy for President. Without an opposition, the Republican party began to develop divisions and dissensions within itself. The Congressional caucuses became unpopular, and in 1824, it was State legislatures which nominated candidates. Noteworthy names on that list were John Quincy Adams, Andrew Jackson, Henry Clay, and William Crawford - all Republicans of one shade or another. Jackson received the most electoral votes, but not enough to win the election. This threw the election into the House. Clay withdrew, throwing his votes (and the election) to John Quincy Adams. And thus the forces moved into two camps, pro-Jackson and anti-Jackson - respectively, the Democratic Republicans [soon just the Democrats] and the National Republicans. A new two-party system was born, each claiming a Jeffersonian heritage, and both drawing support from former Federalists.

John Quincy Adams tried hard to be non-political, not exercising his "rights to the spoils" - but this policy did not serve him well. The Jacksonians or Democrats were busy wooing what remained of the Federalist Party to their side with promises of political prizes if elected. By 1828, feelings ran high. Jackson put himself forth as the candidate of the common man, and won the votes of both the South and the West, against the Eastern states where a strong national government and a society geared to industry and commerce leaned more towards the National Republicans.

At this point - around 1831 - the Anti-Masons entered the scene. This was a group that strongly opposed secret societies and the influence they might be bringing to bear on politics. This movement grew to a national party with startling rapidity. Southard's friend and co-adjudicator, William Wirt, became the candidate for President from this party, alarming Southard, who saw this party as drawing off votes from the National Republican forces and their candidate of Henry Clay. Jackson was again elected in 1832, in part because of this.

Enter here the Bank War, which repolarized society. Jackson's opposition to the rechartering of the National Bank, and his removal of deposits to State banks instead, brought down a firestorm of protest, led by men like Henry Clay and Samuel Southard. Curiously, the party which had originally opposed a national bank, now proved its strongest proponent. This was an issue where everyone took sides, not necessarily along previous party lines. "Loco-Focos" were such an example - a radical urban branch of the Democratic Party that differed with Jackson over his bank policies.

By the 1836 elections however, Martin Van Buren, the Democratic candidate and vice president under Jackson, faced a new Party - the Whigs - a re-formation of the National Republican party, folding in again the Anti-Masonic Party, and those who found themselves strongly opposed to Jackson for his bank policy or for his stand on state's rights.² The name "Whig" was formally adopted in 1834, although it had been used earlier. Not fully coalesced on a national level into one strong organization by 1836, it hoped to again throw the election into the House by putting forth not one but three candidates with strong regional followings. Van Buren however received sufficient electoral votes to make this unnecessary.

By 1840, the Whigs were determined to select one candidate, and while the most popular name brought forward was again Clay, it was well-known that he had strong enemies as well as strong allies, and it became clear that he would not win the election. Hence the party turned instead to the less polarizing William Henry Harrison, and coupled him with John Tyler, a "turncoat" from the Democrats over issues of states' rights - and with this combination was able to recapture the Presidency. It was an election full of slogans like the famous "Tippecanoe & Tyler too!" and much party hoopla.

Unfortunately for the Whigs however, Harrison was to become ill at his inauguration, and died a month later of pneumonia. This death made Southard, as President pro tem of the Senate, next in line for the Presidency after Tyler - but it was a hollow achievement. While Harrison had promised acquiescence to the wishes of the Party, the Whigs soon discovered that Tyler was not so amenable. Two attempts by Congress to pass a new Bank bill failed, vetoed by the new president. Southard, who had attempted to pull this party together, said prophetically on Harrison's death:

"We have lost the fruits of ten years' labor. What incomprehensible fatuity in the Convention to nominate John Tyler for Vice-President! I know him thoroughly. He is a well-meaning man, of fair capacity and patriotic intentions, but full of the narrowest Virginia abstractions, and has no sympathy with the principles or purposes of the men who elected him to office. We shall see the Whig party distracted and overthrown, and the Democrats return to power, before the end of two years, as the inevitable consequence of Harrison's death."³

² Jackson had found himself forced by the Nullification Controversy to take a stand against the South Carolinians which left him unpopular with his states' rights constituency.

³ *On The Death Of Harrison - Suggestions Of The Past*, in *The Galaxy, A Magazine Of Entertaining Reading*. Vol. XIII, January, 1872.

Jean R. Walton - Southard Notebooks: A Political Man

Below are letters which reflect some of the political issues of the day. Two refer specifically to some of the offshoot parties which were formed during these years.

One significant difference between Southard and the Jacksonians was their approach to the plight of Native Americans. Southard prided himself and his fellow Jerseymen on the fact that no Indian blood was spilled nor war fought within the State, and all land taken from the Indians was taken fairly by just treaties or sales. As Governor, Southard presided over the last Indian claim in the state. In the Senate, he fought for the rights of the Cherokees and presented petitions on their behalf.⁴ Jackson, on the other hand, encouraged the removal of the Indians from the states to the territories, and forced this evacuation when it was not agreed upon voluntarily. The Seminole Wars in Florida and the Black Hawk War in Illinois and the Wisconsin Territory resulted when his terms were not met, as did the Cherokee "Trail of Tears."

The letter from Ephraim Marsh is a sad commentary on Southard's long life in politics. It reflects the fact that, after his efforts to bring his friend Henry Clay to the forefront of national politics, Clay blamed Southard for the failure to achieve it. This must have been a bitter pill.

Southard died at age 55, a little more than a year after President Harrison. A career that had begun with great promise, and that had blossomed early, seemed somehow to have slipped away. His death, which followed close on the heels of the death of his father, was noted in the Senate Journal in the following manner:

Mr. Miller having announced the decease of the honorable Samuel L. Southard, Mr. King submitted the following resolutions, which were considered, by unanimous consent, and agreed to:

Resolved, unanimously, That a committee be appointed to take order for superintending the funeral of the honorable Samuel L. Southard, which will take place to-morrow at 12 o'clock; that the Senate will attend the same; and that notice thereof be given to the House of Representatives.

Resolved, unanimously, That the members of the Senate, from a sincere desire of showing every mark of respect due to the memory of the honorable Samuel L. Southard, deceased, late President pro tempore thereof, will go into mourning for him for a month by the usual mode of wearing crape on the left arm.

Resolved, unanimously, That, as an additional mark of respect for the memory of the honorable Samuel L. Southard, the Senate do now adjourn.⁵



⁴ John & Robert Ross, to whom Southard acted as guardian, were nephews of Cherokee Chief John Ross, and sons of Indian agent Lewis Ross. Young John entered Princeton and graduated with the class of 1841, but was never able to return to his home in Tennessee. He died in 1842. [See letters from Jn Ross and from H. & S.M. Hamill of the Lawrenceville Academy.]

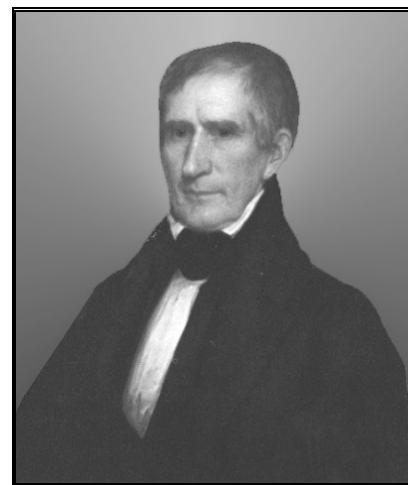
⁵ Senate Journal--Monday, June 27, 1842, on the Library of Congress *American Memory* website

THE ELECTION OF 1840

Philip Hone, Mayor of New York and diarist, wrote in April of 1840:

The Whigs are more ardent and active, and, they say, better organized than usual.... Immense meetings take place every night... Processions parade the streets at night with music, torches, and banners; the prevailing device for the latter is the log-cabin; and hard cider has become the fountain of Whig inspiration. In an evil hour the Loco-Focos taunted the Harrison men with having [nominated] a candidate who lived in a log cabin, and drank hard cider, which the Whigs, with more adroitness than they usually display, appropriated to their own use; and now on all their banners and transparencies the temple of Liberty is transformed into a hovel of unhewn logs; the military garb of [General Harrison] into the frock and shirtsleeves of a laboring farmer. The American eagle has taken his flight, which is supplied by a cider barrel, and the long-established emblem of the ship has given place to the plow. "Hurrah for Tippecanoe!" is heard more frequently than "Hurrah for the

Constitution!" "Behold, old things have passed away, and all things have become new."^{*}



William Henry Harrison



The log cabin and Jersey Lightnin', dispensed freely, became symbols of the Whig campaign in 1840.

A Jersey cider mill



^{*} Nevins, Allan, ed. *The Diary of Philip Hone, 1828-1851* Dodd, Mead, & Co. NY 1927. The log cabin view is from a campaign handkerchief of the period. The Cider Mill picture is from *The History of Hudson County and of the Old Village of Bergen*, Trust Co. of New Jersey, Jersey City, NJ 1921.

Vincent Town
Sept 8
Honourable
Samuel S. Southward Esq
Secretary of the Navy
Washington

Collection of: Joseph Geraci

Letter addressed to:

Honorable Samuel L. Southard [sic], Esq.
Secretary of the Navy
Washington

Southard: Sept 8, 1828

P'mkd: Vincent Town [mss].
[Free]

From: Wm. Frick

[Noted: Gen'l Frick, ans'd 16 Sept from N.York} {plus a penciled not which says: "What can I say or do in this case?" and an additional note in a different hand which says: "Mr. A's letter to Heartwell of the State of NYork explicitly states that he is not & never will be a-----{Freemason}"

Dear Sir,

Vincentown Sept. 8th 1828

In conversation with some of my neighbors a short time since, they alleged as a reason why they would not support the present administration that Mr. Adams was a Freemason. I told them I had never so understood, but I was well informed that Jackson was. To me it will make no difference when I consider that Mr. Adams is the most fit man I have any knowledge of - and but few men that I am acquainted with of any standing but what are as suitable as General Jackson. If consistent with your feelings, please to inform me whether Mr. Adams is or is not a Freemason. If it should turn out that he is, no person will ever know it from me.

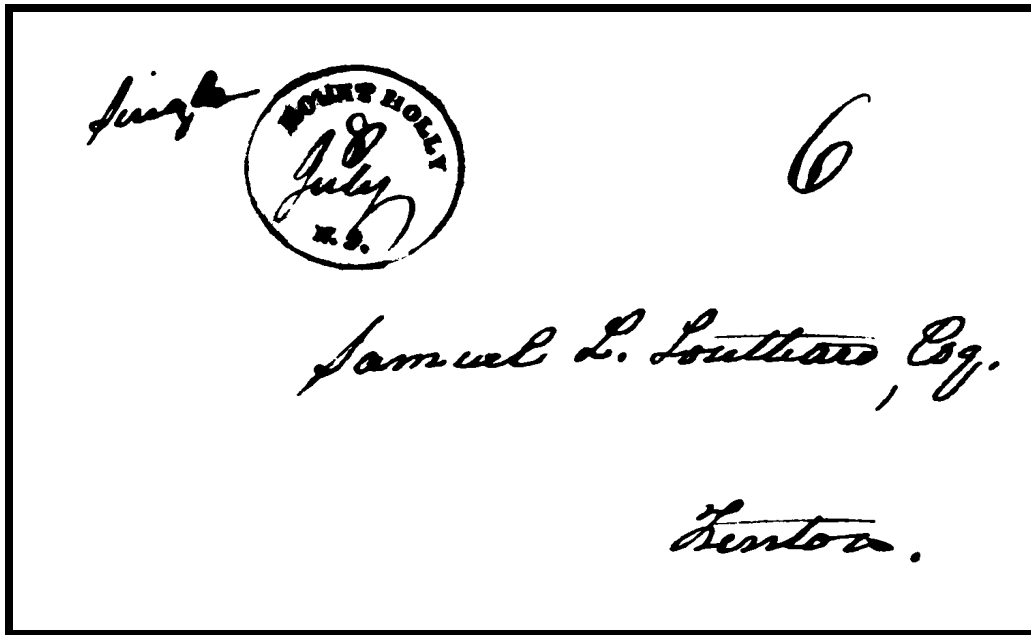
Respectfully your

Very humble servant

Honorable Sam'l L. Southard, Esq.

Wm Frick

* The Anti-Masons appeared as a political party after a N.Y. State resident who had prepared an exposé of Freemasonry disappeared in 1826. The subsequent investigation found that virtually all N.Y. office holders were Freemasons, and the reaction resulted in a party opposed to Freemasonry and other such secret societies. Jackson was a Freemason; Adams was not. This party had lost its significance by 1836, and was eventually absorbed by the Whigs.



Collection of: Robert Rose
Letter addressed to:
Samuel L. Southard, Esq.
Trenton.
From: Sam Brown

Southard Jul 8, 1829
P'mkd: Mount Holly, NJ
[M55/Single/6]

Mount Holly July 7, 1829

My Dear Sir,

Your letter of 8th June is received but owing to absence from home and other circumstances, has not received as early an answer as it ought to have done.

Governor Bloomfield sent to me many years ago a communication he had received from same Indian Agent, requesting information relative to the lands referred to in your letter. At his request, & entirely without confirmation, I made a very laborious investigation & reported to him the results of it, which he sent on to the agent. I have not now in my possession or power any papers or document relating to this matter, and after so great a lapse of time, I cannot [return] from memory to state the result of my investigation. All the information I can give you must therefore, in its character, be general.

You are aware that Josiah Foster claimed this land under the will of Charles Moolis, the Indian chief. This will was admitted to probate on an appeal to Governor Bloomfield after having been decided against by the Orphan's Court of this county. Foster however was not permitted to reap the benefit of the devise to him. The supposed manner of his obtaining the will produced great excitement in the county, & the Legislature, upon application, was induced to pass a special act appointing commissioners to take possession of the land & account with the Common Pleas for the proceeds, etc. The land remained in the possession and under the control of these commissioners for many years -- [] tho, & not very many years ago, Josiah Foster, having made conveyances for this property, an action of ejectment was instituted in the Circuit Court of the United States, by his partner, and this land was in that [] recovered. The letters of the plaintiff went into possession under that recovery & afterwards conveyed it to William Newbold, whose devisees are I presume in possession of it. Josiah Foster is dead, insolvent. The present holding of this Indian trail, confiding in the recovery of the

Jean R. Walton - Southard Notebooks: A Political Man

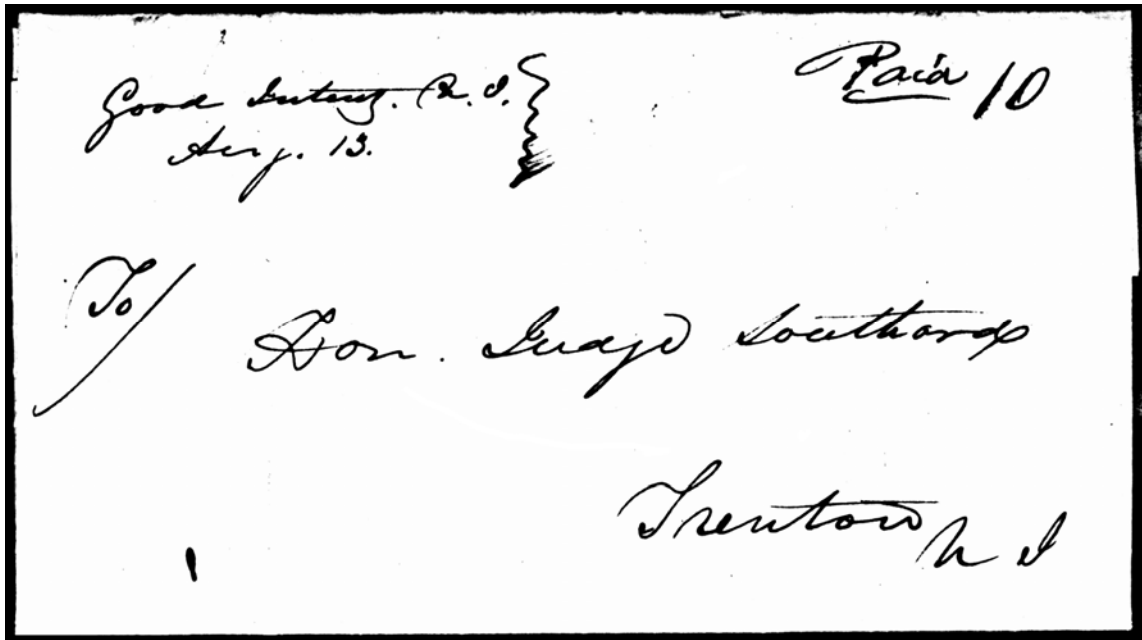
Circuit Court, will that I presume make any compromise or give any sum for the Indian claim, which they confides as [extengenious?]. Your friend, R. L. Coxe, of Washington, tried the cause against the Indian commissioners, so can, I presume from his notes of that side, give you much more precise information on this subject than I am able, as present, to do.

Very respectfully
Saml Brown

Samuel L. Southard, Esq



Illustrations from Smith's Geography, 1840



Collection of: E. E. Fricks
Letter addressed to:
To. Hon. Judge Southard
Trenton, N.J.
From: P.J. Gray

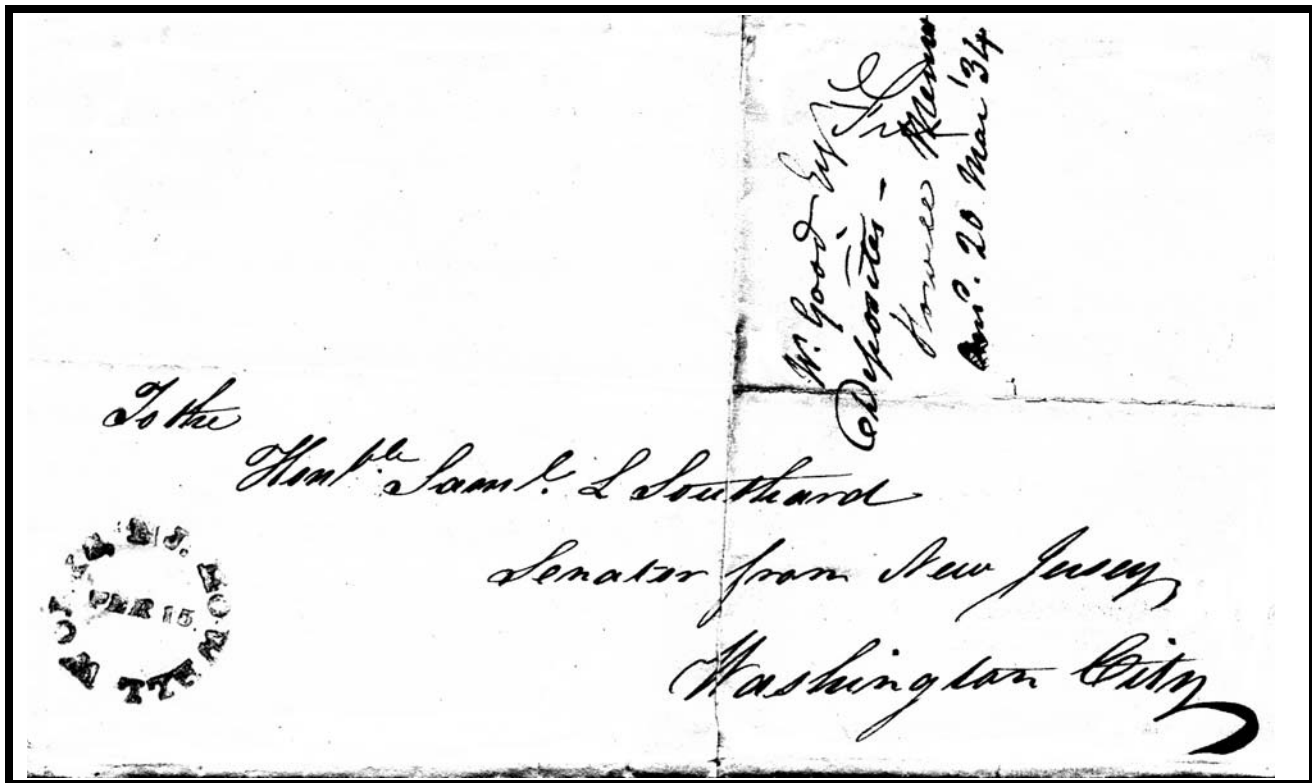
Southard: Aug 13, 1831
P'mkd: Good Intent, NJ
PAID 10

Good Intent, Aug. 13, 1831

Dear Sir,

I have just heard that Cunningham and his companion were far nearer the Boyer house than I was aware of when I had the pleasure of seeing you. This approach to house excited the dogs and when Cooper (a black man, who may recollect was a witness in the trial) came out to them, they told him they were looking at land they were about buying, but he said they looked "too close" and he was afraid they are kidnapping. A white man saw them shortly after, very near where Cade & I found the ten dollars, and his attention was drawn to notice their movements, from their close hunting the grounds, poking and scratching up the leaves and herbage, and [burying] under some heaps of lumber handy when Ben the thief was seen shortly after the robbery. I am still under the impression they returned disappointed, but a second visit will result more successfully. They have obtained by this attempt some knowledge of realities, which will render a second map more intelligible. They were seen by Cooper to refer to a paper from time to time, to aid them in the search. I could learn nothing of his passage up or down in the boat. The Captain couldn't tell because he had handed over his list of passengers for those trips to the agent, a Mr. Sims at Bloomsberg, who may be found at Baily's hotel, where the books are kept by him. Whatever is done should be done promptly, as they will certainly be down again before long, better advised and carry off the prize. Detection then would be difficult. I feel some anxiety on the subject and if I can any way aid in your [plans?] I beg the favor of a line. Two hundred dollars in a large sum to me, and should I recover it now by the availing aid of this pair of knaves, it would warm me much in the cause of Henry Clay.

I hope my dear sir this scrawl will find you in an improved state of health, and [C-y] to remain
Very Respectfully yours, P.J. Gray



Collection of: Jean Walton

Letter addressed to:

To the Hon'ble Sam'l L. Southard
Senator from New Jersey
Washington City

Southard: February 15, 1834

P'mkd: Howell Works, N.J.

[H26 w/printed date in red ink*]

mss Free

From: Wm. Good

[Noted: Wm Good Esq./Deposites/Howell Mem./ ans. 20 Mar. '34] cover folded very large to accommodate the memorial of names [a petition - not present]

Dear Sir

Howell Works 14 Febr 1834

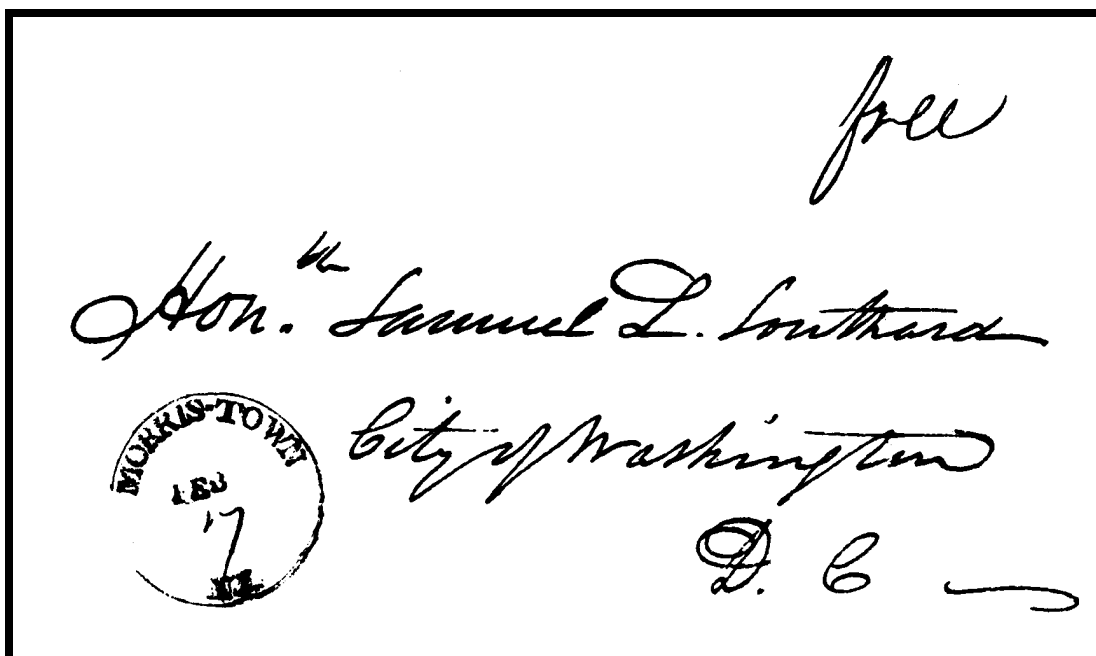
I have the honour on behalf of a Meeting of your fellow citizens held in this Township to transmit [to] you their Resolutions and memorial to Congress, signed by Farmers, Mechanics and laboring classes, and request you to present the Memorial to the Senate of the United States with such remarks as you may think the occasion requires, as it is a subject of vital importance not only as regards the prosperity of our Country, but as we conceive the very existence of our sacred charter, bought by the blood and treasures of our Fathers, depend upon the course the present Congress may pursue. We therefore call upon the Senate (as the only hope left for the country) "To ask for nothing but what is right, and submit to nothing that is wrong."

To the Honorable Sam'l L. Southard

I remain

Your most Oblig. & Obt. Servt,
Wm. Good

*Coles lists and illustrates the Howell Works cancel with a manuscript date, as the one shown in "A Favor Please" [NJPH March 2002, Whole No. 145] dated 11 Oct. 1834. This mark has the date printed with the canceller.



Collection of: Robert Rose

Letter addressed to:

Hon'l Sam'l L. Southard Esq.

City of Washington, D.C.

From: Walter Kirkpatrick

[Noted: Walter Kirkpatrick/rec'd 21 Feb '34/no answer]

Southard Feb 17 1834

P'mkd: Morristown, NJ

[M46 in red/mss free]

Dear Sir

I feel grateful for the many favoring rec'd from you since the Meeting of Congress. I had read your speech in the newspaper, and have just finished reading it again, in its corrected form. I had thought the subject almost exhausted, before you took the floor, but have found that I was mistaken.*

Good sentiments, one would think, would accord with the feelings of every honest American - Your inspirations and eloquent exposure of the unjustifiable and reckless course of the Government, must make every true hearted Jerseyman, and especially a native of Bernard, feel proud.

I need not tell you, that the instructions of our legislature, are not such as the people of New Jersey would give. I have just returned from Morris Co. The manufacturing of iron, cotton, paper - all suffer seriously. To some, relief cannot now come in time to prevent their ruin. Many who had been most violent partisans - justifying the administration in its every act - condemn its course, since they have been brought to feel the effects of its arbitrary and lawless measures.

I beg you to present my best respect to Mr. H.W. Clay. I shall feel grateful for a continuance of your favors.

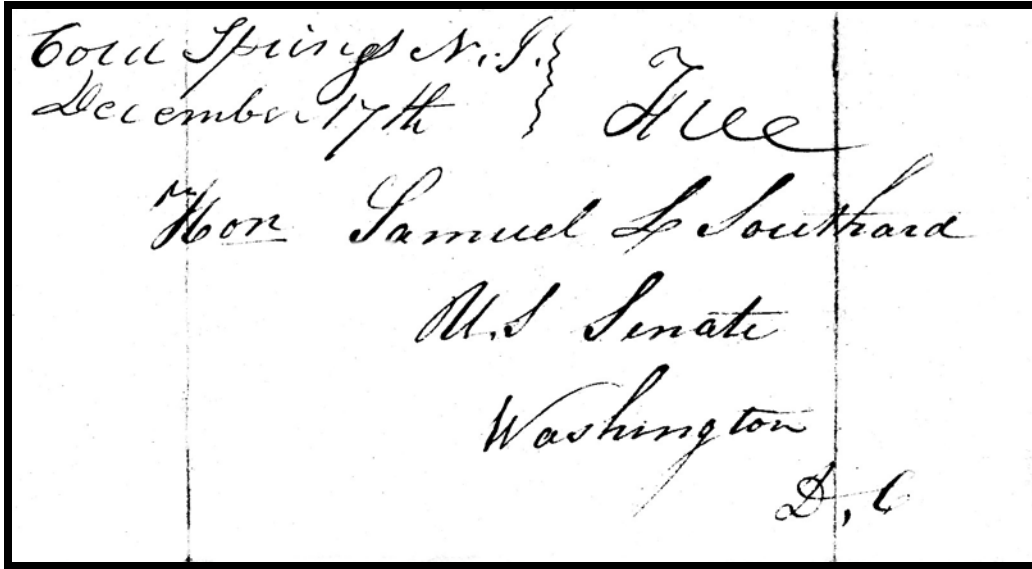
Very Respectfully and truly your friend etc.

Walter Kirkpatrick

Feb 17, 1834

Hon. Sam'l L. Southard

* A reference to Mr. Southard's speech on the removal of deposits from the US Bank, delivered in the Senate over three days in January of 1834. It covers 50 plus pages in its printed form. The previous letter also pertains to Southard's efforts against the removal of "deposites," placing them in favored state banks.



Contributed by: Craig Mathewson
Letter addressed to:
Hon Samuel L. Southard
U.S. Senate
Washington, D.C..

Southard: Dec 17, 1838
P'mkd: Cold Springs N.J.
[mss]
Dec 17th/Free

From: Samuel S. Marcy

[Noted: Sam S. Marcy/rec'd 7 Jan 39 - relating to claim at C. May for wharf etc etc./ 19 Jan wrote that I advise delay 'till next Session]*

Honorable Samuel L. Southard
Dear Sir,

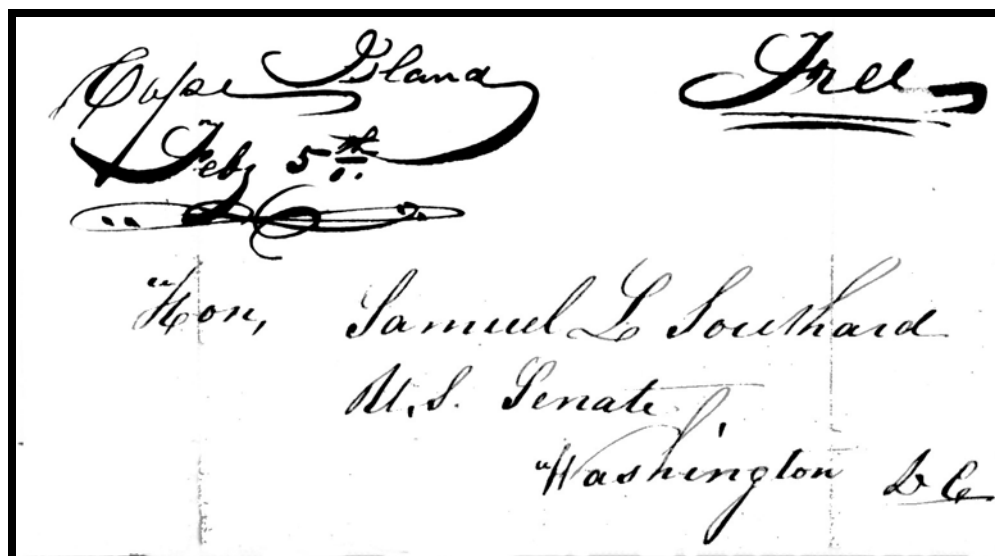
I would again trespass upon your time and patience, by calling your attention to the claim of the owning of the Steam Boat Wharf lost while engaged in the survey of [Cu s] shoal in the Delaware Bay. The last that we heard of the petition, the committee to whom it was referred and acted upon voted to reconsider. If not improper, we wish the claim kept alive until the committee make a final disposition of it. Perhaps they will not find sufficient leisure during the present short session, but may during the next.

With sentiments of respect

Yours etc.

Samuel S. Marcy
Cold Spring Cape May, N.J.
Dec. 17th 1838

* Note also the letter from the same correspondent dated Feb. 5, 1840 on the same subject.



Contributed by: Craig Mathewson
Letter addressed to:
Hon Samuel L. Southard
U.S. Senate
Washington, D.C..

Southard: Feb 5th, 1840
P'mkd: Cape Island
[mss]
Feb 5th/Free

From: Samuel S. Marcy

[Noted: Sam'l S. Marcy/Cold Spring Cape May re'd & ans. - 7 Feb 1840 - that no hope from Committee this Session]*

Cold Spring Cape May N.J. Jan 31 '40

Honorable Samuel L. Southard

I hope, dear sir, that your patience will not become exhausted by our calling your attention so often to the subject of our petition. You are aware that ours is a special interest; we are aware that yours can only be a general interest, arising from a wish to be useful to your constituents. And no one will dare for a moment, to doubt your ability or inclination. Respecting our petition, you will call it up whenever you think it the most propitious moment to do so. We leave it for your better judgment.

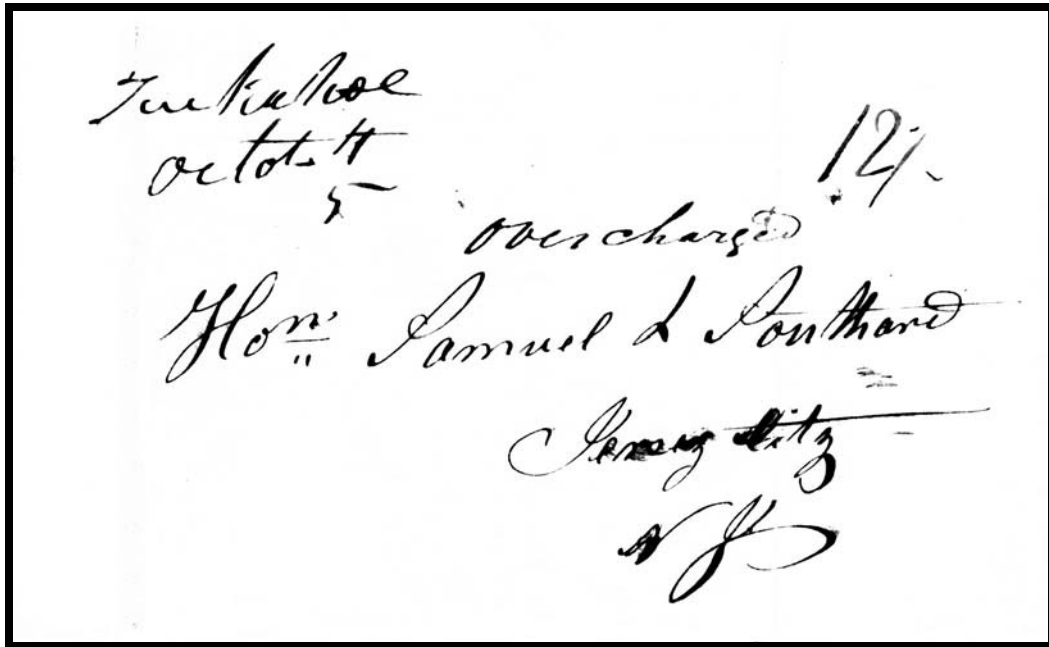
We place great reliance upon Maj. Bache certificate, wherein he says that had we not surrendered the use of our wharf for the purposes of the survey, that government must have erected a similar structure for that purpose. The only question arises, would the United States have suffered less of more by paying for ours than they would have done to have lost their own. In either case the results would be the same.

With the highest sentiments of respect, etc.

Hon. S. L. Southard

Samuel S. Marcy

* This seems to be a case of committee agendas in the Senate - and this particular item seems not to be able to get a hearing. This letter and the letter dated Dec. 17, 1838 refer to the same matter.



Contributed by: Craig Mathewson

Letter addressed to:

Hon Samuel L. Southard

Jersey City

N.J.

From: Rich. S. Ludlow

[Noted: Cape Island]

Southard: Oct 5, 1840

P'mkd: Tuckahoe

[mss]

October 5th/12 1/2/overcharged

Cape Island Oct 5 1840

Dear Sir

At a recent meeting held in this place, it was resolved that we should hold a convention at Cape May Court House on the 20th Inst. It has devolved on me by a resolution at the same time to invite our friends who are laboring to restore our constitution and laws to attend. The Whig cause is going on triumphantly in our county, but we hope by November, with our exertions and the assistance of our friends, that Vanburenism may become extinct. Knowing that you are zealously engaged in this good cause, we flatter ourselves of having your company on that day. If any of our friends should [should] feel disposed to accompany you, we should be very happy [to] see them. Be pleased to let me hear from you on the receipt of this whether it will be in your power to attend.

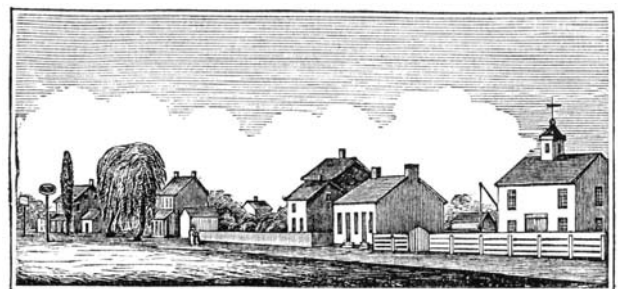
I remain yours very

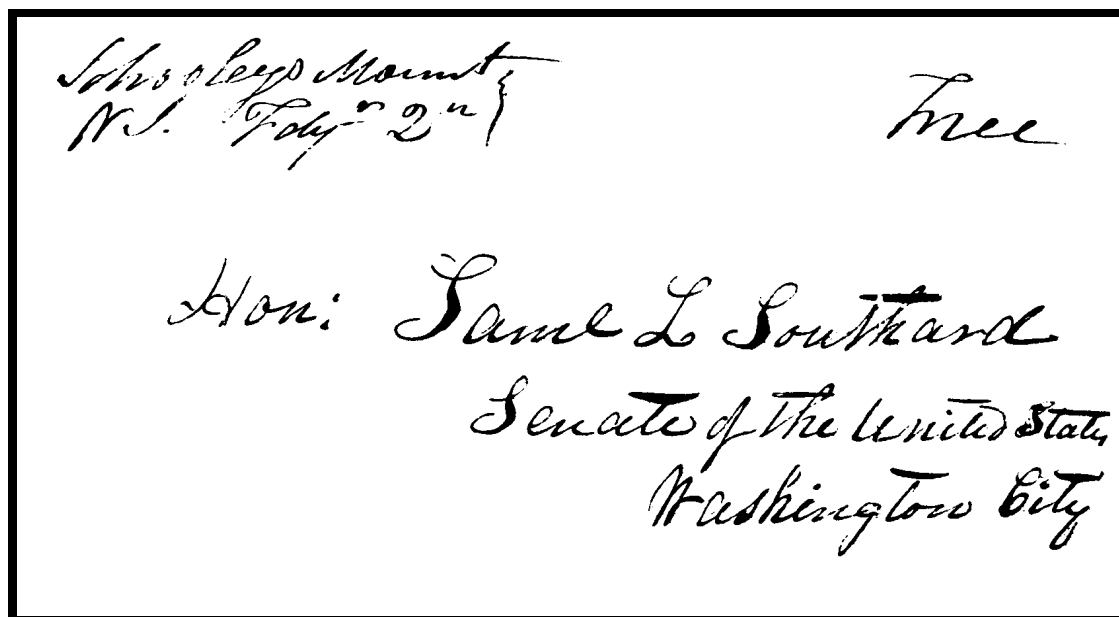
Respectfully,

Rich'd S. Ludlow

Cape May Courthouse

Hon. S. L. Southard.





Collection of: Robert Rose
Letter addressed to:
Hon. Sam'l L. Southard
Senate of the United States
Washington City

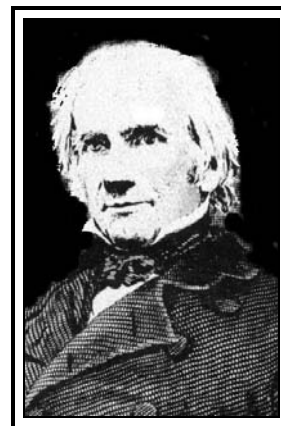
Southard: Feb 2, 1841
P'mkd: Schooleys Mount, NJ
[mss Feb 2 in blue/Free]

From: E. Marsh
[Noted: E. Marsh]

Schooleys Mount, 1st February 1841

My Dear Sir,

I have been not a little perplexed for some time past in observing rumors in relation to the New Cabinet that your name has not been mentioned for a place there which I had supposed you would be willing to accept. I mean that of Attorney General. And my difficulties were increasing in perceiving that Mr. Clay had very great influence with the President-elect in the formation of his Cabinet, and you who I supposed would be among the first in Mr. Clay's estimation had not been by him recommended. In conversing with your brother, Col. Southard, and some other of our friends in Trenton a few days ago, I learned for the first time that Mr. Clay had discovered some mortification in not having been the nominee of the Harrisburg Convention, and has been disposed to reflect somewhat upon the delegates from N. Jersey for the course they pursued there. If this is so, I regret exceedingly that Mr. Clay should allow himself to be imposed upon and I would most cheerfully embrace an opportunity to disabuse him in that matter. And another source of regret is that it would appear as if he held you responsible for the act of the N.J. delegation. All this is passing strange to me for I well recollect how importunate you were but a night or two before I set out to Harrisburg that no consideration should be allowed to prevent Mr. Clay's nomination. And when the whole delegation met at the United States Hotel in Phila. On their way, upon



Henry Clay

comparing opinions there, all were candidly in favor of Mr. Clay and carried that feeling with them to Harrisburg. And I am free to say that no matter how strong were the preferences of any there for Mr. Clay, they did not go before the New Jersey delegation in their attachments to him or in their desire that he should be nominated if he would have been likely to be elected, but soon we found that the chances of election were great against him. And we with many others were compelled to yield to the necessity of the case and to forego the gratification of seeing him in nomination for that high office. If Mr. Clay entertains these feelings, he had then not, I am persuaded, from any representation made to him of our course by his particular friend Gen'l Combs. For Gen'l Combs cannot but recollect one or more interviews between him and myself in which we entirely concurred in opinion, and when he witnessed the grief and mortification of N. Jersey as I represented her in being obliged to part for a time with the services of Mr. Clay in the first office of the nation. I should be gratified Sir in hearing from you upon this important subject.

Robert E. Honner informs me that he is a candidate for the office of Sergeant of Arms for the Senate. I do believe that Mr. Honner in that situation would be useful to our party in New Jersey. He is exceedingly industrious and would be likely I think to employ much of the time in collecting and disseminating political matters in New Jersey. I am aware, Sir, that the Princeton Whig has more than once reflected upon our Members of Congress for remissness as he supposed in sending public documents into N.J. but I feel persuaded that you will not let a matter of that kind interfere with your support of him to the office he seeks. If there is a probability that he in that situation could render valuable service to the party here. In any view I have been able to take of the matter I should be gratified if he could get the appointment.

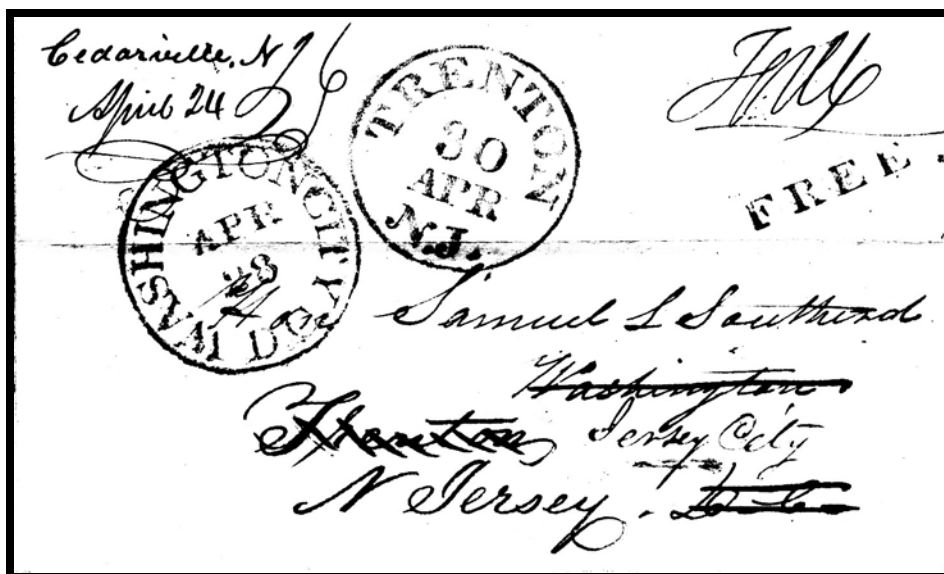
I am Sir sincerely yours etc.

E. Marsh

Hon. S.L. Southard



Schooley's Mountain Spring House.



Collection of: Jean Walton

Letter addressed to:

Samuel L. Southard, Esqr.

~~Washington D.C.~~

~~Trenton~~ Jersey City N. Jersey

From: Spencer Frary.

[Noted: Mr. Camblass - clerk]

Southard: Apr 24, 1841

P'mkd: Cedarville, N.J.

[mss]

Free [forwarded twice]

Trenton [T14] Free [ha]*

Honorable Samuel L. Southard

Sir,

Having received a document of you (for which I tender you my grateful acknowledgement), I find that some kind friend has given me a favorable introduction to you. I would take the same liberty to introduce to your notice Mr. Samuel Dane and others of Newport in this county that will shortly address you concerning George W. Camblass from Newport and, it is said, is now a clerk in the Land Office at Washington. Mr. Camblass has not only been a brawling politician but has for the last four years been [seating] the firebrands of Locofocoism and has given his official influence to the purposes of his party and thereby bringing the patronage of government in conflict with the freedom of elections. We wish sir the doctrines held forth by our worthy Chief Magistrate to be carried out in full in the case of Mr. Camblass as well as all others who have been guilty of the like offence.

I am Sir your obedient servant

Spencer Frary

Cedarville, Cumberland County

New Jersey 22nd April 1841

* See Coles, Fig 104, p.73

NEW MEMBERS

NEW MEMBERS

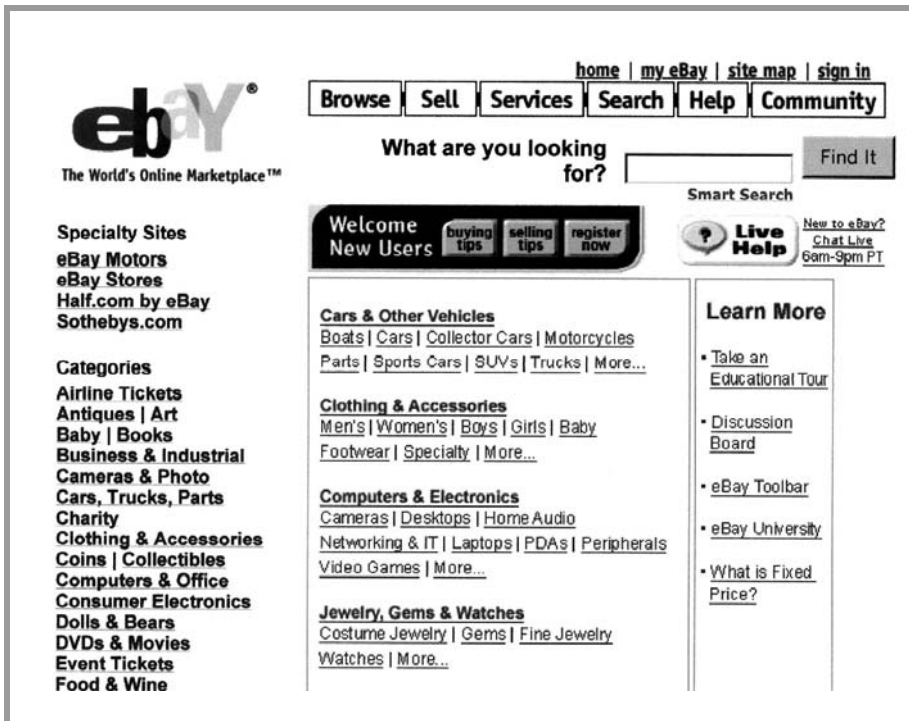
Name & Address	Email address	Interests
Harold W. Gingery 23 Helton Terrace Montville, NJ 07045-9132	n/a	First Day covers
James E. Kenney 436 Colfax Rd. Havertown, PA 19083-1315	n/a	Plumbing & heating advertising covers - pre-1900
Andrew Kupersmit 209A Amboy Ave. Metuchen, NJ 08837	akupersmit@siegelauctions.com	Metuchen
David Levine 123 Edgewood Dr. Tom's River, NJ 08755	n/a	20th Century postmarks & slogan cancels
Frederick J. Mancuso 17 Theodore Ave. Maple Shade, NJ 08052	Stampking1@aol.com	
Ronald A Margulis 642 Summit Ave. Westfield, NJ 07090-3221	ron@rampr.com	Maps, cities, airmail
Phillip J. Marks P.O. Box 1154 Merchantville, NJ 08109-0154	catsport@aol.com	Camden Cty; Cape May Cty., Atlantic Cty.
Bruce Mosher P.O.Box 033236 Indialantic, FL 32903	bhmexp@digital.net	NJ private express labels & covers
Frederick C Skvara P.O. Box 6228 Bridgewater, NJ 08807	Fcskvara@bellatlantic.net	Medical postal history, Rutgers postal history
Edward W. Werbany 519 Stone Rd. Laurel Springs, NJ 08021	n/a	PNC 3/First Day covers
Reinstated: Victor B. Krievins P.O. Box 555 Abington, 19001	n/a	Dealer

ONLINE OPPORTUNITIES: Buying on Ebay

by Njpostalhistory@aol.com



It seems, in the Internet age of stamp collecting, that it might be useful to members to include some information about online philatelic research and opportunities. This forum is intended to aid beginners and share useful sites amongst our members. We welcome suggestions and recommendations of any websites you have found particularly useful.



To begin, open your browser [Internet Explorer, Netscape Navigator, or whatever your Internet Service Provider supplies] and go to any search engine [we recommend www.google.com] and put Ebay in the keyword search. Ebay will almost invariably come up as a first choice. Go to that site and you will see the screen at left.

You can then click on the "site map" at top, which will take you to categories such as "stamps", or you can do that from this screen by scrolling down to Stamps in the list at the left. Click on that, and you can narrow your search to US material. This will bring up all US material; look again to the left of the screen, and you will see categories within US stamps. For a New Jersey Postal History collector, you can choose a particular time period, or go to Postal History. [The numbers in parentheses indicate how many items are listed in that category at the time you are looking.] Then, at left, note the box for Basic Search. Search within that category for New Jersey or NJ [do two separate searches, remembering to check the box for "in titles AND descriptions."]

Or, you can just go to "Search..." and put in the name of a particular town, or a special type of cancel, such as a "Doane." But of course you will get every mention of that town, and with cancels, these may not be recognized by the seller, so in this case, browsing the category may find you items that were not clearly described by the seller. Misspellings too can make items "invisible" to the "Search...". You can also search by seller, so when NJPHS has items up, a seller search by this name will show you all the items that Arne has listed at the moment for the Society.

ONLINE OPPORTUNITIES

As a beginning, it seemed a good time to introduce members who have not already ventured into cyberspace too deeply, to the Ebay buying experience, to complement Arne Englund's article on Ebay selling, in our last issue, under the NJPHS username.

Ebay is a giant flea market, where you can buy everything from cars to knickknacks. While this sounds overwhelming, the division of items into categories [and the ability to search these categories separately] make this all very easy. You must register your email to bid, but this costs you nothing, and your ID on Ebay can be protected from all but the seller's eyes by use of a 'username,' or nickname. Ebay provides the marketplace, but as a buyer, you are dealing only with the seller; your bid is a contract with the seller only, and if you win an item, Ebay will let you know that you won, but it is up to you and the seller to contact one another and arrange a method of payment. This is usually by check or money order, and sometimes, if you wish, by some form of electronic payment, but this is usually not necessary if you are uncomfortable with it.

For stamp collectors or postal history collectors, the search is simplified by clicking on site map. This takes you to a page which has a **Browse** heading on the left, under which you will see **Stamps**. Clicking **Stamps** will take you to a list of countries, the first of which is **United States**. Clicking **United States** will open a page with a listing of items available, but it is probably best to use the continuation of **Categories** at the left. If it is covers, not stamps, that you are searching for, it would, for example, be a good idea to choose **Postal History**. Once on that page, put New Jersey or NJ in the search box, and choose both **titles and descriptions**. This will bring up items that include New Jersey in the description [and some miscellaneous New Jersey sellers].

Once our own auctions are up and running, the easiest search for our own material would be to click the **Search** button at the top of the Ebay page. If you click **Search by seller**, and put **NJPHS** in the search box, it should bring up any auctions currently running with material put up by our own members. You can also do this with other of your favorite sellers.

If you collect only a certain town, you can enter the exact name [in which case, it is better to select **Advanced Search**, where you can search for an exact phrase or specific words. Be sure to check the **Titles and Descriptions** box, and remember to search for both NJ & New Jersey. It is often surprising how many items it will find for you. You can then browse each item at leisure, bidding on those that interest you, passing on those that don't take your fancy. You may search without registering, so it gives you an opportunity to look and see with no commitment.

Each of us who is already addicted to Ebay hunting has, no doubt, developed methods of searching that suit us best. My husband, who collects numerous countries and all manner of material from postal stationery to revenues, will search each country. I go almost exclusively to postal history or postal stationery, and search within these areas for specific items only. For a Southard search, I often just put Southard in the search box and search within titles and descriptions [without going to **Stamps**], and it will find every mention of this name in all items listed on Ebay at that time - often none are pertinent, but occasionally I will find a winner. And it is important to keep trying: what is listed one week is different than what is listed the next. It is a constantly changing marketplace. If nothing else, it is fun to see what items that interest you or that you have in your own collection will close at.

Once you have registered with Ebay, you can bid. Ebay allows you to bid 'by proxy' - that is, your bid shows at the opening bid, or one increment above the last high bid, but your real bid, which may be much higher, will not show. If other bidders bid in, Ebay will raise your bid accordingly to a

step above that bidder, unless of course, your high bid has been exceeded. For example, an item starts at \$9.99, and you would really like to buy it. You might enter a bid of \$36.88 - I recommend uneven bids as harder for other bidders to "find" - no one else has bid yet, so Ebay shows your bid as \$9.99. Someone else discovers the same item and bids - let's say, perhaps, \$25.00 - Ebay will now show 3 bids, and your bid will be raised to \$25.50 [an increment over the new bidder's bid]. That bidder, or another bidder, may try again to find your high bid, so be prepared to see your bid go higher - this is a good reason to never put in a bid that is higher than you want to pay, because you may just end up paying it. However, if you do want to raise your own bid, don't worry that you will now be outbidding yourself. Ebay will simply raise your high bid in their records for proxy bidding.

Don't be fooled by low starting prices - it encourages bidding - or by items that don't seem to have any bids even though they are close to closing. There are often last minute bidders who will not bid until just before [seconds before] closing, for a variety of reasons.

Many people like to be on hand to watch the close of auction on the items they have bid on. Some even open two windows of Internet Explorer, and with one, continually refresh, and in the other, have a last minute bid ready in case they are outbid. This is exciting, but unnecessary, and does not protect you from last second "snipers." It is an easy way to get your ego too involved, and end up bidding higher than you know is best. A safer method to place a last minute bid [and keep your ego in check] is to do it through Esnipe [www.esnipe.com] where you can register, and for every dollar an item costs, you will pay a penny [except for items not in US dollars, where a flat fee of \$1.00 is charged]. Esnipe will bid your real bid seconds before closing. If you do not win the item, you pay nothing. Of course other bidders may be doing the same thing, and so an item which has stood at \$9.99 for 6 days and 23 hours, may suddenly have three bids at the very end, and someone may want it more than you do. **NEVER BID MORE THAN YOU ARE WILLING TO PAY!** Your bid is a contract, and you will be expected to pay, even if it is higher than you thought it could ever go. Ebay of course does not favor Esnipe bidding, as they are heavily invested in the bidding wars which make an item's price go up.

For the buyer, Ebay can be a very rewarding experience which costs little or nothing except what you bid and the cost of shipping [pay attention there too, to where a seller is, US or abroad, and what he seems to expect you to pay in postage]. The listing costs are all paid by the seller, not the buyer. There is no buyer's 15% add-on, as there are in most major auction houses today. And two things work in your favor on price: you may recognize the value of something where the seller does not, and the 'bargain mentality' of Ebay - things often do go more cheaply than you would have found them at a show.

All this said, *caveat emptor!*

- Never bid more than you are happy paying.
- Check pictures carefully - almost all items now have them - for faults, tears or other things affecting condition. Sometimes these are not described by the seller, for lack of English, or unwillingness to draw attention to the flaws of an item.
- Also be cautious of material that can be easily faked or forged. You are not always dealing with APS-accredited dealers, and while Ebay eliminates sellers known to misrepresent the material they are selling, they cannot know all the sellers. Check "feedback" on a seller, particularly if you are bidding on an expensive item. Any negative feedback should be a red flag.

ONLINE OPPORTUNITIES

- Ask questions of the seller if you are unsure about anything regarding an item. A reputable seller should answer quickly.
- Note where the item is you are bidding on - it may be in some foreign country, and this may affect what you pay to get it - postage being higher, and in some cases requiring registered mail. Not to say this does not make it worth it.
- Note what kind of payment a seller accepts. Some sellers, particularly in Eastern Europe, cannot accept cash and will ask you to pay by credit card. Other sellers in other places will ask you to pay by cash, because US check charges are so high in Western Europe and elsewhere [sending cash often means you must send it by registered mail, a significant extra expense]. Some foreign sellers have arranged an easy payment method in the US. Most US sellers - which is where most New Jersey items will be - are happy to accept cash, personal check, or money orders. Some sellers charge the flat postage only; others have a fixed rate that covers their packing costs as well.

While there are cautions, for the most part Ebay is a rewarding experience. It allows both individual sellers and dealers to reach people they would not ordinarily have seen at shows. It is a wide open marketplace, and has brought people together from all over the globe - a remarkable thing. If you have not already ventured in, I recommend you do so.



ARTICLES REVIEWED, by Bob Zanoni

Post Office First Proposals: August 11, 1794 by Tom Clarke.

Tom Clarke, Philadelphia Postal History Scholar and much published philatelic author, has researched and published in *La Posta* an article about the 1794 publication by the United Post Office of the first proposed postal routes across the then United States. This is a nine-page article with a replication of the newspaper Gazette of the United States and Daily Evening Advertiser masthead for August 11, 1794 and a complete transcription of the newspaper's text which listed the proposed postal routes. Paragraphs 44 thru 50 address the New Jersey routes. Mr. Clarke also addresses the use of newspapers in the search of postal history. *La Posta* July 2002, pages 62 -70.

The History of Divided Back United States Post Card s - Everything You Ever Wanted to Know About Messages on the Address Side by Randy Stehle.

Randy Stehle, a Postal History scholar, has penned this article, which really fulfills the meaning of the article's title. His research and writings supply, with full references to Post Office Department bulletins and many illustrations, all that is needed to understand the regulations which applied to this issue of undivided vs. divided backs and the preprinted text on post cards. *La Posta* July 2002, pages 54 - 59.

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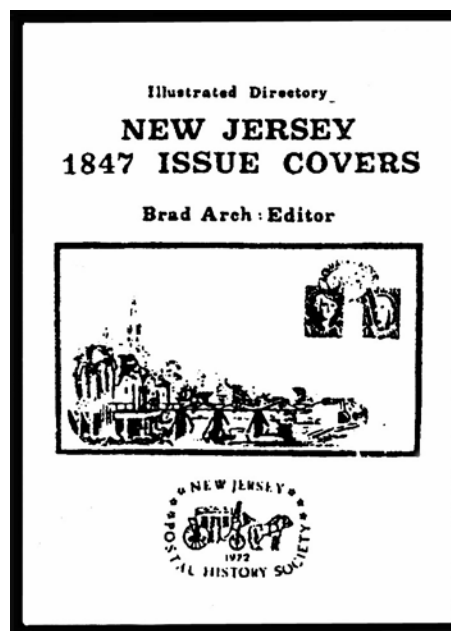
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