Printed Matter Introduction

#### **Introduction To Section Six**

This frame will show both the second and third class mails utilizing covers which are out of the ordinary. Fancy envelopes and cancels are shown as well a an exceedingly scarce bisect of the 2¢ Black Jack stamp, a preprinted town mark and several newspapers bearing stamps.



New York, NY to Richmond, IN

15 August 1864

# Complete Revamping Of The Laws Affecting Printed Matter July 1, 1863

The Postal Act of March 3, 1863, which took effect July 1, 1863, completely changed the ways in which printed matter was handled by the Post Office Department.

Mail was divided into three classes: First class embraced letters and matter, wholly or partly, in writing, except book manuscripts and corrected proof sheets; second class embraced publications issued at stated periods; and third class encompassed all other mailable matter, including book manuscripts and corrected proof sheets.

Second class matter published once a week or more often, sent to regular subscribers, was eligible for discounted "subscription rates" which had to be prepaid quarterly in cash. For individual items and publications published less often than a week, the postage was 1¢ for four ounces and an additional 1¢ for each four ounces in excess. Strangely, for postmasters in cities which employed carriers, they could negotiate individual contracts for delivery subject to the approval of the Postmaster General.

Third class mail included printed circulars. Postage for unsealed circulars, not exceeding three in number, was 2¢ and an additional 2¢ for each three additional or fraction thereof. For other mailable third class matter the rate was 2¢ for each four ounces or fraction thereof.

# **Third Class Mails** Unsealed Printed Circular - Two Cents Per Three To Same Address



Owasco, NY to Auburn, NY

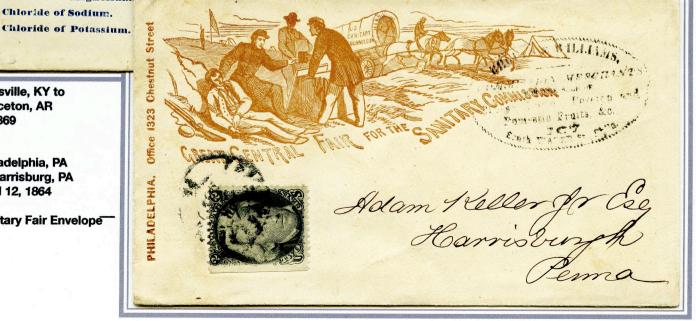
15 December 1869



Maysville, KY to Princeton, AR C. 1869

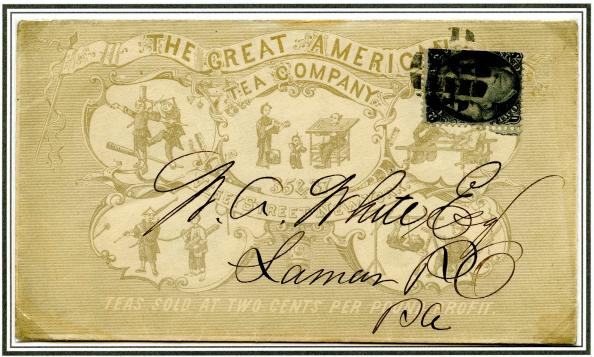
Philadelphia, PA to Harrisburg, PA April 12, 1864

Sanitary Fair Envelope



# Third Class Mails Allover Advertising Envelopes

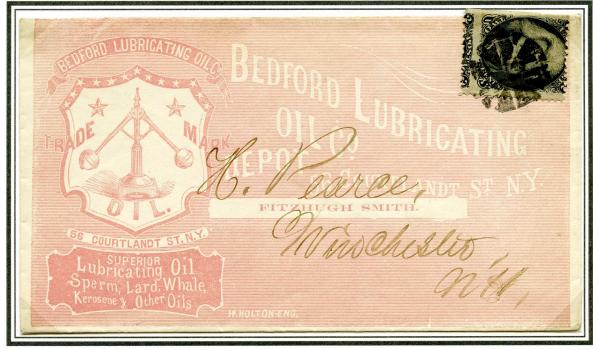
## **Allover Advertising Envelopes**



New York, NY to Lamar P. O., PA

C. 1866

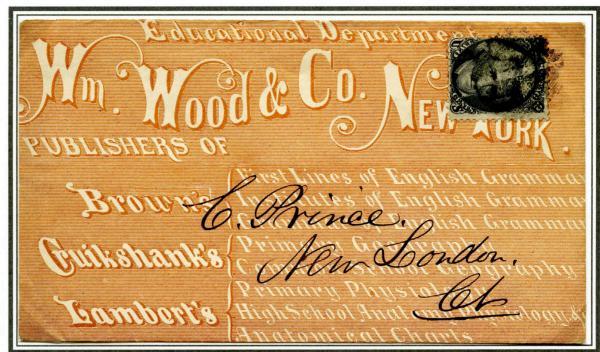
With the vast proliferation of printing presses after the Civil War, printing costs dropped significantly, making it economical to produce beautiful advertising envelopes to enclose circulars.



New York, NY to Winchester, NH

# Third Class Mails Allover Advertising Envelopes

### **Allover Advertising Envelopes**



PFC

New York, NY to New London, CT

1 February 1868

Two examples of colorful lithographic advertising envelopes used to enclose printed circulars.



New York, NY to Darthmouth, MA

25 March 1865

# Third Class Precanceled Printed Envelope

## **Preprinted Circular Date Stamp And Address**



**PSE** 

Cumberland, Me to Raymond, ME

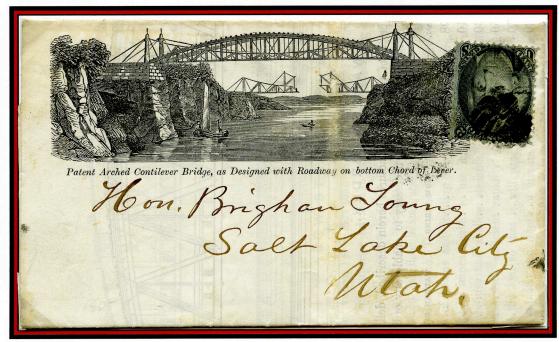
11 March 1863

The postmaster of Cumberland, Maine from 1853 to 1870 was Mr. David Gray. Gray was also a printer and operated a print shop on the same premises as that for the post office. It appears that in the late 1850's Gray experimented with the application of the town CDS and cancellation of the stamp by running them through a printing press. This probably proved to be too tedious due to registration issues so he settled for pre-printing the circular date stamp for the town and a portion of the address. This must have been an attempt to increase efficiency of processing at the time of mailing.

The example here has the town name, the month, and the state abbreviation printed within what is similar to a normal circular date stamp. The addressee "Collector of Taxes for 1863," a very fine dotted line and the state were also preprinted. At the time of mailing, the town name in the address was written in by hand, a one cent stamp was applied and the stamp cancelled with the numeral year date. Several examples survive from 1861 - 1864, all having the same characteristics as this example.

Third Class Mails
Illustrated Folded Sheet

## Illustrated Front Panel Sheet Addressed To Brigham Young



PFC

Boston, MA to Salt Lake City, UT

**April 1869** 

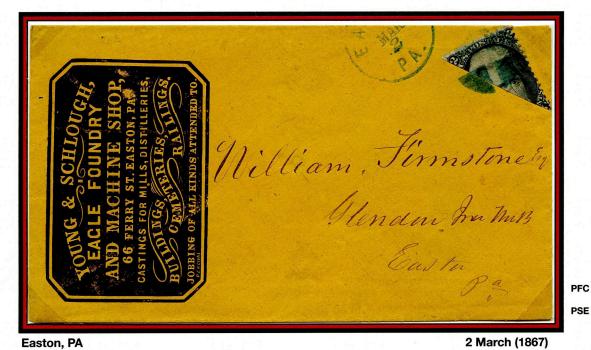
This folded printed circular is from a steel bridge company in Boston, Massachusetts to the famous leader of the Mormon Church, Brigham Young.

The Mormons were instrumental in getting the route for the first transcontinental railroad to traverse Utah near the capital, Salt Lake City. Many years of lobbying Congress for the "middle route" paid off with two handsome dividends. First, the Mormons understood the railroad meant expansion and growth and that would occur first and foremost along the route taken for the train. Secondly, they understood the short term financial boom that would come from construction of the railroad itself. The Mormons were instrumental in building the roadbeds and bridges for hundreds of miles either side of Salt Lake City. This is why the bridge company sent the circular to Brigham Young trying to promote their bridges.

Two examples of this illustrated circular are recorded.

Third Class Mails Locally Delivered - One Cent Drop Rate

## **Local Delivery Utilizing The One Cent Drop Rate**



The local drop rate is not often considered a valid rate for printed circulars but it was perfectly acceptable to send printed circulars in this manner.

Young & Schlough obviously prepared a mailing of advertising circulars which were each enclosed in an unsealed envelope. Those circulars, going outside the area of the local post office, were posted at the circular rate of 2¢. When the mailer prepared those going locally an enterprising person realized that the drop rate was only 1¢ and, probably having only 2¢ stamps, cut a 2¢ stamp in half and placed it on the envelope. Most likely, the postmaster, as a courtesy to the mailer, accepted this bisected 2¢ stamp as valid for the 1¢ drop rate postage.

This envelope has full undisturbed gum on the back flap and, as such, proves it went through the mails unsealed, which is proof, as attested to in the PSE certificate, of a circular being originally enclosed.

This is the only recorded use of a bisected 2¢ black jack on a mailed circular.

# Turned Cover Third Class Outbound - Letter Rate On Return

# Lassumpsic Savings Bank, St. Johnsbury, Wt., Sopt. 9, 1863.

DEAR SIR:

By a vote of the Trustees you are requested to enter upon the opposite leaf an exact copy of your account with the Bank as it appears from your deposit book, giving the No. of the Book, date and amount of each item, and to sign your name to the same and return it to the Treasurer, that the Auditors may compare it with your account as it appears from the Treasurer's Book. It is important that you comply with this request as soon as may be.

Yours truly,

JONATHAN ROSS,

TREASURER.

#### **Turned Cover**

This item is referred to as a "turned cover," meaning it was used for two separate and distinct mailings.

First, the savings bank, by printed circular (left), requested of their depositor her account information. The first mailing, on November 10th, required 2¢ for the printed circular rate.

The depositor wrote the necessary information on the other side of the circular thus changing the piece from a printed circular to a letter (see note on the stamps below). The "letter," bearing 3¢ was returned to the bank on November 16, 1863.



Interior of circular reduced 50%

Copy of the address panel of the returned "letter" with 3¢ postage. Careful examination reveals that the 2¢ black jack stamp was cancelled before the overlapping 1¢ stamp was applied. Most likely the bank had applied the 2¢ for the return postage not realizing that the handwriten response to their request would require letter postage of 3¢. The 1¢ was canceled and the "letter" was returned to the bank.

Address panel increased by 25%\_



Third Class Mail Illegal Usages

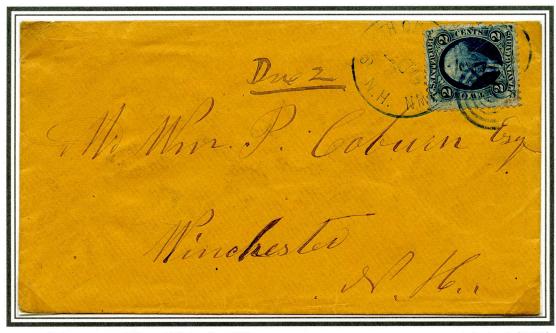
#### Illegal Stamp Usages One Accepted And One Rejected



New York, NY to Butler, PA

19 September (1864)

The 1¢ stamp on the right was demonetized on August 17, 1861 meaning it was no longer valid for postage. However, it was accepted as valid postage paying the circular rate since there are no markings indicating any additional moneys due.



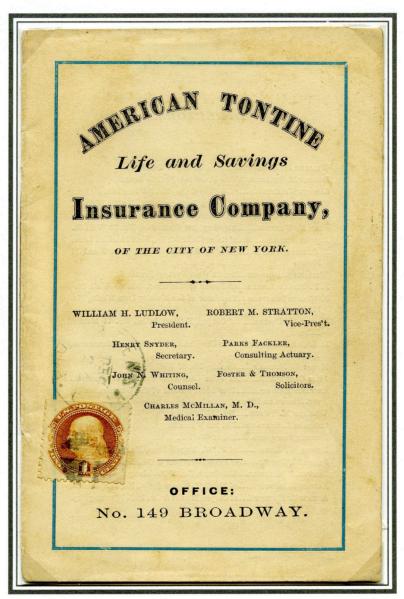
South Charlestown, NH to Winchester, NH

1 August (1866)

The sender of this unsealed envelope attempted to use a 2¢ playing card revenue stamp to prepay the circular rate. Though cancelled, someone caught the error and marked it 'Due 2' to be paid by the addressee.

Third Class Mail
Pamphlet - One Cent Per Four Ounces

**Promotional Pamphlet Under Four Ounces - One Cent** 



Greensboro, AL

24 December (1869)

Insurance company promotional pamphlet containing rate tables for life insurance, annuities, and endowments. Since there is no addressee, it is most likely that one was delivered to each box holder in the town or on a mailing list given to the postmaster.

## **Second Class Mails**

**Local Carrier Delivery - By Special Contract With Publisher** 

# Carrier Service By Special Contract

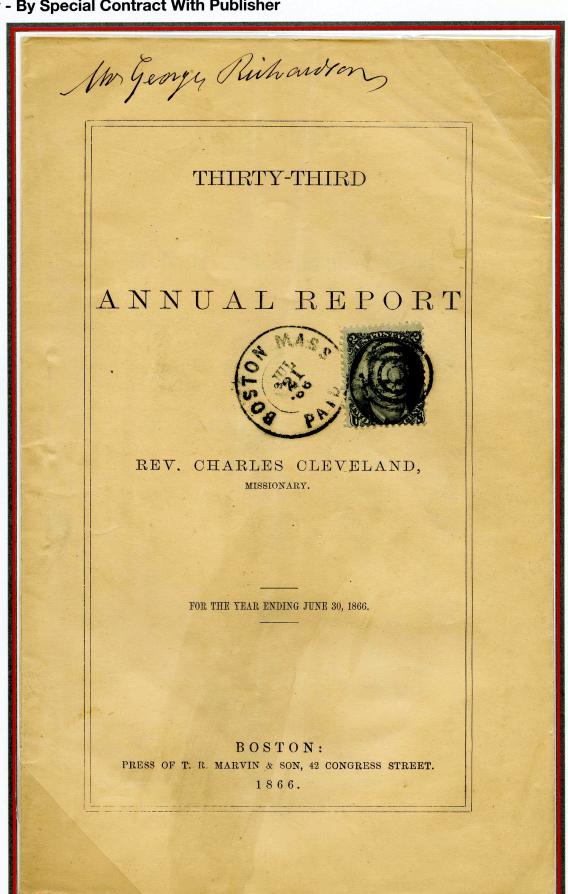
This pamphlet illustrates a special, off-table rate. The following quote is taken from The Act of March 3, 1863, Stat. 12, Sec. 15. A copy of the law is available on the reverse of this sheet. It states:

"The postmaster of any office where letter carriers are employed may contract with the publishers of any newspapers or periodicals, .... for delivery by postal carriers, within the postal district, of any such publications not coming through the mails, at rates and upon terms to be agreed upon."

#### The law continues:

"The Postmaster General may provide for the delivery by such carriers..... must be prepaid by postage stamps at the rate of 2 cents for each 4 ounces or fraction thereof."

The special "arrangement" between the post master and the publisher was 1¢ postage for the pamphlet and 1¢ for delivery by a carrier.



Third Class Mails Overweight Items

## **Over-weight Items**



PFC

Philadelphia, PA to Bridgeton, NJ

29 November (1862)

This wrapper is made from an original, hand-drawn piece of sheet music for the religious song "Be Kind." The wrapper contained either newspapers, magazines or pamphlets weighing between 32+ and 36 ounces or a small book weighing between 17 and 18 ounces.



(Philadelphia, PA) to Pottsville, PA

C. 1866

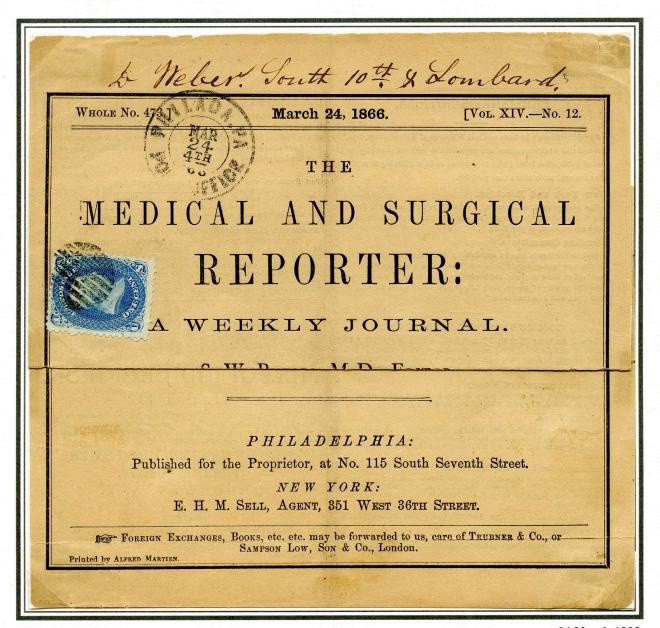
# Second Class Mails Periodical - One Cent Every Four Ounces



#### **Second Class Periodical**

Periodicals published on a regular period of a week or more are considered second class mail and subject to 1¢ for each increment of four ounces.

80% Reduction

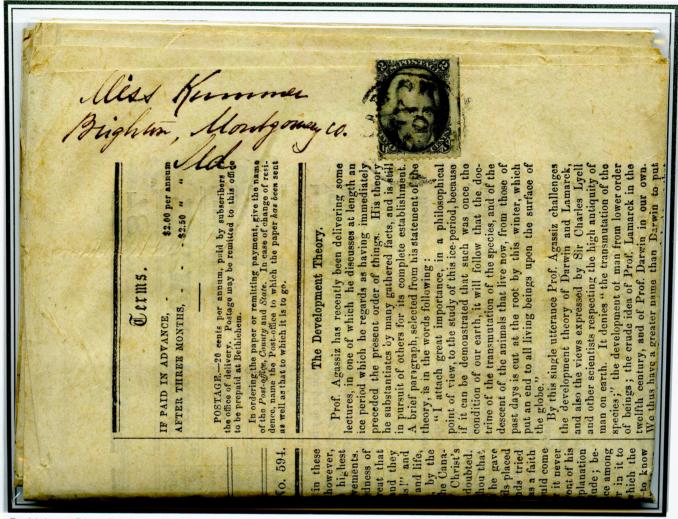


Philadelphia, PA 24 March 1866

## **Second Class**

# **Transient Newspaper - Two Cents Per Four Ounces**

# Transient Newspaper To Nonsubscriber - Two Cents Prepaid By Stamps



Bethlehem, PA to Brighton, MD

20 May 1867

The Monrabian Newspaper



14 July 1861

14 July 1861

Section Six - Domestic

Newspaper Semi-Monthly - Six Cents Not Over Four Ounces

Newspaper Published Semi-Monthly Were 6¢ Each

