



**Horse's Head**  
**3/31/1866**  
 to  
**4/7/1866**



**Mar 31, 1866 to France** carried on Hapag Line's *Germania* going via Southampton Apr 11, arriving Paris 12.

**This is a new discovery and the earliest of two foreign mail covers known with this cancel.**

This cancel is also known as a 'Zebra's Head'.

Postage paid the 15¢ French treaty rate.



**Apr 7, 1866 to Sicily** carried on Inman Line's *City of Baltimore* going via Queenstown 19, Brest 20, arriving Palermo 26.

**This is the latest cover known with this cancel.**

The addressee, Guiseppe Verdi, was not the famed composer but a wine and vegetable exporter.

Postage paid the 21¢ per 1/4 ounce French mail rate.

## UNION SOLDIER'S HEAD



4/21/1866  
to  
5/5/1866

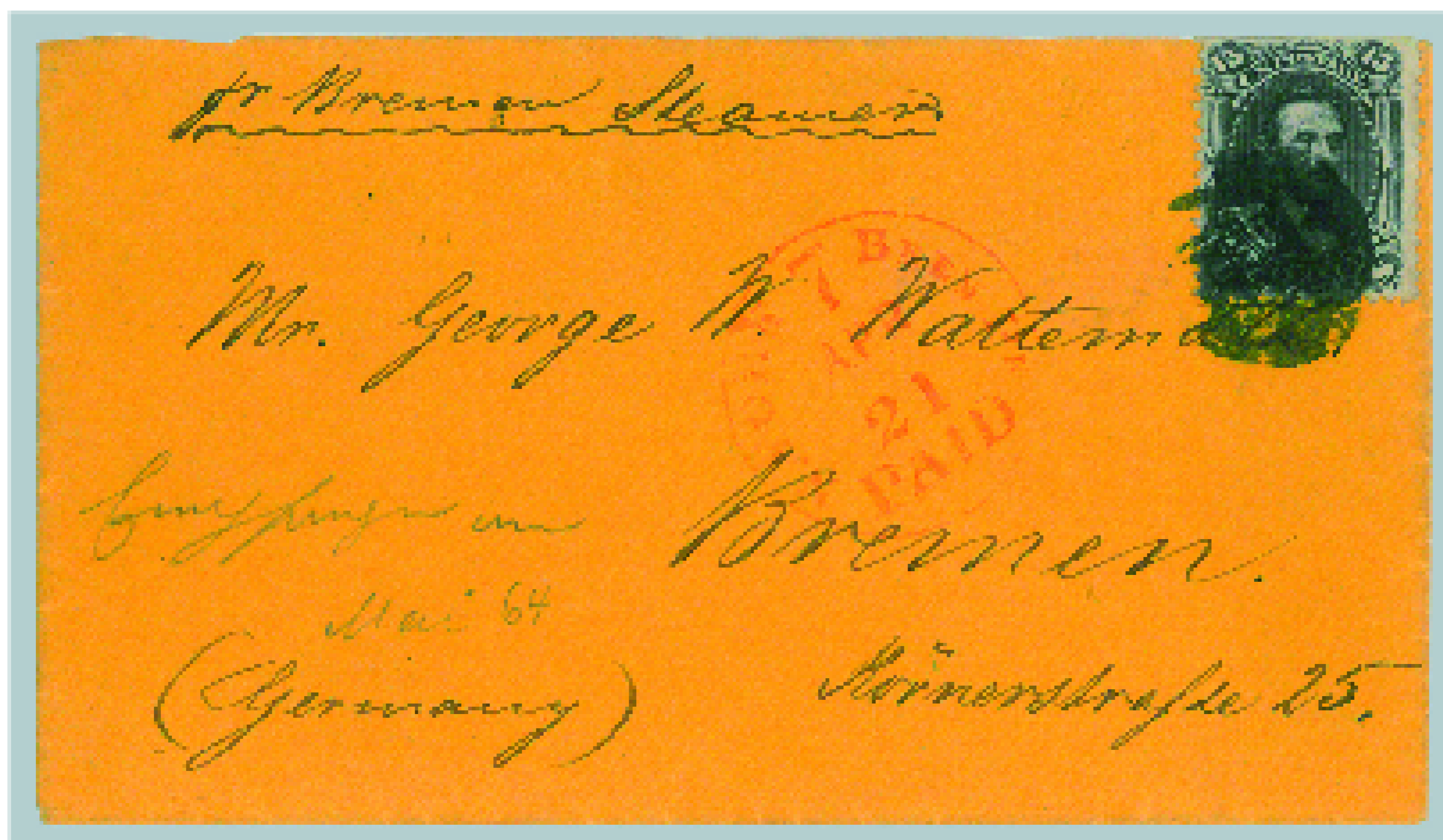


**May 5, 1866 to Italy** carried on HAPAG Line's *Allemania* going via Southampton 15, arriving Sicily 18.

**This is the latest known cover with this cancel.**

This is the sole known use of this cancel on a US 1862 Issue 12¢ stamp.

Postage of 42¢ paid the double 21¢ (per 1/2 oz) rate to Italy by French mail.



C

**FOREIGN MAIL USE**

Apr 21, 1866 to Germany carried on NGL Line's *Hansa* arriving Bremen May 4.

This is the earliest known of four covers with this cancel and the earliest known use of the 15¢ Lincoln stamp (reportedly issued Apr 14, 1866).

It might be termed the first U.S. 'commemorative' stamp being issued on the anniversary of the month of Lincoln's death. Postage of 15¢ overpaid the 10¢ rate by Bremen mails.

There is debate as to whether this cancel concept was created for use in the domestic department or the foreign mail department of the New York City Post Office. As can be seen below the domestic variety differs in some detail from the foreign use version. Most likely each department had its own version. **The cover is the only recorded domestic use.**



Design used domestically as a duplex cancel in New York City (lines in hair and angular moustache)

**DOMESTIC MAIL USE**

May 25, 1866 New York City to Onondaga County, New York. Postage paid the 3¢ domestic rate.



Circle of six irregular wedges

6/23/1866  
to  
10/9/1866



**Sep 11, 1866 to China** 4 denomination franking (from Boston 12) carried on Cunard Line's *Asia* going via Queenstown 22, London 24, Calais, rail to Marseilles 28, Alexandria Oct 5, rail to Suez, re-embarked, then Galle (Ceylon) 22, arriving Hong Kong Nov 7.

Postage of \$1.06 paid the double 53¢ rate by British mail via Marseilles.



5 bar central grid

7/11/1866  
to  
9/1/1866



C

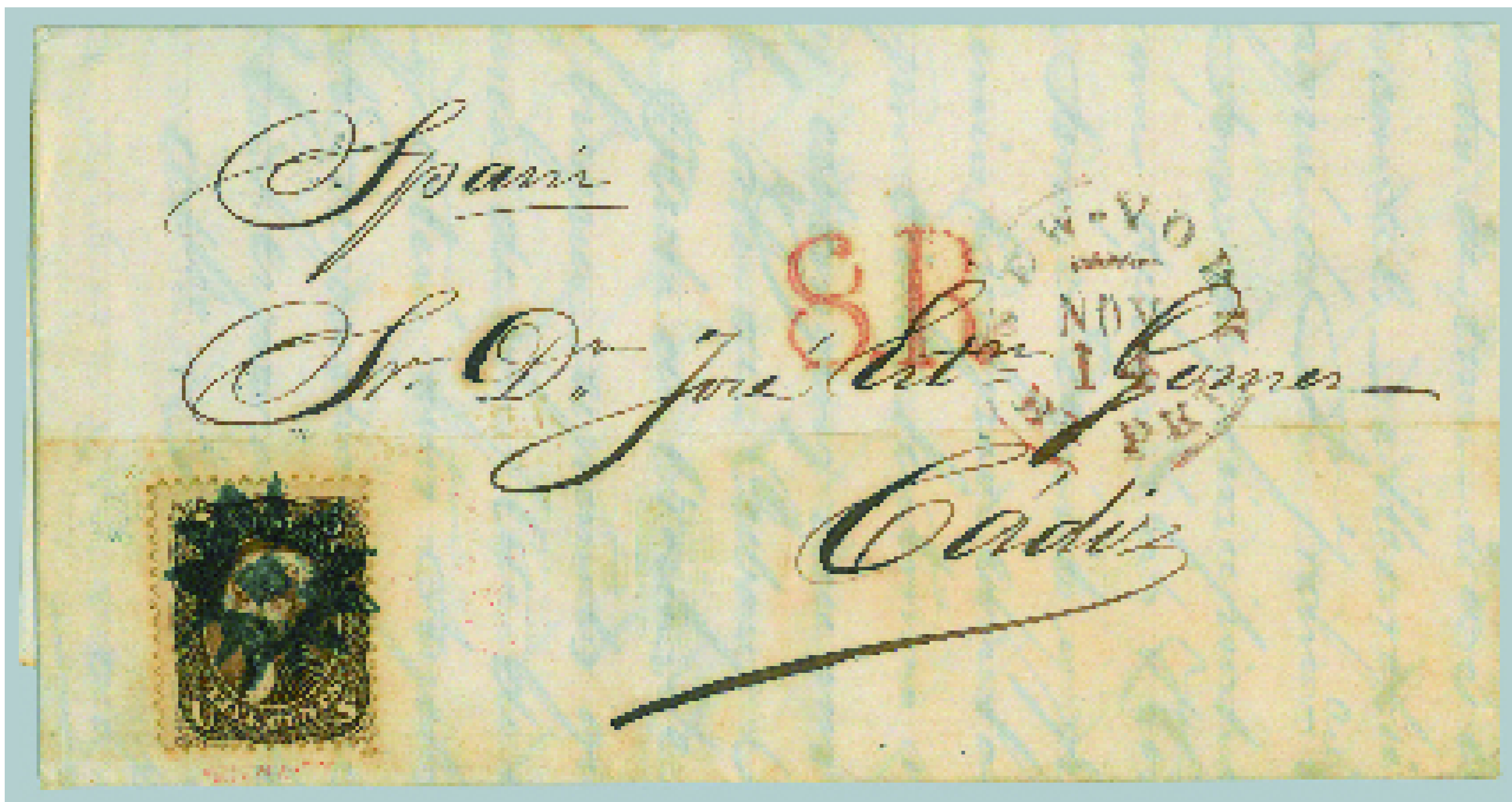
**ORIGINATING OUTSIDE NEW YORK CITY YET ATTRACTING A NYC FM CANCEL**

**1866 Wells Fargo 3¢ Stamped Envelope to Austria** entering the US mail Jul 11, departing New York City the same day carried on Cunard Line's *Java* going via Queenstown 21, Aachen 25, arriving Vienna 27.

**This is the earliest of two covers known with this cancel.**

The 30¢ stamp overpaid the 28¢ Prussian closed mail rate to Austria. The Wells Fargo fee, paid in cash, would have allowed for the 3¢ paid for the Stamped Envelope.





12 pointed star  
9/1/1866 to  
11/14/1866

Nov 14, 1866 to Spain carried on Cunard Line's *Australasian* going via Queenstown 24, London, arriving Cadiz 30.

This is the latest of 3 covers with this cancel.

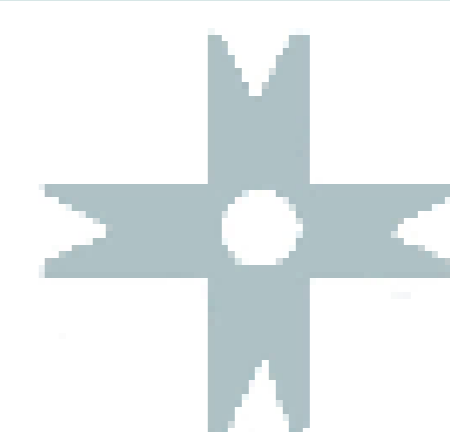
Postage paid the 5¢ open mail rate by British packet.

C



4 connected segments  
10/1/1866 to  
11/10/1866

Nov 3, 1866 to Saxony carried on NGL Line's *Hermann* going via Bremen 16, arriving Herzberg 17. Postage paid the 15¢ rate via Bremen-Hamburg mails.



'Notched Cross'  
11/20/1866

Nov 20, 1866 to England carried on Cunard Line's *Java* arriving Liverpool Nov 30.

This is the sole known use of this cancel on cover.

Postage paid the 24¢ British treaty rate.



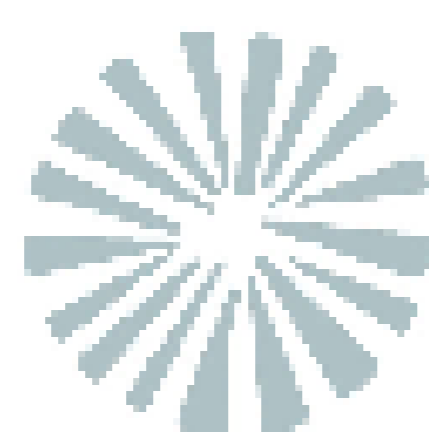


Segmented geometric  
12/13/1866

**Dec 13, 1866 to Cuba** carried on US Atlantic Mail Steamship Company's *Morro Castle* arriving Havana Jan 9, 1867.

**This is the sole known use of this cancel on cover.**

Postage of 20¢ paid the double 10¢ rate by American packet rate.



17 ray  
'sunburst'  
3/2/1867  
to  
3/9/1867



**Mar 2, 1867 to Demerara, British Guiana** carried on the regular New York City Saturday sailing of American Atlantic Mail Steamship Company's *Columbia* to Havana, then on British packet Royal Mail's *Mersey* to St. Thomas, then on the 18, Royal Mail's *Conway*, via Barbados 21, arriving Georgetown 25. **This is one of twelve known NYCFM\* covers to British Guiana, West Indies, and one of three known examples of this cancel.** 11¢ postage overpaid the 10¢ American packet rate. The manuscript 5(p) denotes 4p due to GB plus 1p for inland transit fees.

\*this assumes the letter originated in New York City - the sole indication, the shipping instruction, is not definitive.



12 bar grid  
2/20/1867  
to  
5/1/1867

Feb 20, 1867 to Prag (Bohemia), Austria, carried on Cunard Line's *Australasian* going via Queenstown Mar 3, Aachen 6, arriving Prague 7. This is an earliest use of this unrecorded grid. Postage of 29¢ overpaid the 28¢ Prussian closed mail rate to Austria.



12 segment grid  
2/23/1867  
to  
7/13/1872

Aug 12, 1868 to Holland carried on Cunard Line's *Scotia* going via Queenstown 21, arriving Amsterdam 23. Postage paid the 15¢ Netherlands closed mail rate.



C



'Shield'  
4/1/1867  
to  
6/1/1867

Apr 6, 1867 to Russia carried on Inman Line's *City of Paris*, going via Queenstown 15, Aachen 21 enroute to St. Petersburg.

There are 3 covers known with this 'shield' cancel. 'Russia' by name was a scarce destination throughout the NYCFM period with less than 5 known. Postage of 35¢ paid the Prussian closed mail rate.





Intricate geometric  
4/9/1867



Apr 9, 1867 to France carried on Cunard Line's *China* (from Boston 10), going via Queenstown 19, arriving Paris 21.

This is a magnificent strike of the sole known use of this intricate cancel.

Postage paid the 15¢ French closed treaty mail rate.



5/21/1867  
to  
5/23/1867

7 barred central octagonal



on the reverse



May 21, 1867 to France carried on Cunard Line's *China* (from Boston 22) going via Queenstown 31, Calais Jun 2, arriving Paris the same day. This is the earliest of two known uses of this cancel.

The letter was received at the New York City post office where the obliterating cancel and 'MAY 21' back stamps were applied. The letter went to Boston for the next day's Cunard Line's sailing, a normal procedure. Unusually, the New York post office failed to apply the correct Exchange Office datestamp. The Boston Exchange Office therefore applied their own.

Postage of 45¢ paid the triple 15¢ French mail treaty rate.



Below 15¢ stamp





**Wedges**  
6/29/1867  
to  
6/24/1868

**Jun 29, 1867 (from Boston) to France** carried on Inman Line's *City of Boston* arriving Paris 11. **This is the earliest known use of this cancel.** Postage of 60¢ paid the quadruple 15¢ French treaty rate.



**Circle of 'v's'**  
6/15/1867  
to  
1/18/1876

**Jun 15, 1867 to France** carried on French Line's *St. Laurent* going via Brest 26, arriving Paris the same day.

**This is the earliest of four covers known with this cancel** (with a life span of nearly 10 years it is likely others exist). Postage paid the 15¢ French treaty mail rate.

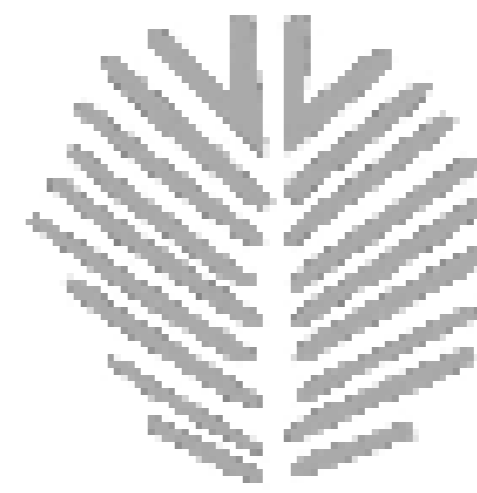


**Idiosyncratic geometric**  
8/9/1867  
to  
8/17/1867

**Aug 17, 1867 to Spain** carried on Inman Line's *City of London* going via Queenstown 27, Calais 29, arriving Barcelona 31.

**This is the latest known of two uses of this cancel.**

Postage of 22¢ overpaid the 21¢ by French mails.



Leaf (20 petals)  
9/26/1867 to 10/14/1868

Oct 14, 1868 to England carried on Cunard Line's *Java* going via Queenstown 23, arriving via Norwich to Cromer 25.

This is the latest known of two uses of this cancel on cover.

Postage paid the 12¢ British treaty rate.



Shield  
10/26/1867

Oct 26, 1867 to Switzerland carried on Hapag Line's *Borussia* going via Hamburg Nov 12, Basel by train, arriving Aarau 15.

This is the sole known use of this cancel on cover.

Postage of 31¢ overpaid the 19¢ rate by Bremen-Hamburg mails to the border of Switzerland.



4 'pairs' of wedges  
12/11/1867

Dec 11, 1867 to Italy carried on Cunard Line's *Persia* via Queenstown 22, Calais by train 24, arriving Naples 27.

This is the sole known use of this cancel.

Postage paid the 21¢ rate by French mails.



Twenty four bar grid

11/13/1867



**ORIGINATING OUTSIDE NEW YORK CITY YET ATTRACTING A NYCFM CANCEL**

**Oct, 1867 Wells Fargo Stamped Envelope to England** (originating in Vancouver Island, British Columbia). The letter transited New York City Nov 13 carried on Cunard Line's *Russia* going, arriving Liverpool 23.

**This is the sole known use of this cancel on cover.**

Wells Fargo carried the letter to New York City where it entered the US mails and received the NYCFM cancel. Their fee was paid in cash at the Fargo office in Vancouver Island. The Vancouver Island 5¢ rose stamp paid the local post to the port of departure. The 10¢ Stamped Envelope, plus the 12¢ and 2¢ U.S. stamps, paid the 24¢ US rate to England.

The red Exchange Office datestamp applied in New York City shows a 'Paid 19' (19¢) credit to England for carriage on a Cunard Line ship.





**'Rosette'**  
 12/14/1867  
 to  
 2/10/1873



**Jun 24, 1869 to Germany** carried on NGL Line's *Hermann* arriving Bremen Jul 7.

Postage paid the 10¢ direct mail rate via Bremen.



**Circle of 'v's'**  
 1/4/1868  
 to  
 6/1/1877



C

**MIXED US ISSUE 1869/1870 FRANKING**

**Dec 7, 1870 to Spain** carried on Guion Line's *Nebraska* (not *Manhattan* as endorsed) going via Queenstown 19, London 20, arriving Cadiz 29 showing a worn example of this cancel.

**This is one of 6 known 1869 US Issue 24¢ stamp uses to Spain.**

Postage of 28¢ paid the British progressive rate via France for 1/3 to 1/2 ounce.

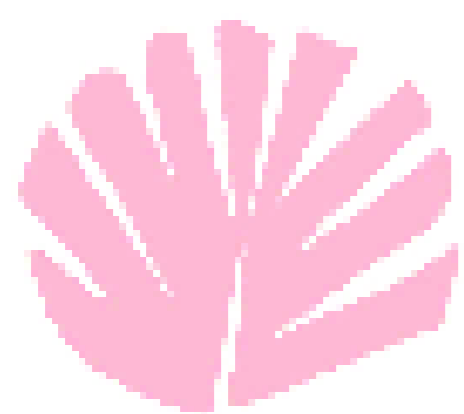




Leaf (nine petals)  
4/1/1868  
to  
8/12/1869

**1868 to Aspinwall (Colon), Panama** carried on Pacific Mail Steamship Company's *Henry Chaunsey*, arriving Aspinwall Oct 2.

From 1861 to 1886 Panama was part of the 'United States of Colombia' (U.S.C). It was one of nine sovereign states comprising the 'Granadine Federation'. Postage of 20¢ paid the double 10¢ steamship rate by American packet direct.



Duplicated



At the top right below addressees sumame.



**Aug 12, 1869 supplementary mail to Germany** carried on NGL Line's *Hermann* going via Bremen 25, arriving Cassel the same day.

**This is the only known mixed Issue 1869 2¢ and 3¢ stamps with an 1861-66 12¢ stamp** and is the latest known and a worn use of this cancel (in red as usual with supplementary mail)

Postage of 20¢ paid the 10¢ NGU direct mail rate via Bremen plus the 10¢ supplementary mail fee.



5 point star in  
centre of circle of  
diamonds

2/5/1868  
to  
2/8/1868



#### THE FIRST KNOWN INTRICATE GEOMETRIC NYCFM CANCEL DESIGN

**Feb 8, 1868 to Germany** carried on Inman Line's *City of London* (not *Ville de Paris* as endorsed) going via Queenstown 18, train via Aachen 20, arriving Frankfurt the same day.

**This is the latest of 2 covers known with this cancel.**

The cover bears three relatively clear strikes of a complex cancel which is rarely well struck.

Postage paid the 15¢ (per 1/2 ounce) North German Union closed mail rate.



8 variable wedges  
4/11/1868 to 5/13/1873



Originating handstamp



On the reverse

**ORIGINATING OUTSIDE NEW YORK CITY YET ATTRACTING A NYCFM CANCEL**

Originating Apr 11, 1868 in Puerto Rico to the US via St. Thomas arriving New York 21.

This is the sole known NYCFM cover bearing US and Danish West Indies (D.W.I.) stamps

The US 10¢ stamp paid the steamship postage to New York. The 3¢ DWI stamp paid the DWI postage.



Rosette  
9/1/1868 to 1/12/1870



Sep 3, 1868 mourning cover to Australia carried on US packet Atlantic Mail Steamship Company's Eagle to Colon, across the isthmus to Panama City 17, then via New Zealand, arriving Melbourne Oct 31.

This is 1 of 5 NYCFM uses known to Australia.

Postage paid the 22¢ rate by US packet to Panama, then British packet to Australia with 12¢ credited to GB and '6 pence more to pay' in Melbourne for ship letter postage.



Leaf (10 petals)

11/26/1868



Nov 26, 1868 to France carried on NGL Line's *Hermann* going via Southampton Dec 7. The cover shows six superlative strikes of the sole known use of this cancel.

Postage paid the 15¢ French treaty rate.



Leaf (6 petals)

3/10/1869  
to  
8/23/1870



In black as postage deemed insufficiently paid



Sep 15, 1869 to France carried on Cunard Line's *Russia* going via Queenstown 24, Calais, Paris and Lyon 26, arriving Montseux 27. Marked 'INSUFFICIENTLY PAID' as it weighed more than 1/4 ounce so treated as double weight requiring 2 times 15¢. No credit was given for the 18¢ paid so 30¢ was required (equivalent to 8 decimes x 2 = 16 decimes due - as noted).