

# 1869 TIMES

quarterly newsletter of

## THE UNITED STATES 1869 PICTORIAL RESEARCH ASSOCIATES

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Volume 2, No. 4

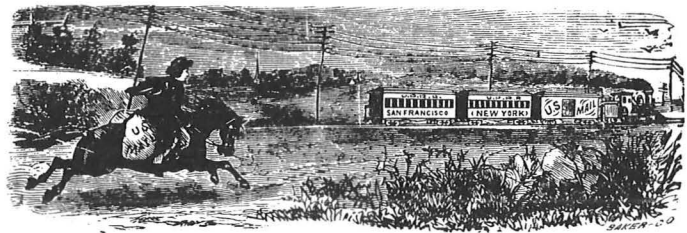
May 1977

Whole No. 7

Dear Associates,

Our Annual Meeting will be held at WESTPEX in San Francisco within a few days. I am sorry it was impossible to distribute this edition of the "Times" before April 28-May 1. However, for the sake of posterity, the meeting will be held in the Cathedral Hill Room "A" between 10 a.m. and 12 noon on Saturday May 30 at the Jack Tar Hotel. Michael Laurence will be giving an excellent program on the 10c 1869 usage at the meeting. We will have a table at the show and will sell memberships as well as the recently reprinted 1976 REGISTER and back issues of the "Times."

Don Haller should have the 1976 REGISTER reprints by the time this is distributed, so if you desire an additional copy (or a first copy for relatively new members) go ahead and send a check to Donald E. Haller, Jr. for \$15 for each book. His address is at the top of this page. Each reprint book will be supplied with a blue vinyl binder of the style previously provided. Here's hoping we sell this edition out soon also, to be able to pay for the printing post haste. Tell your buddies about it's availability.



On To San Francisco !

The 1977 REGISTER will be another top-flite 1869 PRA publication. The following is the Table of Contents :

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Usage of the 3c 1869 Locomotive from Sitka, Alaska . . . . .	Margaret L. Wunsch
Various Usages of the 3c 1869 Locomotive Design . . . . .	Benjamin E. Chapman

As you can see from the billboard above, there will be much valuable and useful information contained in our 1977 REGISTER. I expect them to be ready for distribution by late June -- next years fellows, let's get the articles in earlier, OK? The PRA board has intended from the beginning not to distribute binders with these 1977 books. It was felt that at least two year's annual articles could easily be housed in one binder. One reason for this decision was to save money (which we need to do, since we are printing, printing, printing). So, if you have a binder which came with either your 1976 book or the 1976 Reprint, you will not receive an additional binder with the 1977 book. If you somehow missed the 1976 book (GADS) you will receive a binder. It should also be noted that authors having articles in the 1977 REGISTER will receive an additional copy of the book -- good incentive to write. Also, those wishing additional copies of the 1977 REGISTER can purchase them from Don Haller.

<u>New Members</u>	<u>New Members</u>	<u>New Members</u>	<u>New Members</u>
#167 John B. Tempesta	20 Brookhaven Dr.	Attleboro, Mass. 02703	
#168 George E. Fickenschier	1607 88th Ave. W.	Rock Island, Ill. 61201	
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#172 Richard A. Champagne	84 Prospect St.	West Newton, Mass. 02165	
#173 K. C. Owings, Jr.	219-F Lyra Dr.	South Weymouth, Mass. 02190	

Associate Paul Von Stein has just written an article entitled "1869 Proofs in Strictly US magazine (Feb. '77) questioning if there may be 4 types of the 15c 1869 stamp! Any comments J.C.M.C.??\*

John Birkinbine, II wrote to indicate that he had received communication from Michael Laurence concerning his article on the 10c cover in the last "Times." He continues, "May I suggest you consider printing the major contents of his letter in the next "1869 Times? My research on the comments on the cover in the Hessel sale was based on Hargest. Apparently Michael and a few others have more authoritative sources, and I feel strongly about my article misleading others, or being used as a reference point when it is inaccurate. This is what the 1869 group is all about - exchange of information to the point of accurate facts! "

Michael's letter: "About the 10c cover to France (lot 588) that fetched such a high price: I think there is a simpler explanation. There's a lot of misunderstanding about transatlantic carriage during the first few months of 1870, owing to Hargest's incomplete description of the facts, which has been picked up by others. As far as covers to France are concerned, only two steamer lines refused to carry such mail: Inman and Cunard. However, the Wednesday mails, formerly carried by Cunard, were immediately taken over by the Guion line (Liverpool & Great Western Steam Co.), first mail sailing being the Manhattan, which left New York Wednesday January 5. Guion carried mails across the Atlantic every Wednesday during 1870. So, as 1870 begins, you have HAPAG taking mail direct to Cherbourg every Tuesday, you have Guion going to Queenstown every Wednesday, you have NGL going to Southampton every Saturday, and you have the French line going to Brest every other Saturday. In other words, no disruption of mails to France.

"The Hessel cover to France is more likely explained as follows: It left New York February 23 (per New York "X" marking) on board the Guion Minnesota, departing New York on Wednesday, February 23, putting off its mails at Queenstown on March 7. After crossing Ireland and England via the ordinary route for such covers, it entered the French mails at Calais (per double-circle marking) on March 9. My files show many other covers from this period (including another from this same sailing) via Guion line, and all show the same sequence of markings. While there is no doubt that the Allan line carried mail across the Atlantic during 1870 (per PMG statistics), I think it is unlikely that any such mail -- at least to France -- was sent up to Portland from New York, because there was no need to do this. The thrice-weekly sailings from New York were quite adequate.

"Of course, this leaves unanswered the question of why the cover commanded such a rich price. Perhaps two bidders both wanted it very badly. "

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In John's reply to Michael he states, "Is it possible that two interested parties researched this cover, as I did, and came to the same inaccurate conclusion? If so, both may have felt they stumbled onto something quite rare, and thus bid accordingly on the cover. Now wouldn't that be a doozie?"

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Taxes, Taxes, Taxes -- A REGISTER Preview

One of the nice things about our hobby is the finds which are occasionally made. Such is the case by Lloyd W. Taber (PRA #164), even though he had the item for several years. After receiving his copy of the 1976 REGISTER and reading Margaret Wunsch's article he wrote:

"Somewhere, I thought, I have a bisect that might be related to the subject matter. It took me about two hours to unearth the item, and sure enough, there it was, Luray, Va. with the proper signatures. At the time of purchase I was under the impression that the stamp was used as some sort of a revenue fee, and not postally used. The fact that Mrs. Wunsch mentioned only 3c bisects in her article, and her theory that the postmaster had only 1c and 3c stamps in stock almost made me give up my search for the item. I guess a new theory has to be that the assessor just liked to cut up stamps, thank God."

What is the item, you say? Well, it's a 2c 1869 bi-sect on entire tax notice used from Luray, Va. No, it's not pictured here -- we have to save the best for the REGISTER -- but, shown on page 8 is the next best thing. It's the entire inside of the tax notice. So, all of you who have been up late at night figuring your 1976 Income Tax lately, take heart, in 1869-70 it was much simpler, as may be seen.

That's one of the things I like about our "Times" format being 8 1/2" by 11" -- full size views. The outside will be shown in the REGISTER. Wow. \*\*

# THE STAMP AGENT'S LEDGER SHEETS

## Part V

by Michael Laurence

One of many nice things about the frequency and format of the "1869 Times" is that errors can be corrected quickly. We made some beauties in the third installment of this write-up (issue #5), and would have made more in issue #6, had not Editor Chapman and several sharp-eyed readers pointed out a serious flaw in our train of thinking. We have had a blind spot with numbers all our life, doubtless compounded during adulthood due to loss of brain cells growing from our habit of smashing our lips with ice cubes. The mistakes involved our basic assumptions about the inventories of 1c, 2c, and 3c 1869 stamps on hand at the stamp agent's New York premises on the last day of 1869. We simply extrapolated from the ledger sheet data, making guesses about 1870 deliveries, when in fact there was no need to make guesses, since hard figures already exist. As a consequence, almost everything we said about 1870 printings of the 1c, 2c, and 3c 1869s (or the lack of such printings) is all wrong, and ought to be ignored.

To set the record straight: Regarding the 1c stamp, we wrote that "it is possible, though not certain" that one or more 1c 1869 printings was made in 1870. Well, it is more than possible, it is absolutely certain. The ledger sheets show that 943,650 1c 1869 stamps were on hand the last day of 1869. Herzog's unarguable re-assembly of the Luff-P.M.G. data shows us that over 5.5 million 1c 1869 stamps were delivered to the post offices during 1870. Ergo, it should go without saying that at least one 1870 printing was required.

Similarly for the 2c stamp. We said "it is at least possible to conclude that the year-end stock on hand was sufficient to last well into mid-April, whereupon the 2c Banknotes would be ready." Well, it's not possible to conclude that. About 15 million 2c stamps were on hand at the end of 1869, and over 26 million such stamps were delivered to the post offices in 1870. The additional millions had to be printed during 1870.

And for the 3c stamp. We said that the stock of 66 million 3c stamps, on hand 31 December 1869, "was adequate to supply shipments through late April." They were clearly inadequate, since almost 118 million 3c 1869 stamps were delivered to the post offices in 1870. We concluded our remarks on the 3c stamp by expressing the opinion, "subject to change on the basis of better information," that by the end of 1869, the National Bank Note Company was all but done with the printing of the 1869 stamps.

This is obviously not true, at least for all the values up through the 10c, though (as we shall see) it is true for the higher values. The observations we made in Issue #6 of this publication, about the 6c, 10c and 12c values, are correct so far as we know, thanks to some last-minute assistance from Editor Chapman. We regret the errors in Issue #5.



1904 Small Die Proof

On to the Higher Values - To finish this study, we publish herewith the last of the five weekly ledger sheets that have so far come to light. This is the ledger sheet for the last day of 1869. It was reproduced earlier in Chronicle 89, but reduction to the small Chronicle page size caused some of the entries to be illegible.

Table 8 shows the data for the 15c stamp, rearranged for convenience's sake. We can see that 700,620 15c stamps were on hand at the end of the year, and we know from the Herzog figures that 662,760 such stamps were delivered to the post offices during 1870. What became of the remaining 48,200 stamps is not known. This we will discuss below.

The earlier figures are equally interesting. Note that deliveries for the week ending June 12 were relatively small (only 20,000) and that for the next week there were no deliveries at all. The reason for this is that there were hardly any finished stamps on hand. In the "unfinished" categories, we see that during those two June weeks the company was printing 15c stamps but hadn't finished them. At the close of the week ending June 19, almost 1 million unfinished 15c stamps were on hand, and it seems likely that more were printed during subsequent weeks for which ledger sheets are lacking. This June printing presumably produced stamps enough to last the duration. We assume they were all Type II stamps.

As we know, the 15c 1869 stamp occurs in two types. In the first type, both frame and vignette, where they were to meet, had sharp-edged borders, which made registration of the two colors difficult, by making minor misregistrations highly visible. Accordingly, the frame was redesigned, with shading lines and ornamental devices added, to make misregistrations less apparent. The redesigned stamp of course is Type II.

Looking at the data in Table 8, it is tempting to conclude that the finished stock on hand, during those two weeks represented the initial run of the new Type II stamps. However, according to Scott, the earliest recorded use of a Type II stamp is May 23, 1869. Assuming this data is correct (as we do, it comes from Ashbrook's records, and there are photos of the cover itself floating around), then there must have been Type II deliveries prior to May 23.

....continued

TABLE 8 - 15c 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                | 24,840                         |                               |                     | 20,000                                | 4,840                    | 560,000                        | 250,000                       | 810,000                  |
| 6-19                | 4,840                          |                               |                     |                                       | 4,840                    | 810,000                        | 160,000                       | 970,000                  |
| 12-18               | 779,440                        |                               |                     | 36,060                                | 743,380                  |                                |                               |                          |
| 12-24               | 743,380                        |                               |                     | 17,980                                | 725,400                  |                                |                               |                          |
| 12-31               | 725,400                        |                               |                     | 24,780                                | 700,620                  |                                |                               |                          |

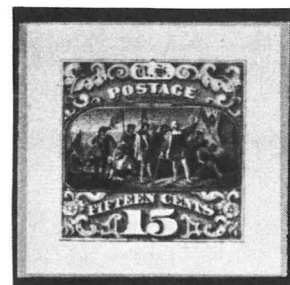
The Herzog figures tell us that 77,740 15c 1869 stamps were delivered to post offices during the first quarter of 1869 (presumably all of them during the last few days of March). During the second quarter, another 117,120 15c 1869 stamps were delivered. This is a total of 194,860, presumably the source of Luff's estimate (repeated in Brookman) that approximately 200,000 Type I stamps were issued.

However, given the May 23 earliest-use for Type II, we must assume that Type II stamps were being shipped to post offices during at least the last six weeks of the second quarter. In other words, not all of the 194,860 15c stamps shipped during the first half of 1869 were Type I. Assuming deliveries averaging 9000 stamps a week (the second-quarter 117,120 divided by 13 weeks), we can project that 54,000 Type II stamps were delivered during the second quarter, which diminishes the number of Type I stamps issued to around 140,000. Conceivably, Type II deliveries exceeded 54,000 during the second quarter. After all, 20,000 of them were shipped during the week ending June 12 alone. This would mean even fewer Type I's.

This entire analysis rests on the assumption that the Type I frame plate was jettisoned as soon as the first Type II frame plate was ready. This seems likely, but can't be proved. If the Type I frame plate continued to be used simultaneously with Type II, then there is no way to sort out the quantities issued.

So our tentative conclusion, based on several heroic assumptions but rooted in the ledger-sheet data, is that of the 1,438,840 15c 1869 stamps issued to the post offices, no more than 140,000 were Type I. This is a rather controversial statement, since it means the 15c Type I stamp was issued in considerably smaller quantities than the 24c (of which 235,250 were issued) or the 30c (254,010).

It seems logical then, that used examples of 15c Type I -- and even on-cover examples -- should be scarcer than their higher value counterparts. Whether this is true for off-cover stamps we will probably never know, but it would certainly be possible to count the surviving on-cover examples to see the result of this hypothesis. It may well be that 15c Type I covers are greatly undervalued. We'll never know for sure until someone does a census. (Are you listening, Dick Searing?)



1904 Small Die Proof

Before leaving the 15c stamp, we must also note that 15c grilled Lincolns of the previous series were the 15c stamps most commonly delivered to the post offices during the first three quarters of 1869. During the first three months of 1869, 77,740 15c 1869s and 706,420 Lincolns were delivered. During the second three months, the figures were 117,120 1869s and 489,580 Lincolns. For the third three months, 98,440 1869s and 372,180 Lincolns. Only during the last quarter were no Lincolns delivered, while 482,780 15c 1869 stamps were sent out. The totals for calendar 1869 show that twice as many Lincolns were sent out than 15c 1869s. In other words, if you went to the post office during 1869 to buy a 15c stamp, the chances were two in three you would receive a 15c Lincoln, not a 15c 1869. Surviving covers seem to support this. For all the high-value 1869 stamps, use in 1870 seems as common as use in 1869.

Table 9 shows the figures for the 24c 1869 stamp. As we get into the higher values, the numbers become both lower and more sporadic, giving less information from which to generalize. But as with the 15c, we can see that 24c stamps were also being produced during the middle weeks of June. A total of 400,000 unfinished stamps were in the vault on June 5; 310,000 had been added by June 12; another 280,000 were added by June 19; and an unknown additional quantity must have been added during the next week(s), yielding a stock of somewhat over one million, from which spotty small deliveries were made. One hesitates even

...continued



The use of the 15c Lincoln in combination with stamps of the 1869 issue in the year 1869 is the rule rather than the exception. This pair of Lincolns bears the F-grill (Scott #98). Originating at Charlotte, N.C. on Nov. 25, 1869, this cover was sent to the Judges of the Circuit Court in Raleigh. The unusual circular cork killer appears to be either a negative "T" or numeral "1". This is an illustration of an 11 x 3c domestic rate for this very heavy letter. On the back the flap has been signed-across by the sender, and there are two docketings on the front indicating receipt and "opened in open Court November 1869."

TABLE 9 - 24c1869

| 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                | 54,750                         |                               |                     | 10,000                                | 44,750                   | 400,000                        | 310,000                       | 710,000                  |
| 6-19                | 44,750                         |                               |                     |                                       | 44,750                   | 710,000                        | 280,000                       | 990,000                  |
| 12-18               | 1,175,175                      |                               |                     | 575                                   | 1,174,600                |                                |                               |                          |
| 12-24               | 1,174,600                      |                               |                     | 375                                   | 1,174,225                |                                |                               |                          |
| 12-31               | 1,174,225                      |                               |                     | 6,800                                 | 1,167,425                |                                |                               |                          |



1904 Small Die Proof

to guess at the average weekly delivery rate for this stamp, but it is quite clear that the stock of over 1.1 million 24c stamps, on hand at year's end, was more than adequate to meet all needs. In fact, it was vastly excessive, since less than 100,000 24c 1869 stamps were delivered to the post offices during 1870.

For the 24c stamp, it seems fairly certain that there were only two printings: an initial run, early on, in an unknown quantity, from which original stock was provided to the post offices, and which had been depleted to 44,750 stamps by June 12; and a second printing, then underway, which was to produce somewhat more than 1,000,000 stamps.

Table 10 shows the data for the 30c 1869 stamp. Once again, it is clear there were at least two printings. Only 56,540 stamps were on hand June 19, but by December 11 this number had risen to 464,800. Sometime between June and December, half a million or more 30c stamps must have been printed. We suspect this printing took place sometime during the summer, after the June printings of

the 15c and 24c stamps. If Cosmopolitan's account (see REGISTER 1976) can be believed, all work on the bi-colored stamps had ceased by October. As with the 24c stamp, the 30c stamps on hand at year's end vastly exceeded needs. Of the 458,080 30c stamps on hand 31 December 1869, only 92,790 were delivered to the post offices in 1870. To the question of what became of the remainder, we now turn.

# National Bank Note Company

Statement of Stamps at Manufactory, for Week ending December 31<sup>st</sup> 1869

Sheets of Paper delivered to Printers during Week 29,900

Do. do. returned Printed " " 29,800 = Stamps. 8,940,000  
 Do. do. do. Blank 100

| 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             | 1,093,950                       |                                |                      | 150,300                                | 943,650                   |                                 |                                |                           |  |
| 2             | 7,710,000                       |                                |                      | 838,300                                | 6,871,700                 | 6,480,000                       | 1,470,000                      | 7,950,000                 |  |
| 3             | 30,534,950                      | 2,490,000                      | 30,000               | 3,946,700                              | 35,078,250                | 26,310,000                      | 7,470,000                      | 31,260,000                |  |
| 6             | 1,852,450                       |                                |                      | 152,800                                | 1,699,650                 |                                 |                                |                           |  |
| 10            | 780,650                         |                                |                      | 27,070                                 | 753,670                   |                                 |                                |                           |  |
| 12            | 442,925                         |                                |                      | 25,375                                 | 417,550                   |                                 |                                |                           |  |
| 15            | 725,400                         |                                |                      | 24,780                                 | 700,620                   |                                 |                                |                           |  |
| 24            | 1,174,225                       |                                |                      | 6800                                   | 1,167,425                 |                                 |                                |                           |  |
| 30            | 467,800                         |                                |                      | 3720                                   | 464,080                   |                                 |                                |                           |  |
| 90            | 803,470                         |                                |                      | 10                                     | 803,460                   |                                 |                                |                           |  |
| Aggregate.    | 57,579,850                      | 2,490,000                      | 30,000               | 5,175,795                              | 48,894,055                | 32,790,000                      | 8,940,000                      | 39,210,000                |  |
|               |                                 |                                |                      |  | PERIODICAL                | STAMPS.                         |                                |                           |  |
| 5             | 476,570                         |                                |                      |  |                           |                                 |                                |                           |  |
| 10            | 278,170                         |                                |                      |  |                           |                                 |                                |                           |  |
| 25            | 257,080                         |                                |                      |  |                           |                                 |                                |                           |  |
| Aggregate.    | 911,820                         |                                |                      |  |                           |                                 |                                |                           |  |

*I certify the above correct*  
*DW Boyd*  
*ajh*

*Chas F. Steel*

TABLE 10 - 30c 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                | 66,540                         |                               |                     | 10,000                                | 56,540                   |                                |                               |                          |
| 6-19                | 56,540                         |                               |                     |                                       | 56,540                   |                                |                               |                          |
| 12-18               | 474,800                        |                               |                     | 10,620                                | 464,180                  |                                |                               |                          |
| 12-24               | 464,180                        |                               |                     | 2,380                                 | 461,800                  |                                |                               |                          |
| 12-31               | 461,800                        |                               |                     | 3,720                                 | 458,080                  |                                |                               |                          |

Table 11, the figures for the 90c 1869 stamp, shows this situation most clearly. As with all the other bi-colored stamps (excepting 15c Type I), there seem to have been two printings. The initial printing had largely been exhausted by mid-June, and a second printing was begun. The 80,000 unfinished stamps placed in the vault during the week ending June 19 were obviously only the beginning of this new press run, because on December 11, over 800,000 90c 1869 stamps reposed in the safe.



1904 Small Die Proof

In fact, at year's end, 803,460 90c stamps were on hand, and deliveries were pathetically small. If one were to generalize from the figures for the last two weeks in December alone, when deliveries were averaging less than 100 stamps a week, the supply on hand would prove sufficient for the next 8000 weeks. That's almost 160 years, which suggests that 90c 1869 stamps should still be available, at face, from the Philatelic Agency. It also illustrates the degree of suspicion with which statistical generalizations from limited information should be regarded.

Obviously, the great preponderance of those 90c stamps was never put into circulation. Only 12,520 were sent to the post offices during 1870. That leaves 790,950 90c 1869 stamps unaccounted for. What could have become of them? There are only three possibilities. The first, and least likely, is that they were saved and subsequently sneaked into collector hands. This almost certainly did not happen. The high-value 1869 stamps have been scarce since the 1870's, and their market value has risen steadily since then.

The second and most likely possibility is that the remainders were destroyed. This is almost certainly the case, though this writer has never seen evidence to support destruction. It never occurred to us that there were any remainders to be destroyed. Specifically, it seems that 48,200 15c Type II stamps, 1,072,050 24c, 365,490 30c, and 790,950 90c stamps were destroyed; possibly in one gigantic auto da fe. Such an event would surely have been officially witnessed and attested to, and we find it curious that no documentation on this subject has ever surfaced. Can anyone shed light?



1904 Small Die Proof

There is, of course, a third possibility: That remainders were never destroyed, that in fact they still survive, in a musty vault in a warehouse basement somewhere in lower Manhattan. If so, this would be quite a find. The current catalog value of this material would exceed six billion dollars. Good luck, happy hunting, and save a set of plate blocks for this writer. \*\*  
(( End of Series ))

TABLE 11 - 90c 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                | 39,570                         |                               |                     | 5,000                                 | 34,570                   |                                |                               |                          |
| 6-19                | 34,570                         |                               |                     |                                       | 34,570                   |                                | 80,000                        | 80,000                   |
| 12-18               | 808,690                        |                               |                     | 5,100                                 | 803,590                  |                                |                               |                          |
| 12-24               | 803,590                        |                               |                     | 120                                   | 803,470                  |                                |                               |                          |
| 12-31               | 803,470                        |                               |                     | 10                                    | 803,460                  |                                |                               |                          |

CARRIAGES, GOLD WATCHES, BILLIARD TABLES, GOLD AND SILVER PLATE.

SCHEDULE A—SECTION 103, ACT JUNE 30, 1864, AS AMENDED JULY 13, 1835.

| No. | TAXABLE ARTICLES.  | RATE.  | AMOUNT OF TAX. |
|-----|--|--------|----------------|
|     | Carriage, phaeton, carryall, rockaway, or other like carriage, and any coach, hackney coach, omnibus, or four-wheeled carriage, the body of which rests upon springs of any description, which is kept for use, for hire, or for passengers, and which is not used exclusively in husbandry or in the transportation of merchandise, valued at exceeding three hundred dollars and not exceeding five hundred dollars, including harness used therewith..... | \$5 00 |                |
|     | Carriages of like description valued at above five hundred dollars.....  | 10 00  |                |
|     | Gold watches, composed wholly or in part of gold or gilt, kept for use, valued at one hundred dollars or less.....   | 1 00   |                |
|     | Gold watches, composed wholly or in part of gold or gilt, kept for use, valued at above one hundred dollars.....   | 2 00   |                |
|     | Billiard tables kept for use, and not subject to special tax.....  | 10 00  |                |
|     | Oz. plate of gold, kept for use, per ounce troy.....   | 50     |                |

Assessors should require Answers to be *Written* opposite each of these Questions.

- Had your wife any income last year? *No.*
- Did any minor child of yours receive any salary last year? *No.*
- Have you included in this return the income of your wife, and salary received by minor children? \_\_\_\_\_
- Have you any stocks, and what are they? *Shares in W. M. & J. P. Co.*
- Have you bought or sold stocks or other property? *No.*
- Have you any United States securities? *No.*
- Have you given or transferred to any child or children of yours, or to any other person or persons, the income, gains, or profits, or any part of the income, gains, or profits, arising during the year 1839, from stocks, bonds, or other securities, or from any other source whatever? \_\_\_\_\_
- Is such income included in the foregoing return? *Yes.*
- Have you transferred any stocks, bonds, or other securities, or any other property, or the interest or other gains or profits arising therefrom during the year 1839, for the purpose of diminishing your own taxable income, and if so when and to whom? *No.*
- Have you kept any book account? \_\_\_\_\_
- Is your income estimated, or taken from your books? *Estimated.*
- Have any of the deductions claimed in your return already been taken out of the amount reported as profits? *No.*
- Did you estimate any portion of your profits in making your return for previous years? \_\_\_\_\_
- Was any portion treated as worthless, and, if since paid, have you included it in this return? \_\_\_\_\_

STATE OF Virginia }  
 COUNTY OF Page } ss.

Samuel Miller, being sworn according to law, deposes and says

that the foregoing statement contains a full, true, particular, and correct account of his income for the year A. D. 1839, which he has received, whether derived from any kind of property, rents, interest, dividends, or salary, or from any profession, trade, employment, or vocation, or from any other source whatever, from the first day of January to the thirty-first day of December, A. D. 1839, both days inclusive, and subject to an income tax under the excise laws of the United States; and that he has not received, and is not entitled to receive, from any or all sources of income together, any other sum for the said year besides what is herein set forth in detail, except such amounts as, though justly due to the affiant, are not good and collectible; and that he is honestly and truly entitled to make the deductions from his income for said year as specifically stated in detail, in accordance with the true intent of the excise laws of the United States; that the statement of the number or weight and value of the articles enumerated in schedule A, owned, possessed, or kept by him, or of which he had the care or management, on the first day of March, A. D. 1870, is also just and true; that the several rates and amounts therein contained are stated in legal tender currency, and that the written answers to the above questions are true.

Samuel Miller

Sworn and subscribed, this fourth day of April, A. D. 1870, before me.

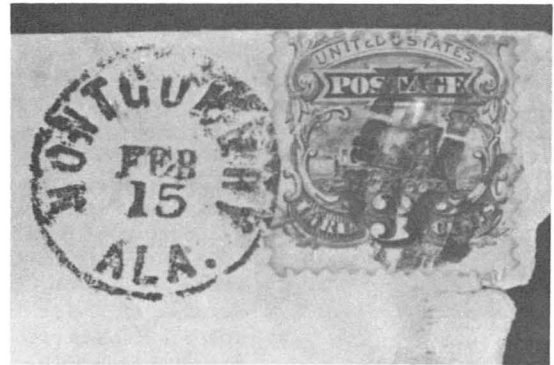
Frank J. Bramhall

Assistant Assessor 6th Division 6th District, State of Virginia.



LOVE

OF LOCOMOTIVES



Beginning with this edition of "1869 Times" your Editor will begin a series of articles devoted to the 3c 1869 Locomotive, since it is the most common, and therefore most widely collected of the 1869 Pictorials. Items are solicited from the membership for inclusion herein. Please write describing your unusual 3c pieces, or, send in questions pertaining to this fascinating stamp for distribution through this forum. But, please, for the Love of Locomotives, participate!

Subject for this installment: Plate Cracks. In response to the Chapman/Wunsch article in the 1976 REGISTER, Peter Stafford (15 Keswick Dr., Bramhall, Stockport, Cheshire, England SK71DJ) wrote to inform of the 2 copies resting in his collection. They are illustrated above. One is on cover (postmarked Montgomery, Ala., Feb 15) while the other is a used single. As of this date he is aware of only 6 total copies of this "flutter crack" but differs from the authors as to cause. Excerpts from his two letters follow:

These varieties have been described as having "scratches, which I don't agree with; but then I also don't agree with the idea of the plate fluttering during printing. In my opinion the double transfer occurred in the making of the plate and is not due to the plate fluttering during printing. After all, the plate is on a machined bed when the paper is placed on it and compressed by the roller.

"Whether the heavy marks are scratches, cracks or what we will never know, but to me they do not look like either scratches or cracks. Sorry I cannot give another solution. Now, to turn to your straight line cracks on page 61. The marks look very similar to some found on the 2c Red Brown of 1883 (#210) and they can be seen in Willard's Vol. 1 on the above stamp on pages 99-108.

"On the #210, they run the full depth of the plate and no satisfactory explanation can be found either by Willard or myself. However we were agreed that they are not cracks, and neither do they have the appearance of scratches. The only possible suggestion I can give is of something rather hard, being rubbed on the plate, perhaps each time it is taken out of a rack. This 'something' would just need to be hard, not sharp, and the continual rubbing in the same place approximately would cause a blurry sort of groove. Unfortunately, I do not possess one of these line flaws on the 3c '69 so I cannot really comment.

"I still find it hard to believe that a piece of metal, placed on the bed of a machine, in which the bed is surely wider than the plate, then under the pressure of the roller die, can physically vibrate up and down. It can't go down and it won't surely move up. If the plate was wider than the bed then on being entered and again on being printed, there is opportunity for the piece hanging over the edge to move, but this is not sound engineering practice. I think the doubling and crack are completely separate. It is probably just a coincidence that they happen together."

A difference of opinion, but that's what it's all about.

While we're on the subject of plate cracks or plate scratches, there are two other items which have come to our attention worthy of note here. As mentioned in the Chapman/Wunsch article in the 1976 REGISTER, Jim Stever (1505 Bank & Trust Tower, Corpus Christi, Texas 78477) has found a Locomotive which bears a faint plate scratch or crack. The line of color runs through the center of the "Postage" label wavering up and down considerably. This item is illustrated at right, with deliberate strengthening of the flaw on the photograph, so that it may be seen better. Who's seen another like this one?



The Stever plate scratch (?)

The second item is a cover recently auctioned by Roger Koerber; lot 655 in his March 17-19, 1977 sale. It is described as follows: "3c Locomotive, showing cracked plate in left margin tied by brown target to corner card cvr stp centered to tr, scarce, fine. Evaluation... \$50" Your Editor inspected this cover and concluded in his notes, "Examination shows a definite scratch or crack at lower left running horizontally from perf tips into heavy shading at center base of 'H' in THREE and appearing to end at the 'R'." I might also add, a reasonable bid did not bring it to Memphis. \*\*

AUCTION ACTION - - Like a duel, except you don't know the opponent.

by Michael C. O'Reilly



The last quarter has seen no let-up in the significant offerings of 1869 material on the market. Since we have a lot of ground to cover, no more introduction. Let's go.

From a postal history standpoint, this quarter has seen the sale of the finest collection of railroad markings ever to be assembled. I refer to the William Wyer collection of Railroad covers sold by Daniel F. Kelleher, Co. January 31-Feb. 1. Of the nearly 1700 lots of covers, there were only 43 lots of 1869 covers. All of these except one bore the 3c Locomotive, so except for that lot, no mention of the stamps on these covers will be given. One gem to be offered early in the sale was a B&O RR Marriotsville in a clear blue oval (TM 274-S-3). This lot (#140) sold for \$120. Another B&O RR cover (lot 147), this one with a Monrovia station marking (TM 274-S-8) realized \$80. A nice strike of the Boston, Lowell & Nashua Railroad - Billerica (TM 24-S-3a) in lot 242 also sold for \$80.

A rare Cleveland & Sandusky RR (TM 559-A-1) in lot 375 sold for \$80. A fancy cog used as a killer by the Elgin & State Line RR (lot 525, TM 692-B-1) helped this lot sell for \$65. A fine strike of the Mo. Valley RR (TM 762-A-1) in lot 897 realized \$105. The only 1869 railroad cover without a 3c was sold as lot 908. This item bore a 2c 1869 along with a lc Ultramarine #145 and a 3c green entire. The stamps were tied by the Mo. Kan. & Tex. RR markings (TM 809-A-1) which made this a pretty combination, bringing the highest selling price by an 1869 cover at \$240. Another good price was to be found in lot 1179, a mourning cover bearing a not-too-clear strike of the Peoria, Pekin & Jacksonville RR balloon cancel (TM 720-B-1), which sold for \$125. Lot 1384 was a pretty thing, being a clear strike of the double circle R&B RR-Whiting (TM 43-S-1). It brought a respectable \$110. A fine strike of the Vermont & Canada RR marking (TM 24-Q-1) in lot 1560 sold for \$110. The final 1869 cover of this sale was lot 1663, a mostly clear strike of the Worchester & Nashua RR Ms. marking. The cover itself was a very fine advertising envelope for a horse-drawn hay rake, which added a bit of spice to the cover and its \$180 price tag.



Moving on, the H. R. Harmer sale of January 13-14 held two covers of special interest to 1869 collectors. This auction consisted entirely of Alaskan material. The two covers were lots 289 and 290, and both bore a single copy of the 3c 1869. The noteworthy facet of both items are that both are Alaska Territorial covers, being postmarked at Sitka. The two covers were from the same correspondence and realized \$2000 and \$2100 respectively. These are very rare territorial items whose prices reflect their rarity. The recipient numbered the envelopes, these two being numbers 15 and 18 of the correspondence. Does anyone else know where the rest of this correspondence is? (Ed. Note: See Margaret L. Wunsch's 1977 REGISTER article!)

Another high realization by a postal history item came in sale 32 by John W. Kaufmann of Washington, D. C. This sale was held on Feb. 26. Lot 174 was a cover with an average 3c Loco tied by a bold strike of the Adrian, Michigan Bee fancy cancel (the cover also bore an additional strike of the Bee). Although reduced a bit at left, this fine cover would make an attractive showpiece as the selling price of \$900 revealed. Other items of interest in this sale included an extremely fine unused lc 1869 (lot 166) which realized \$145 (CV \$100). Another superb stamp offered was a copy of the 2c 1869 (lot 170) which was described as perfectly centered with deep color and large margins. It sold for \$115 against a catalog of \$60. A fresh used 15c Type I, with very nice centering sold for \$230 in lot 184. This was exactly double catalog of \$115.

In auction #53 held by Richard Wolfers, Inc. of San Francisco on December 9-11, 1976, several nice 1869 lots were offered. A very fine used lc buff sold for \$70 in lot 822. An equally nice used 2c brown sold for \$75 in lot 823. A large margin, unused 12c green was offered in lot 830, and even with a faint ... Continued



U.S. #131\*, 1875 Re-issue, full orig. gum, LH, 1976 PF Cert.

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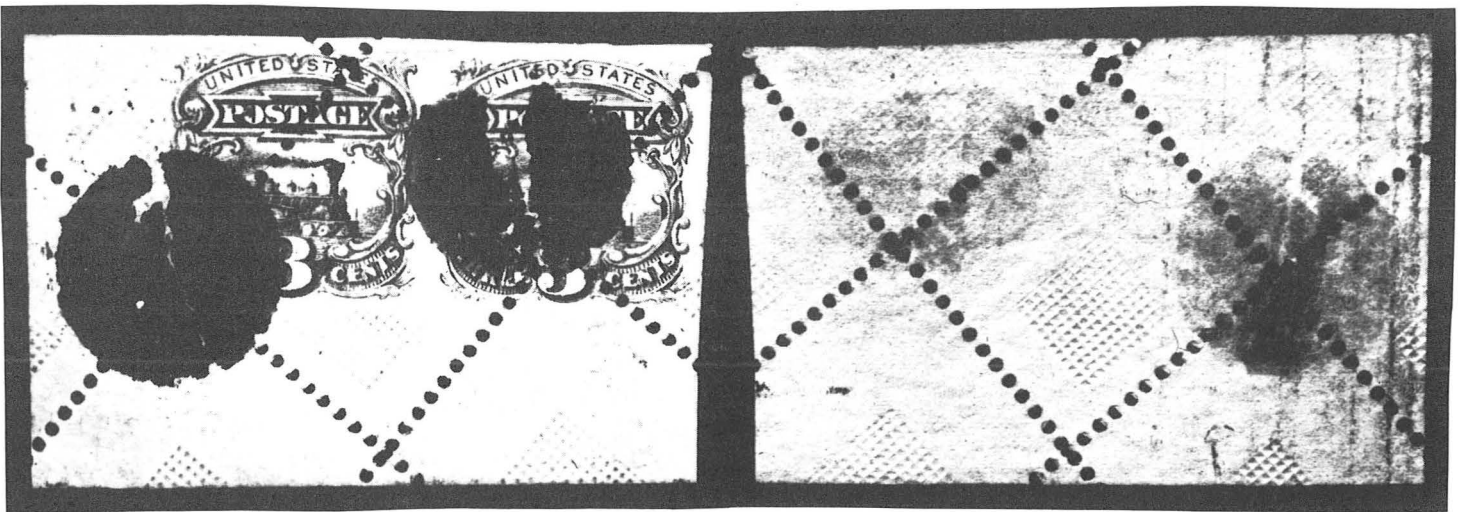
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(415) 781-5127

AUCTION ACTION (Continued)

crease and without gum, it sold for 50% over catalog at \$350. To my way of thinking, the outstanding 1869 lot of this sale was lot 831. This lot was an unused horizontal strip of 6 of the 12c 1869. Although the center two stamps had been strengthened and the stamps were not centered too well, the strip still brought \$850 (CV \$1350). Multiples of this stamp are not easy to obtain, which makes me think it a bargain.

Wolffers next sale (#54) contained a 30c 1869 on cover, one of three to be sold last quarter. Lot 969 was the lot to look for. This cover was a large legal size envelope bearing a single 30c 1869 paying the postage to Germany. The cover had several defects which brought the price down, despite the rarity of this sort of thing. The stamp had a corner crease and was stained around the perfs. The envelope had been folded, was quite soiled and had a few small tears. With catalog value at \$2750, this cover barely made a fourth of that with a selling price of \$725.

On February 8-9, Robert A Siegel Auction Galleries held an auction consisting exclusively of essays and proofs. This excellent offering had some seldom seen 1869 material. A set of plate proofs on India of the 1c through the 30c in blocks of four (lot 284A) realized \$2500 (CV \$2065). A series of large die proofs of the 2c, 3c, 6c, 10c and 12c die sunk on cards of varying sizes sold at an average of \$1200 each. These 5 items were contained in lots 285-9. Lot 292 contained all of the bicolored 1869 Pictorials as plate proofs on card, all with inverted centers (inverted flags on the 30c value). These were all margin blocks of four, of which the 90c graced the front cover illustration. The catalog value of \$24,000 was probably a good starting point because the bidding didn't stop until a selling price of \$40,000 was reached. The 1869 lots closed with lot 299, a complete set of 1869 Atlanta Trial Color Proofs. Described as very fine, the set just barely didn't realize catalog (\$12,990), but did quite well at \$12,500.



**FREAKS & VARIETIES**

3087 ○ #114, 3c Ultramarine 1869, Used LL Margin Pair, Misperfed diagonally into diamond shaped sections! pronounced grills in ea section, 1 full "stamp" shows LR half of picture at UL!, etc, A classic freak! (Back Cover Photo) ..... Estimated Value E. IX

Jacques Schiff Auction of 11/21/76 contained this item in lot 3087. It sold for \$360 and should be displayed prominently. (Let's work up an article on 1869 Freaks. Send them in.)

The Jacques C. Schiff "Elite" Auction, held January 29, 1977 had several items of interest, two which will be commented upon. The first was a set of Small Hybrid Die Proofs mounted on individual cards and bound in a black leather Special Issue Presentation Album of the National Bank Note Co. Lot 282 contained this extremely rare book (which is similar to a Roosevelt Presentation Book, except this one has only one proof per page) and sold for \$4,600. Lot 33 in this same sale sported a pair of 10c 1869's on cover from Shanghai to Wisconsin, with partial strike of the US POD Shanghai cds. The pair was VF to superb and the lot went for \$800.

Another recent Siegel sale (#507), contained several lots of hard to find material. The date was March 3-4. An off-cover single 2c cancelled by the Hiogo, Japan double circle realized \$125 (CV \$100) in lot 308. The Corry, Pa. "Eagle" tied a fine 3c 1869 to a small piece in lot 312 which realized \$105. The Suffield, Conn. "Mug" tied an average 3c to a cover with a very fine strike in lot 319. At \$160, this made a fine addition to someone's collection. One of the steals of this sale was lot 322, a 6c 1869 on cover postmarked Columbus, Ga. This fine cover sold for a bit over half catalog (\$125) at \$65. Southern states 1869 covers are difficult to find. Another "Hiogo" double circle postmark, this time on a 10c yellow realized \$160 (CV \$140) in lot 326. A pretty 12c cover to England (lot 330) was tied by a circle of "V's" killer. This fine cover sold for \$190 (CV \$160). A 15c Type I with a double grill realized half catalog at \$150 (lot 336). The low price was probably caused by the tiny thin on the stamp. A bit of surprise to this writer was that a horizontal pair of the 15c Type II (lot 337) should realize \$725. Against a catalog value of \$575, this very fine unused pair did very well.

The next lot illustrates condition makes all the difference. Harking back to a previous sale mentioned above, recall the ratty 30c cover which barely sold for one-fourth catalog. In this Siegel sale was offered a similar such critter (lot 341, a 30c cover) whose appearance was enhanced a bit by the presence of a 15c Type I. The two stamps made up the triple rate to France in 1869 and make quite an attractive combination. This cover was in the Knapp collection, where it sold for \$130 in 1942. In 1977, it sold nicely for an even \$4000. Later in this sale, an unused 30c (lot 349) without grill, but with full og and brilliant colors sold for ... Continued

AUCTION ACTION (Continued)

half catalog at \$600. A very fine used 90c (lot 352) with a bright red cancel zoomed past catalog (\$ 525) to sell for a healthy \$675. A nice selection of 1869 Re-issues followed; the showpiece of which was a single 15c imperf horizontally with full top sheet margin and plate number. This was lot 371. This single sold for almost three times catalog (\$ 900), realizing a handsome \$2400.

Saving a bit of the best for last, I want to mention a highlight of every auction season, namely the Siegel Rarities Sale held every spring. This year was no exception in regard to the high calibre of 1869 material. The 18 1869 lots realized a total of \$90,000. Leading off the section, was lot 103, a horizontal pair of the 3c Loco used with a pair of Canada stamps on a small cover to England. Though this cover has a few minor faults, the rarity of this combination made up for some of the condition deficiencies when the lucky buyer shelled out \$1600. Another postal history gem came next (lot 104), being a single 10c yellow used with a horizontal pair of #146 on a cover from Yokohama, Japan to Lyons, France. For an excellent article on this cover, formerly in the Gibson collection, and a companion piece, see Chronicle #83 for the write-up by PRA #10, Millard Mack. This fine cover realized \$4500. Lot 105 contained a bottom right sheet corner imprint and plate block of 20 of the 15c Type II. Described as having bright colors, full o.g., couple of light creases and centered to right, this beautiful showpiece sold for \$12,000.

Another scarce cover was sold in lot 106, a 15c Type II on cover from Mobile to Norway. This cover had a closed tear and stain at left. These did not detract too much as the cover sold for \$1500. A beautiful used 15c inverted center sold for \$6000 (CV \$7500) in lot 107. A choice unused 24c in lot 108 with fresh colors and part o.g. realized 2 1/2 times catalog at \$1550. Likewise, a very fine 24c inverted center realized \$7500 against a catalog value of \$6500. A superb unused 30c 1869 with deep rich colors and large part o.g. sold right at double catalog at \$1250 in lot 111. Next came two lots of 30c inverted flags. The first sold for \$23,000 being in extremely fine condition, the only flaw being a tiny corner perf crease; while the latter lot sold for \$18,000 with a couple of small tears. The flaws did not detract from the beauty of these stamps, as the prices indicate. Getting back into postal history, we find the third 30c cover offered this quarter. (Probably the largest offering of 30c covers at one time was from the Knapp collection, when 11 30c 1869 covers were offered in one sale.) This cover, offered in lot 114, actually was only a cover front, with the 30c stamp paying various domestic and foreign postages to Algeria. This remarkable item sold for \$2500. Closing up the regular issue of 1869 stamps were two copies of the 90c Lincolns. The first (lot 115) being a fine unused copy with rich colors and part o.g. selling for \$1750 (CV \$2100), while the second was an unused 90c without grill. This beauty was well centered with rich color and almost full o.g. It sold for \$4000 (CV\$ 3250).

That's it for this quarter; Good Hunting! \*\*

\*\*\*\*\* **SELECTED OFF-COVER 1869's** \*\*\*\*\*

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- #113 (VG) Bee Cancel of New York, VF strike . . . . . Net \$35
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Rec. Pmk., Cat. \$600+ on cover, . . . . . Net \$250
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