

# 1869 TIMES

THE U.S. 1869 PICTORIAL RESEARCH ASSOCIATES

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Vol. 1, No. 3

May 1976

Whole No. 3

INTERPHIL EDITION

Dear Associates,

I am pleased to report that the PRA annual publication is at the printer! No doubt it contains much useful information for the 1869 specialist, and we hope it will be well received. Your comments and suggestions will be appreciated, so be sure to communicate your feelings to the editor.



Our organization's first annual meeting will be held at INTERPHIL, on Sunday, May 30, 1976. In order to avoid any conflict with the Classics Society meeting and program at INTERPHIL, the PRA have changed their meeting time from 3:00 to 3:30 PM, with the session to last until 4:30.

The meeting will be held in Room 226 (same place as the USPCS meeting immediately preceding). A powerful Sunday afternoon is thus offered U.S. Classicists. There are a number of items on the program (mentioned elsewhere) and it is hoped a good turn-out will strengthen the group.

There are a lot of jobs which need filling for the coming year. There will be a need for both elected and appointed workers to continue the growth and benefits our Association offers the philatelic community. Plan now to contribute your time and talents to the 1869 Pictorial Research Associates in '76-77.

## More about the "book"

The publication will have 112 loose leaf pages containing 16 articles by 14 different authors. Attractive vinyl-covered binders will be provided. Those attending INTERPHIL will have the opportunity to pick up their copy and save the PRA mailing costs. The publication has been expensive. It was decided to go first class and print using the finest negative & plate system throughout. This decision makes for an excellent "book" but will stretch the PRA treasury considerably.

A press run of 200 will insure that the publication will become hard to find in years to come. A few extra copies will be available, probably only for a short time. Associates who desire an extra copy should send \$10 to Margaret Wunsch right away. They won't last long if the current rate of ordering continues; and remember, we'll be getting new members at the show. Reminder, Copies of the book will be sold to the general public at \$15 each (for those who do not wish to continue membership) and \$17 for those who do.

## Jim Cryer Does it Again!

Once again, this edition of "1869 Times" is being sent to the 1869 Pictorial Research Associates through the unparalleled generosity of Jim Cryer of Port Lavaca, Texas. Our continued thanks, Jim. May we strive both to deserve these gifts and to follow your example of, "Friendship Through Philately."

The Thirty Cent Essay  
by Judi Brown

Almost all of us in this organization have seen at some time or another the 1c, 2c, 6c, etc. of the 1869 Pictorial Issue that looked slightly different or strange and not quite right for the stamp. The National Bank Note Company presented to the Post Office many examples of each denomination in finished Essays. These examples were printed in many colors and often gummed, perforated and grilled. From this point, in one degree or another they were changed into the finished or adopted stamps. On the lower values the major differences were that the numerals were changed and made larger on the finished issued stamps. However, on the 10c, 30c, and 90c entirely new designs were made up.

The 30c stamp I feel is the most interesting of the radically changed stamp formats. To start with, this rate was to cover the double cost of the normal 15c rate for letters to Europe or used for extra heavy domestic mail.

The vignette was engraved by James Simillie using Trumbull's famous painting of the English surrender of General Burgoyne. At this point, the story goes that the State Department requested the Post Office Department to change this lovely stamp. They favored another design which would not embarrass the British, as many of these stamps would be used on letters that would be passing through their country.

Two interesting examples of this Essay that can be obtained comparatively easily (but not cheaply) are 1) Printed on bond paper with heavy red bands overprinted on the top and bottom, for use in experimental cancellation tests; and 2) Printed on thin tinted paper in many colors with a black central design.

The purpose of this short report is only to whet your appetite for more knowledge of the many facets and interesting stories of the short lived, and at that time, very disliked issue of 1869. \*\*



The Stamp Agent's Ledger Sheets  
by Michael Laurence

In an article in Chronicle 89, William K. Herzog analyzed some of John Luff's figures and reached important new conclusions about the quantities of 1869 stamps that were actually delivered to the post offices. Herzog's conclusions must henceforth be regarded as more accurate than the Luff/Brookman figures which have heretofore been generally accepted. The most important revision regards the 2c 1869 stamp. Brookman stated that 57,387,500 2c 1869 stamps were "prepared and delivered to the "Stamp Agent." Actually, as Herzog proves quite convincingly, the figure should be much higher. In fact, 83,643,450 2c 1869 stamps were delivered to the post offices and presumably sold.

Herzog's write-up is a minor masterpiece of reasoned statistical analysis, important to all serious 1869 collectors. Readers of the 1869 Times who have not seen this work are urged to check it out.

Included in Herzog's article were statistics gleaned from a newly-discovered archival source: five pages of the weekly ledger sheets, accounting for the 1869 stamps, kept by Daniel M. Boyd, who was the U.S. postal agent in charge of security at the National Bank Note Company throughout the period in which the 1869 stamps were printed.

The five ledger sheets were discovered at the U.S. Postal Service Library by Jeremy Wilson, a collector with a keen interest in history, then living in the Washington area. The sheets show manufacturing statistics for the weeks ending June 12, June 19, December 18, December 24, and December 31, 1869. One of them -- the ledger sheet for the week ending December 31 -- was illustrated on page 39 of Chronicle 89. Given the smallish size of the

The Stamp Agent's Ledger Sheet for June 12, 1869 (Cont. from pg. 2)

**National Bank Note Company.**

Statement of Stamps at Manufactory, for Week ending June 12 1869

Sheets of Paper delivered to Printers during Week 48,400  
 Do. do. returned Printed " " 48,100 Stamps. 13,310,000  
 Do. do. do. Blank 300

Denomination.	STAMPS FINISHED.					STAMPS UNFINISHED.			
	Balance in Safe from last week.	Deposited in Safe during week.	Spoiled during week.	Delivered to Post-Offices during week.	Balance on hand this day.	Balance in Safe from last week.	Deposited in Safe during week.	Balance on hand this day.	
1	3,357,200			487,200	2,864,000				
2	11,292,800			2,214,900	9,077,900	1,110,000	2,070,000	3,157,100	
3	6,347,300	9,426,300	203,700	7,817,600	7,956,200	19,650,000	10,680,000	20,700,000	
6	1,449,200			154,950	1,294,250	1,957,000		1,957,000	
10	1,098,350			45,100	1,053,250				
12	527,800			97,925	429,875				
15	24,820			20,000	4,820	50,000	250,000	810,000	
24	54,750			10,000	44,750	40,000	310,000	710,000	
30	66,520			10,000	56,520				
90	39,570			5,000	34,570				
Aggregate.	24,252,350	9,426,300	203,700	10,862,675	22,815,975	23,700,000	13,310,000	27,380,000	
						PERIODICAL	STAMPS.		
5	476,570								
10	278,770								
25	157,080								
Aggregate.	911,820								

*Chas. F. Lewis*

*On a personal count I find the above Statement to be correct*

*D. M. Boyd*

Stamp Agent's Ledger Sheets (Continued)

Chronicle page format and the large size of the ledger sheets, the reproduction was not as legible as it should have been.

The larger format of the 1869 Times seems an ideal means of putting this important information on the philatelic record. Through the joint courtesy of the U.S. Philatelic Classics Society and the U.S. Postal Service Library, we illustrate here the earliest of the surviving ledger sheets for the 1869 period, this one for the week ending June 12, 1869. It is shown without comment, because as a bookkeeping document, its significance should be self-evident. Readers are invited to digest the figures and reach their own conclusions.

In the next issue of the 1869 Times, we will illustrate the ledger sheet for the following week, and say a few words about the significance of this new information as it pertains to contemporary collectors of the 1869 stamps. \*\*

Address Changes

- #25 Cy Horowitz, Box 26, Tannersville, N. Y. 12485
- #29 Rex H. Stever, 1505 Bank & Trust Tower, Corpus Christi, Tex. 78477
- #47 Jonathan W. Rose, 30 Golf Road, Pleasanton, Calif. 94566
- #48 John C. Juring, Box 369, Southern Pines, N.C. 28387
- #95 Walter G. Bender, 5312 Wakewood - Apt. 21C, Houston, Tex. 77081

New Associates

- #108 Morrison Waud, One 1st Natnl. Plaza, Room 4600, Chicago, Ill. 60603
- #109 Ken Gilbert, 1853 Green St., San Francisco, Calif. 94123
- #110 Francis X. Bachhuber, 5445 N. Morgan St., Alexandria, VA 22312
- #111 Joseph F. Sciuto, 5420 N. Morgan St., Alexandria, VA 22312
- #112 R. L. Warren, P.O. Box 276, Philomont, VA 22131
- #113 Joe H. Crosby, 6604 Crow Circle, Oklahoma City, Oklahoma 73132
- #114 Jay M. Weiss, Ph.D., Rockefeller Univ., 66th St. & York Avs., N. Y. C. 10021
- #115 Edward Stewart, P.O. Box 13861-A, Sacramento, California 95813

Articles

- Tip of The Iceberg; Michael C. O'Reilly
- How the 1869 Issue Was Made; Michael Laurence
- The 1869 Issue - An Historical Review, Hubert C. Skinner
- The 1869 Series - Place in Philatelic History; Millard H. Mack
- Usage of the 2¢ 1869 Bisect; Jon W. Rose
- Usage of the 2¢ Post Rider With Various 1¢ Stamps; Benjamin E. Chapman
- The 3¢ 1869 Bisepts Used From Lauray, Virginia; Margaret L. Wunsch
- The Variety "United States" Found on the 3¢ 1869 Locomotive; R. J. Niezabitowski
- Plate Number 30 Position Dot; R. H. Stever
- "Via Arcata,"; Margaret L. Wunsch
- Plate Cracks on the 3¢ 1869 Locomotive; Benjamin E. Chapman & Margaret L. Wunsch
- The 1869 Twelve Cent Green & the Adriatic; Maurice Leigh Robinson
- Signing of the Declaration of Independence, As Portrayed on the 24¢ 1869 Stamp; Donald E. Haller
- High Value U.S. 1869 Stamps on Original Cover; Dr. Richard M. Searing
- 1869 Regular Issue - or Special Printing?; John Birkinbine, II
- The Panama-Pacific Small Die Proofs; J. C. M. Cryer



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INTERPHIL PUBLICATION

Auction Action by Michael C. O'Reilly

Welcome back, Associates, to our canvas of interesting 1869 material recently sold via auction. Our report this issue consists mostly of scattered lots in various auctions.

To start off this report with a bang, we want to mention one sale which is eagerly watched for by most philatelists we know. We speak of the annual Rarities of the World auction held by the Robert A. Siegel Auction Galleries on March 31, 1976. The twelve 1869 lots contained therein realized a total of \$58,400 or an average of \$4,800 per lot. Exceptional lots they were, so lets get to 'em.

The 1869 material started with lot 100, an unused block of four of the 10c 1869. The block has the right sheet margin, with bottom perfs touching. It realized \$1150. Next, we come to lots 102 & 103, two covers from the Davis correspondence to Lima, Peru. The cover in lot 102 bears two singles of the 15c type II and two singles of the 2c Post Rider. All stamps are tied and the cover bears the proper markings. It brought a respectable \$1,300. Lot 102 pales beside the magnificence of lot 103, and the \$9000 price tag reflects the difference. This cover bears a single 24c and 10c 1869 tied by an oval of wedges killer. The 10c is also tied by a 24c red credit handstamp. The stamps have brilliant fresh color and the cover possesses the proper transit markings. This cover was illustrated in Chronicle #85, but black and white photos don't do justice to this cover. Fortunately, the catalog illustrates this cover in color, which is in itself ample reason to secure this catalog.

Lots 104 & 105 each contain a single used copy of the 24c inverted center. Both stamps have minute defects, but realized \$4750 and \$4250 respectively. Lot 106 is a gem of an unused 30c stamp. The vivid colors, magnificent centering and nearly full original gum caused this "matchless beauty" to realize a price exactly four times catalog value, or \$2200. Lot 108 is a used copy of the 30c inverted flags. The stamp is well centered, has deep color and is cancelled by a quartered cork cancel. The only described defect is a trivial rounded corner perf. This lot didn't get above catalog value, but the \$22,000 price tag is nothing to sneeze at.

The unused 90c in lot 109 realized full catalog at \$1750 despite a tiny corner thin and a minute tear in the bottom margin. On the positive side, the stamp is well centered and it's extremely fine appearance would make it a welcome addition to most collections. To close the 1869 section in this sale, we find lot 111, an almost complete set of 1869 Pictorial Atlanta Trial Color Proofs. The set lacks three proofs from being complete. Condition was generally very fine and the large offering realized \$8000.

The Siegel organization's 490th sale, held April 20-22, 1976 provides one cover which lends itself to an interesting comparison. Lot 756 is a cover from the Warner correspondence to Denmark and was offered previously by the Siegel firm in its 475th sale. We wrote of this sale in the last issue of the 1869 Times. The cover has a horizontal strip of five of the 3c 1869, plus a single copy of the 2c, for a total of 17c overpaying the 13c rate. The right hand stamp of the strip of five has a straight edge. In the earlier sale, this cover was estimated to realize \$75 to \$100, but in fact went for the high price of \$800. Now, the cover is offered again with no noticeable difference in description and is estimated to realize \$250-350. It did realize \$850 this time, which just goes to show how the market is affected by supply and demand. In this same sale, there is an interesting combination cover. Lot 760 is a cover with a 3c Locomotive used with a 3c Green (#147). This is a domestic usage from Southampton, New York to Philadelphia. Both stamps are fine and neatly cancelled which helped this scarce combination realize \$72.50.

Moving on to another auction, the H.R. Harmer sale (#2313) of February 18-19, contains a fine showing of off-cover 1869 stamps. Lots 258 and 259 were unused 1c Franklins. The former was described to be in fine condition with part original gum, while the latter was given as very fine with original gum; which might just explain why they realized \$110 and \$220 respectively. Lot 260, a very fine original gum 2c 1869 fetched \$120 against a catalog value of \$50, while a fresh and fine unused block of four of the 2c stamp (lot 261) sold for \$330 against a catalog value of \$275. Several lots of the 3c Locomotive followed starting with an unused no gum (lot 263) copy in the dark ultramarine shade. This stamp is in fine condition and realized \$62.50, or about 250% of catalog. In lot 264, a fine unused 3c showing a split grill variety realized \$70. Capping off the 3c lots is a fine unused block of four of the ever popular Locomotive. This lot (265) realized \$180.

Lot 266 jumped into the 6c stamps with a very fine unused, part original gum copy. This stamp brought the bidding up to full catalog of \$200, which was a good selling price. A very fine used 6c stamp realized \$50 against a catalog value of \$30. One should keep in mind that for a very fine stamp to bring over catalog should not be considered unusual. Most standard catalogs clearly state that the prices contained therein are for fine stamps only and that those of better than fine quality should be expected to realize more. In lot 269, a fine unused 10c yellowish orange realized \$180, a bit shy of the \$225 catalog price. It was followed by a very fine used 10c stamp with a light blue cancel. This stamp zoomed past its \$30 catalogue value to sell for \$55. A very fine unused 12c 1869 brought a respectable \$325. I suspect its rich color and captivating eye appeal were the cause of such a good price.

(Continued on Page 6)

Auction Action (Continued).....

Both types of the 15c were offered, but the condition made a big difference. The type I in lot 273 had a perf. added on the left side and sold for \$210. On the other hand, the type II in lot 273, in very fine condition and original gum went for \$290. A very fine unused type II realized \$600 in lot 275. A 15c type I with center inverted, which was badly centered to bottom right, brought \$4600. Shortly thereafter was offered a seldom seen unused 90c 1869 with original gum, fresh and very fine. Although it didn't quite reach double catalog, it did cause some spirited bidding to get the price up to \$3200.

Editor Chapman tells me this will be released in time for INTERPHIL, so plenty of them should be floating around Philadelphia for you to give to your friends and encourage them to join. Speaking of floating around, if you are at INTERPHIL you will see this writer moving around a lot, as we expect to see a mind-boggling display of exhibits and dealers. I don't need to say much about this upcoming week, as it has been sufficiently covered in the media, but it is going to be a heck of a lot of fun. See you Sunday after noon at our meeting!!

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ANNUAL MEETING

ANNUAL MEETING

Place: Philadelphia Civic Center      Date: Sunday May 30, 1976      Time: 3:30 - 4:30 PM

- Purpose: 1) To have a good time! To meet new friends and 1869 specialists or introduce newcomers to our philatelic interest in the 1869 issue. To renew old friendships and "shoot the bull."
- 2) To distribute the PRA INTERPHIL publication. One hundred twelve pages of 1869 Specialty articles guaranteed to please. May be your last chance to purchase an extra book.
- 3) To elect a slate of officers for the organization. To discuss general operating policies.

COME - JOIN IN THE FUN - BE ACTIVE IN YOUR PRA

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Three presentations of special interest to 1869 specialists will be on tap at INTERPHIL. First, your editor, Ben Chapman will be giving a "workshop" on the 3c 1869 Locomotive in conjunction with the U.S. Philatelic Classics Society. This will be held in the Society Suite (Sheraton Hotel) on Sunday night May 30 at 9:00 PM. All are invited, of course.

Second, John Birkinbine will be speaking on Tuesday June 1 at the Convention Center in conjunction with the American Philatelic Congress review of the six "All-time favorite articles from the 41 A.P.C. Books." John's subject as all remember from the 1969 book is the plate number dots on the 3c Locomotive. Time, 2:00 to 3:00 PM.

Third, a slide presentation will be given by Frederick W. Lopez in conjunction with the Essay Proof Society on "Essays of the 1869 Issue," on Wednesday June 2 from 11:00 AM to 12:00 noon at the Convention Center.

There are two exhibits of particular interest to Associates. These are the collections of the 1869 issue formed by Mrs. Margaret Wunsch of Aurora, Illinois and Mr. J.C.M. Cryer of Port Lavaca, Texas. Margaret will be showing 8 frames and Jim 5. Both of these are "musts" for the wide-eyed 1869 fancier. Don't miss either one. Fabulous.

Several letters have come to your editor directed at the last "1869 Times." Most were quite complimentary and we feel gratified. One Associate writes, "I would like to comment on the anonymous letter on the Hessel collection - I smell the author's 'sour grapes'....." Well, it was a trial sort of thing.\*\*