



NJPH

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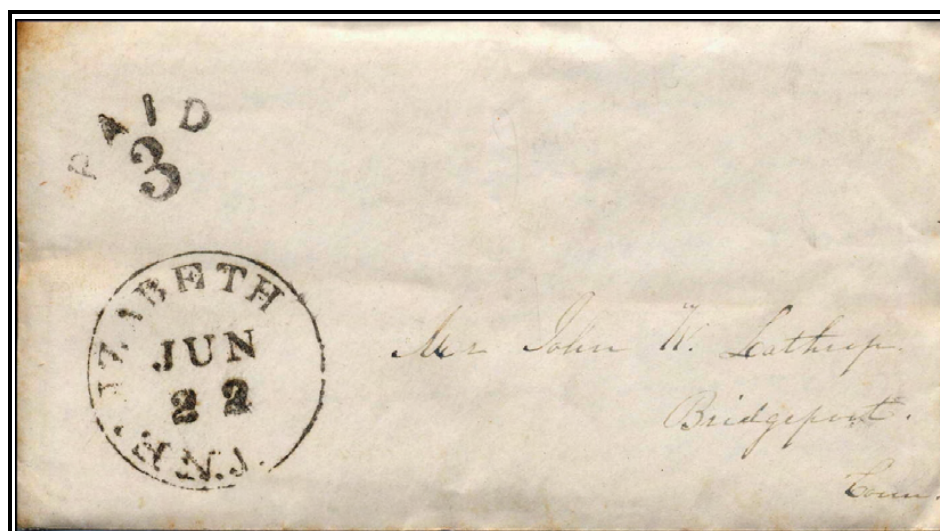
Vol. 39

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August 2011

New Elizabeth, NJ Marking!



This newly-discovered Elizabeth postmark falls at the time the name was changed from Elizabethtown to Elizabeth, and a new handstamp was created from an existing Elizabethtown postmark. For more information see [page 135](#), and visit our [Featured Cover page](#) at www.NJPostalHistory.org.

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OUR SINCERE THANKS!

We are most grateful to the following donors, since our last issue, for their contributions: Daniel Elliott and Charles Hogate. We also appreciate the help offered at the NJPHS table at NOJEX by Arne Englund.

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

This issue of *NJPH* includes a wide range of articles addressing the postal history of our state including Transatlantic mail to and from Jersey City, 18th Century New Brunswick covers, the history of both the Liberty Corner and Wharton post offices, a look at Millville 100 years ago, the illegal use of postage stamps in place of revenue stamps on a Morris & Essex Railroad document, another installment of Don Chafetz's award winning exhibit of Morris County postal history, and my article on the discovery of a previously unrecorded Elizabeth postmark from the end of the stampless period.

Congratulations are due to one of our Society's newest members, John Barwis, whose exhibit "*The Half-Lengths of Victoria, 1850-59*" won the World Series of Philately's Champion of Champions competition at the APS StampShow in Columbus earlier this month. Speaking of stamp shows, if you have the opportunity over Labor Day weekend, be sure to visit MERPEX. I understand that there will be an exhibit of New Jersey postal history in the competition this year. Our own Gene Fricks will be one of the judges at the show.

The age of computer technology has made the sharing of information so much easier to students of postal history. Be sure to read the announcements in this issue of our Journal concerning recent additions to our web site as well as the availability to our membership of official New Jersey post office records dating from 1832 to 1971.

Finally, 2012 will mark our Society's 40th anniversary which will be celebrated at NOJEX 2012. If you have never exhibited your New Jersey postal history before, it's not too soon to get started! Enjoy the rest of the summer.

ROBERT G. ROSE

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MERPEX XXXV

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TWO JERSEY CITY STAMPLESS TRANSATLANTIC LETTERS

By Robert Buckler

Here are two nice examples of mail between New Jersey and Scotland in the 1830s and 1840s— one in each direction. Both help in understanding how such letters travelled at that time.

1: Jersey City to Annan, Scotland in 1839



*Fig. 1: Jersey City, New Jersey to Annan, Scotland
(letter datelined August 23rd 1839) marked on front “per Liverpool/Steam Ship.”*

This cover went aboard a ship in the New York harbor without entering the U.S. mails. The Dramatic Line steamer “Siddons” sailed from New York August 26, 1839, arriving in Liverpool September 13. There it received the “Liverpool/Ship Letter” in black and the rate marking “1/6” due. This rate was an 8d ship letter charge and 10d inland mail for delivery over 170 miles. As no postal convention existed, no prepayment could be made for delivery in a foreign country.

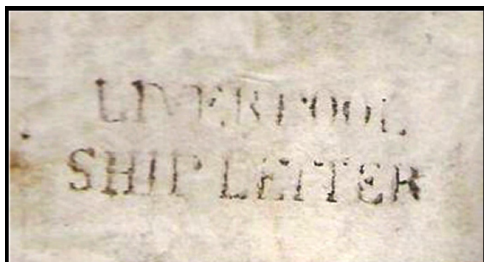


Fig. 2: Liverpool Ship Letter marking.

Also applied in Liverpool was the boxed “1/2” hand stamp (Liverpool type IIIb).¹ This is an interesting rate, the Scottish additional halfpenny mail tax, also called the wheel tax. Until 1813, mail delivery over toll roads was exempt from paying the toll fees even though the wheels of the mail coaches wore greatly on the roads. As a concession to the roads’ owners, George III ended this exemption, at least in Scotland, in 1813. The 1/2d surcharge was instituted to help the post office recoup some of the expense it now had for payment of tolls.

This letter’s connections are interesting in several other aspects. The Dramatic Line was established in 1836 by Edward Knight Collins (later of the Collins Line) as the first American competitor to the Cunard Line.² Also of note for a U.S. line, the ships were named after people of the British stage. In addition to the (Sarah) *Siddons*, they were the *Garrick*, the *Sheridan* and the *Shakespeare*. The *Siddons* was only in service 1838 to 1840.

And this cover also comes at the end of both the 8d steamer rate (ended December 5, 1839), and the Scottish halfpenny mail tax (ended December 4, 1839).



Illus. Seppo Talvio³

Fig. 3: Typical North American packet of this era, combining sails and steam, wooden-hulled with paddlewheel technology.

2: Leith, Scotland to Jersey City in 1846 with Nary a Postal Marking

With no postal markings at all, the journey of the cover in *Figure 4* would at first glance appear to be an unsolvable bit of postal history, a letter that somehow got from Scotland to its recipient in New Jersey. The letter’s contents and docketing however describe most of the details of its fascinating journey and give a glimpse of nineteenth century favor mail by sea.

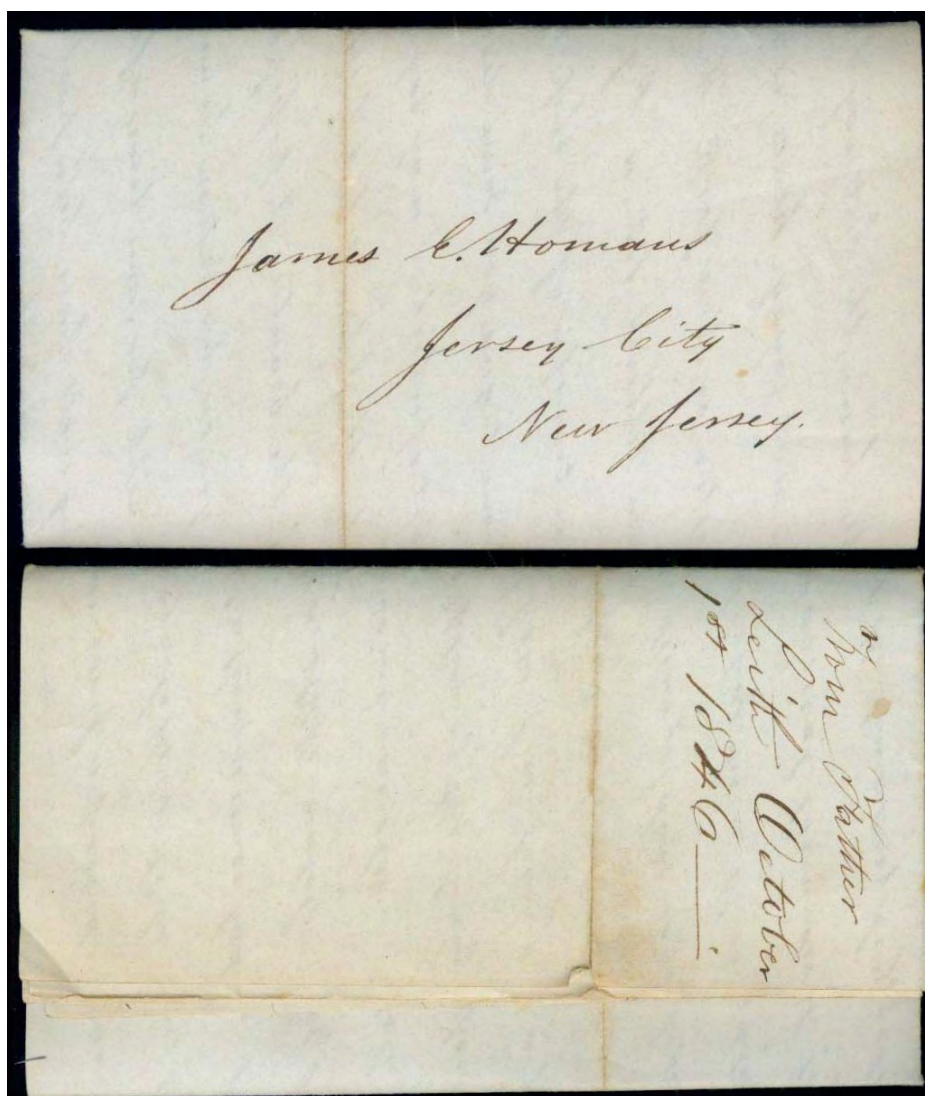


Fig. 4: Front and reverse of an 1846 letter from Leith, Scotland to Jersey City, New Jersey.

Headed "Leith, Scotland 1st Oct 1846" the letter is written by ship's Captain James T. Homans to his thirteen year old son James⁴ in Jersey City. Captain Homans is detained in Scotland while the ship he is attached to, the *Belvidere*, is being repaired; although he tells his son he will be home sooner if the ship is sold or "condemned *in toto*."

He explains to James that not all the news is included in this letter because he is sending other family members letters by the same mail steamer as this one to James, via **"the mail Steamer from Liverpool to Boston of the 4th inst"** (the Cunard steamer *Caledonia* sailed from Liverpool 4 October 1846.) This is confirmed by docketing item "1", **"Received 24 October by the steamship 'Caledonia' which brought the news of loss of steamship 'Gt Britain'."**

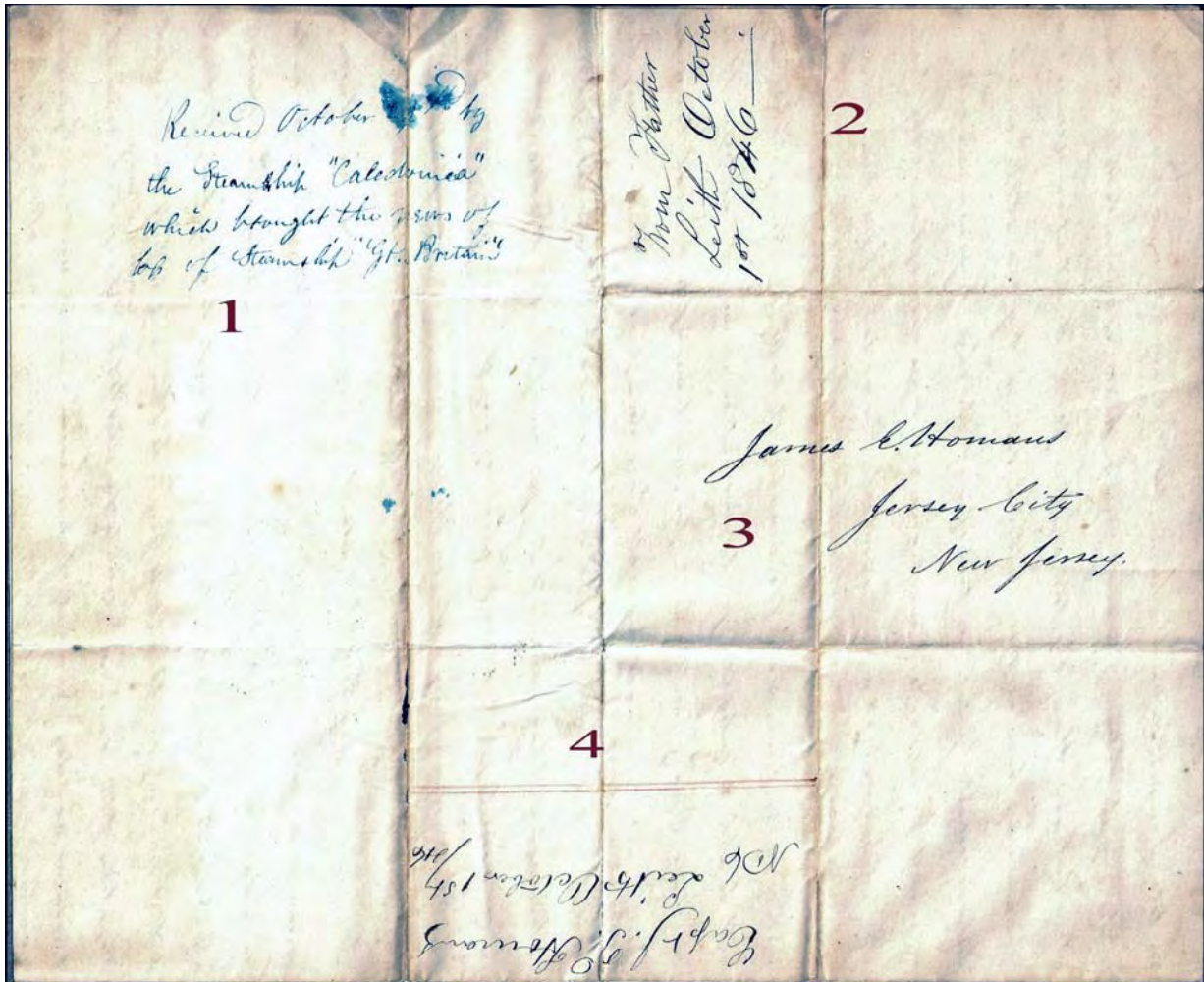


Fig. 5: Docketing on the letter. All markings appear to be contemporary.

1: "Received 24 October by the steamship 'Caledonia' which brought the news of loss of steamship 'Gt Britain.'"	2: From Father Leith, Oct. 1 st 1846	3: James E. Homans Jersey City New Jersey
	4: Capt. J.T. Homans No. 6 Leith, October 1 st /46	

The SS *Great Britain* was a British passenger steamer of the Great Western Steamship Company that, in 1845 in her first year in service, crossed the Atlantic in record time of 14 days. In 1846, embarking on her third passage out of Liverpool, she ran aground (22 September 1846) in Dundrum Bay on the northeast coast of Ireland.⁵ This is of interest to us as Captain Homans continues **"I sent some letters to Liverpool for the *Great Britain*, which will now not be received any sooner than this."** Now this is curious because the *Great Britain* was never contracted to carry mail. There seems to be in place at this time a system of favor mail among ships officers that would explain the total lack of markings on the letter in question. The above letter most likely went from Leith to Liverpool by one vessel, Liverpool to Boston by the *Caledonia* and Boston to New York harbor by a third ship. There is of course no way of knowing if this was carried out of the mail by a single individual from beginning to end; but, in combination with the reference to sending mail via the *Great Britain* it appears that Captain Homans had a way to send transatlantic mail out of the mail even by a contract mail steamer such as the *Caledonia*.



Fig. 6: *The SS Great Britain ran aground on the beach at Dundrum Bay in Ireland in 1846. It was an iron-hulled propeller driven steamship.*



Fig. 7: *The SS Great Britain today serves as a museum ship in Bristol, in the UK, where it was originally built.*

It has occurred to me that perhaps the letters prepared for the *Caledonia* were bundled and the wrapper with postal markings is lost, but that would have increased the postal cost by adding weight/sheets and in no way explains sending mail via the *Great Britain*. Now, Captain Homans may have known enough individuals making transatlantic crossings to carry his mail on a regular schedule; however it takes no stretch of the imagination to believe there was in place a system whereby ships' captains favor-carried each other's mail, even on a contract mail ship.

As an aside, Captain James T. Homans appears on the "Naval Register for 1826" submitted to Congress by our own Samuel L. Southard during the period he was Secretary of Navy (1823-1829).⁶

A transcription of this very interesting letter follows, written on an illustrated letter sheet (see *Figure 8*):

Leith (Scotland) 1st Oct 1846

My Dear Son, It is sometime since I last wrote to you, and I almost fear that you have begun to think yourself forgotten, or quite neglected at any rate. You have no doubt had all the intelligence since the *Belvidere's* arrival in the letters to your mother & sister; therefore I need not detail to you now. Nor have I now much to say to you without repeating contents of letters already written to send by same opportunity as this, the mail Steamer from Liverpool to Boston of 4th inst. [Cunard *Caledonia* 4 October 1846]. Of the *Great Britain's* sad misfortune in running ashore on the Northern coast of Ireland, when only a few hours from Liverpool [22 September 1846], you will see full particulars in the newspapers, to which I cannot add.

Continued below

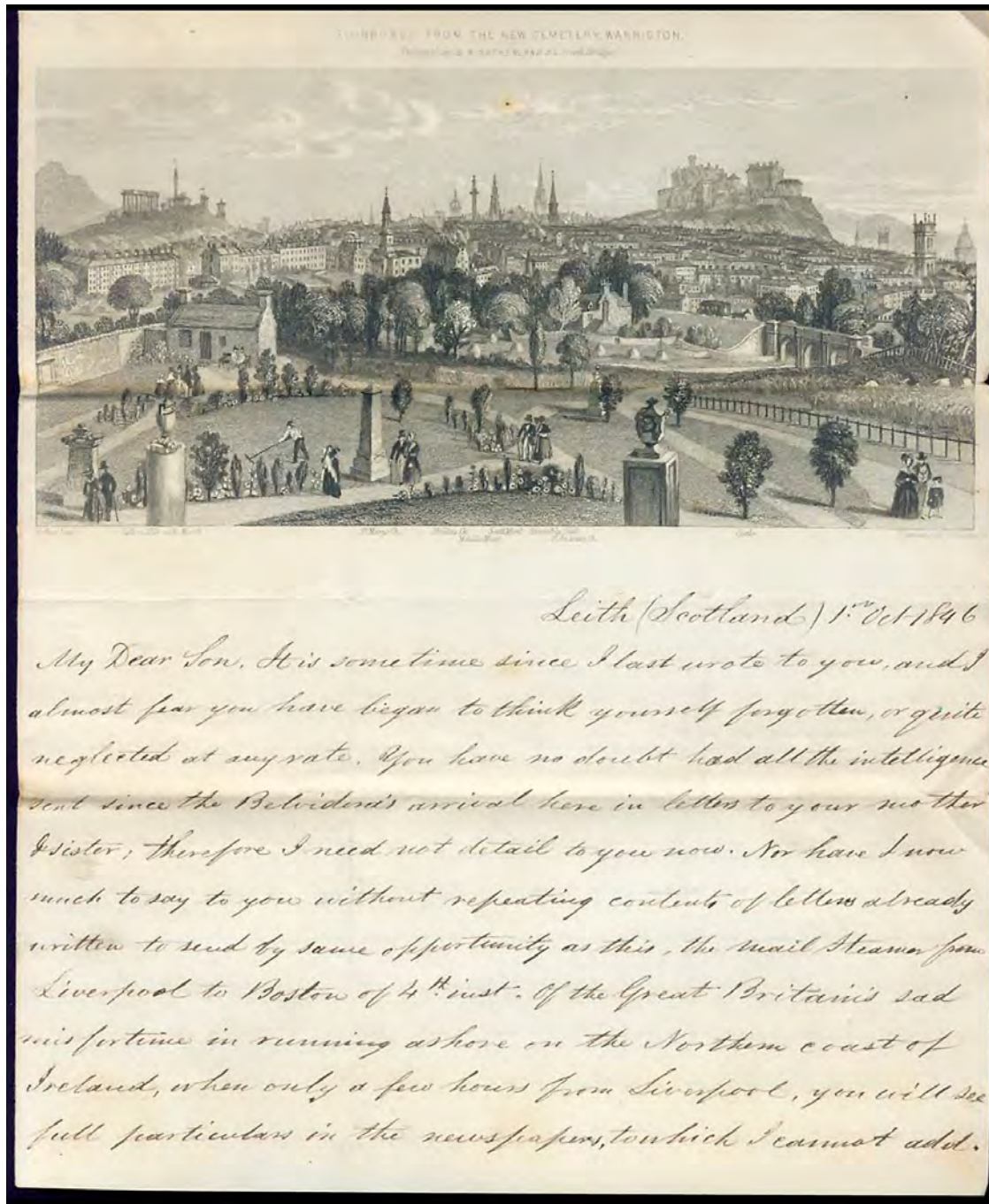


Fig. 8: First page of the letter from Capt. Homans to his son James in 1846. The illustration on the letter sheet shows Edinburgh from the New Cemetery Warriston, and was published by D.R. Sutherland, 95 South Bridge (Edinburgh),

I sent some letters to Liverpool for the Great Britain, which will now not be received any sooner than this. The Brig *Croton* sailed from Glasgow on the 25th of September for New York, and may be looked for soon after the 1st of November: the Agents are Messers E.D. Hurlbut & Co., South Street west of Fulton ferry, of whom you may enquire where she lies, after her arrival is announced in the newspapers; were you to be on the wharf when she hauls in, you would likely to see someone you know. As for my own return home I am not going

to promise any more, it may be in January and possibly not until June; though you may expect me so long as your patience will permit. My mouth waters for a quick passage in a steamer across the ocean; but goodness alone kens how it will be with the old Belvidere; if she is condemned in toto, I (unclear) scramble home the best way I can, or if repaired under my direction her next voyage hence is more likely to be New Orleans, than Boston or New York. The detention is (unclear) bad for me any how, as I am tethered like a Pig to a stake, until duly relieved by sale, or transfer of the ship to someone else.

You will perhaps expect me to give you some description of the bonny City of Edinburgh, in a part of which I have been living about six weeks, but in truth I know but little about it, from not having taken time to see the beauties it possesses.

Henry, I dare say will be able to enlighten you on his return home, he has been there so often. I was quite too sick for some time after arrival to wander much, and since getting well have been part of the time very busy & other part so much satiated with Harry's voluminous descriptions, as to imagine I have seen all the glories of "Auld Reekie."⁷

On the subject of letters to me, I must say, my son, that you have been a very promising young man, in the last letter I had from you, per Steamer Cambria of August 1st, you were in full blast to write by every succeeding Steamer until positively forbidden by me; yet we have had advices by as many as five without fulfillment of your threats, if I am permitted to judge from no letters being received by me. Henry is full of wrath also & declared to me today that he would write to every body he knew, so that some body should write to him, he thinks it is full time he had despatches (sic) from America; and counts the days to time of each Steamer's expected arrival, the same as I do. For want of more room, I must now close by wishing you Goodnight. Henry has sent you some pictures—————

Your affectionate father
J T Homans

ENDNOTES & REFERENCES:

REFERENCES:

- Winter, Richard F. *Understanding Transatlantic Mail*, Vol 1, 2006.
Pullin, James R., *North Atlantic Packets*, RPSL, 2009.
Robinson, David, *For the Port and Carriage of Letters, A Practical Guide to the Inland and Foreign Rates of the British Isles 1570 to 1840*, 1990.

NOTES:

- ¹ Hodgson, K. and Sedgewick, W.A. *The Scottish Additional Halfpenny Mail Tax*, 1984 2nd edition.
² Staff, Frank, *The Transatlantic Mail*, 1980.
³ Seppo Talvio, *North Atlantic Mails 1767-1875* at <http://www.postihistoria.com/tietolahteet/alueet/northatlanticmail.pdf> (7/5/2011).
⁴ 1850 United States Federal Census, Brooklyn Ward 10, Kings, New York, family 536.
⁵ Wikipedia: SS Great Britain, http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/SS_Great_Britain, (7/4/2011).
⁶ US Naval Register 1826, <http://www.ibiblio.org/pha/USN/1826/NavReg1826.html>, (7/4/2011).
⁷ "Auld Reekie": A nickname for Edinburgh, derived from its smokiness, especially in winter when the coal fires were burning, translated means "Old Smokie." Leith was adjacent o Edinburgh, and is now incorporated into it.

ELIZABETHTOWN STAMPLESS POSTMARK ALTERED TO READ “ELIZABETH”

By Robert G. Rose

On May 23, 1855, the name of the post office in what was then Elizabethtown, was shortened to “Elizabeth.” Prior to that date, and throughout the stampless period, the Elizabethtown post office used a variety of handstamped postmarks, including a large circle with the shortened “Elizabeth” town name which the *Coles Book* records with an 1853-55 period of use.¹



Fig. 1: Elizabeth postmark with reported uses in 1853-55, Coles type E2

Whether this handstamp was available for use at the time of the official name change on May 23, 1855 is not known. The author has not seen any covers with the type E2 postmark after the May 23 date. However, following the official date of the name change it appears that a new postmark was needed. It may be further surmised that the postmaster did not have sufficient time or perhaps the inclination to order a new handstamp. Instead, an existing Elizabethtown postmark was altered to read “Elizabeth” as shown in *Figure 2*. This is the discovery copy of this postmark. It is not listed in *The Coles Book*.²

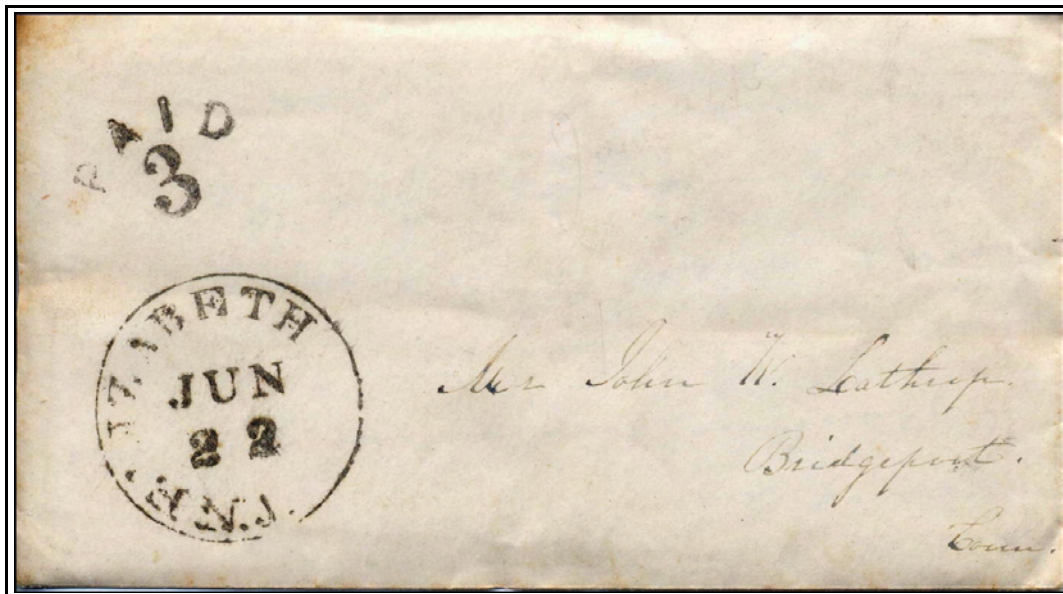


Fig. 2: Altered postmark in black with matching “PAID 3” to Bridgeport, Ct., datelined June 22, 1855.

This altered postmark is dated June 22 and its 1855 usage is confirmed by the dateline on the enclosed letter, just a month after the post office's renaming. As of April 1, 1855, the law required, for the first time, the compulsory prepayment of all domestic mail, with three cents paying the half ounce rate under 3,000 miles, as reflected in the handstamped rate marking.

The question then arises: which of the existing Elizabethtown handstamps was altered to read "Elizabeth?" The *Coles Book* includes two possibilities. The first is a 29 millimeter circle in blue (E10) with reported uses from 1840 to 1857, as shown in Figure 3.³ Five cents paid the half ounce rate under 300 miles, effective on July 1, 1845, on this 1846 cover.



Fig. 3: Elizabethtown postmark in blue with matching "PAID" and "5" on 1846 cover to Madison, New Jersey, Coles type E10.

The second Elizabethtown postmark is a 31 millimeter circle in black (E11) with reported uses from 1853 to 1855 as shown in Figure 4⁴ on the following page. Three cents paid the compulsory prepaid rate for one-half ounce domestic mail under 3,000 miles that became effective on April 4, 1855, just four days before the posting of this cover.



Elizabethtown
E10 – Coles 1840-57



Elizabeth
Unlisted postmark - 1855



Elizabethtown
E11 – Coles 1853-55



Fig. 4: Elizabethtown postmark in black with matching "PAID 3" on 1855 cover to Princeton, Coles type E11

The altered postmark shown in *Figure 2* measures 29 millimeter and the spacing of the letters also matches up with those in *Figure 3*, Coles type E10. It appears then, that the type E10 handstamp was altered with the removal of the letters "town" to read as "Elizabeth." The "PAID 3" rate marking is identical to that shown on the 1855 cover in *Figure 4* and is the proper rating effective on April 1, 1855.

ENDNOTES:

¹ William C. Coles, Jr., *The Postal Markings of New Jersey Stampless Covers* (The Collectors Club of Chicago, 1983), p. 168, with Coles type E2.

² *Ibid.*

³ *Ibid.*, p. 170. Coles also reports this postmark in green from 1845 to 1857 and in black without a year date. Coles type E10.

⁴ *Ibid.* Coles type E11.

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.

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LIBERTY CORNER AND ITS POSTMASTERS

By Doug D'Avino

Liberty Corner is a small unincorporated village in the Township of Bernards in Somerset County. Originally called Annin's Corner, then Bullion's Tavern, Liberty Corner earned its name from a "Liberty Pole" erected on the village green (circa 1776), complete with a red knit cap atop the pole to commemorate freedom and independence.

On December 19, 1817, Nicholas C. Jobs was appointed the first postmaster of Liberty Corner. Except for a few years (June 13, 1822 through May 1, 1826) when Joseph K. Lewis held the position, Jobs was to remain postmaster until his death in 1857. Table 1 lists the duration of the appointments of Liberty Corner's postmasters through the present time. This list was developed from the U.S. Post Office Department's (USPOD) Record of Appointment of Postmasters, 1832 - September 30, 1971, for New Jersey, accessed through National Archives.

Following his death in 1857, Jobs was succeeded by Jacob K. Lewis. Lewis held the post until 1861. Maps of Liberty Corner from 1850 and 1860 show the post office located in the Liberty Corner Hotel, originally known as Bullion's Tavern (*Figure 1*). Therefore, it is possible that the Hotel may have been the site of the post office for much of Jobs' tenure as PM, as well as Lewis' tenure.

George W. Adams was appointed postmaster in 1861. He was followed by George F. Scofield in 1862, who held the position throughout the remainder of the Civil War.

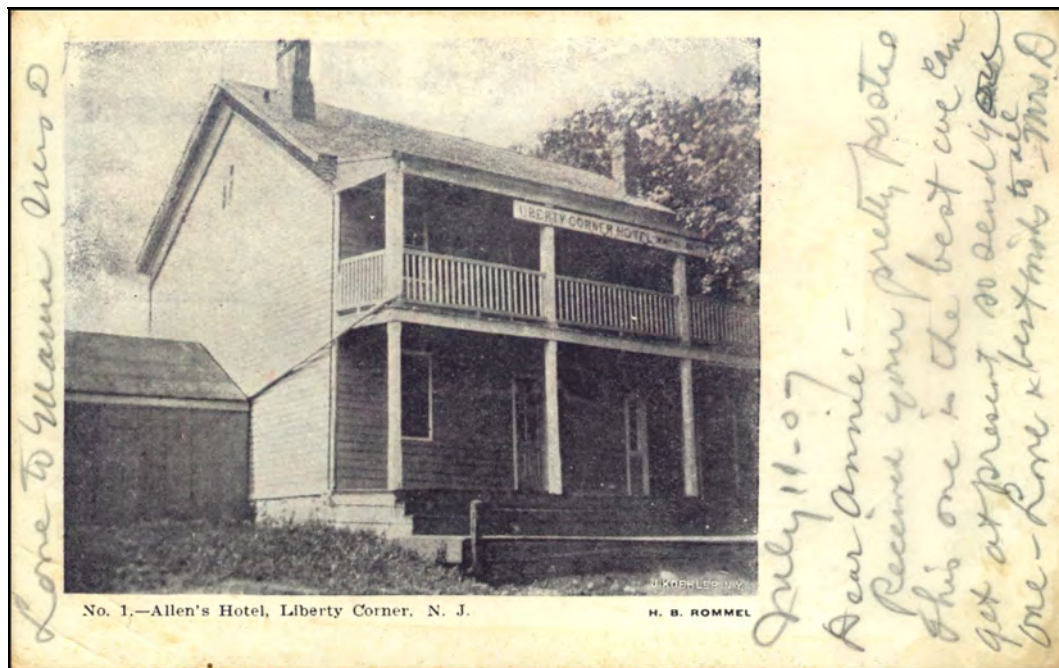


Figure 1. Hotel and Post Office. In Revolutionary times, the Liberty Corner Hotel was known as Bullion's Tavern. It served as the post office for many postmasters in both the 19th and 20th centuries. In this image, it is known as the William Allen Hotel, and it later became known as Burnett's Hotel. An Exxon service station sits on the site today.

Table 1. Liberty Corner Postmasters		
Name	Position	Date Appointed
Nicholas C. Jobs	1st Postmaster	December 19, 1817
Joseph K. Lewis	Postmaster	June. 13, 1822
Nicholas C. Jobs	Postmaster	May 1, 1826
Jacob K. Lewis	Postmaster	November 4, 1857
George W. Adams	Postmaster	July 5, 1861
George F. Scofield	Postmaster	April 10, 1862
William P. Jeroloman	Postmaster	July 5, 1865
Daniel L. Allen	Postmaster	November 24, 1868
William Ayers, Jr.	Postmaster	December 23, 1874
John Compton	Postmaster	November 29, 1875
William P. Jeroloman	Postmaster	June 2, 1881
Charles N. Conkling	Postmaster	July 9, 1886
William P. Jeroloman	Postmaster	April 22, 1889
Henry DeMott	Postmaster	June 25, 1892
Charles C. Acken	Postmaster	March 24, 1893
Henry B. Rommel	Postmaster	April 12, 1897
Charles C. Acken	Postmaster	June 22, 1914
Emilie J. Burnett	Acting Postmaster	February 1, 1940
Emilie J. Burnett	Postmaster	August 1, 1941
Lona M. Davis	Acting Postmaster	July 31, 1959
Rita Kosminsky	Acting Postmaster	November 10, 1961
Rita Kosminsky	Postmaster	July 5, 1963
Gilbert W. Wraith	Postmaster	November 17, 1990
Eleanor Gabriella Ferrara*	Postmaster	September 12, 1998
* Eleanor G. Everson's name changed (November 7, 1998).		

In July, 1865, William P. Jeroloman became postmaster, the first of his three appointments to that position. Jeroloman, whose Church Street house in Liberty Corner is shown on the map in *Figure 2*, had previously served as postmaster of Lesser Cross Roads in 1861. He was also a merchant, owning a General Store in Bernardsville.

The “Store” shown on the 1873 map (see *Figure 2*, next page) was built in 1865 adjacent to Jeroloman's house, the same year he became postmaster. I haven't been able to determine whether Jeroloman built or owned the store, or whether the post office was operated out of his home or the store.

In 1868, Daniel L. Allen was appointed postmaster. As shown on the 1873 map, the G.V. Algar (sic, George V. Apgar, dealer in Dry Goods and Groceries) Store, adjacent to W. L. Allen's Valley Road house and across the street from the Hotel, served as the post office during Allen's tenure. Daniel Allen was succeeded by William Ayers, Jr. in 1874.

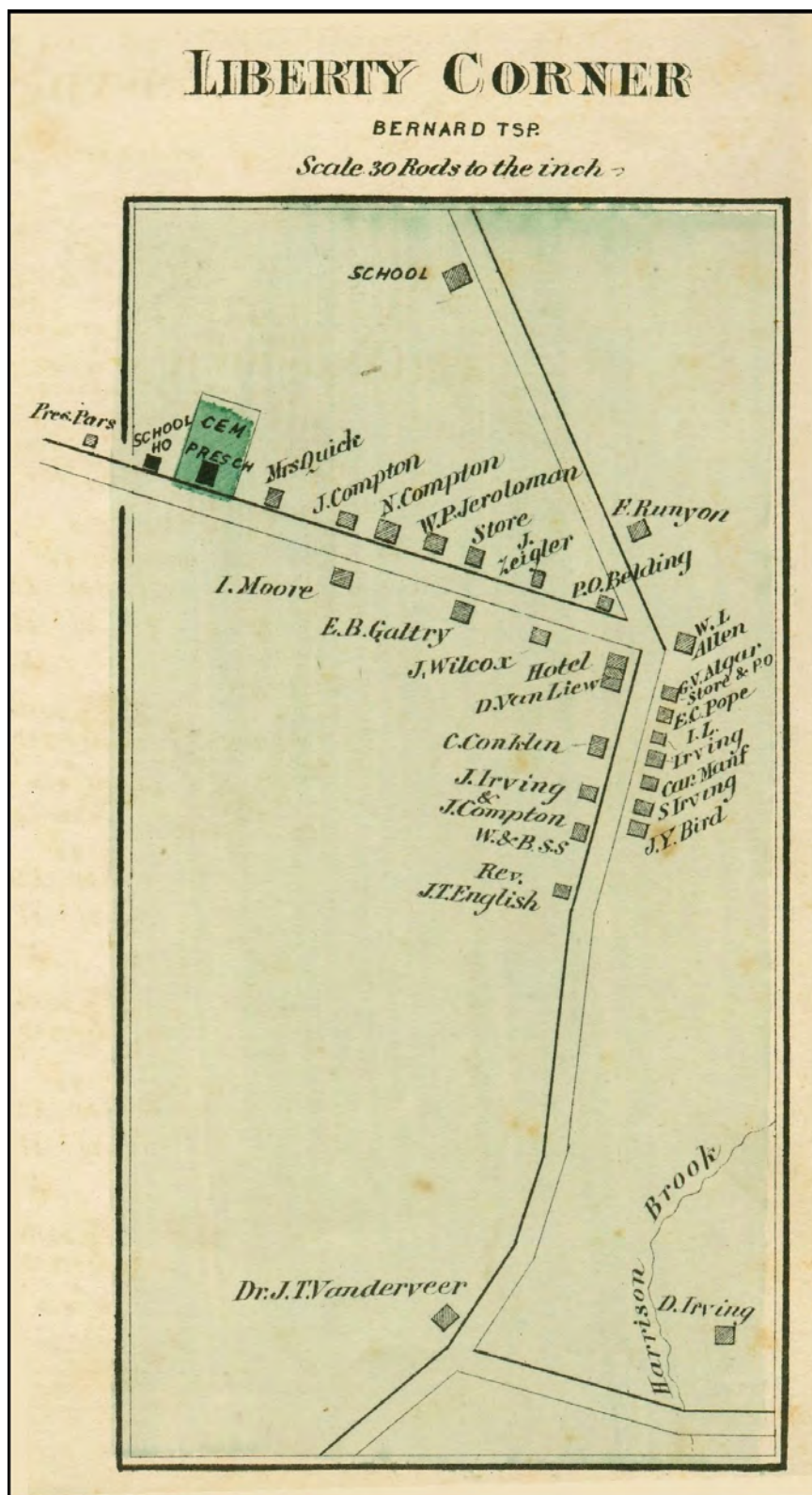


Image courtesy of The Historical Society of the Somerset Hills
 Fig. 2: Liberty Corner, 1873. Valley Road (heading North), Lyons Road (heading South), and Church Street intersect at the Liberty Corner village green.

In 1875, John Compton was appointed postmaster. His home and his business [J. Irving & J. Compton, wheelwright and blacksmith shop (W. & B.S.S.)] are shown on the 1873 map. Either location could have served as the PO, although it was probably located in the shop, shown in *Figure 3*. Compton, the blacksmith, held the postmaster position for six years. Then, in 1881, Jeroloman was reappointed a second time and held the post for five years.



Image courtesy of The Historical Society of the Somerset Hills

Fig. 3: *John Compton's blacksmith shop was located on the first floor. J. N. Irving's wheelwright business was located in the remaining space and the rear building.*

In 1886, Charles N. Conkling was appointed postmaster. Three years later, Jeroloman was reappointed for a third and final time and held the post until 1893, when Charles C. Acken was appointed to the post by President Grover Cleveland. The post office was located in Acken's General Store, shown in *Figure 4*, across the street from the Hotel. Acken had bought the store in 1892 at the age of 22. On the 1873 map, the store is on the site of the building owned by Putney O. Belding, who was listed in the 1880 census as a dry goods and grocery merchant.



Image courtesy of the Bernardsville Library Local History Room

Fig. 4: *Charles C. Acken's General Store and Post Office (on the right) at the head of Church Street on the Liberty Corner village green.*

Acken ran the store until well into 1948, the year of his death at the age of 89. He lost the PM post at the end of Cleveland's term but he returned as postmaster under President Wilson and served successively under the next four presidents.

LIBERTY CORNER, NJ POSTMASTERS ~ Doug D'Avino

In 1897, Henry B. Rommel was appointed postmaster at Liberty Corner. In March, 1899, the USPOD authorized money orders to be sold in the Liberty Corner post office. Initially, the post office was located in Rommel's store, shown in *Figure 5*. The store, built in 1865 adjacent to William P. Jeroloman's house, was the site of the first telephone and the first movie showings in the village. Currently the building houses Krauzer's Food Stores (21 Church St.) and, in 2005, the barn in the rear of the property was a bakery and dry cleaner.



Fig. 5: Rommel's Store and Post Office.

In 1906, Philip J. Koechlein purchased Rommel's General Store and, some time later, Rommel moved the post office from the store into his Church Street residence, shown in *Figure 6*. Based on the image in *Figure 6*, I believe this to be the house previously owned by Jeroloman, adjacent to the General Store. *Figure 7* shows a man, identified as Phillip Koechlein, standing in front of the post office door; *Figure 8* gives a closer look inside the post office.



Fig. 6: Liberty Corner Post Office located in Henry B. Rommel's residence. The postcard was postmarked August 15, 1910 in that post office.





Fig .7: Philip J. Koechlein outside of the Liberty Corner Post Office.



Fig. 8 & 8A: The interior of the Liberty Corner Post Office in Henry B. Rommel's residence, and inset of a man indentified as Phillip Koechlein.

LIBERTY CORNER, NJ POSTMASTERS ~ Doug D'Avino

Rommel remained postmaster until 1914 when President Woodrow Wilson reappointed Acken as postmaster of Liberty Corner. On October 15, 1918, the Liberty Corner post office was ordered to be discontinued. The USPOD order would be effective October 31, 1918; Liberty Corner mail was to be directed to Basking Ridge. October 31 came and the order was rescinded.

Acken was subsequently reappointed postmaster by Presidents Warren G. Harding, Calvin Coolidge, Herbert Hoover and Franklin D. Roosevelt, retaining the office until he retired on January 31, 1940.

In 1940, Emilie J. (Schonborn) Burnett was appointed acting postmaster and the post office moved back into the Hotel; her appointment as postmaster was confirmed the following year. Her husband, Arthur, now owned Allen's Hotel, also the Burnett residence, shown in *Figure 1*, across from Acken's General Store at the head of Church Street. Burnett served as postmaster for over 19 years.

In 1962, the post office moved to the residence shown in *Figure 9*. Rita Kosminsky had been appointed acting postmaster in November 1961, then postmaster in June 1963. This building remained the post office until 1975. The current post office is located on the same site. Kosminsky served as postmaster until 1990.

Gilbert W. Wraith became postmaster in 1990, followed by the current postmaster, Eleanor Gabriella Ferrara, in 1998.



Image courtesy of The Historical Society of the Somerset Hills
Fig. 9: Liberty Corner Post Office location, 1962 to 1975, Postmaster Rita Kosminsky. Note post office sign on the rear overhang.

The author wishes to thank June O. Kennedy and Ann Parsekian of The Historical Society of the Somerset Hills for providing research assistance and images, and Patricia Bankowski of the Bernardsville Library Local History Room for providing images.

REFERENCES:

- Kennedy, June O., *Images of America, Around And About Basking Ridge, Liberty Corner And Lyons*, Arcadia Publishing, 1995. Available at <http://www.arcadiapublishing.com/> and on www.Amazon.com.
National Archives Microfilm Publications, Record of Appointment of Postmasters, 1832 - September 30, 1971, Microcopy 841, Rolls 82 & 83, New Jersey: Atlantic - Mercer Counties & Middlesex - Warren Counties.
Lare, Alice, "Liberty Corner And Its Church," 1969.
The Historical Society of the Somerset Hills website, <http://www.historicalsocietyofsomersetshills.org/>. (8/17/2011).
Liberty Corner website, <http://liberty-corner.com/>. (8/17/2011).

NATIONAL ARCHIVE FILES:

NJPHS has recently procured the "'Record of Appointment of Postmasters, 1832 - September 30, 1971," for New Jersey from the National Archives. This information is available to members for use in research – an excellent source for county and town research.

The records show the dates of establishment and discontinuance of post offices, their changes of name, and the names of and appointment dates for their postmasters. Beginning in 1870, it shows the names of post offices to which mail from discontinued offices was sent. The record also shows the dates of Presidential appointments of postmasters and their confirmation dates by the Senate; usually the dates that post offices were authorized to issue money orders; and occasionally the dates on which the locations of offices were changed. Until 1844 the names of sureties for postmasters and the dates and amounts of their bonds are also given. The post offices are organized by county, then in alphabetical order within the county.

Eventually we expect to put these in document form; currently they are graphic files, jpgs of pages from the archive files. Anyone interested in accessing these files, please contact your secretary. (Secretary@NJPostalHistory.org) These new files open doors for further research.

Doug D'Avino

Please also note that postmasters earlier than 1832 are available in our free library at <http://www.njpostalhistory.org/media/pdf/ColesNJPMs1789-1857.pdf> .

ILLEGAL USE OF POSTAGE AS A REVENUE ON A MORRIS & ESSEX RAILROAD CO. DOCUMENT

By Edwin J. Andrews

The use of US postage as revenue stamps has been reported a number of times. I recently published a detailed article regarding the valuation of these often elusive items and therein reported a number of rarities previously not known (Andrews 2010). Many believe these uses were purely accidental and did not represent anything truly illegal. However, as reported by Stanford (1985) and corroborated by Mahler (1987) who cited the *Internal Revenue Record*, June 14, 1865, pp 9-10, "Postage stamps cannot be used in payment of the duty chargeable on instruments," further implying that such instruments could not be used to prove a legal point until the tax and any applicable penalties were paid. This validates the assertion that these uses, accidental or not, were illegal and rendered the instrument of their use invalid. This would also explain the occasional finding of corrective or recovery uses, a term coined by Morrissey (1999), where revenue stamps were added to the illegal postage use to "validate" the instrument. In some cases the postage was removed and revenues added but often both types of stamp appear on the document.



Fig. 1: Combined use of first issue revenue stamps of differing denomination and perforation with a 1¢ Franklin postage stamp of the 1861 issue.

Others have published checklists of these uses (Beaumont 1932; Caldwell 1985; Graham 1993; Ward 1955 and 1960, and McClung 2007). My exhibit titled *Classically Illegal* has been shown at a number of national shows and chronicles these illegal uses across a wide variety of tax categories in effect during the Civil War taxation period (1862 to rescinding of most tax categories in 1883). One item in the collection is of particular interest to New Jersey postal history and is the subject of this article.



Fig. 2: Note that the stamps are properly cancelled with the initials of the signatory L.V. for Lydia Valentine, and the date. Both the penmanship and date match those of the document.

The piece is a power of attorney instrument dated February 24, 1863 (See *Figure 1*, previous page.) The Power of Attorney was for a dividend payment from the Morris & Essex Railroad Company and was executed in Mendham NJ. Per the act of 1862 the Power of Attorney tax category rate specific to the transaction of this instrument was 25¢. The tax was satisfied with a rather extraordinary combination of stamps including an imperforate pair of 2¢ bank check revenue stamps, part perforate and fully perforate 5¢ Inland Exchange revenues, a 10¢ Inland Exchange revenue and, a 1¢ Franklin postage stamp of the 1861 issue. All stamps are cancelled with a flowing manuscript of initials of the signatory and the date (*Figure 2*), which is the proper cancellation for revenues on document. The penmanship of the cancel matches the signature of Lydia Valentine on the document and the date of the cancel matches that of the instrument. In this case the Power of Attorney rate related to the portion of the tax category stipulating the collection of dividends or interest thereon. The Power of Attorney tax category had other rates as they applied to transactions such as the sale, rent or lease of real estate, receiving rent, transfer of stock, stockholder's vote and a general category. The tax on Power of Attorney was rescinded in 1872.

The combined use of differently perforated first revenue stamps is in itself rare and desirable but most importantly the document has an unquestionable usage of an 1861 postage stamp as a proxy for a revenue stamp.

The Morris & Essex Railroad spanned across Northern New Jersey and operated from 1836 to 1945 when it was merged into the Delaware, Lackawanna and Western (DL&W) Railroad. The original line (in 1836) ran from Newark to Orange NJ. A new service was added shortly thereafter to link Newark to Jersey City. In 1838 further service was provided to Morristown, then to Dover (1848), Hackettstown (1854) and to Phillipsburg in 1866. After the formal merger with the DL&W, it retained its name as the Morris and Essex Division as it is called today by NJ Transit. The DL&W itself merged with the Erie Railroad and became part of Conrail in 1976.

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- Beaumont, Howard B.: "Postage Stamps Used as Revenues and revenue Stamps Used as Postage," American Philatelist 46 (3) Dec. 1932
- Caldwell, William H.: "Two Interesting Taxed Photographs," The American Revenuer, July-August 1985, p 102.
- Graham, Richard B.: "Revenue Stamps as Postage and vice versa," Linn's Stamp News, January 4, 1993, pp 30-31.
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- Morrissey, Michael: "Invalid but Handy. Postage Fills Revenue Role," Linn's Stamp News, January 11, 1999, p.30.
- Ward, Philip H. Jr.: "U.S. Postage Stamps Used as Revenues." U.S. Notes Column in Mekeel's Weekly, May 6, 1955, p. 138.
- Ward, Philip H., Jr.: "Postage Stamps Used as Revenues," U.S. Notes in Mekeel's Weekly, August 19, 1960, p.58.

CENSUS OF EARLY NEW JERSEY COVERS – Part 2

By Ed & Jean Siskin

jeananded@comcast.net

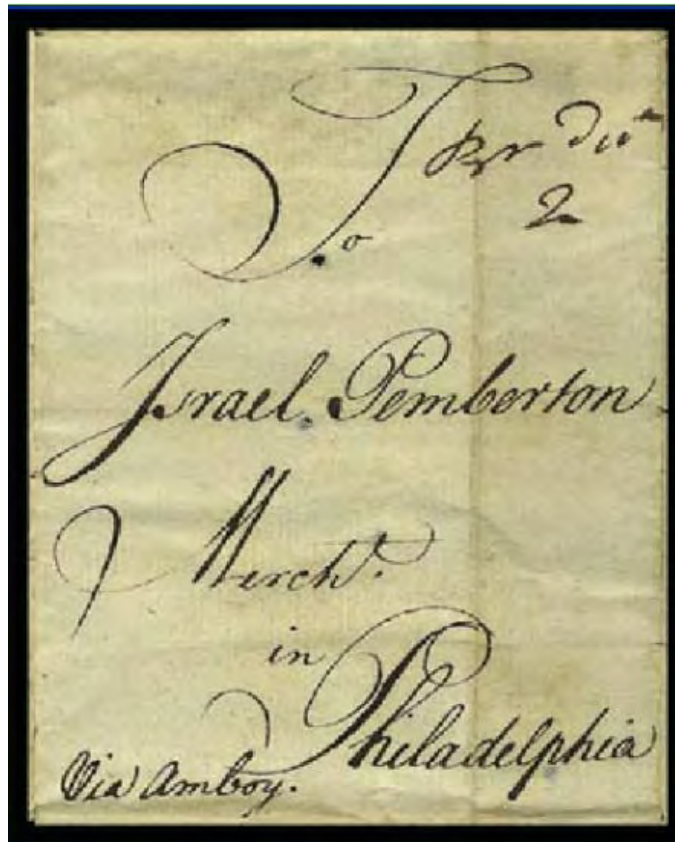
We continue here the census of all New Jersey covers dated before June 1, 1792 with domestic postal markings. This includes covers handled by the parliamentary post (to 1777), its American successors (1775-1792) and by independent services. Our last section¹ dealt with known covers from Trenton. This section will show known covers from New Brunswick, where a post office was established in 1748. Other sections will follow in future issues.

Again, we invite members to contribute. Please send all new information to be included to jeananded@comcast.net – your help is needed.

New Brunswick (Post Office est. 1748)

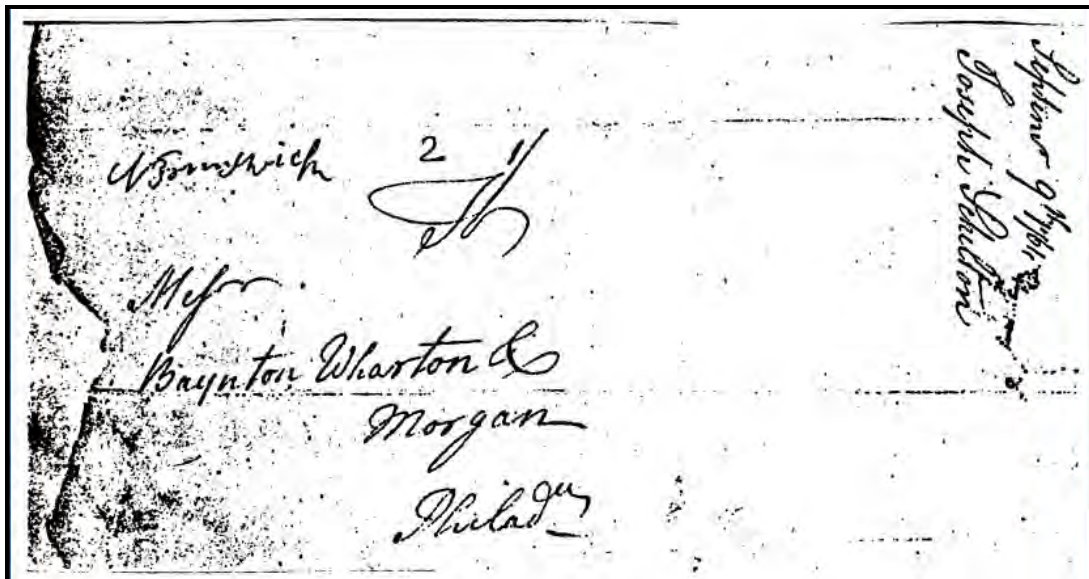
1752.09.19

“Br 2 dw.” Black manuscript postmark and 2dwt rate on folded cover to Philadelphia. Carried by private ship from Cork, Ireland, “Via Amboy” routing, receipt docketing “Corke 9th mo 19th 1752,” routing thru Perth Amboy and New Brunswick. 2dwt rate leave no doubt that the “Br” postmark was applied at the (New) Brunswick post office. (PaHS:2605).



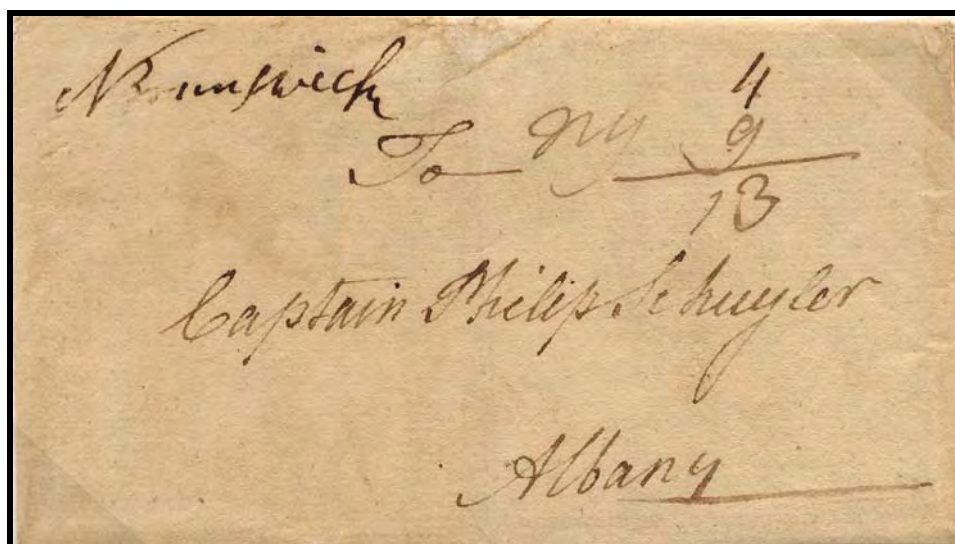
1764.09.09

“NBrunswick” in Black manuscript to Philadelphia. Docketed 9/9/1764. 2 dwt postage, 1 shilling PA currency. (Pennsylvania State Archives), (ter Braake Cover NJ2).²



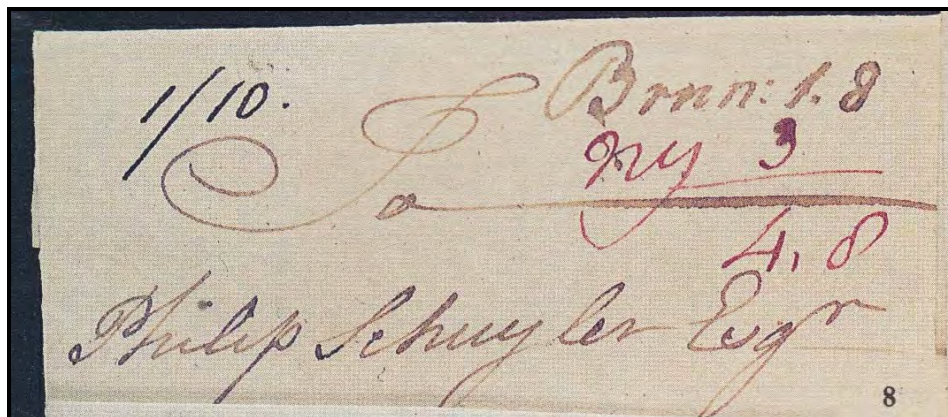
1764.11.30

“NBrunswick” in Black manuscript to Albany via New York - Folded letter dated November 30, 1764, the earliest example of this New Brunswick postal marking outside of archival sources and the only reported usage of this manuscript marking in collector’s hands.³ Postage is rated under the Act of Parliament of 1710 with four pence paying the single letter rate to New York with an additional nine pence for a total of 13 pence to Albany. [courtesy N. Zankel]



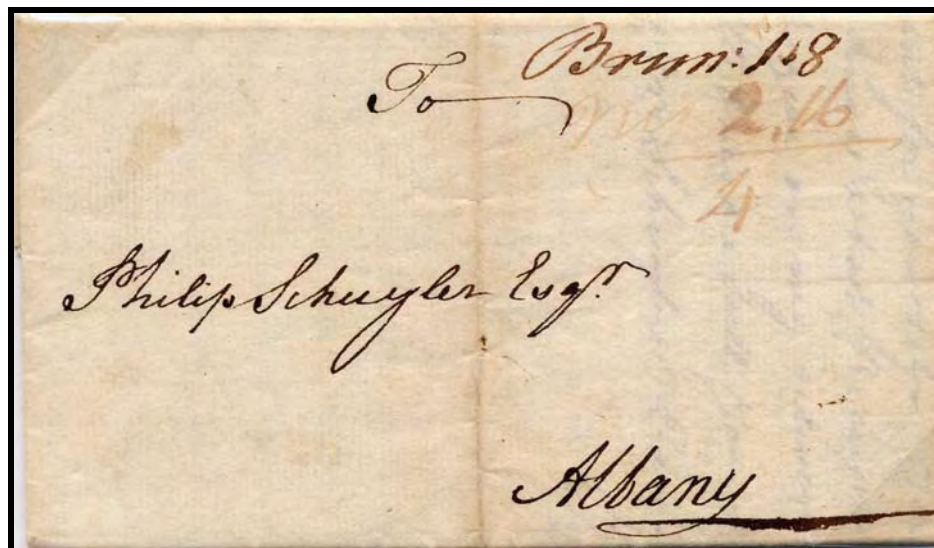
1765.09.15

Brunswick N.J.): 1.8, MS postmarks, with red "NY 3(=) 4.8", for NY transit, also MS "1/10," HS brown "16 Se" BM on backflap, on small Sept. 15, 1765 folded letter to Albany NY. (ex-Jarrett), (Christies 10/9-10/1990:8).⁴ [See also **1767.10.20**.]



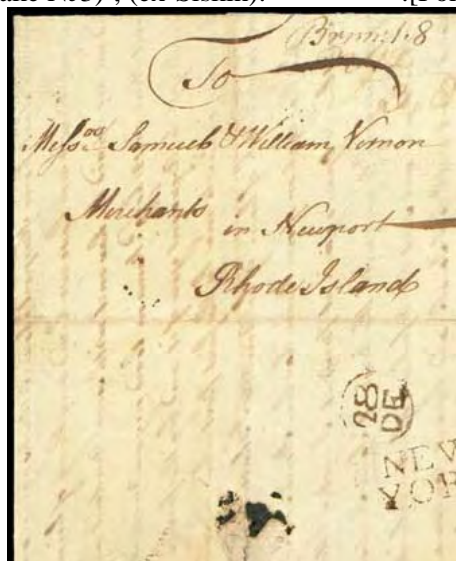
1767.10.20

Manuscript "Brun" postmark to Albany via New York. Under the Act of Parliament of 1765, postage is rated at "1.8" which is the expression in silver of one pennyweight and 8 grams of silver or 4 pence sterling, the single letter rate to New York (not over 60 miles) and an additional "2.16" or eight pence from New York to Albany (over 100 miles) for a total of four pennyweight or the equivalent of 1 shilling and 12 pence in sterling. [Courtesy N. Zankel].⁴ [See also **1765.09.15**.]



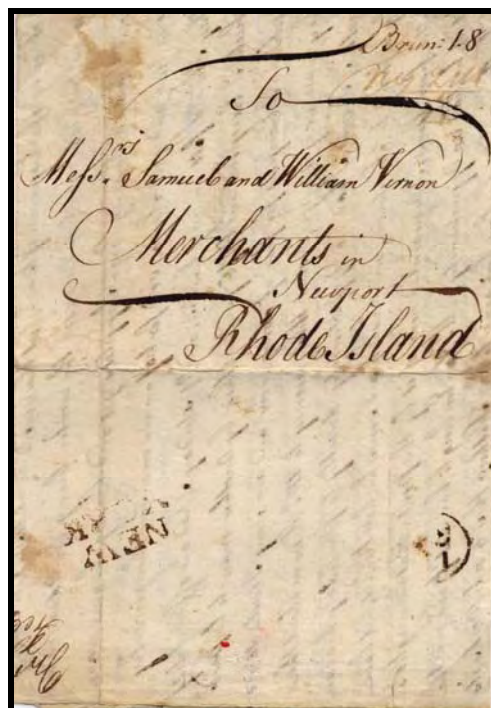
1767.12.26

“Bruns:1.8” / “NY:2” / “3.0” manuscript, to Newport, via New York. Black NEW/YORK and 28/DE Bishop Mark on reverse. (ter Braake NJ3)², (ex-Siskin). [For similar, see 1770.02.08 below.]



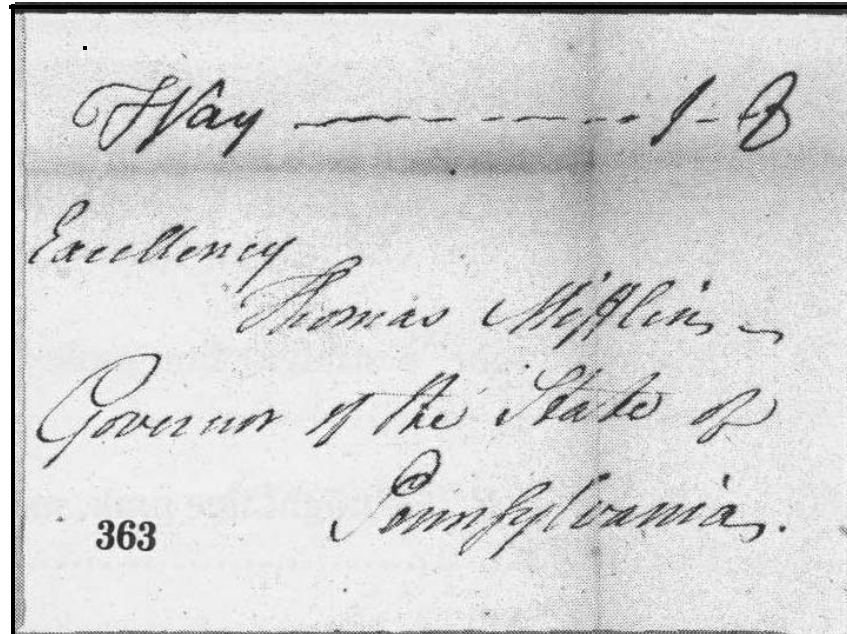
1770.02.08

“Brun: 1.8” Black manuscript, from New Brunswick via New York to Newport. Postage to Rhode Island was rated at the same single letter rate to New York of 1.8 pennyweight and an additional 2.16 pennyweight from New York to Newport for a total of 4 pennyweight. In addition to the magenta manuscript “NY and matching rate marking, the cover is handstamped on its reverse with a two-line “New York” postmark in brown and bishop mark.⁵ (Courtesy N. Zankel)



1791

(New Brunswick, N.J.) dateline on 1791 folded ltr to PA, manuscript "Way 1.8" dwt, gr rate and "9" local currency equivalent, ltr with signature removed, in hand of Gov. Patterson. (Frajola 36:363)



Please send all new reports to Jean and Ed Siskin at jeananded@comcast.net. We are eager to make this database as complete as possible, so if you have unreported covers in your collection, or have seen others in other sources – catalogues, web sites, etc., we would like to include them.

ENDNOTES:

¹ See the May Issue of *NJPH*, Vol . 39, No. 2, Whole No. **182**.

² ter Braake, Alex L., Coord., *The Posted Letter in Colonial and Revolutionary American 1628-1790*, published by APRL, State College, PA, 1975.

³ The earliest usage of this marking is September 9, 1764 on a cover to Philadelphia. The cover is in the Pennsylvania State Archives and is illustrated in ter Braake, *op. cit.*, NJ 2, p.II-61, and is listed in the *American Stampless Cover Catalog*, Vol. 1, p.233 (fifth ed. 1997).

⁴ Dated September 15, 1765, is illustrated in *Fricks, Part 2*, p.225, this item was sold at auction in the "David L. Jarrett Collection of United States Postal Markings," Christie's Robson Lowe, October 9-10, 1990, lot 8. A similar usage to the same addressee is shown in the item dated 1767.10.20.

⁵ This cover was included in the auction of a portion of the Marc Haas Collection, Richard C. Frajola, Inc., Sale No. 28, May 3, 1986, lot 59. A similar usage to the same addressee, dated December 26, 1767, is illustrated in ter Braake, *op. cit.*, NJ 3, p.II-62. The *American Stampless Cover Catalog*, *op. cit.*, p.223, lists a third variety of a Colonial manuscript, "Bruns," with usages from 1765-77. The *Coles Book*, p.151, illustrates this marking and also lists its usage from 1765-77. However, the marking as illustrated, does not appear to include the letter "s" at its end but merely an extra flourish by the postmaster in completing the "Brun" postmark as seen on the December 26, 1767 cover illustrated in this article.

MILLVILLE'S "OLD HOME WEEK" ~ Snapshots from a Century Ago By Dr. Edward C. Smith III

Millville is a city in Cumberland County, NJ, on the Maurice River, with a population that is just under 30,000. It was incorporated as a city on March 1, 1866, and its unique form of government uses a "commission" system in which five commissioners are elected and one of these serves as the mayor. Millville's recorded history goes back to the early 18th century. As early as 1720, a sawmill is believed to have been established at nearby Leaming's Mill, with a public road, a boat landing, and even a bridge-like structure. However, until the late 18th century, only a few residents lived in this area.¹ During the 19th century, mills of various types were established, largely due to the available water power and to the abundant timber used to fuel the furnaces. Many glass houses also began operation in the early 1800s, as the region was blessed with sand amenable to such industry, and Millville began a steady period of growth.

Much later, with the advent of war in 1941, a new influx of residents came when construction began on Millville Airport, designated as "America's First Defense Airport." This Army airfield was established to train fighter pilots in combat aviation and gunnery on the formidable P-47 Thunderbolt, a plane often seen over Cumberland County at that time. During World War II, thousands of soldiers and civilians served in Millville, with some 1,500 pilots receiving advanced fighter training.² This airport still serves Millville today for general aviation.



Fig. 1: In this series, every post card tells a story, as does this one of The Weatherby House at the northeast corner of High and Main Streets. In 1911 it housed a drugstore and a number of smaller shops. It later served as the Bellamy Hotel until it burned. Jaycee Plaza now stands on the site. It is cancelled with a July 15, 1911 postmark, during Old Home Week 100 years ago.

As in many American cities, the trend of rapid growth was reversed in the decades after the war, and by the late 1990s the Millville downtown area had become somewhat run down, with such examples as the abandoned Levoy Theatre and the Wheaton Glass Factory, and with investors reluctant to venture capital in redevelopment. However, major changes have occurred in the past several years with the establishment of the High Street Glasstown Arts and scenic Riverfront districts, which have

transformed the downtown area into an artists' haven of studios, cafés, shops and restaurants. Older abandoned buildings have been restored and much more is planned.

Millville's "Old Home Week" was celebrated exactly 100 years ago. During the early 20th century many American towns celebrated such weeks, and Millville was no exception. In July 1911, buildings were decorated with pennants and with red, white and blue flags. Photographs of these structures were then taken and often turned into post cards. The post cards shown here come from the collection of Dr. Edward (Mickey) Smith, a Millville native and professor of foreign languages and literatures at Rowan University. He is an avid collector and buyer of old post cards from Millville and South Jersey towns. Should you have any such cards, you are invited to contact him at: 856-906-5695, or by email at: smithe@rowan.edu.



Fig. 2: This is a view of High Street looking north. Notice the sand street and trolley tracks. To the left can be seen a barber's pole and signs for newspaper and clothing stores. This block succumbed to fire in 1907 but was later rebuilt as pictured here in 1911.

Fig. 3: This building at the southwest corner of High Street functioned at one point as one of Millville's first City Halls. In 1911 it was Tomlin's Clothing and Haberdashery Store. Of interest is the running fire hydrant in the foreground, used to keep the dust down on the still unpaved street. Two buildings down, an early version of the Levey Theater can also be seen. This entire area was destroyed with the recent Levey collapse and subsequent demolition.





Fig. 4: The Manuskin Building was home to a fraternal order and was one of the more impressive structures on High Street. It later became the Millville Electric Light and Gas utilities building until it was eventually torn down. The card is dated July 6, 1911 during Old Home Week, and the message says, in part, "We are having a big time here this week. ... The third story of this building is where we have our dances."



Fig. 5: Taken from a larger post card, this photo shows a group of musicians in a horse-drawn cart during a parade marking Old Home Week.

ENDNOTES:

¹ Millville, NJ at http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Millville,_New_Jersey (July 29, 2011).

² The Millville Army Airfield Museum, <http://www.p47millville.org/> (July 28, 2011).

THE DEVELOPMENT OF MAIL IN MORRIS COUNTY, 1760-1850

Part IV: Chatham, Chester, Schooley's Mountain, Stockholm, Pompton, Berkshire Valley, Parsippany, Dover, and Rockaway Valley

An Exhibit by Donald A. Chafetz

This continues our series on Morris County postal history from 1760 to 1850, as shown in an exhibit by Donald Chafetz. For others in this series, please see our last three issues, November 2010, Volume 38, No 4, Whole number [180](#), and Feb. 2011, Volume 39, No. 1, Whole number [181](#), and May 2011, Volume 39, No. 2, Whole number [182](#).

These pages from Don's exhibit show other post offices in Morris County, presented in the order of their establishment, and are presented in their original form as an exhibit. This section begins with Chatham [est. 1808], Chester [est. 1808], Schooley's Mountain [est. 1812], Stockholm [est. 1812, later changed to Passaic County], Pompton [est. 1814], Berkshire Valley [est. 1816, discont'd 1872], Parsippany [est. 1817], Dover [est. 1820], and Rockaway Valley [est. 1820, changed to Powerville 1826].

Covers are arranged chronologically within each community.

Future issues will continue with other Morris County post offices.

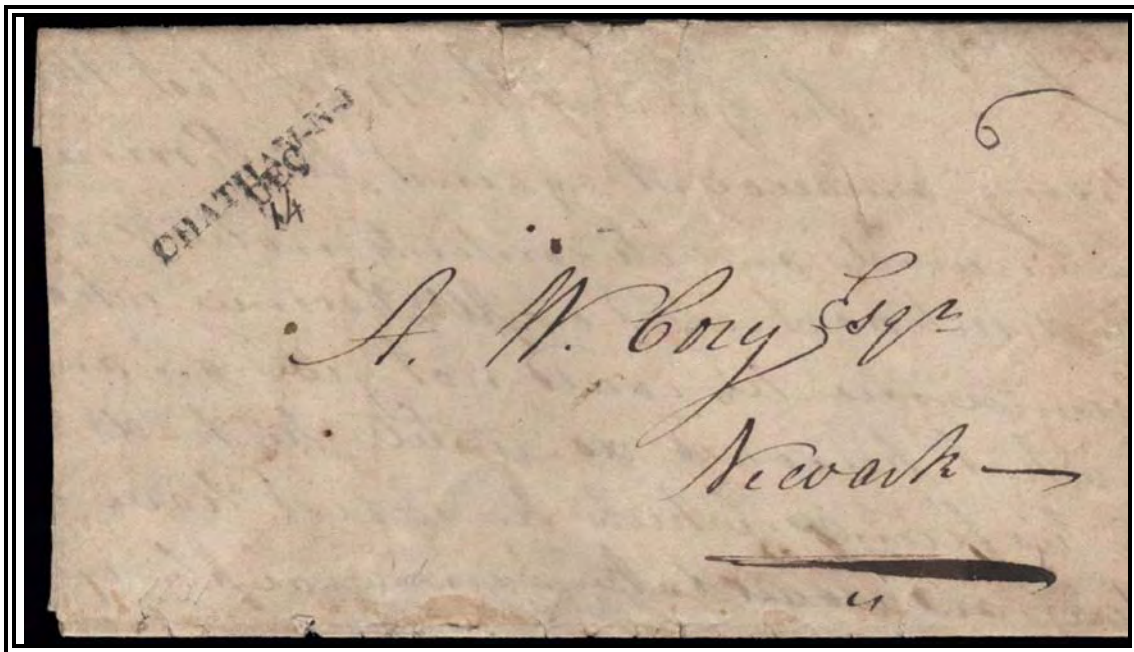
Statehood Period

Chatham

Established June 1. 1808

Postmark: December 14. 1831
To: Newark, NJ

Straightline 1831 black

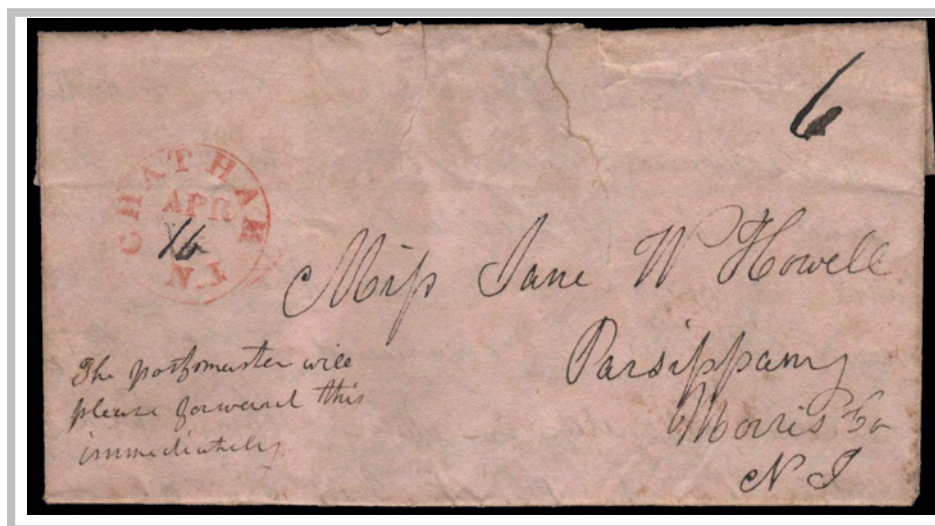


Statehood Period

Chatham

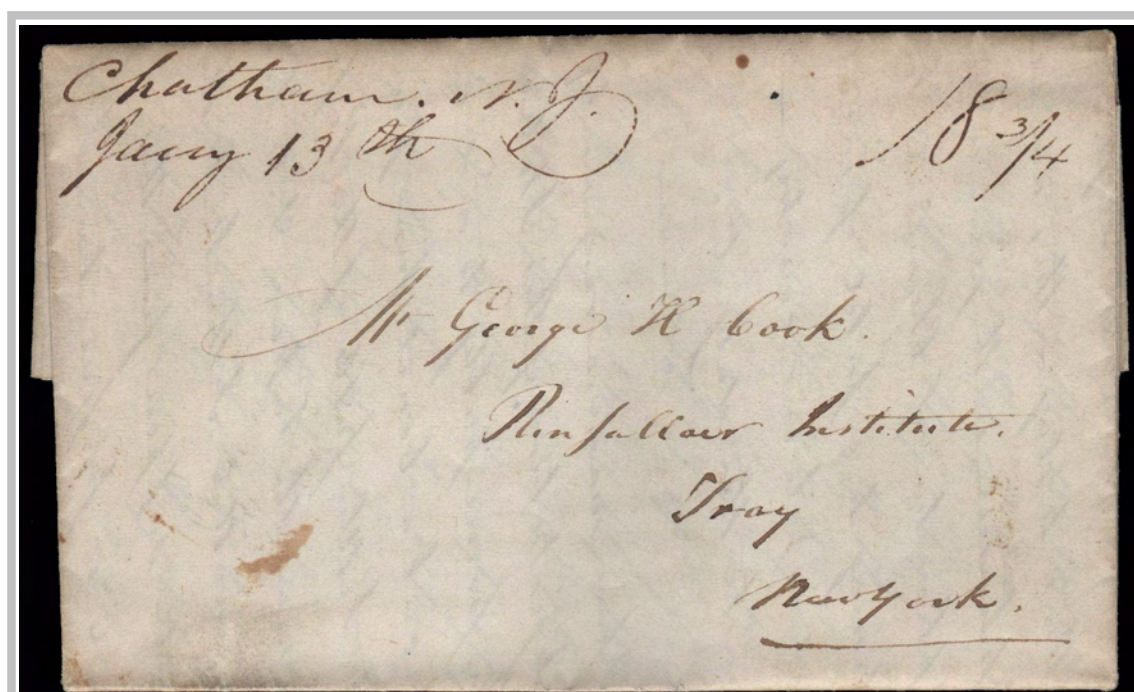
Postmark: April 16, 1834
To: Parsippany, NJ

Type C14 1834 - 1938 red
not over 30 miles - 6 cents



Postmark: July 13, 1844
To: Troy, NY

Manuscript 1844
150 - 400 miles - 18 ¾ cents



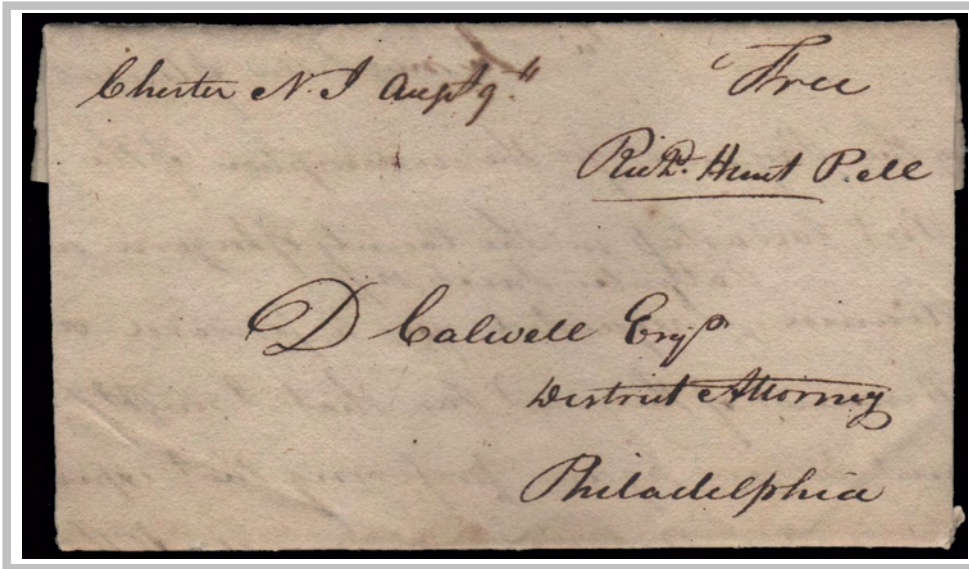
Statehood Period

Chester

Established October 1, 1808

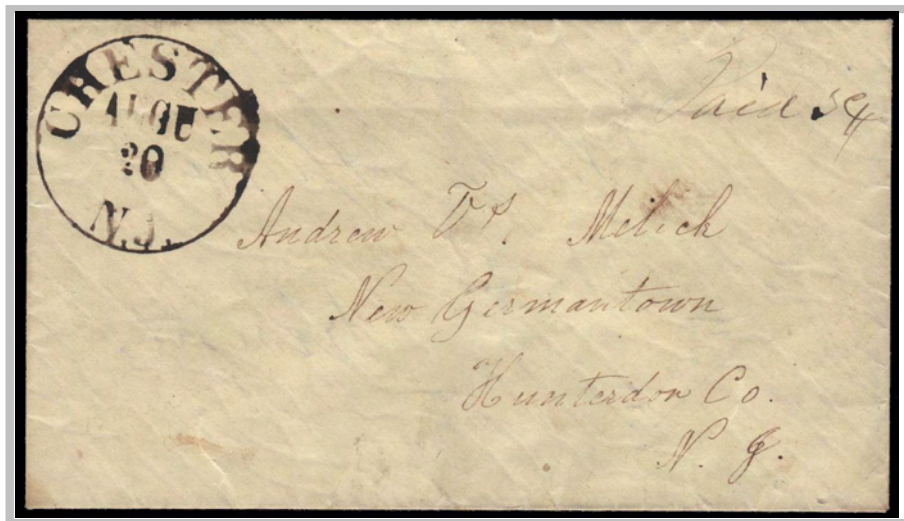
Postmark: August 9, 1819
To: Philadelphia, PA

Manuscript 1818 - 1851
sent to postmasster - free



Postmark: August 20, 1845-1851
To: New Germantown, NJ

C17 No Year Date black
under 300 miles - 5 cents



Statehood Period

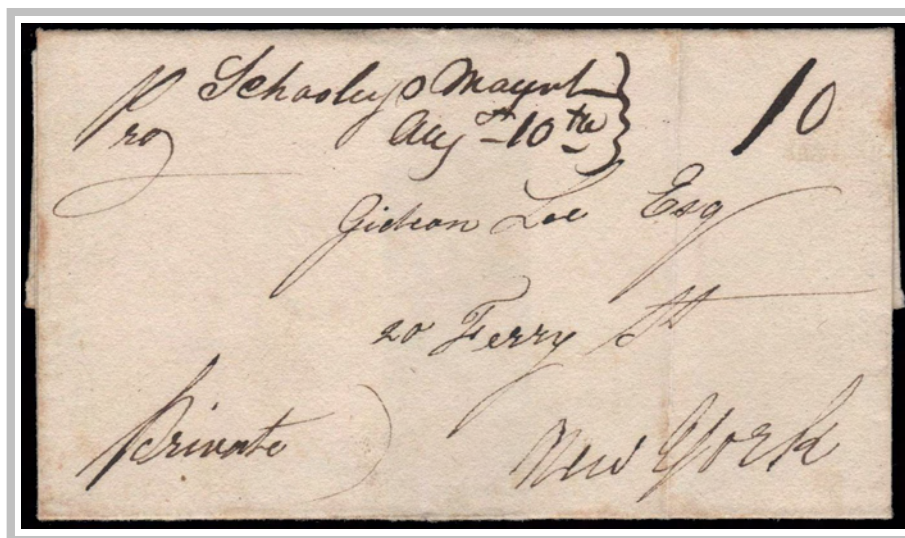
Schooleys Mountain

Schooly's Mount established January 20, 1812
Changed to Schooly's Mountain 1826



Manuscript: August 10, 1827
To: New York, NY

Manuscript 1827 - 1843
30 - 80 miles - 10 cents



Manuscript: September 17, 1832
To: Trenton, NJ

Manuscript 1827 - 1843
Way 30 - 80 miles - 10 cents

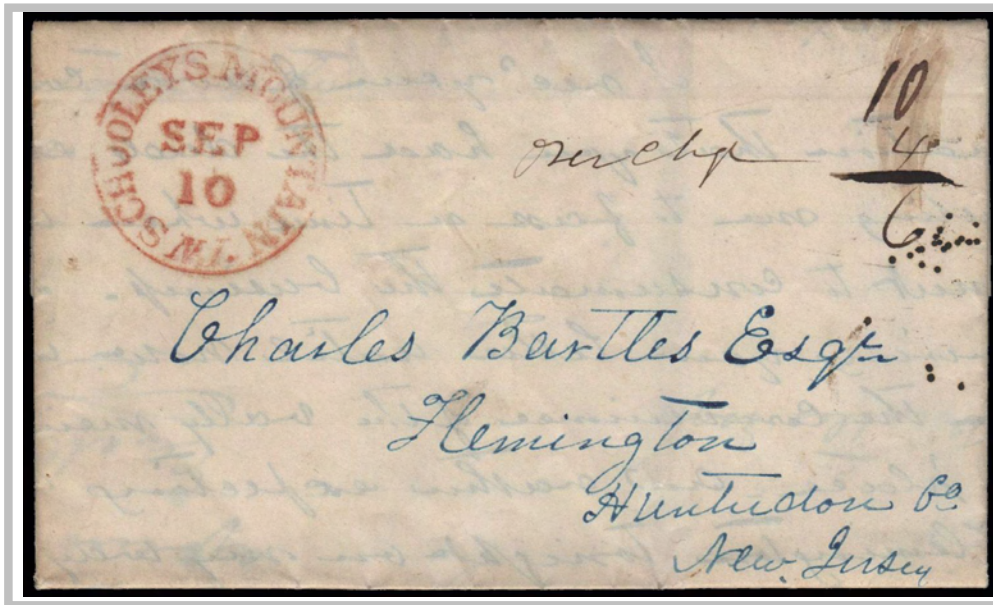


Statehood Period

Schooleys Mountain

Postmark: September 10, 1844
To: Flemington, NJ

S10 1843 - 1849 red
30 - 80 miles - 10 cents
Overcharged - 4 cents
Not over 30 miles - 6 cents



Postmark: July 29, 1848
To: Philadelphia, PA

S10 1843 - 1849 red
under 300 miles - 5 cents



Statehood Period

Postmark: September 11 Philadelphia, PA
To: Schooleys Mountain
Forward: Philadelphia, PA
Front Only

Schooleys Mountain

Philadelphia PAID blue
under 300 miles - 5 cents
forward under 300 miles - 5 cents



Statehood Period

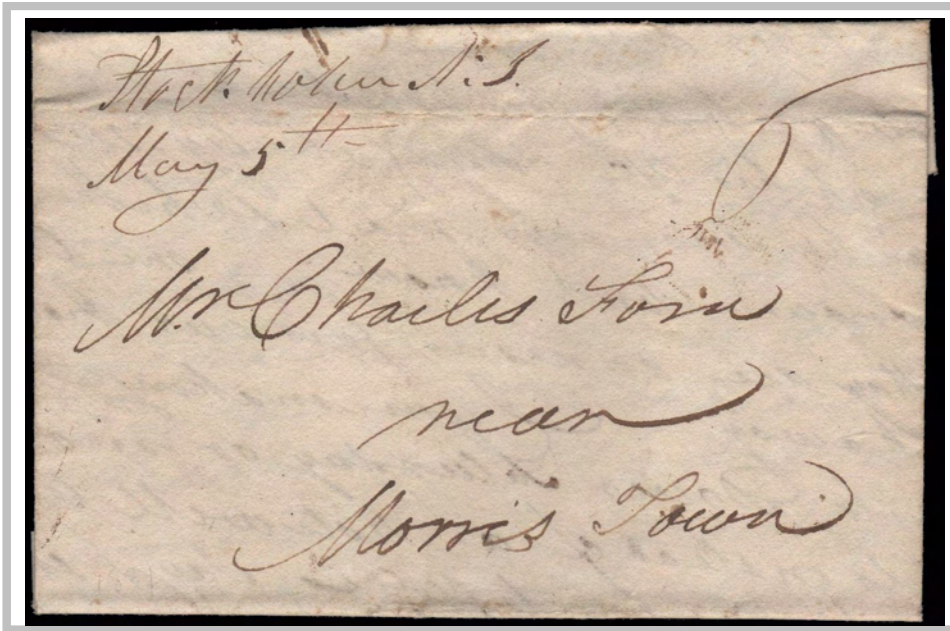
Stockholm

Established 1812

Changed to Passaic County February 7, 1837

Manuscript May 5, 1831
To: near Morristown, NJ

Manuscript 1831 - 1855
not over 30 miles - 6 cents



Statehood Period

Pompton

Established May 12, 1814 - June 24, 1847

Postmark: May 28, 1850
To: Harmony, NJ

P38 1849 - 1851
under 300 miles - 5 cents



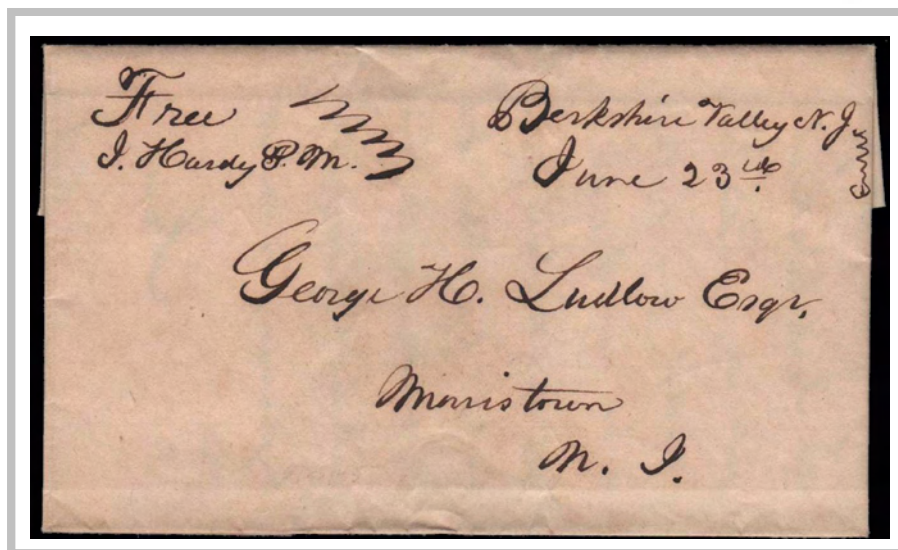
Statehood Period

Berkshire Valley

Established March 7, 1816, Discontinued 1872

Postmark: June 23, 1845
To: Morristown, NJ

Manuscript 1831 - 1845
mail to postmaster - free



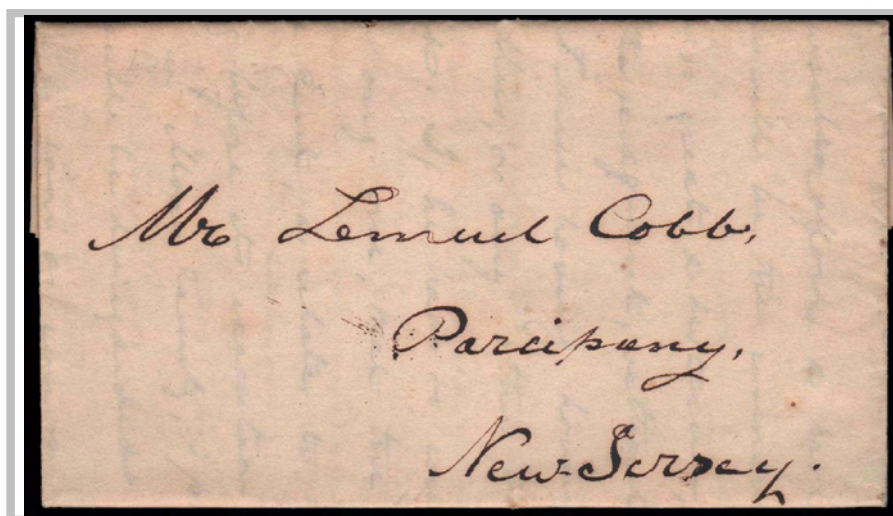
Statehood Period

Parsippany

Established February 3, 1817

Dateline: July 20, 1793
Via: Booneton, NJ
To: Parsippany, NJ

Out of the mail

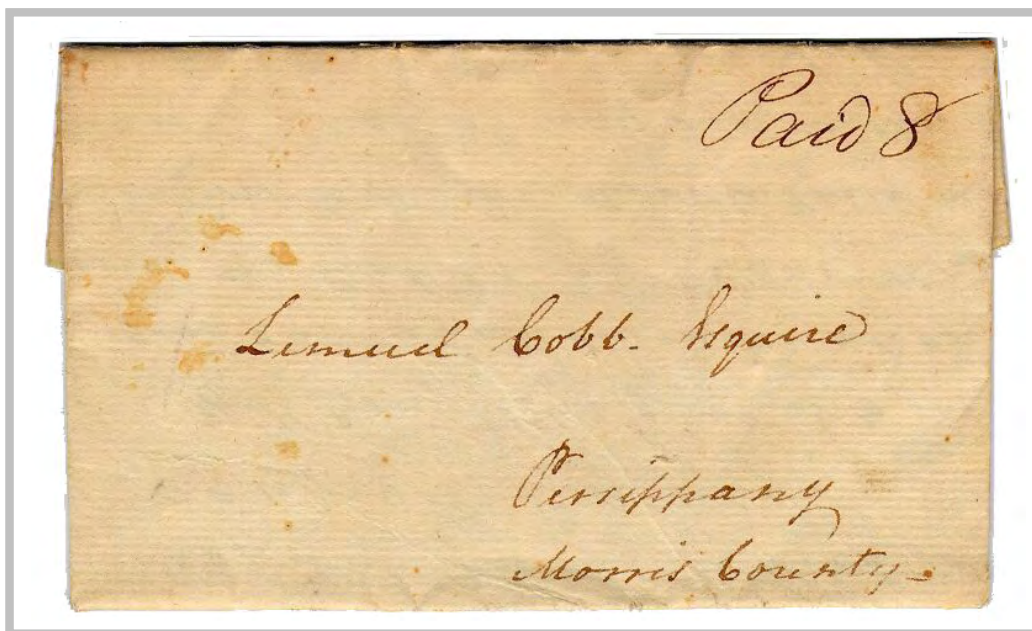


Statehood Period

Parsippany

Dateline: March 20, 1802 Newark, NJ
Via: Boonton, NJ
To: Parsippany, NJ

under 40 miles - 8 cents



Dateline: August 14, 1813 Morristown, NJ
Via: Boonton, NJ
To: Parsippany, NJ
Excerpt: *When I see you, I shall be able to refund your favor as also the postage on this letter.*

Out of the mail



Statehood Period

Parsippany

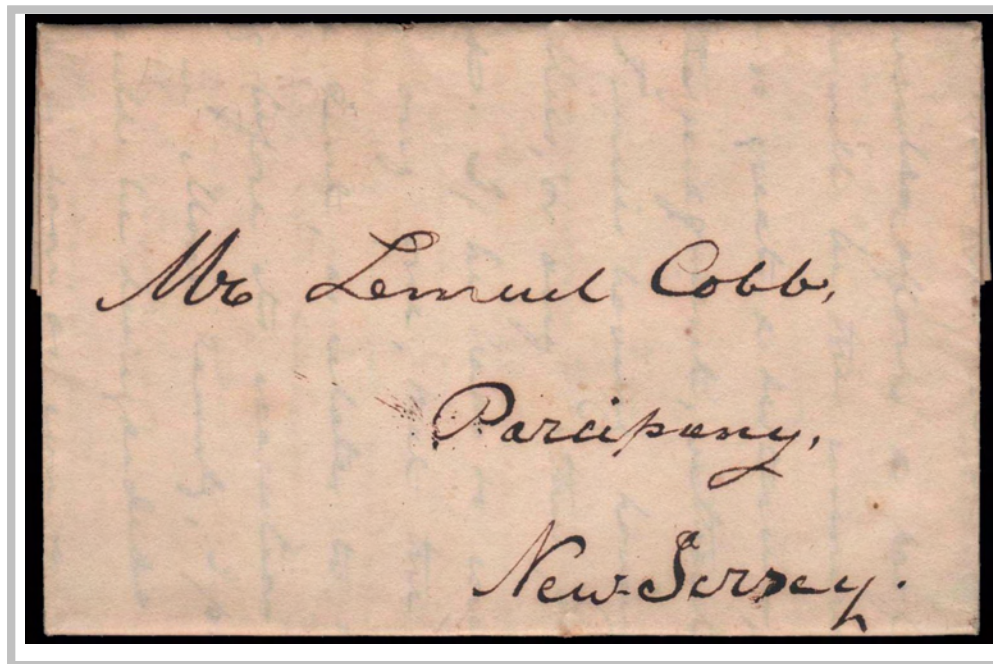
Dateline: December 22, 1813 Sunbury, PA

Via; Boonton, NJ

To: Parsippany, NJ

Excerpt: When I see you, I shall be able to refund your favor as also the postage on this letter

Out of the mail

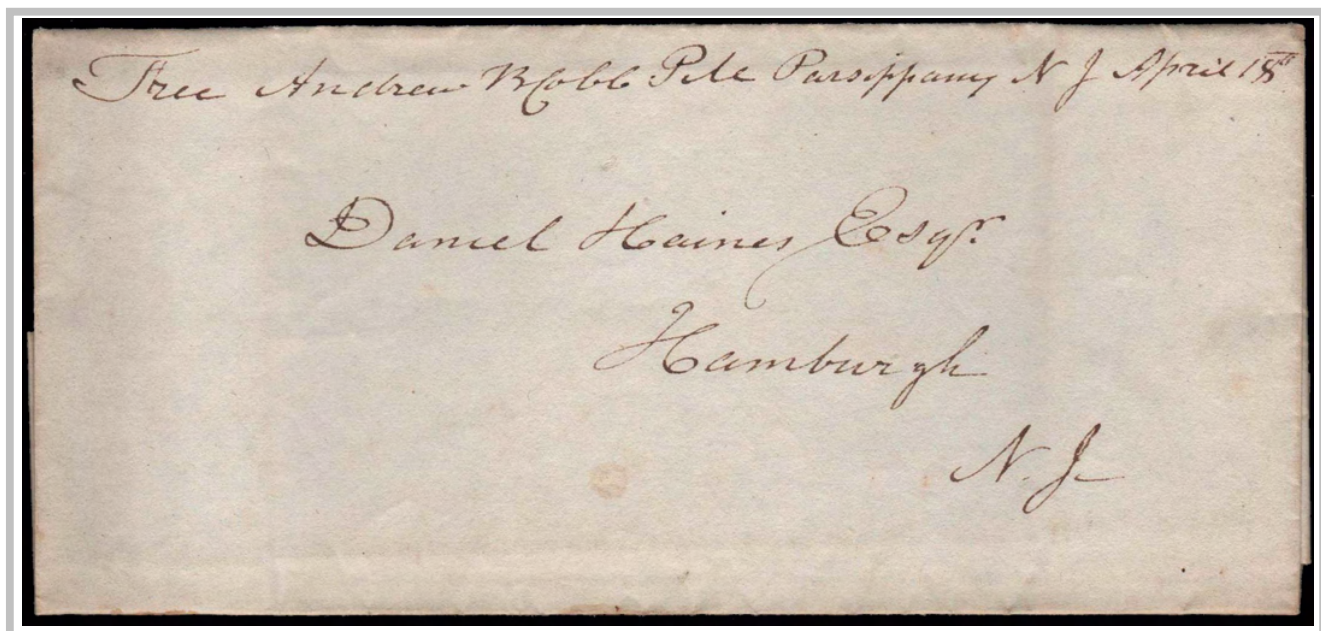


Manuscript: April 18, 1829 Parsippany, NJ

To: Hamburg, NJ

Manuscript 1821 - 1850

sent by postmaster - free

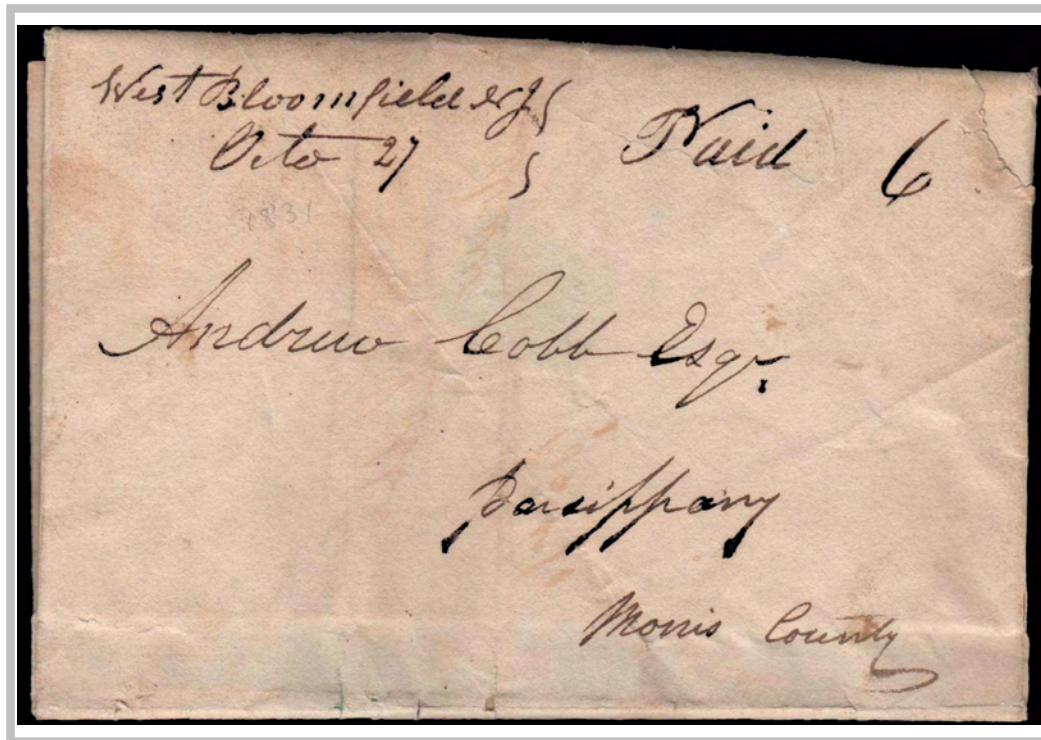


Statehood Period

Dateline: Bloomingdale, NJ
Manuscript: West Bloomfield, NJ October 27, 1831
To: Parsippany, NJ

Parsippany

Manuscript 1831 - 1842
under 300 miles - 6 cents



Postmark: January 27, 1835 New York, NY
To: Parsippany, NJ

under 30 miles - 6 cents



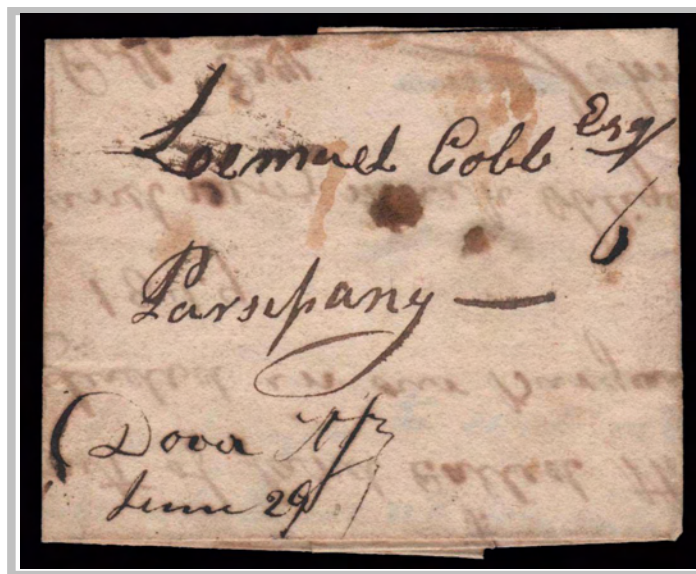
Statehood Period

Dover

Established June 6, 1820

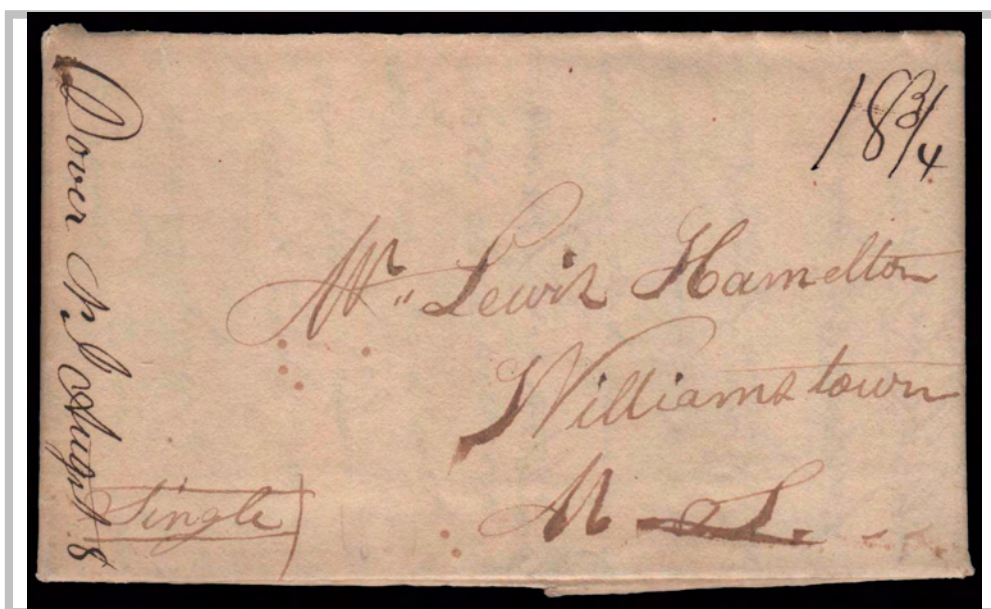
Manuscript: June 22, 1829
To: Parsippany, NJ

Manuscript 1829 - 1850
Over 30 miles - 6 cents



Manuscript: August 8, 1831
To: Williamstown, MA

Manuscript 1829 - 1850
150 - 400 miles - 18 ¾ cents

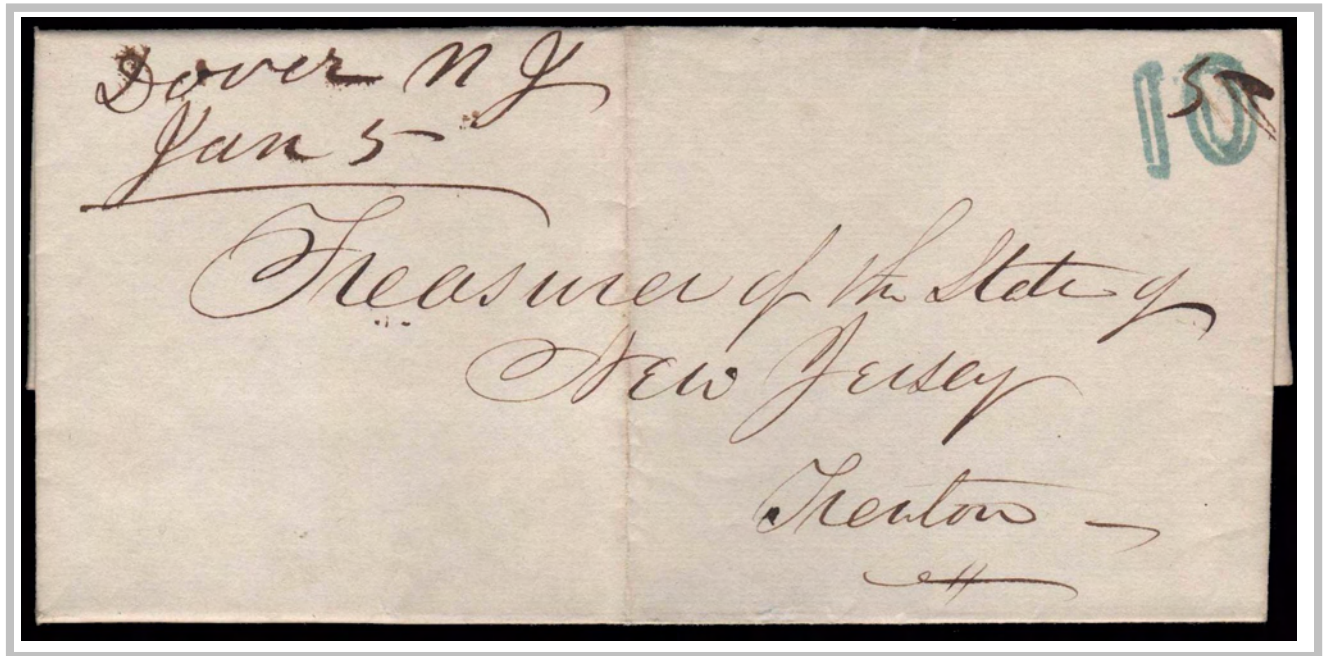


Statehood Period

Dover

Manuscript: January 5, 1848
To: Trenton, NJ
Rated: Trenton, NJ

Manuscript 1829 - 1850
under 300 miles - 5 centss
double weight - 10 cents



Postmark: November 28, 1849
To: Oxford Furnance, NJ

D9 1849 -1851 red
under 300 miles - 5 cents

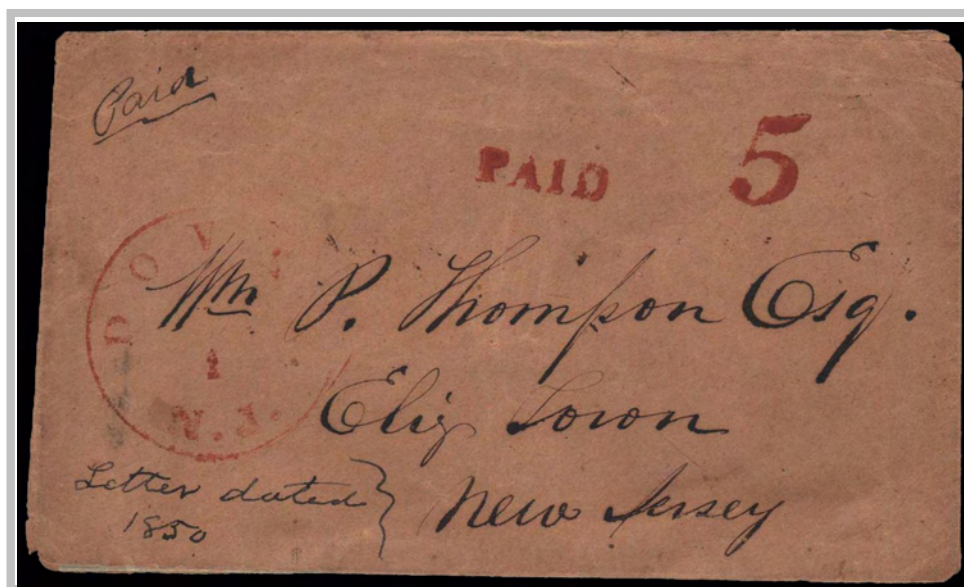


Statehood Period

Dover

Postmark: 1850
To: Eliz Town, NJ

D9 1850 red
under 300 miles - 5 cents



Statehood Period

Rockaway Valley

Established May 1, 1820
Changed to Powerville March 23, 1820

Dateline: March 1, 1815 Rockaway Valley, NJ
To: Parsippany, NJ

Manuscript 1829 - 1850
Out of the mail



NEW JERSEY MANUSCRIPT TOWN MARKINGS: Update**By Steven M. Roth****Report dated as of July 12, 2011**

Reports of manuscript town markings continue to come in from members, dealers and auction house sources. Although the number of reports has slowed, the total numbers reported over those reported last time is impressive: The total verified records are 1003 covers, up from 973 covers one year ago. The total reports representing the only report from a post office is 72, up from 68. Of these, 56 are newly listed post offices, in total. The total records that are the earliest reported is 227, up from 211; the total latest reported is 254, up from 245.

Type of Report	As of July 2011
Total records	1003
Only cover reported	72
Earliest reported	227
Latest reported	254
First Time Post Office Listing	56

Examples of covers with manuscript markings are shown below. While most examples are from the stampless period, there are many, like these, which are not – so just because your collection does not include stampless material does not mean there might not be some manuscript markings hidden there. New reports are always welcome.

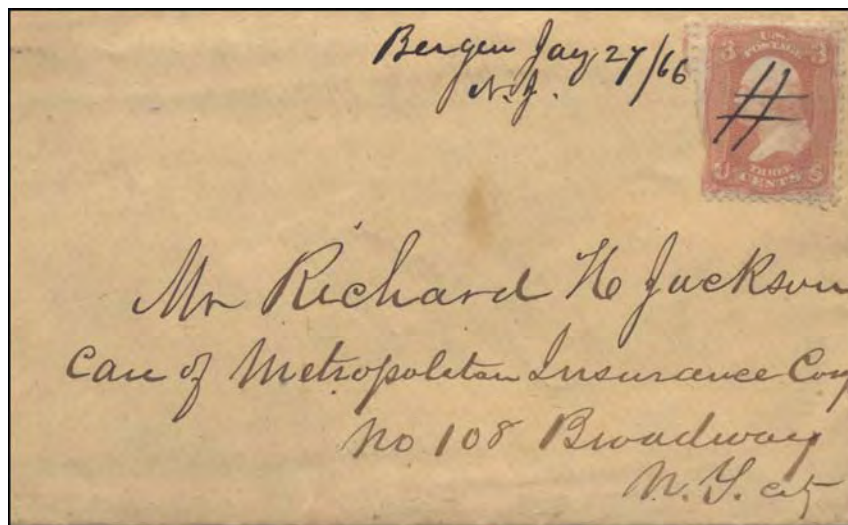


Fig. 1: A Jan. 27, 1866 cover from Bergen NJ with a fine mss marking.



Fig. 2: Smith's Landing, NJ, 14 Jan'y usage [no year date – but obviously not a stampless usage].

Contributors to the project since its inception have been:

Phil	Bansner
Don	Chavetz
Jack	Edge
Gene	Frickes
Ken	Hall
The Fabers	JWF Stamps
Peter	Lemmo
Bob	Livingstone
Craig	Mathewson
Len	Peck
Ken	Pitt
Steve	Roth
Ed	Siskin
Bill	Thoman
Jim	Walker
Jean	Walton
Steve	Washburn
Mike	Yannotta

This Manuscript Markings Database is available to members online at <http://njpostalhistory.org/media/pdf/RothNJmssMarkings.pdf>, and has recently been updated to include the newest contributions. Send new reports to stevenroth@comcast.net.

HOMETOWN POST OFFICES: Wharton (Port Oram), NJ

By Doug D'Avino

In 1861, the John Hill & Company store on Main St. in Port Oram, Morris County, along the Morris Canal, was bought by Robert F. Oram, John Hance, and William Lathrop. The business was renamed Oram, Hance & Company. On January 31, 1867, Hance became the first Port Oram Postmaster (PM), and the Post Office (PO) was set up inside the store. Hance remained in that post until 1885.



Fig. 1: Oram's Store on Main Street in Wharton. The store was home to the post office while John Hance was PM (1867 - 85) and while Robert F. Oram Jr. was PM (1897 - 98).

In 1892, the company of Oram, Hance & Company dissolved. It was changed to the R. F. Oram and Company, a dry goods, groceries, drugstore, plumbing & tin, and lumber supplier, with Robert F. Oram Jr. as chief manager. In 1897, Oram was appointed PM of Port Oram,¹ a post his father had previously held, and the PO returned to the store, shown in *Figure 1*. However, the following year, a Dover newspaper, *The Iron Era*, reported on Friday, November 25, 1898:

"Port Oram. Edward S. Hance will begin his duties as postmaster on December 1 in the front room of the undertaking establishment. He has purchased a fine new cabinet and has had the room put in proper condition for a neat post office."

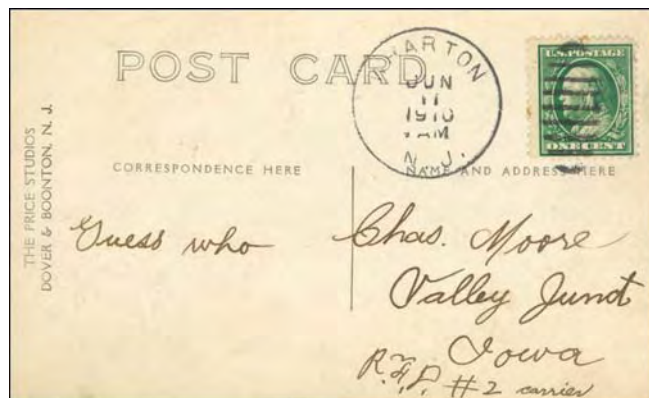
Based on a referendum held April 16, 1902, Port Oram's name changed to Wharton, as port status on the now-declining Morris Canal was outmoded. Thus, Edward S. Hance became the first PM of Wharton and the last PM of Port Oram, now a discontinued (dead) PO. As the town grew, the PO (shown in *Figure 2*) hired more employees. Miss Margaret (Maggie) Hance was hired as a clerk in 1904. John Bice became a rural carrier in 1906, the first rural carrier hired by the Wharton PO, and was assigned Route 1. John T. Webber became the second rural carrier hired in 1908, and was assigned Route 2.

In June 1910, Bice mailed a postcard, shown in *Figure 3*, addressed to Charles (Chas) D. Moore, a rural carrier in Valley Junction, Iowa, since 1902. Moore was assigned Route 2.

Fig. 2: *Edward S. Hance's post office at the corner of Main and Poppenhausen Streets. The PO is the center store between a Grocery/Barber shop (left side) and a Meat store.*



Fig. 3: *Rural Carrier John Bice of Wharton, New Jersey, on his bicycle. According to the postcard, Bice covered 243 mail boxes over 25 miles of dirt roads on his route. In June 1910, Bice mailed this card to Rural Carrier Chas. Moore of Valley Junction, Iowa, annotated only with the words "Guess who."*



ENDNOTES & REFERENCES:

- ¹ History of Wharton Borough, <http://www.nynjctbotany.org/njhltoc/whartonboro.html>
- ² Official Registers of the United States, 1867, 1869, 1887, 1899, 1903, 1905, 1907, 1909, 1911.
- ³ "Port Oram," *The Iron Era*, November 25, 1898, http://www.rtlibrary.org/iron_era/1898/1898-11-25.pdf.

NEW JERSEY POSTAL HISTORY SOCIETY. INC.
ANNUAL MEETING AT
NOJEX 2011 - SECAUCUS, NJ - MAY 29, 2011



MEMBER NEWS: Minutes of the Annual Meeting

The 38th Annual Meeting of the New Jersey Postal History Society was called to order at noon on Sunday May 29, 2011, with Robert G. Rose, President, presiding. Other officers present were Andy Kupersmit, Treasurer, Jean Walton, Secretary, and Auction Manager Arne Englund. Richard Micchelli, whose exhibit of nice Civil War covers from New Jersey graced the Court of Honor at NOJEX this year, was also present, to speak to us and elaborate on these covers.

Other members present were Mark Sommers, John Trosky, and Jim Walker. Business centered on the fact that while we have lost members, we have gained some new ones and so maintain our membership around 100 members. Dues continue at \$15, with the help of contributions by members.. Mark has donated a complete run to the Philatelic Exhibitor to the Society – for use as auction material to the Society’s benefit.



Andy Kupersmit, Treasurer (left) and Bob Rose, President (right), shown at NOJEX this year. Bob has the distinction of recently being elected Chairman of the Philatelic Foundation. He is also the chief organizer of the NOJEX show – a daunting task – and this year’s show was a big hit.

Richard Micchelli’s talk centered around the NJ Patriotics shown in our 100th issue of *NJPH*, which is available online. He discussed the scarcity of New Jersey Civil War patriotic covers, and shared some stories of the provenance of the covers in his collection. The Society hopes to either redo the 100th issue in color, or to reproduce Richard’s exhibit in digital form for those interested. It could become a part of our online files available only to members, or our public Free Online Library. This library is up and running already, and if members have not checked out items available there, please take the opportunity. In addition to back issues of the journal, there are a number of interesting articles. [To see these articles, go to <http://www.njpostalhistory.org/freelibraryarticles.html>.] In the Galleries, there are now two member exhibits, and another two Society exhibits, with more to come.

The meeting was adjourned at 1:00 PM.

Respectfully submitted,

Jean Walton, Secretary

RESOURCES FOR MEMBERS:

New Jersey Postal History Society has purchased copies of the postmaster appointment records [1832-1971] from National Archives, and as announced on [page 145](#), we will be happy to make these available to members for research. These are jpg files – hopefully one day we will convert them to more useable documents such as Word or pdfs. Other files available to members are accessible through links we will provide on request [These include journals from the last 5 years, county histories, the Manuscript Markings database, Brad Arch's DPO list, Stampless Era Post offices, the Coles Update, Doane List, Summer Post offices, etc.. Contact Secretary@NJPostalHistory.org]. Other files are available to the public on our web site's [Free Online Library](#) at <http://www.njpostalhistory.org/freelibraryarticles.html> . They include *NJPH* journals older than 5 years ago, some interesting articles prepared by members, and postmaster files for the stampless era, prepared by Coles and Griffiths from our older journals.

OBITUARY:

HARVEY MIRSKY, 71, a long-time NJPHS member passed away on May 9, 2011. I first met Harvey almost a dozen years ago when I gave a talk before the New York chapter of the U.S. Philatelic Classics Society on classic United States issues used on covers from New Jersey. At that time, Harvey was building a collection of the 1847 Issue that went on to win gold and grand awards nationally and large gold medals internationally. We shared our mutual interest in researching a Valentine Day usage of a 5 cent 1847 on a locally used Newark cover that he purchased in the Brad Arch auction sale that was to become the subject of articles appearing in both *NJPH* and in the Philatelic Foundation's *Opinions VII*. We shared many hours discussing our philatelic interests on train rides from Washington, DC where we both served as members of the National Postal Museum's Council of Philatelists, as well as during our time together as members of the Philatelic Foundation's Board of Trustees. Harvey was a collector and student on a wide range of U.S. philatelic topics, but his special love was always the stamps and postal history of the 1847 issue. Harvey was a kind, considerate person and always a gentleman. He will be missed by all in our hobby. **R.G.R.**



Harvey Mirsky, 1940-2011



WELCOME TO NEW MEMBERS:	
Carl Barna, , Revolutionary. NJ, Union & Middlesex Ctys, Postcards pre 1914	
John H. Barwis, P.O. Box 8038, Holland, MI 49422-8035, jbarwis@charter.net	
Walter Kusak	
Richard J. Micchelli, P.O. Box 248, Mountain Lakes, NJ 07046, Civil War Partiotics Postmarks NJ micchelli@optonline.net	
William Somerville, 901 Timberbrook Drive, Vineland, NJ 08360-8923, William@wsomerville.com	
CHANGES IN ADDRESS	
Joe Chervenyak, 6 Lions Head Blvd So., Brick NJ 08723, email is still joecherv@yahoo.com	
Matthew Stoll: change 29 Cherry Hill Road, Livingston, NJ 07039 to Matt Stoll, 2474 Walnut St. . # 192, Cary, NC 27518	
John Trosky, remove jtrosky@email.usps.gov , keep jtjersey@verizon.net	
GOODBYE TO OLD FRIENDS:	
Harvey Mirsky, P.O. Box 358, New Hope, PA 18938	

MEMBER ADS ~ YOUR AD MISSING? LET US KNOW AT

SECRETARY@NJPOSTALHISTORY.ORG OR BY MAIL

STAMPLESS MANUSCRIPTS WANTED – New Jersey and Maine only – pls send copies with prices to PLS send copies with prices to J. Haynes, Box 358, Allendale, NJ 07401

LOOKING FOR LOCAL PICTURE POST CARDS OF OLD NJ GENERAL STORES & POST OFFICES, particularly with post office signs, Contact Doug D'Avino at davinod@earthlink.net.

Always interested in **CORRESPONDENCE TO/FROM OCEANPORT** as well as anything between Portugal, its colonies and N.J. Contact me by mail at Steve Washburne, P.O. Box 43146 Phila. PA 19129 or email Stevewashburne@gmail.com

WANTED: STAMPLESS THROUGH PRESIDENTS. For the following New Jersey towns: Allendale, Hohokus, Manasquan, Point Pleasant, Point Pleasant Beach, Ridgewood and Wyckoff. PLS send copies with prices to J. Haynes, Box 358, Allendale, NJ 07401.

SAMUEL SOUTHARD CORRESPONDENCE ALWAYS WANTED! Always interested. Please contact Jean Walton, 125 Turtleback Rd, Califon, NJ 07830, 908/832-9578 or send scan and e-mail to jwalton971@aol.com.

WANTED: COVERS to and from **CALD-WELL, N.J.**, Also **CALDWELL POST CARDS & NEWTON POST CARDS BY RYERSON.** Contact Les Byrnes, P.O. Box 765, Kinderhook, N.Y. 12106 or call 518/758-7581.

GLASSBORO OR GLASSBOROUGH N.J. COVERS WANTED: STAMPED OR STAMPLESS. Send price desired and photocopy to Bill Whiteman, 402 North Harvard Road, Glassboro, NJ 08028, Call 856/881-8858 or email BillWhit3@juno.com.

WANTED: JERSEY CITY POSTAL HISTORY, advertising covers, post cards of Jersey City, street scenes and unusual usages or cancellations prior to 1940. Contact John A. Trosky, 2 St. Clair Ave., Rutherford. NJ 07070-1136/973-977-4639/email JTJersey@verizon.net.

WANTED: Calno, Brotzmanville, Millbrook, Pahaquarry, Dunnfield, Delaware Gap, Flatbrookville, Wallpack Centre, Bevans, Layton, Hainesville, Montague. Arne Englund, P.O. Box 57, Port Murray, NJ 07865-3012 or alenglund@aol.com.

WANTED: Port Murray, Anderson, Changewater, Port Colden, Karrsville, Rockport, Beatyestown, Pleasant Grove, Stephensburg, Anthony, Woodglen. Arne Englund, P.O. Box 57, Port Murray, NJ 07865-3012 or alenglund@aol.com.

OUT-OF-PRINT AND RARE NEW JERSEY BOOKS BOUGHT AND SOLD since 1972. 8000 items, 1690s to 1990s. Visit our searchable website: www.felcone.com. Joseph J. Felcone, PO Box 366, Princeton, NJ 08542 609/924-0539; felcone@felcone.com.

NOW AVAILABLE: *Annotated Cumulative Subject Index to the Chronicle of the U.S. Classical Postal Issues for Issue Numbers 1-200*, 591 pages with searchable CD-ROM. \$75.00 + \$10.00 shipping. Order from Joseph J. Geraci, Box 4129, Merrifield, VA 22116 or call 703-280-5928.

WANTED: SHIP CANCELS FROM WWII, Morris, Sussex County covers, Patriotic covers, and postal cards. Clean clear strikes preferred. Willard Johnson, 24 Salmon Lane, Ledgewood, NJ 07852, or 973/584-0359.

HUNTERDON COUNTY, NJ-DPO: covers wanted including stampless. Please send copies and prices to G. Soldati, 710 Graisbury Ave, Haddonfield, NJ 08033 or e-mail gdsoldati@comcast.net.

WANTED FOR EXHIBIT: BETTER COVERS FROM NEW BRUNSWICK, NJ, COLONIAL PERIOD TO 1900. Contact Nathan Zankel, P.O. Box 7449, North Brunswick, NJ 08902 or call 732/572-0377.

WANTED: Clear handstamps on New Jersey stampless covers for exhibition collection. Send copies and prices to Robert G. Rose, P.O. Box 1945, Morristown, NJ 07962 or e-mail rrose@daypitney.com.

MEMBER ADS

WANTED: WASHINGTON FRANKLIN with SIDEROGRAPHER OR PLATE FINISHER INITIALS, on or off cover, used or unused.. Contact Doug D'Avino at davinod@earthlink.net.

WANTED: Hunterdon County NJ, Bucks County PA postal history, covers, postcards, pictures, Americana ephemera collateral paper items, all eras.. Contact Jim Walker, 121 Wertsville Road, Ringoes, NJ 08551-1108, 908/806-7883 or email jiwalker@earthlink.net

WANTED: POSTAL HISTORY OF SUSSEX COUNTY: DPO postmarks: Culvers, Cutoff, Edison (pre 1910); stampless letters, OLD DEEDS, documents, memorabilia of all kinds. Contact Leonard R. Peck, 200 Bristol Glen Dr., Box 312, Newton, NJ 07860 or call 973-300-5788 & ask for Len Peck.

WANTED: SCOTT #610 MATCHED SET OF PLATE BLOCKS, F-VF or better, NH not required. Send scans or photocopies with price to Al Parsons, 809 Holley Rd., Elmira, NY 14905, 607-732-0181, alatholleyrd@aol.com.

ALWAYS DESIRED: FISH HOUSE, COVERS, BURLINGTON COUNTY ADVERTISING COVERS AND CORNER CARDS; BURLINGTON COUNTY DPOs. Email Paul W. Schopp at pwschopp@comcast.net.

WANTED: MOUNTAIN LAKES, BOONTON, PARSIPPANY, TROY HILLS POSTAL HISTORY items. Describe or send photocopies for my very generous offer. APS (Life member), NJPHS member since 1980. Peter Lemmo, PO Box 557, Whippany NJ 07981-0557.

WANTED: WWI & WWII CENSORED MAIL TO AND FROM TOWACO, NJ 07082. Email scans to hughtowaco@optonline.com or mail copy to POB #139, Towaco, NJ 07082-0139.

WANTED: NJ DPOS, RPOS, NJ SMALL TOWN POSTCARDS, NJ RRs, Morris Canal Real Photo postcards, NJ towns' fire stations. Contact Maurice Cuocci, 100 Evesham #B, Freehold, NJ 07728, 732-577-8214 or email lou2cuo@hotmail.com

WANTED: Picture Post card of WEST ENGLEWOOD NATIONAL BANK. Contact Bill Berdan, 475 Forest Ave., Teaneck, NJ 07666 or by email at William.Berdan@gmail.com.

WANTED: 1970'S UPS DENOMINATED STAMPS SOLD IN NORTHERN NJ BY UNITED PARCEL SERVICE. Also any literature, waybills, etc., about this UPS experiment with prepaid stamps. Contact Bruce Mosher, POB 33236, Indialantic, Fl 32903, 321/723-7886 or e-mail bhmexp@digital.net.

WANTED: All GLOUCESTER COUNTY, NJ POSTAL HISTORY stampless to 1920. All Woodbury, NJ stampless to present. **NEED BASSETT PO** (DPO GlouCty 1891-1920) Warren Plank, POB 559, Woodbury 08096, 856/229-1458, webmaster@NJPostalHistory.org.

WANTED; STAGE COVERS BEFORE 1860. All Eastern states. Also wanted: Confederate fakes and forgeries. Contact Steven M. Roth, 1280 21st Street, NW, Suite 209, Washington, DC 20036, 202/293-2563 or email stevenroth@comcast.net.

COLLECTOR SEEKS LONG BEACH ISLAND POSTAL HISTORY, especially picture postcards. Please contact Michael White, P.O. Box 5222, Saipan, MP 96950 or email mwhite@saipan.com.

WANTED: FLORIDA STAMPLESS POSTAL HISTORY, Pre-territorial, Territorial, Statehood, Civil War periods. Contact William Johnson, 13691 Metropolitan Pkwy, Ft. Myers, FL 33912 or email whjdds@aol.com.

19TH CENTURY AND INTERESTING PATERSON WANTED. Contact George Kramer, 199 Charles St., Clifton, NJ 07013-3853, or email gjkk@optonline.net

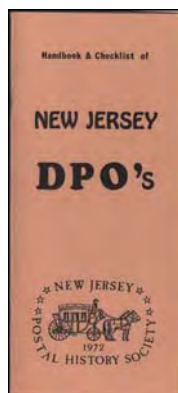
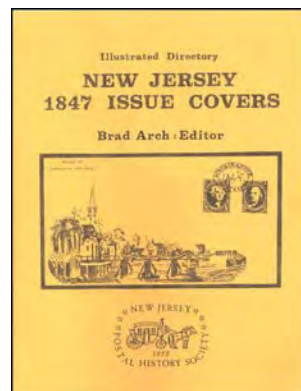
WANTED: RAMAPO WORKS, RAMAPO, NY, WYCKOFF, NJ, FABER'S MILLS, FABER, VA, any Monroe County, IN. Marge Faber, P.O. Box 1875, Bloomington, IN 47402 or email faber@bluemarble.net.

NJPHS LITERATURE AVAILABLE postpaid from Robert G. Rose, NJPHS, One Jefferson Road, Parsippany, NJ 07054-2891, or email Secretary@NJPostalHistory.org for Paypal invoice.		Member price	Non-members
CD or hard copy: <i>The Postal Markings Of New Jersey Stampless Covers: An Update</i> by Donald A. Chafetz (2004) hardcopy, 28pp. or available on CD in PDF format Updates the extensive work of William C. Coles, with new markings and dates since that original work was published in 1983 Also available to members free as a downloadable file		\$10.00 FREE	\$15.00
CD only: <i>Washington Organ Manufacturers</i> on CD, by Len Frank - 3 articles + many many illustrations not in <i>NJPH</i> , in Acrobat Reader [.PDF] format..... <ul style="list-style-type: none"> A series of 3 articles on the advertising covers and history of the organ manufacturers of Washington, NJ, Adds a picture gallery of many covers not illustrated in those articles. Includes much paper ephemera as well. An impressive collection. 		\$7.50	\$10.00
Hard copy: <i>Catalog of New Jersey Railway Postal Markings</i> , 1984, Frederick D. MacDonald, 136pp. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Still the "bible" of New Jersey railway postmarks. A must for any RPO collector. Routes and cancels shown..... Terminal markings 		\$7.50	\$10.00
Hard copy: <i>Illustrated Directory of New Jersey 1847 Issue Covers</i> , Brad Arch, ed., 1987, 44pp & Supplements <ul style="list-style-type: none"> For the collector of the 1847 Issue, this book by Brad Arch is the comprehensive work on New Jersey covers 5¢ and 10¢ covers in separate sections Detailed descriptions of each cover, arranged by office of origin. 		\$4.00	\$7.50
Hard copy: <i>New Jersey DPO's</i> , Brad Arch, ed., 1981, 22pp, pocket sized Checklist of Discontinued Post Offices THE pocket manual of New Jersey discontinued post offices, easy to transport and an excellent checklist Also available to members free as a downloadable file		\$3.00 FREE	\$4.00
Hard copy: <i>New Jersey's Foreign Mail</i> , 1997, Gerard J. Neufeld, 76pp. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> A fine monograph on foreign mail to and from New Jersey in the 19th Cent. Profusely illustrated Each cover explained 		\$8.00	\$10.00
CD: Mosher's NJ Private Express Companies <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 10 compiled articles by Bruce Mosher on many aspects of private express mail in New Jersey with many color illustrations Previously unpublished material in lengthy postscript plus index 		\$10.00	\$15.00
CDs: Back issues of the NJPH Journal are available on CD for 2003 to 2009 at <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Each CD includes the 4 quarterly journals for one year, in color, pdf format CD: 2010 <i>NJPH</i> Issues on CD in PDF format, may color illustrations		\$5.00 each \$5.00	\$7.50 each \$12.00
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DOWNLOADABLE FILES AVAILABLE FREE TO MEMBERS ONLY!*			
Brad Arch's handy DPO book available in Excel format (for hardcopy see above).		FREE	2.95
Stampless Era Post Offices, based on Coles and the Coles Update in Excel format.		FREE	2.95
Brennan, Lawrence, <i>New Jersey-Built Air Craft Carriers</i> , a long series with many covers in PDF format.		FREE	12.95
Chafetz, Don <i>Coles Update</i> – a supplement and update to Wm Coles study of <i>New Jersey Stampless Markings</i> , in pdf format.		FREE	2.95
Chafetz, Don, <i>Development of Morris County Mail Service – 1760-1850</i> – a digital exhibit, PDF.		FREE	4.99
Edge, Jack, <i>Post Towns of Burlington County</i> . All of Jack's Burlington series, as published in the pages of <i>NJPH</i> , compiled into one document, in PDF format.		FREE	7.99
Edge, Jack, <i>Postmasters of Burlington County</i> . List of Burlington County postmasters from in Jack's Burlington series, in PDF format.		FREE	4.99
Englund, Arne, <i>New Jersey Summer Post Offices</i> – seasonal POs of NJ, in PDF.		FREE	
Law, Mary E., <i>The Postal History of Cape May County, NJ</i> including postmaster list, published in <i>NJPH</i> between March 1993 through May 1994, PDF format.		FREE	8.99
Walker, Jim, <i>Hunterdon County Postal History</i> , serialized articles 2007-2010, pdf		FREE	
Peck, Len, <i>Essays on Sussex County & New Jersey Postal History</i> , articles 2004-10, pdf		FREE	9.95

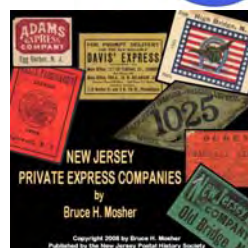
* see our web site at www.NJPostalHistory.org for other files available free to the public

THE NEW JERSEY POSTAL HISTORY SOCIETY LITERATURE

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PayPal payment available – email Secretary@NJPostalHistory.org with wants for Paypal invoice.



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CD or hard copy: <i>The Postal Markings Of New Jersey Stampless Covers: An Update</i> by Donald A. Chafetz hardcopy, 28pp. or available as CD in Acrobat Reader [.PDF] format (2004)..... Updates the extensive work of William C. Coles, with new markings and dates since that original work was published in 1983	\$10.00	\$15.00
CD: Bruce Mosher's <i>NJ Private Express Companies</i> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 10 compiled articles by Bruce Mosher on many aspects of private express mail in New Jersey Many color illustrations Previously unpublished material in lengthy postscript Alphabetical index 	\$10.00	\$15.00
CD: <i>Washington NJ Organ Manufacturers</i> on CD, by Len Frank - 3 articles + many illustrations not in <i>NJPH</i> , in Acrobat Reader [.PDF] format, 2004.. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> A series of 3 articles on the advertising covers and history of the organ manufacturers of Washington, NJ, Adds a picture gallery of many covers not illustrated in those articles. Includes much paper ephemera as well. An astounding compilation of material. 	\$7.50	\$10.00

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