

1869 TIMES

quarterly newsletter of
THE UNITED STATES 1869 PICTORIAL RESEARCH ASSOCIATES

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Volume 2, No. 3

February 1977

Whole No. 6



"The Running Chicken"

Dear Associates,

Shown above is the fabulous "Running Chicken" cover which was just sold to the well-known Classics collector, Louis Grunin, for the sum of \$45,000.00, at the Robert A. Siegel sale #503, held January 11, 1977. This cover was the crowning piece of several Waterbury collections, notably that of Edward S. Knapp (where it sold for \$1400 in 1942) and that of Dr. Glenn E. Jackson, whose collection was offered in Siegel sale 369 in 1970.

Our 1977 REGISTER is coming along, although more slowly than last year. We will have a smaller number of articles, but quality and page length should be excellent. There is some doubt at this date if the edition will be ready for distribution at the Annual Meeting, since so many authors are late in submitting their manuscripts (and the early date of the meeting). However, if it is not ready for WESTPEX it will be mailed shortly thereafter. Authors are requested to finish up their submissions and send to B. E. Chapman, 5099 Steuben Dr., Memphis, Tenn., 38134 at once.

Beginning with this edition of "1869 Times", Mr. J. C. M. Cryer will assume the job of distribution. A bulk mailing permit will be used to save money.

Associates should strive to attend the PRA Annual Meeting in conjunction with WESTPEX at San Francisco, California April 29 through May 1, 1977. The President's Message on page 2 contains the call to convention. Hope to see you there!

In recent PRA Board of Directors action, Margaret L. Wunsch has directed our Secretary, Don Haller to begin the arrangements for reprinting of our first publication, The 1976 INTERPHIL "REGISTER". The decision to reprint has been based on demand for this and the presses will roll when we have enough orders to pay for the reprinting in full. We must have about 45 books sold at \$15 each in order to do this. Announcements will soon be made in the philatelic press. If you want another copy, send check to Don right away.

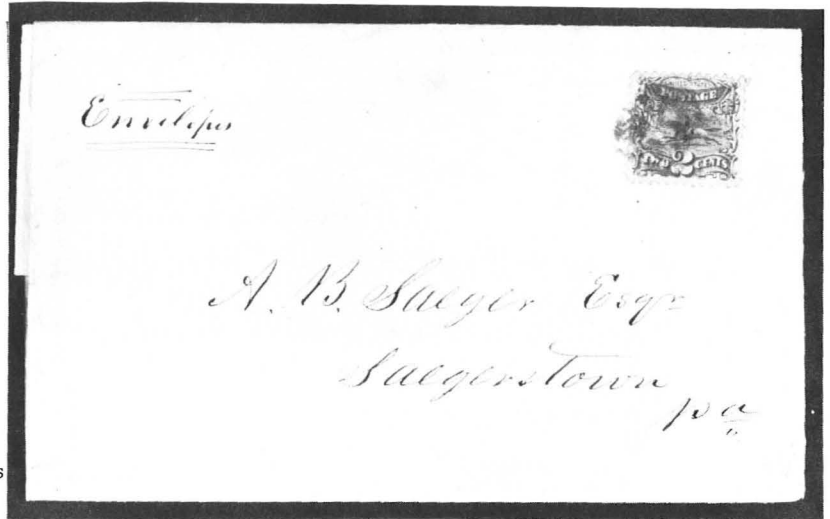
"Envelopes"

In response to your Editor's article in the November 1976 Chronicle concerning unusual usages of the single 2c 1869 stamp, Mr. Stanford Gibson of Norwich, N. Y. sent the item illustrated at right. It is a homemade wrapper (made from a Bill of Lading of the Richmond & York River R. R. Co.). It bears the inscription "Envelopes" and Mr. Gibson asked for my thoughts.

A diamond in the rough this postal history piece is, as is seen on a close reading of the United States Mail & P.O. Assistant for November 1868. Under the section headed "postage on transient printed matter" will be found the rate for sending letter envelopes at 2c for not over 4 ounces! How many of these have you seen ?

Mr. Gibson's letter continues, "I am finding a new phase of collecting classic U.S. Most have gotten beyond me in price so now I collect by searching. Somewhere I read that not much is left to find in 1845-1900 stamps and covers. Nonsense!! I'll admit one gets a blank 25 times to one find but the detective work in getting the one is well worth the time. And one of these days I'll find a 10c 1847 on cover. It's bound to happen if one looks long enough. Old attics are wonderful places as this item shows."

+++ Paul and Donna Von Stein, publishers of "Strictly US", which contained in the December issue an article written by your Editor (Origin of the 3c 1869 Locomotive), have agreed to send all 1869 Associates a copy of this issue for their enjoyment. Hope you received and enjoyed it. A follow-up article is in the works. +++



Correct 2c rate for sending letter envelopes in 1869.

1869 TIMES

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PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

April 29, 30, and May 1 - Mark your calendar now as these are the days to be in San Francisco. Our PRA annual meeting will be held there at WESTPEX where the best exhibits of the United Postal Stationery Society will be in competition with those of the Classics Society. This combination (along with our own PRA meeting) should be excellent. Remember the early transportation of the mails to and from the West Coast?! I am anticipating viewing many fine exhibits of postal history.

Be sure to put on your agenda a trip to the Wells Fargo Museum where the Wiltsee Collection is now housed. Dr. Wunsch and I went to this museum one morning when it opened and stayed until it closed without taking time for lunch. Just fascinating and so educational.

I am looking forward to our Annual Meeting in San Francisco. It is truly a great city and one of our favorites. The sponsors of WESTPEX are very friendly and your reception will be long remembered.

One of our esteemed members, Michael Laurence, will give a program on the 10c 1869 stamp and its usage following our annual meeting and you won't want to miss this most informative program.

Three cheers for Editor Ben Chapman who is doing a fabulous job with our "1869 Times." We are truly growing from our infancy stage to a great specialty society. If any of our Associates have time and are willing to work, please contact me stating what you are most interested in doing as we need helpers and wish each member to become actively involved.

As we are in the first month of the New Year, I personally wish you a blessed New Year with good health and good philatelic acquisitions.

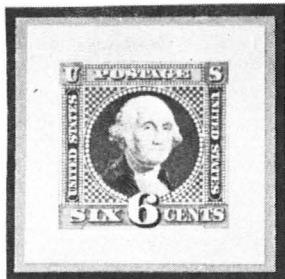
Margaret L. Wunsch

THE STAMP AGENT'S LEDGER SHEETS

Part IV

by Michael Laurence

In the last three issues of "1869 Times" we have discussed the recently discovered Stamp Agent's Ledger Sheets for the 1869 stamps, illustrating the sheets for the weeks ending June 12, June 19 and December 18, 1869, and pondering the significance of the figures as they relate to the 1c, the 2c and the 3c 1869 stamps. The next surviving Ledger Sheet, for the week ending December 24, is illustrated herewith. We continue our discussion of the statistics for the specific stamp values.



1904 Small Die Proof

The 6c 1869 Stamp - Table 4 shows the data for the 6c 1869 stamp. As with the 1c stamp, the figures here are small enough to permit some generalizations. Note, as is consistent throughout these tables, that the deliveries for the first week far exceed the rest. The only exception is the last week of 1869, and the large deliveries this week are easily explained: The new postal treaty with England was about to go into effect, with the rate reduced from 12c to 6c. This reduction had been widely celebrated in the popular press, so Postmasters were stocking up with previously less-needed 6c stamps.

Solely on the basis of the data presented in Table 4, one would reach the conclusion that there were only two printings of the 6c stamp: the initial printing in early 1869, and a second printing in June or earlier. The logic goes like this: An initial printing, involving some millions of stamps, must have been concluded prior to April 1869, in order to produce stock for shipment to the

Post Offices. My guess at the initial printing would be about 2.3 million. This could account for eight weeks' shipments at 155,000 a week (the amount shipped during the week ending June 12) and still leave a balance on hand (see Table 4) of 1,294,250 finished stamps. Some time prior to June 5, another 2 million 6c stamps were printed and these reposed unfinished in the vault when the books were closed June 12. The following week (ending June 19), these stamps were finished and were available for distribution.

TABLE 4 - 6c 1869

Week Ending In 1869	FINISHED STAMPS				UNFINISHED STAMPS			
	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
6-12	1,449,200			154,950	1,294,250	1,980,000		1,980,000
6-19	1,294,250	1,959,000	21,000	54,750	3,198,500	1,980,000		
12-18	1,948,800			48,400	1,900,400			
12-24	1,900,400			47,950	1,852,450			
12-31	1,852,450			152,800	1,699,650			

If we combine the data in Table 4 with the extremely valuable information developed by Bill Herzog in his worthy article on this subject in Chronicle 89 (see Table 5, quantities issued by quarters) some useful calculations may be made. It is indeed fortunate that among the ledger sheets which exist today are December 31 (end of 4th quarter) and June 19 (1 week short of end of 2nd quarter).

TABLE 5 - Quantities Issued by Quarters

Quarter	6c 1869	10c 1869	12c 1869
1st 1869	60,200	105,430	106,125
2nd 1869	1,085,750	288,860	769,900
3rd 1869	706,500	821,500	909,500
4th 1869	741,050	744,340	809,625
1st 1870	2,091,750	1,282,250	399,825
2nd 1870	197,400	57,170	17,725

The calculations go like this: The 3rd & 4th quarter 1869 deliveries to PO's for the 6c stamp total 1,447,550. This, when subtracted from the 3,198,500 on hand 6/19/69 leaves 1,750,950. Table 4 shows the 12/31/69 (year end) total to be 1,699,650. By difference, it is provable that 51,300 6c stamps had to be delivered to Post Offices during the week of 6/26/69 (end of 2nd quarter 1869). From this point, we can work in both directions. Going forward to 1870, Herzog showed us that 2,289,150 6c stamps were distributed to PO's in 1870. . . . and only 1,699,650 were available on 12/31/69. This means that 589,500 6c 1869's had to be printed in 1870.

National Bank Note Company.

Statement of Stamps at Manufactory, for Week ending Dec 24 1869

Sheets of Paper delivered to Printers during Week 38600
 Do. do. returned Printed " " 38600 --Stamps. 11,580,000
 Do. do. do. Blank _____

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	33,200	1,190,250	9,750	129,500	1,093,950	1,200,000		
2	8,682,200			972,200	7,710,000	6,480,000		6,480,000
3	32,276,650	7,981,800	88,200	372,350	36,534,950	22,800,000	11,580,000	26,310,000
6	1,900,400			47,950	1,852,450			
10	800,890			20,210	780,680			
12	455,000			12,045	442,925			
15	743,380			17,980	725,400			
24	1,174,600			375	1,174,225			
30	464,180			2,380	467,800			
90	803,590			120	803,470			
Aggregate.	117,334,090	9,172,050	97,950	4,926,290	5,187,985	30,480,000	11,580,000	32,790,000
					PERIODICAL	STAMPS.		
5	117,6370							
10	278,170							
25	157,080							
Aggregate.	911,820							

Chas. F. Steel

I certify the above correct
D. M. Boyd
ajb

THE STAMP AGENT'S LEDGER SHEETS (Continued)

Working backwards, 3,147,200 6c stamps were on hand at the Stamp Agent on 6/26/69. Herzog indicates 1,145,950 6c stamps were distributed to PO's in the first 2 quarters of 1869. Adding these two together, we obtain the quantity of 4,293,150 which had to be printed in the first 2 quarters of 1869. Now this quantity was either 1 large printing, or as I suspect, an initial printing of about 2,313,150 followed by a second printing of 1,980,000 late in the 2nd quarter. Incidentally, note that no 6c 1869 stamps were printed in either the 3rd or 4th quarter of 1869. Thus, I will have to agree with Herzog, that the 6c had 3 printings, 2 in 1869 and a small 1870 printing. Unfortunately, this type of detailed analysis will not bring as many firm conclusions for the remainder of the 1869 values; however it is useful and many insights have been gained, as will be set forth herewith.



1904 Small Die Proof

The 10c 1869 Stamp - Table 6 shows the data for the 10c 1869 stamp. Using this information alone by comparing the delivery rates with the stamps on hand, it would appear that in addition to the initial printing, a second printing of this denomination was done in late October or early November; and that these two comprised the entire issue. At the December delivery average of 33,000 stamps a week, the 750,000 stamps on hand at year's end seem to be almost half a year's supply, more than adequate to see the issue through the Banknotes.

However, again using Herzog's data these suppositions may be seen to be incorrect. By calculation; the 1,053,250 stamps on hand 6/19/69 when added to the 1,565,840 stamps distributed to PO's in the 3-4th quarters in 1869 and allowing for the 753,670 stamps on hand 12/31/69, shows that 1,266,260 stamps had to be printed in the 3-4th quarters of 1869. (This assumes no distribution during the week of 6/26/69, which is quite possible.) Herzog's data shows 1,339,420 stamps were distributed during the first 2 quarters of 1870, while only 753,670 remained at year's end. This means that 585,750 10c stamps had to be printed and distributed in 1870. Also, using the 1,053,250 stamps on hand 6/19/69 and adding the 394,290 stamps distributed to PO's in the first 2 quarters of 1869, indicates 1,447,540 10c stamps were printed in these first 2 quarters. It is entirely possible this was done in one initial printing. Thus, we conclude the 10c stamp had 2 1869 printings, and a small one in 1870.

Since my collecting specialty is this one stamp, I have made a diligent effort to isolate paper and/or color varieties to evidence three different printings of the 10c 1869 stamp. Alas, these efforts have been unsuccessful. Color varieties on this stamp, in my opinion, are the result of sunlight and oxidation. The ink itself seems to have remained quite consistent throughout.

TABLE 6 - 10c1869

Week Ending In 1869	FINISHED STAMPS				UNFINISHED STAMPS			
	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
6-12	1,098,350			45,100	1,053,250			
6-19	1,053,250				1,053,250			
12-18	851,460			50,570	800,890			
12-24	800,890			20,210	780,680			
12-31	780,680			27,070	753,670			



1904 Small Die Proof

The 12c 1869 Stamp - Table 7 shows the data for the 12c 1869 stamp. Once again, deliveries for the week ending June 12 far exceed those for subsequent weeks. And once again, the supply on hand at year's end (16 weeks supply, assuming an average delivery rate of 25,000 stamps a week) appears adequate to last through the appearance of the Banknotes. There were at least two printings of the 12c stamp -- the initial printing and a second printing sometime after June and prior to mid-December. This we know from the entries for the week ending December 18, which show that 60,000 unfinished stamps were on hand the previous week, and that these were then added to the finished stock. Most likely, these 60,000 stamps were the tag ends of a larger printing that was completed in early December. Let's see how this stands up using Herzog's information in concert.

Adding the 406,650 12c stamps on hand 6/19/69 to the 1,719,125 distributed during 3-4th quarters 1869 and allowing for the 417,550 on hand 12/31/69, gives us 1,730,025 stamps had to be printed in 3-4th quarters 1869. (This again assumes no distribution during the week of 6/26/69 -- in this

TABLE 7 - 12c 1869

Week Ending In 1869	FINISHED STAMPS				UNFINISHED STAMPS			
	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
6-12	527,800			97,925	429,875			
6-19	429,875			23,225	406,630			
12-18	440,850	58,200	1800	44,050	455,000	60,000		
12-24	455,000			12,075	442,925			
12-31	442,925			25,375	417,550			

case a shaky assumption.) At any rate, these 417,550 on hand at year's end exactly match the sum of the 1st quarter 1870 (399,825) and 2nd quarter 1870 (17,725) distributions; confirming that no 12c 1869 stamps were printed in 1870. Working backwards, the 1-2nd quarter 1869 distributions (876,025) added to the quantity on hand 6/19/69 gives 1,282,675 12c stamps printed in 1-2nd quarters 1869, which definitely could have been one initial printing. All of this leads me to conclude the 12c 1869 stamp had only two printings, both in 1869.

We will expand on this observation in the next installment of this series, when we illustrate the last of the ledger sheets and discuss their significance in terms of the bi-colored 1869 stamps. **

SELECTED 1869 PROOFS

- #116 P1 (10c Eagle and Shield - Large Die) Very Fine, 1 5/8" X 1 5/8", Reduced Size, RARE, Cat. \$850.00 Net \$650.00
- #119 P3 (15c Landing of Columbus - On India) Horiz. Strip of 4 with full Imprint and Plate No. 28, Ex. Fine, RARE, Est. Cat. \$650.00 Net \$500.00
- #121 P1 (30c Eagle, Shield and Flags - Large Die) Full Margins, Die Sunk on Card (3 1/4" X 3 3/4"), with usual punched hole at foot of die (not in card), VF, RARE, Cat. \$950.00 + Net \$850.00
- #112-122 P1 Var (Complete Set of 10) Hybrid Large Dies, Die Sunk on Cards (3 1/2" X 4") with gold gilt edges, 15c, 24c and 90c same as listed in Scott for \$1,800.00, others not priced as Hybrids, mostly VF-S, 1c tiny age stain speck, 6c small age stain specks, 90c with small facial scrape unnoticeably colored in, RARE & BEAUTIFUL SET. Net \$3,500.00

What Else Do You Need In 1869's?

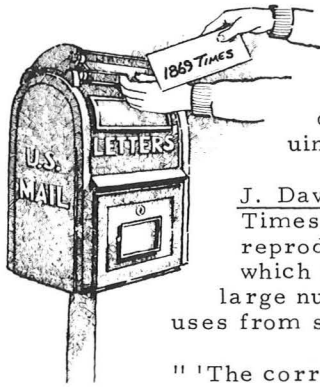
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H. B. Shaw Revisited

Your Editor has received much correspondence about "1869 Times" and the Pictorial Research Associates within the past 3 months. It's very gratifying our efforts are being favorably received. Presented below are two of the continuing commentaries on the Shaw "find."

J. David Baker writes: "You are certainly to be congratulated on the quality of the "1869 Times." As I read the latest issue, my heart jumped when I saw the Sterling Dow article reproduced. The heart skip was caused by some research I did on this correspondence which resulted in a paragraph in a chapter on Correspondences in my new book. The large number of letters originating in small Indiana towns was very helpful to me in finding uses from small Post Offices. I will furnish you the one paragraph which appears in my book:

" 'The correspondence of H. B. Shaw of Alfred, Maine, was not limited to Indiana, but can be found from many states throughout the United States in the 1860's and 1870's. After some digging and with the help of the Sanford-Alfred Historical Society, it was learned that H. B. Shaw was Miss Harriet B. Shaw, whose business was obtained from advertisements in inexpensive little magazines that circulated to farm and home readers across the country. She offered bargains such as a steel engraving of the President for \$1.00 for which a postage stamp was supplied, or a sewing machine for \$1.00, providing a little rack to hold needle, thread, scissors and the like. She was said to be beautiful, had a nice home and was a meticulous housekeeper.' "

Another letter from R. H. Lounsbury, expands our knowledge even further:

"More on H. B. Shaw. Being a frequent visitor to the area of Alfred, Maine, I have long been interested in H. B. Shaw covers as they appear in auctions. Last August while visiting Alfred's Bicentennial celebration, I inquired as to the location of 15 South Street and recently obtained photographs. I thought some of the readers of "1869 Times" might like to see a photo of this address, where all the H. B. Shaw covers were found. If they indulge in flights of fancy, perhaps they can imagine themselves packing those barrels of covers which came out of these buildings. Perhaps of additional interest, the Bicentennial exhibit in the building adjacent to the beautiful Conant Chapel on the Village Green in Alfred, contained an exhibit of patent medicine bottles, including some labeled 'H. B. Shaw Patent Medicine.'"



15 South Street, Alfred, Maine

The Secretary Reports:

#157 John Worley
3201 Armory Court
Fair fax, VA 22030

#158 Peter Fleming
Studio 18, Caledonian House
38 London Road
Crawley, West Sessex, Eng.

#159 Myron Kaller
P.O. Box 604
Bayside, N.Y. 11361

#160 Keith Harmer
6 West 48th St.
New York, N. Y. 10036

#161 Richard Wolffers
127 Kearny Street
San Francisco, CA 94108

#162 Saul Kwartin
35 Very Merry Road
Stamford, CT 06903

New Members

#163 Timothy Poudrier
44 Church St.
Easthampton, MA 01027

#164 Lloyd W. Taber
Commodore Club
4455 Admiralty Way
Marina Del Ray, CA 90291

#165 David Meeker Hamouris
40 E. Ingersoll Ave.
Coos Bay, Oregon 97420

#166 Peter G. DuPuy
P.O. box 715
Northampton, MA
01060

DECEASED
John C. Juring #48

RESIGNED
#5 Horner
#93 Sheldon
#111 Sciuto
#76 Reinhard
#101 Fletcher

Name/Address Changes

- #131 Jerry M. Brown, Edgewood Stamp Co., P.O. box 1321, Springfield, VA 22151
- #56 Richard D. Carlson, P.O. box 272, Fairborn, Ohio 45324
- #129 Daniel White, 11289 Grand Oak, Bldg 26 Apt 6, Grand Blanc, MI 48439
- #13 Charles Miller, P.O. box 5283, Raleigh, N.C. 27607
- #121 C. Angus Parker, Argyll Etkin Ltd., 55 New Bond, London W1Y9DG, Eng.

DROPPED for Non-Payment: #37 Bustillo #40 Hofmann #43 Baker #57 Johnson #63 Turkin

#64 Spelman #81 Biddle #91 Loder #141 Horton #142 Vora

Membership Summary: 166 members -1 deseased -5 resignations - 10 dropped = 150 Current Total

Please do your part to increase membership in the 1869 PRA! Application forms are available from the Secretary: Donald E. Haller, Jr., P.O. box 363, McLean, Virginia 22101. Let's see if we can't break the 200 mark by the end of our fiscal year (June 30, 1977).



1) There are large multiples and large multiples; but for the 15c 1869 Type II, we doubt that anything this impressive currently survives. We show here a right margin block of 50 of the 15c 1869 Type II stamp. The horizontal lines in the photo, we believe, were never applied on the actual stamps; rather, they were applied on this photo when it was taken, in the 1920's. This was the era in which it was illegal to photograph mint U.S. stamps lifesized, if the photo did not contain some obliterating marking. Collectors of the 1869 series should especially regard the flopped - T marking in the right margin. This is a device by which the printers aligned the two colors. In the instance shown, the two colors do align almost perfectly. Unfortunately, the perforations on this multiple did not align themselves quite so elegantly.

2) Reprinted below, through the courtesy of H.L. Lindquist Publications, is part of an article originally appearing in *The Stamp Specialist*, Vol. 1 Part 1 for 1939. The title is, "An Analysis of Prices Realized for U.S. Stamps Over a Period of Years," and was written by Charles J. Phillips. The 1869 section has been picked out and is presented for your perusal. All that was considered worthy of comment were the Inverts, Without Grill and the Reissues. But, look at those prices!

An Analysis of Prices Realized

Charles J. Phillips

1869

Inverted	
1872 Mar. 15c.	9.00
1881 Dec. 15.	27.00
1886 Mar. 15c.	29.50
1888 Apr. 30c.	35.00
1892 Feb. 24c.	70.00
1893 Jan. 15c.	69.00
1893 Apr. F. de Coppet 30c. superb.	220.00
1895 Mar. 15c.	125.00
1895 Mar. 24c.	112.00
1895 Sanderson, 24c.	140.00
1897 Mar. 15c.	192.00
1897 Mar. 30c. very fine, centered.	440.00
1900 Jan. 30c.	330.00
1900 Jan. 15c.	75.00
1900 Jan. Hunter—24c. horizontal pair.	242.00
1900 Mar. 15c. off center.	87.00
1900 Mar. 15c.	112.50
1900 Mar. 24c.	130.00
1900 Mar. 30c.	375.00

(N.B. In reference to the pair of 24c. sold in Jan. 1900. The following note may be of interest. In the late 19th century the well known Liverpool dealer, Thomas Ridpath had a block of six of the 24c. inverted. This he sold to Mr. William Thorne, Thorne only wanted a block of four, and separated a pair from this block of 2 x 3. I have no doubt that this pair is the identical one in the F. W. Hunter sale of January 1900. The Thorne collection was sold to the New England Stamp Co. and they sold the block of 24c. for, I think \$800.00 to Mr. Crocker. Its history since then is well known, C. J. Phillips.)

....Continued, over.....

ANALYSIS OF PRICES
(Continued)

POWER !

(Comments on the Third Hessel Sale) by John Birkinbine, II

Regular Issue

1879 Feb. Complete set 1c.-90c. unused..	3.00
1883 Oct. Complete set 1c.-90c. unused ...	2.10
1885 Jan. Complete set 1c.-90c. unused ...	2.20
1885 May Complete set 1c.-90c. unused...	4.60
1886 Mar. Complete set used, both 15's..	4.92
1887 May 90c. used	2.75
1888 Apr. 90c. used	3.05
1890 Feb. Unused, all o. g. 24c., \$1.30; 30c., \$1.05; 90c.	5.25
1892 Feb. 90c. used	5.80
1892 Dec. 90c. unused	10.00
1893 Jan. 30c. o. g.	5.25
1893 Feb. 90c. unused v. fine.....	10.10
1895 Mar. 24c. o. g.	18.00
1895 Mar. 90c. o. g. centered	27.50
1895 Mar. 30c. block 12 used	33.00
1897 Mar. 15c. Type 1 unused	10.00
1897 Mar. 24c. o. g.	9.10
1897 Mar. 90c. o. g. centered	29.00
1900 Jan. 30c. o. g.	11.50
1900 Mar. 90c. unused	18.00
1900 Mar. 90c. used block 8, four are slightly damaged	49.50
1913 Jan. 90c. o. g. centered	21.00
1922 Nov. 90c. o. g. centered v. fine	47.50
1922 Dec. 24c. o. g. centered	21.00
1925 Apr. 12c. o. g. block 4	41.00
1925 Apr. 90c. o. g.	71.00

Without grill, Original brownish gum

1894 Apr. 1c.	1.30
1894 Apr. 2c.	1.60
1894 Apr. 24c.	21.00
1897 Mar. J. B. Leavy 1c. pair.....	15.00
1897 Mar. J. B. Leavy 3c. pair.....	5.50
1897 Mar. J. B. Leavy 15c. pair.....	25.00
1897 Mar. J. B. Leavy 24c. pair.....	20.50
1897 Mar. J. B. Leavy 30c. pair.....	26.00
1897 Mar. J. B. Leavy 90c. pair.....	34.50
1900 Jan. 90c.	37.00
1900 Nov. 2c.	18.50
1900 Nov. 15c.	27.00
1900 Nov. 24c.	27.00
1900 Nov. 30c.	30.00
1900 Nov. 90c.	44.00
1905 Mar. 30c.	25.00
1917 Apr. 30c. block 4 full o. g.....	61.00
1922 Dec. 90c. centered	54.00

Re-issues of 1869 issue (1875)

1885 Jan. Set, 1c.-90c. all used	2.10
1890 Feb. 1c., 2c., 3c., 6c., 10c., 12c., 15c., 24c., and 90c. unused	2.34
1890 Feb. 90c. o. g.	4.25
1892 Feb. 90c. o. g.	7.50
1893 Jan. 15c., \$2.60; 24c., \$5.60; 30c., \$6.50; 90c.	9.80
1894 Feb. 90c. o. g. fine	15.50
1895 Mar. 3c., \$9.60; 6c., \$5.10; 10c., \$6.75; 12c., \$6.60; 15c., \$10.25; 24c., \$10.25; 30c., \$13.75; 90c.....	26.00
1905 Mar. 30c. \$10.25; 90c.	19.10
1922 Nov. 3c., \$26.50; 6c., \$9.70; 10c., \$10.40; 12c.,	7.50
1922 Dec. 15c. Imperf. top and bottom....	7.50
Scott adds following note to this "All copies known are singles as the entire sheet was cut apart by P. O. clerk."	
1924 Sept. 2c. block 4, o. g.	33.00
1924 Sept. 30c., \$18.00; 90c.	31.25

**

Despite the fact the U.S. dollar no longer has gold or silver backing, it continues to display fascinating powers as interestingly indicated in the third sale of the Sidney Hessel Collection, conducted by H. R. Harmer, Inc., of New York, on November 3-5, 1976. There is the possibility that both usage and abuse of this power may have been manifested in the 1869 section, both to the credit and detriment of the hobby. It all depends on whose eyes are looking at the scene!

1869 Philatelists "in the know" were eagerly awaiting this portion of the disposal of Sidney A. Hessel's holdings, for some of the more outstanding pieces in all 1869 philately would be dispersed to knowledgeable and appreciative new homes. One of these rarities was mentioned on Page 7 of the February, 1976 edition of "1869 Times," where an anonymous author documents the existence of a full sheet of the 3c stamp therein.

Since less than half-a-dozen such panes are known to exist, the news of one coming on the market is of great interest to all 1869'ers. At INTERPHIL, the author inquired of Mr. Keith Harmer, if indeed, the Hessel collection did contain such a pane -- and was it available at private treaty? An affirmative answer to the first query was followed by a negative response to sale other than at auction. What a surprise, when upon opening the long awaited auction catalog, the pane was found broken down into four lots! Surprise turned to shock!

Lot #523 was the top Plate Number Block of 20 stamps, Lot #524 was the bottom Plate Block of 20 stamps, Lot #525 was a right Arrow Block of 50 stamps, and Lot #526 was a right Arrow Block of 60 Locomotives. One can only conjecture as to why and how this philatelic tragedy occurred. Perhaps some horizontal perforations were separated, and the auctioneers decided to finish the job? Yet even the purist would forgive separations on this rare example of 150 stamps to the pane. Perhaps someone felt that a greater total realization could be obtained by breaking up this rarity? Facts speak for themselves.... Lots #523-6 brought a total of \$8,900. Knowledgeable specialists feel that a complete pane with comparable centering would have several takers in the \$10,000-and-up category in today's market. Thus if "dollar-power" motivated the breaking of this pane, such thinking may not have achieved the desired objective.

One wonders if it would not have been more prudent to offer the four lots as listed, followed by the intact pane if a bid for that item resulted in a higher realization? However, if this option forced the breaking of the pane, it may have been felt that unfavorable criticism and publicity would result; with any such possible adverse reaction to be avoided by prior secret dismemberment. In any event, it appears that the philatelic history, heritage, and research values were outweighed by more powerful considerations of the moment.

Power of another kind was evidenced by Lot #588, on the face an apparently rather common 1869 ten-cent cover to France. Cataloging at \$135 and privately estimated by H. R. Harmer to bring \$300, this gem of a cover fetched \$950! Obviously more than one knowledgeable philatelist was in the running for this postal history item - and had an additional line or two of description been provided in the auction catalog, the present owner might not have been so lucky!

Originating at San Francisco, February 15, 1870, and inscribed to travel east by Overland Mail, this cover arrived in New York City to be routed by the Exchange Office there. The United States and Great Britain had recently signed a new agreement reducing the International postage rate, with resultant reduction of compensation to the steamship lines carrying U.S. mails to England. A dispute over reduced mail contract compensation ensued, with the result that most steamship lines refused to carry American mails to Britain, and such dispatches from New York and Boston ceased. This brief situation lasted but eight weeks, and covers sent to or through Britain during this short period have a history all their own.

Cont. on pg. 12

by Michael C. O'Reilly



The last ninety days have been an exciting period for 1869 collectors with much desirable material being offered. With this issue, we institute a new feature to the Auction Action. Through the courtesy of the several auction houses mentioned, we are able to illustrate with photographs several of the more significant lots offered recently. (Some will be found in other places in this issue.)

We begin our report with Part 3 of the sale of the Sidney A. Hessel collection by H.R. Harmer, November 3-5, 1976. The section of 1869 lots opened with a good showing of essays and proofs. 1c unadopted design die essays averaged \$570 (Brazer 112E-Eb), five different colors being offered in five separate lots, while 3 lots of the 5c die essays (Br. 115 AE-Eb) in different colors averaged about \$450. The highest realization of the die essays was lot 456, being the 15c brown, die on India with vignette of the 24c. Unlisted in the Brazer book, this lot began at \$325 and went to the floor for an even \$1000. Another high realization was lot 459 which contained a 30c light brown on India, die sunk on card in very fine condition. This lot sold for \$950.

The gummed and grilled perforated plate essays started with a bang in the form of lot 481. It contained the 1c issue (Br. 112E-Dc) in blocks of four in nine shades and realized \$1050. Not to be outdone, lots 486 and 489, offerings of the 2c (8 shades) and the 3c (9 shades) values also brought \$1050 each. A complete set of Hybrid Large Die Proofs were in lot 515 and brought \$3750 (CV \$3900), being still in the book as originally issued. Lot 517 had a top part sheet of fifty of the 15c Type II plate proof on India. Though having tiny faults, this block brought \$4750, just under the CV of \$4800. Lot 518 richly deserved the color photo on the back of the catalog and the realization echoes this sentiment. This lot contained a plate proof on India bottom plate block of 10 of the 90c Lincoln, and while the trace of a minute thin might have detained some, the successful bidder paid \$2100, more than double catalog (\$1000). Lot 519 was a complete set of the Atlanta Trial Color Proofs which realized \$13,500 (CV \$10,970).

The sale then progressed to unused and used off-cover examples of the 1869 issue. Starting this section was lot 520, a 1c Franklin in very fine condition cancelled by a neat geometric. It sold for \$105 (CV \$27.50). A negative shield cancelling another very fine 1c realized \$80. A group of fine used (lots 530-534) of the 6c 1869 averaged about \$50 (CV \$35). Single used copies of the 10c followed, generally averaging above catalog. Highlights included lot 545, a very fine copy, neatly cancelled by a blue target. It opened from the book at \$110, effectively stifling floor competition and selling for that price. Another interesting single was lot 546, a fine 10c postmarked by a fancy ultramarine cancel, selling for \$60. The 15c issues were well represented; a very fine type I cancelled by a black florette realizing \$260 (CV \$115). Two other nice type I's each realized \$145. Two lots of the type II realized \$100 and \$85 (CV \$45). Three lots of the 24c went for an average of \$160, a neat \$65 below catalog. A very fine used 30c (lot 566) realized \$270 (CV \$85). The unused 90c in lot 570 realized \$525, quite a long way from catalog value of \$1900.

Getting into the several lots of covers we find a fair 3c Locomotive tied by a "P&R RR Co., Tremont" station marking. This lot (577) sold right at \$80. In lot 578, a fair 3c on an all-over advertising cover of "The New York Times" realized \$170. A fair 6c, lot 580, tied by a large solid black star from Lansing, Mich. realized \$130. In lot 583 two copies of the 6c paying the correct rate to England realized \$320. The 10c stamp used on cover from Shanghai maintained its reputation for high prices begun in the first Hessel sale. Two such covers were offered (lots 586-7), each bearing a single copy of the 10c paying a single rate and realizing \$900 and \$1200 respectively. Several 12c covers were offered, the finest of which was lot 592, used to England. This cover had a neat U.S. Dispatch Agent marking as well as the proper transit markings and realized \$550 (CV \$135). A fine 15c Type II (lot 597) used from New Orleans to Bordeaux, France realized \$450 (CV \$285). A fair 24c on cover showed an interterritorial use from Sante Fe, New Mexico to Fort Garland, Colorado. This cover was illustrated on the back cover ...Continued...



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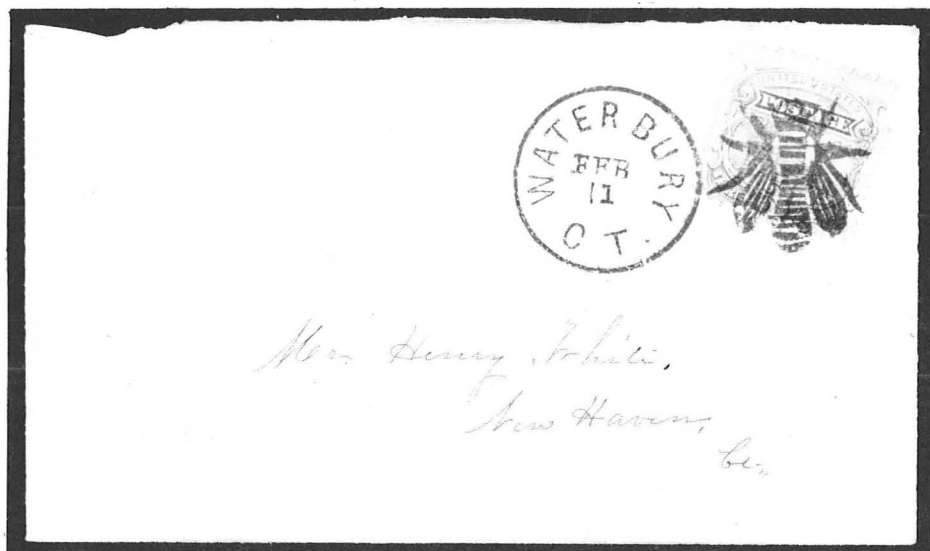
AUCTION ACTION (Continued)

of the catalog in color and was offered with a 1976 PF certificate. Against a catalog value of \$2000, this pretty cover brought \$3400. I daresay this cover filled a nice gap in somebody's territorial collection.

Next came several lots of 1869 combination covers, not often seen these days. The tremendous eye appeal of these covers is reflected in some of the appealing prices obtained. A 2c 1869 used with a 1c ungrilled Banknote (lot 603) from the Shaw correspondence realized \$90. A cover from the Thorel correspondence (lot 604) with two copies of each of the 2c & 3c values realized \$1550. This cover was sent from Boston to Yokohama, Japan showing a scarce rate. Another Shaw cover bore a seldom seen combination being five copies of the 3c 1869 and a single 3c 1867 with E grill. The cover originated at Jonesboro, Ga. showing an uncommon Reconstruction use. This cover fetched \$300. Two lots showed covers with the 10c in combination with single copies of the 2c and 3c stamps. One was used to Switzerland (lot 613) and realized \$350, while the other went to Palermo, Sicily (lot 614) and sold for \$500. Combo covers of the 15c, Type II did equally well, starting with lots 617 and 618. Both covers are from the Shaw correspondence with the 15c paying the registry rate and the 3c first class postage being paid by a 3c Banknote. These two lots realized \$450 and \$400 respectively (CV \$285).

Several lots of the collection remainders were offered. One of these, lot 623, contained 115 copies of the 3c Locomotive. Against an estimate of \$150-200, this lot brought \$260, or a little over \$2.00 per stamp. Lot 625 was almost unbelievable as 13 cover fronts bearing 26 stamps of the 1c-15c values realized \$625 against the estimate of \$150. Must have been something in there somebody wanted. Closing the Hessel 1869 collection was several lots of the 1875 re-issues. Lot 629 held an unused 90c with part o.g., described as a "fine and brilliant copy." It realized \$1250 (CV \$1600).

Although the Hessel Collection is a hard act to follow, I believe the old adage of "saving the best for last" is apropos here. I am referring to the Robert A. Siegel sale #503 held January 11, 1977, in which was sold the collection of Waterbury cancellations on cover formed by Miss Katherine Matthies. My expectations of the quality of this material were not disappointed, having been exposed to the high standards of collecting postal history shown by Miss Matthies, when other parts of her collection were sold by Mr. Siegel in 1969. Though the offerings of Waterbury covers spanned the period from 1857 through the Banknote issues, we will restrict our attention to those covers with the 1869 stamps. Through the courtesy of the Siegel Auction



Lot 389, the Small Bee, realized \$2300.

Galleries, we are able to illustrate some of the highlights of this sale. We have pictures of 11 lots, but due to space limitations, will not be able to print all of them in this issue. However most will be shown in succeeding issues of "1869 Times."

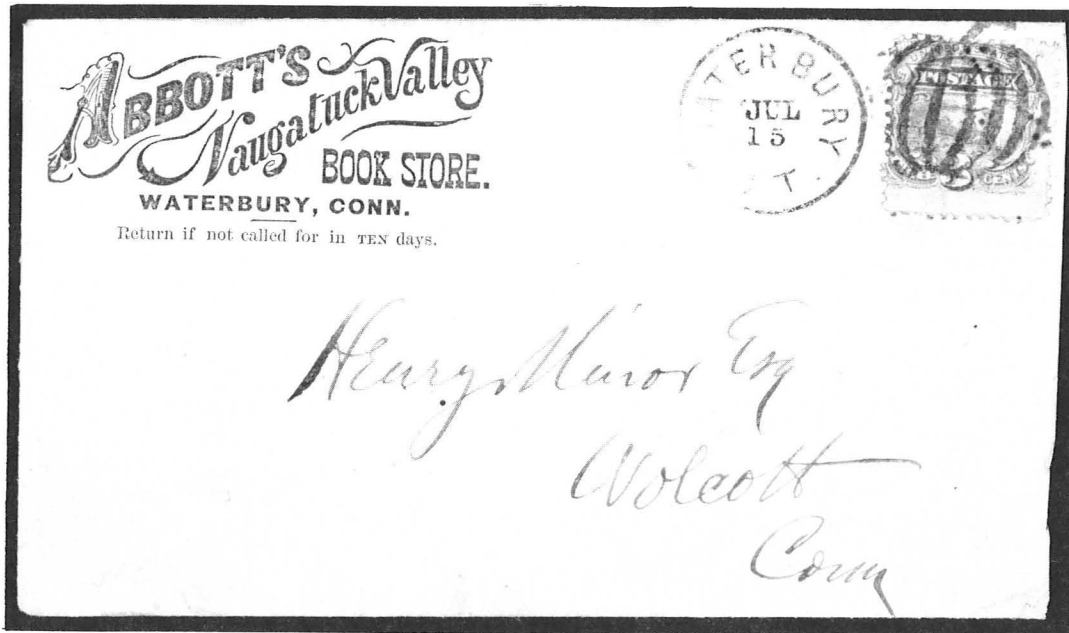
Starting off this magnificent offering is a 3c 1869 (lot 387) cancelled by the Acorn with a Feb. 28, (1870) CDS. This is the earliest recorded use of the Acorn, which helped push the selling price to \$4250. Two lots of the Small Bee followed (388-389) being dated Feb. 3 on a 1c 1869 and Feb. 1, (1870) on a 3c stamp. Both are pretty, but the latter was the better strike of the two, being an immaculate cover with spectacular strike. It realized \$2300, while the former came in at \$1650. Lot 390 contained a perfect complete Large Bee tying a 3c 1869 on a small cover to South Carolina. This sold for \$2900. The Christmas Tree Leaf (so-called because of the Dec. 25 postmark date), tied an average 3c with a lovely strike. This was lot 391 and realized \$325. Lot 395 contained a 3c 1869 tied on cover by an incredible strike of the Beer Mug, and managed to find a happy owner for \$1100.

Two lots contained covers with strikes of the Old Woman in Bonnet. The first cover had a had a 2c F-grill Black Jack and a 1c 1869 with a neat Granite Co. corner card. It sold for \$2200. Though very pretty, this cover paled when placed next to the clarity of the strike on a 3c stamp in lot 397. The price reflected the difference as the buyer spent \$4750. A nearly complete strike of the Pumpkin tied an off-center 3c 1869 in lot 398. Even so, it realized a hefty \$1750. The horizontal strip of three of the 1c stamp in lot 399 is cancelled by three strikes of a twelve segment rosette. On a fresh orange cover, it makes a pretty showpiece at \$3750. Three lots of the Shoe came next (lots 405, 406, 407), realizing \$1900, \$1300 & \$2000 respectively.

Leaving the Waterbury covers, another part of the auction offered a number of lots featuring fancy cancels and scarce usages. One such item was lot 437, a 1c 1869 used with a 2c orange Revenue, ...Continued...

(Continued)

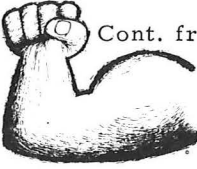
Lot 398
The Pumpkin
Realized \$1750



both stamps being cancelled by the Shoe Fly of Toledo, Ohio. This scarce combination brought \$160. The Nashota, Wisconsin "1869 in Circle" year date postmark tied a top perf-cutting 3c and realized \$100. The Rochester, Minn. negative "70 in Circle" on a very fine 3c cover realized \$300. The scarce Union Springs, Alabama "US Between Bars" realized \$80 despite a small corner crease on the 3c stamp. A bold, perfect "11 AM" canceller used at Wentworth, N.H. caused lot 454 to sell for \$125 even with perfs cutting at the top of the 3c stamp. Lot 466 illustrated a huge bold "PAID" measuring 37 X 10 mm. tying a 3c 1869 to a small ladies cover. It took all of \$170 to purchase this delight.

To close up the 1869 lots in this sale, a few of the values above the 3c are notable. Among these is lot 499, a 6c Washington struck, but not tied by a Shoe Fly cancel on a large cover. This went for \$180. A nifty combo cover in lot 504 showed two well-centered singles of the 10c teamed up with two copies of the 2c Post Rider, to overpay the 22c rate to Peru. Though the catalog stated the backstamp to be Jan. 30, 1870, this must be an error as the photo clearly shows the San Francisco postmark to be June 3. Also, if the Jan. 30 date were correct, this would be an underpayment of the 34c rate, which neither the stamps nor the credit indicate. This attractive cover brought \$350. (See Chronicle #85 for an explanation of mails to the west coast of South America.)

As I begin my second year working up these reports, I hope that the readers have gotten as much enjoyment & info from these reports as I have from writing them. Your comments and suggestions are always welcome.

 <p>POWER Cont. fr. pg. 9 by John Birkinbine</p>	<p>Why the New York Exchange Office did not forward this letter via a French line on the direct route to France is unknown, but for some reason it was decided the letter should go via Britain. Postmarked at New York on Feb. 23rd the letter was probably sent to Portland, Maine, for dispatch by the Allan Line. This Canadian steamship line used Portland during the winter months. Arriving in England, the letter was treated as Open Mail with postage paid only to that country, marked accordingly, and sent on to France where 5 decimes French postage due was collected. Both the various methods of conveyance of this cover and the unusual transit history make this an outstanding gem, certainly much more powerful than the dollars that paid for it! **</p>
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