



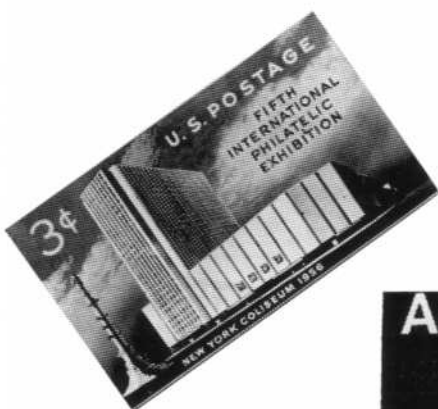
# *the Masonic Philatelist*

VOL. 12

APRIL 1956

NO. 8

**Welcome Fifth International Philatelic  
Exhibition April 28 - May 6**



# The MASONIC PHILATELIST

APRIL 1956  
VOL. 12 NO. 8

Published by  
The Ralph A. Barry - Al Van Dahl  
Publication Fund  
of The Masonic Stamp Club of New York

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## In and Around the Club

### Club Activities

A special meeting will be held on April 27th, instead of our regular meeting of May 4th. The idea of this meeting is to enable out-of-town members to get together the evening before the opening of Fipex. An interesting evening is assured to all that attend. The time will be 8 P. M., place Collectors Club, 22 East 35th Street, New York City.

Our booth at the 5th International Philatelic Exhibition in The New York Coliseum will be on the Fourth Floor Lounge number D.D. In front of the booth will be displayed some thirteen frames of Masonic cancels, etc. We will be looking for you. A ticket of admission to the Show is being sent to each of our members.

Bro. Sam Brooks and Bro. Dr. S.

## ★ MEETINGS ★

First Friday of Each Month  
Collectors Club Building  
22 East 35th Street

April 27th—Special meeting, Fipex  
Doings—Open House to all  
Masons.

May 18th—Annual Club Dinner at  
Masonic Club, 72 West 23rd  
street, New York City.

## In Memoriam

**BRO. Dr. SAMUEL GOLDBERG**  
May his soul find eternal rest.

Duffiels Swan will give a talk at Fipex on Masonic Philately. Time to be announced at the show.

Our Annual Masonic Stamp Club Dinner will be held on May 18th, at The Masonic Club, 72 West 23rd street, New York City. Keep that date in mind.

BRO. F. T. Anderson writes:—

"It has now been a year since I moved to California from Lincoln, Nebraska, having retired because of ill health. While I am not able to be too active, I feel I am much improved in health and have been getting back into stamp activities again. For a heart patient, stamp collecting is a God-send. Masonry too, is a big help and the two combined just can't be beat.

Please convey to the members, my thanks for the get well card which I received some time ago.

I have considerable time on my hands. If any of the club members are dealers or have large amounts of stamps to assort or soak, I would be glad to do some of it in exchange for some of the duplicates." His address is 788 North First street, San Jose, California.

## NEW MEMBERS

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501 West Front St., Oil City, Pa.  
Oil City Lodge #710, Oil City, Pa.  
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P. O. Box 217, Clifton, Ariz.  
Hamilton Lodge #120, Hamilton, N.Y.  
**FREDERICK W. THOMAS**  
777 Onderdonk Av., Brooklyn 27, N. Y.  
Tadmor Lodge #923, Ridgewood, N. Y.  
**H. F. GALLOWAY**  
Perry Rd., RR1, Aylmer East,  
Quebec, Canada.  
King Solomon #69, Aylmer, Quebec.

# 5th INTERNATIONAL PHILATELIC EXHIBITION



## A DATE WORTHWHILE KEEPING

We want to welcome all our Brother Philatelists to the biggest philatelic show ever held. The Masonic Stamp Club of New York is anxious to make your visit as pleasant as possible. We have provided a comfortable lounge number D.D. on the fourth floor in the New York Coliseum where you may meet your friends, relax, and obtain information about the show, about our city, or about Masonic activities.

The Masonic Stamp Club meets at the Collectors Club building at 22 East 35th street. You are welcome to visit our meetings on the first Fridays of each month, at 8 P. M.

The Show offers interesting events each day for your entertainment as well as for the ladies.

We, of the Masonic Stamp Club, want to be of every assistance to you. Visit our Lounge D.D. and permit us to assist you in any possible manner.

Fraternally yours,  
The Club.

## Four FIPEX Issues

The front cover of this Masonic Philatelist illustrates the four commemorative items which will be issued in compliment to FIPEX. Details regarding the four special items to be issued by the U. S. Post Office Department on the occasion of the Fifth International Philatelic Exhibition were announced recently by Postmaster General Arthur E. Summerfield. These four issues will be placed on "first day" sale at FIPEX April 28 to May 6, 1956 in the New York Coliseum.

**11 cent Souvenir Sheet** will be placed on sale on Saturday, April 28, 1956, the opening day of the exhibition. The sheet is 2- $\frac{7}{8}$  by 4- $\frac{1}{4}$  inches in dimen-

sion, arranged horizontally, printed on the flat bed press on pre-gummed paper. It is not perforated. The 3-cent (purple) and 8-cent (red and blue) Statue of Liberty stamps, series 1954-56, will be enclosed in a double outline border, framing the inscription, which will be printed in blue, the facsimile signature of Postmaster General Arthur E. Summerfield also will be printed in blue. The scroll work and the three stars in each corner of the sheet will be printed in red.

**3 cent Commemorative Stamp** will be placed on sale on Monday, April 30, 1956. The stamp will be 0.84 by 1.44 inches in dimension, arranged horizontally, printed by the rotary process, electric-eye perforated and issued in sheets of 50. The color of the stamp will be purple. The central design features the New York Coliseum with the Columbus Monument in the left foreground. Included in the wording is "Fifth International Philatelic Exhibition" and "New York Coliseum 1956."

**6-Cent Air Mail Stamped Envelope** will be placed on sale on Wednesday, May 2, 1956. It is an embossed envelope, No. 13 size (3 $\frac{3}{4}$  by 6 $\frac{3}{4}$  inches). The embossed stamp will be red and is 0.76 by 0.92 of an inch in dimension, arranged vertically. The central subject of the stamp is the artist's conception of an American Eagle in flight, forming a silhouette against billowing clouds. Included in the inscription is the word "FIPEX."

**2 cent Commemorative Postal Card** will be placed on sale on Friday, May 4, 1956. The new card will conform in dimension and style to the present 2 cent postal card except for the stamp. The stamp itself is an equilateral triangle pointing upward and measuring an inch and one-quarter on each side. It is printed in magenta and blue ink. The central design, which is white on a magenta background, depicts the arm of the Statue of Liberty holding the torch of Liberty. Across the upper part of the design is the word "FIPEX" in white Gothic letters. Under this in two lines are the words "Fifth International Philatelic Exhibition" in blue. This is the first postal card issued by the United States in two colors.

Stamp collectors desiring first day cancellations of the 11 cent Souvenir Sheet may send a reasonable number of addressed envelopes, accompanied

with a remittance for the sheets to be affixed (11 cents each) to the Postmaster, New York 1, N. Y. An enclosure of medium weight should be placed in each envelope. The address on envelopes to be serviced should be placed in the extreme lower left corner of the envelope. The envelope to the Postmaster should be endorsed "First Day Covers Souvenir Sheet." A similar procedure is to be followed by those desiring first day cancellations of the 3-cent FIPEX commemorative stamp. For the 6-cent air mail envelope, the full name and address should be sent. Note that the cost of these envelopes is 7 cents each. The same procedure should be followed by those desiring the 2-cent postal card which cost 2 cents each. Separate orders for each of these items, with separate remittances, should be sent. Do not combine orders for the various items.

## The Philatelic Lodge

No. 552

A. F. & A. M. of Victoria



By SAM BROOKS

Many of you who read these lines are aware of the existence of a duly chartered Masonic Lodge, founded by stamp collectors and known as The Philatelic Lodge. From time to time, "The Masonic Philatelist" has mentioned our Brethren in Australia. Now, as the feature writer would say, we have the whole story.

The Philatelic Lodge #552 A. F. & A. M. of Melbourne, Australia was formed under the jurisdiction of the United Grand Lodge of Victoria, and is the only Freemasons Lodge of Stamp Collectors in the world. The Lodge

was consecrated in June 1944 with 27 foundation members. One of Australia's best-known stamp dealers, the late Wor. Bro. Orlo Smith, was the Foundation Master.

To begin with, it is well to state that the information used to compile this short article was assembled from correspondence with the Lodge's first secretary, the late Wor. Bro. Haden Henshelwood, Foundation Secretary, the present secretary, Wor. Bro. F. J. Beverin, and our good friend, Wor. Bro. Max Kohane.

My first knowledge of the Lodge was in a news item in "Stamps" written by our Brother Harry Lindquist. Interested, I wrote to the Lodge and received a very cordial reply from Bro. Henshelwood, dated June 9th, 1945. He tells me of the formation of the Lodge and the adoption of a motto "Festina Lente" (hasten slowly), as a result of which "we are building up a steady membership comprising of sincerity and talent, which we feel sure will mutually benefit both the Craft and the devotees of our hobby."

From Bro. Beverin we learn that the inspiration which led to the formation of the Lodge was first born in a committee meeting of the then Philatelic Society of Victoria, now the Royal Philatelic Society of Victoria. A chance remark revealed the fact that the majority of the members of that committee were members of the Craft, although several individually were not aware of the fact.

Perhaps a word of explanation regarding this is in order. In all countries with Grand Lodges originating from English Charters, Masons do not wear distinguishing emblems of any kind publicly; no pins, no rings, no buttons; as we do in this country. You may not know a man is a Mason unless you meet him in a Lodge or are introduced to him as a member of the Fraternity.

At that meeting a desire was expressed that it would be a splendid move for all stamp collectors to meet in Masonic fellowship. Under the capable guidance of Wor. Bro. Henshelwood, stamp collectors from all parts of Melbourne and from other Philatelic Societies banded together to form the new Lodge. Only those of you who are very active in the Craft and who have been part of the formation of a new Lodge can understand the courage it took to do this work.

So we salute that band of 27 intrepid Craftsmen who joined together, and in harmony worked to build what

is today, 12 years later, one of the flourishing Lodges in Australia, with a membership of 100.

As the Lodge grew in numbers and in influence among Freemasons, it was found that many Brethren, although in sympathy with the aims of the Philatelic Lodge, were averse to giving up membership in their Mother Lodge in order to join.

The problem of closer relationship with these Brethren was solved with the formation in 1946 of the Masonic Philatelic Society of Victoria. This organization, similar to our own Masonic Stamp Club of New York, is open to all Master Masons and is not limited to members of the Philatelic Lodge. Thus, two organizations working together, one the Lodge, the other the Society, are providing for the needs of stamp collectors who also are members of the Craft. That they are succeeding is amply demonstrated by the continuous growth of both organizations.

Thirty percent of the members of the Philatelic Lodge are Life Governors of the Freemasons' Home of Victoria. Fifteen percent are Life Governors of the Freemasons' Hospital of Melbourne. And from voluntary contributions, a Lodge Benevolent Fund has been built up, which at the present time stands at over £1300 (thirteen hundred pounds).

Our Brethren in Australia have labored well. They have shown that Freemasonry and Philately are a happy team, and while they carry on their philatelic activities in the Society, they do not neglect their work in the Lodge. From their first annual report we learn that the Worshipful Master gave a lecture on "The Symbolism of the Consecration Ceremony." Other lectures were given on "The Sacred Symbol" and "The First Great Light."

The following statement in one of their Lodge notices is of interest: "We believe that Philately affords a distinct approach to the study of the liberal arts and sciences, and we sincerely hope that the new lodge will develop fields of service in that direction."

Through the years, the Lodge has provided many opportunities for the Brethren to gather socially. At many of these affairs the ladies were invited, and several such meetings included Philatelic programs. I have before me the Programme of a "Ladies Night and Philatelic Exhibition." This consisted of a fine display of stamps mounted on 160 pages, with short talks

by several of the exhibitors. Then there were vocal and instrumental specialties and a magic show. Under the heading of "Toasts and Harmony" we find a little note: "The more we are together, the happier we'll be." First a toast to "The King and the Craft." Then followed toasts to "Absent Brethren," "The Ladies," "The Visiting Brethren," and finally "The Tylers Toast." What a pleasant evening our Brothers and their Ladies had.

One of the booklets had a short essay entitled, "The Square and the Stamp."

"What has Freemasonry to do with Philately? Much in many ways. Silent communication, information and service are ideals of the Craft closely related to the mission of the Postage Stamp. The Liberal Arts & Sciences; the hidden mysteries of nature and science; the diversity of objects that decorate and adorn Creation; the beneficent laws of the Almighty Creator; the Cardinal Virtues; and the noble orders of Architecture are well illustrated by this universal symbol of communication. History, Geography, Biography—lives humanities—take on a new meaning when read within the glow of the Stamp and the Square. Some find it difficult to relate the one to the other. Of course, you must be initiated into both these branches of progressive science. The Masonic Philatelic Society endeavors to initiate the uninitiated into Philately, seeks to give interested Craftsmen fuller opportunities for Philatelic fellowship and at the same time hopes to bring to the Craft a new field of intriguing research."

Interesting? We think so, and plenty of thought for every member of the Masonic Stamp Club of New York.

So, in closing, we hail our Brethren from Australia. Our 22 year old Club congratulates these younger groups. May they prosper and continue to bring to both Freemasonry and Philately, the freshness of their thoughts and the vigor of their accomplishments.

#### CHANGE OF ADDRESS

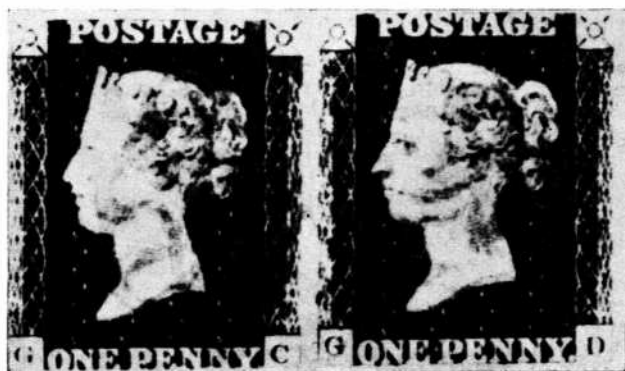
Charles L. Clark, 5063 13th Ave.,  
Sacramento 20, Calif.

Ray Simmons, 120 Country Club  
Drive, Elmira, N. Y.

Harry L. Steinberg, 710 Peachtree,  
Atlanta, Ga.

Herman Poblner, 4600 Fieldston  
Rd., Riverdale 71, N. Y.

## ***J. Perkins, Native Son, Engraved Penny Black***



### **JACOB PERKINS**

St. Peter's Lodge, Newburyport, Mass.

Initiated	June 10, 1794
Passed	June 15, 1794
Raised	June 15, 1794

The Fleet Street establishment was of considerable capacity, according to Thomas Gill, in 1839 there were nearly forty "improved rolling-presses" continuously employed by Perkins, Bacon and Petch at that time.

The first prints of the penny black line engraved stamp was issued May 6, 1840, and was followed shortly afterward by the two penny blue. In 1841 the black penny stamp was discontinued and the penny stamp appeared in various shades of red, orange and brown. From the correspondence of Perkins, Bacon and Petch at this time, it appears that many experiments were made with inks which could not be eradicated and inks that would dissolve before the postmark, in the event of this kind of forgery being attempted which would make the stamp appear unused. Also there were heated discussions between the members of the firm as to colors and shades, such as whether to use prussiate of potash in fugitive ink, and whether to print with oil or without, the texture of the gum for the adhesive backs and the number of first impressions, and so on in endless detail throughout the whole of 1840. In the settling of all these matters, Jacob Perkins must have had his say in the discussions, but his valuable advice in the one subject which he really understood is not especially recorded and this important work, it may

be said, was Jacob Perkins' swan song of worldly endeavor.

In Dendy Marshall's "The British Post Office from its beginnings to end of 1925" we find an enlargement from the proof die used for the first penny postage stamps of Great Britain 1840. This die was in use until 1855 when it was re-engraved by William Humphrys as Die II. In the proof specimen shown, the corners are not yet completed with the Maltese cross and plate letters.

### ***Jacob Perkins***

**Master Engraver - Master Mason**

By SAM BROOKS

Some time ago Brother Clarence W. Brazer advised me that he read somewhere that Jacob Perkins, the famous - engraver, he of the firm of Perkins, Bacon & Petch, was a Mason. We thanked Clarence for the tip but pressure of other business prevented us from following up the lead. Recently, we had some business to attend to at the Library and with some free time we checked on Jacob Perkins. Our inquiries led us to a book published in 1943 by the Historical Society of Pennsylvania, in Philadelphia, titled "Jacob Perkins, His Inventions, His Times and His Contemporaries," written by Greville and Dorothy Bathe.

There on page 23, was a note stating that Jacob Perkins became a member of the Newburyport Commandery K.T. and assisted in conferring the degrees of Red Cross and Knight Templar.

Jacob Perkins was born in New-



buryport, Mass., July 9, 1766. He had meager schooling but early showed promise of inventive talent. At 13, he was apprenticed to a goldsmith and worked at the trade till he was 17. He learned how to engrave dies, and made dies for copper coins minted by the Commonwealth of Massachusetts. He also did engraving of Bank Note plates. In the course of his experiments he devised a steel check-plate for printing bank notes, which made counterfeiting more difficult.

In 1819 we find him in England, establishing a firm for the manufacture of plates for printing bank notes. This firm was Perkins, Fairman and Heath.

With the introduction of the Penny Post, Perkins, now of the firm of Perkins, Bacon and Petch, made the master dies and printed the first British stamps, the famous "Penny Black." In a letter written Dec. 3, 1839, they stated they would "charge 8 pence per thousand stamps, exclusive of paper, which, we understand would be supplied us."

March 18, 1840, in a letter from Mr. H. L. Wickham to Rowland Hill, it was stated that Perkins, Bacon and Petch, were to receive  $7\frac{1}{2}$  pence per 1000 stamps, which included gumming the sheets, making the plates, and every other charge except the paper, to be supplied water-marked by the government.

Thus, Jacob Perkins with his invention of the siderographic patent for transferring an engraving on steel, assisted materially in the establishing of the first postage stamp.

Perkins was a member of St. Peter's Lodge, Newburyport, Mass. Initiated June 10, 1794. Passed June 15, 1794 and Raised the same day. He died in London, England July 30, 1849, leaving his work on stamps and stamp collecting to this day.

#### A 1947 GUEST RECORD

(The following article was written by Bro. Morris Strauss in 1947 at the conclusion of the Centenary International Philatelic Exposition. He spent many hours of work to make a statistical report of the places from whence visitors to our booth came).

Here is his report:

Some of the most cherished treasures in the fund of happiness are memories and reminiscences. The Masonic Stamp Club of New York has stored up a great deal of this treasure in the time between May 17 and May 25, 1947. In those nine days there

came and paid admission to the greatest stamp exhibition ever held, enough people to equal the population of a city like Fort Worth, Texas or Jacksonville, Florida. At this exhibition, held at Grand Central Palace, in New York City, to which only extreme superlative adjectives of splendor and magnificence can be applied, the Masonic Stamp Club had a lounge; a comparatively small space on the third floor of the Palace with a few chairs, a table and some stamp filled frames, where a tired and weary traveller could rest and relax.

There came many people to this lounge as is evidenced by the recorded names in The Guests Record; people from all parts of the world representing every continent on the globe. The signatures, 951 in all, give evidence of the extensiveness of the Masonic Fraternity, as well as the popularity of the greatest and most universal of hobbies—Stamp Collecting.

To a student of hand writing there is an unlimited fund of material for study and speculation as to the traits and characteristics of the individuals who signed their respective names. A study of the contents of this Guests Record reveals the following facts: that the 951 signatories came from 434 different Masonic Lodges, also that 284 did not mention what lodge they belong to; that they reside in 317 cities situated in 35 of the United States and some came from 14 cities of foreign countries. Of the foreign visitors—three came from Canada, one from Newfoundland, one from Peru, one from Egypt, two from Australia, one from China, two from the Philippine Islands and three from England. Of the Masonic Stamp Club nearly three quarters of the membership were there, the absentees being mostly those who reside at some distance from New York. Truly a very proud and excellent showing. A thrill to remember for many years to come. To all who were there a warm and fraternal welcome and to the many who did not come a hearty invitation to visit us at our regular meetings where we may grasp the hand that signs the Guests Record.

#### CUBA TO HONOR GRAND LODGE

Cuba is honoring its Masonic Grand lodge by the release July 24 of 4 and 12 centavos air mails, according to word reaching Western Stamp Collector.

# Washington In Postal History

By HARRY M. KONWISER



George Washington took an active interest in the post office in the early days of his active career, especially in the winter of 1787-88, when the excitement was running high over the possible rejection or adoption of the new Constitution. It was charged that Postmaster General Hazard was holding back newspaper deliveries.

The opponents of the Constitution blamed the Federalist postal system for their defeat, alleging the suppression of information had damaged their cause. Hazard denied interfering with the news developed as the citizens were considering the new Constitution, and evidence, adduced at the time and later indicates Hazard was not interfering with the delivery of the newspapers. The post offices delivered almost all of the newspapers in this period, and many newspaper publishers were postmasters (or vice versa).

Ebenezer Hazard was appointed to receive and forward mail by the New York Provincial Congress on May 3, 1775. On July 26, 1775, the New York Provincial Congress passed a resolution, addressed to the Continental Congress, that Hazard should be made Postmaster at New York. Hazard, in November 1776, wrote Congress asking for an increase in compensation, stating that he was not able to employ an assistant; that he was "obliged to leave the city of New York to keep near the headquarters of the army, who are almost the only persons for whom letters now come by post."

Hazard, in his communications to the Continental Congress, recited the extraordinary difficulties and fatigues to which he was subjected by the frequent removal of the army, and his

having been obliged for want of a horse, which could not be procured, to follow the army on foot from place to place, apparently with his post office sack carried by a servant.

Naturally, Washington was fully aware of the Hazard activities, in the Revolutionary period, since Hazard was a Surveyor-General, and then became the head of the Post Office Department in 1782. Hazard remained in office until September 26, 1789, six months after Washington was inaugurated. Was Washington playing politics in 1789 in not appointing Hazard to the office he was serving so well? No doubt Hazard reacted like most public officials of today when they are not reappointed.

Washington was well acquainted with the postal system since he objected, the record would indicate, to the changing of some coach routes to horse routes. Hazard declared he was acting for the best interests of the service in taking the horse rider against the coaches, citing the costs for services were reduced by the use of horse and rider as against the coach routes. Hazard was of the opinion the poor roads of the period made horse rider service faster.

Washington's interest in the postal system began in the War period, as early as 1776, for he received a letter from Richard Henry Lee, a well known patriot of his day. In this letter, dated June 13, 1776, Lee wrote Washington "that a certain Mr. Eustace, now in New York, but some time ago with Lord Dunmore, is acquainted with the practice of taking letters out of the Post Office in Virginia and carrying them to Lord Dunmore for his perusal." Lee, then a member of the Continental Congress Post Office Committee, asked Washington to give him in writing "all the knowledge he has about this business."

In the 1776 period, the service to the army was severely criticized by General Anthony Wayne ("Mad Anthony"), by General Gates, and others. In Pennsylvania, the Tories were troublesome to mail deliveries, and General Gates, writing to Congress, said that while mail was free to soldiers in the service, the officers were not enjoying this privilege, and he wrote "as gentlemen and officers, we expect it."

Reading the Continental Congress



minutes, as must be done to know the early postal history of the United States, one comes across reference to Washington's comment on "the want of money to support the express." (The term "express" referred to the post). The Maryland division of the service was complaining about the lack of money for the riders, making it extremely difficult to forward letters throughout Maryland.

General Knox, in February 1784, in commenting on the Washington correspondence from Mount Vernon to New York and Philadelphia, showed a slant on the service of the day, not akin to the Herodotus reference\* to letter carriers. Knox wrote: The bad weather and the great care which the post riders take of themselves prevented your letters of the 3rd and the 9th of last month from getting into my hands till the 10th of this month."

Following the beginnings of the United States, at least from April 30, 1789, on, Washington was in daily touch with the postal system. As the first president of the newly-created republic, he was familiar with the Hazard record, was made aware that contractors who had operated mail routes did not rate Ebenezer Hazard a blood brother; Washington appointed Samuel Osgood to head the post office operations, September 26, 1789, and appointed Timothy Pickering to succeed Osgood, August 12, 1791. The latter served in the second Washington cabinet until June 2, 1794, at which time he was succeeded by Joseph Habersham, who took office on February 25, 1795.

Congress was, of course, showing proper interest in the postal system and discussing rates—first in 1789, doubling the then current rates, and in 1790, doing an about-face by reducing the rates to half of the pre-war rates. Cornwallis surrendered on October 19, 1781. On the previous day, Congress created the first actual rates for all distances in the new republic—as follows:

For distances not exceeding 60 miles, one pennyweights light grain; upward of 60 and not exceeding 100, two pennyweights; upward of 100 and not exceeding 200, two pennyweights, 16 grains; and so on, increasing 16 grains for each 100 miles. Single letters (one sheet letters) could be sent to Europe for 4 pennyweights, while letters to and from members of Congress were carried free.

Rates were changed many times by Congress until the advent of the "5"

and "10" rates of 1845, which developed first many "PAID & 5" as well as "PAID & 10" handstamps. Prepayment by use of adhesive postage stamps was made compulsory in 1856, on domestic mail.

The postmarks of the Washington Period are featured by straight line postmarks as "NEW YORK" in two lines, and "PHILA DELPHIA" in two lines. There were about 75 post offices in operation in 1789, and readers who might seek the postmarks of letters of the 1789 period may find it difficult to acquire some town handstamps.

Washington named post offices—other than Washington City (now Washington, D. C.)—appear on the official records as being at Pennsylvania, Kentucky, North Carolina, and Georgia. These are on the 1789 list. Many of the Eastern states had county names honoring Washington. The 1809 list of Washington named post offices lists offices, as previous, likewise similar named offices in New Hampshire, Virginia, Mississippi Territory, and New Jersey. There are many more today, of course. Which was the first after Washington City? Georgia historians put up a good battle for this honor a few years ago, with Washington, New Hampshire putting up a good argument, since its incorporation as a city seemed to give it priority over the Georgia dates of organization. Neither of these protagonists were debating which was the first Washington named post office, and therefore your writer left the field of battle without opinion and prejudice, deeming the entire verbal dispute as being immaterial, etc., etc., as the lawyers avow when other words fail them.

No doubt a collection of Washington town marks might be a collectors' item; it might fit into the planning of any philatelic library, or any place housing Washington material, (as the George Washington Shrine, Tappan, N. Y.). This Shrine features a frame containing United States stamps depicting Washington. The framed stamps were presented to the Washington Shrine by the Masonic Stamp Club of New York.

\* Herodotus, the Greek historian, wrote (in 484 B. C.), no doubt mindful of some of the letter carriers known to him: "Neither snow nor rain nor heat nor gloom of night stays these couriers from the swift completion of their appointed rounds." The quotation was carved on the facade of the New York Post Office building at the suggestion of President Woodrow Wilson.

# George Washington

Soldier - Statesman - Mason

by

SAM BROOKS

To attempt to do justice to the subject of our article, would require much more space than is available to us. At any rate, many books have been written about various phases of Washington's life, and every school-boy could tell the story of his life if called upon to do so. However, very little has been written about Washington's Masonic career.

On Saturday evening, November 4, 1752, at a regular stated meeting of "the Lodge at Fredericksburg," George Washington was made an Entered Apprentice Mason.

In the Lodge ledger, now bound with the early minute book, is recorded under date of November 6, 1752 "Received from Mr. Geo. Washington for his entrance L 2.35."

This book, together with the Bible upon which our Brother was obligated is still carefully preserved, and is exhibited by the Lodge upon special occasions.

In the minutes of March 3rd, 1753, is recorded "George Washington passed a Fellow Craft." And again on August 4th, 1753, is written, "George Washington raised a Master Mason."

The Lodge records indicate that Washington attended a meeting on September 1st. He is next present on January 4, 1755. During this period, he was away most of the time attending to military duties.

Late in 1753, he was sent by Governor Dinwiddie of Virginia to order the French out of the Ohio Valley. And in 1754 he headed a relief expedition to Ft. Duquesne, but was besieged in Ft. Necessity and compelled to retire. In 1755 he helped to save the remnant of Braddock's army after the ambush and defeat by the French and Indians. After this period, Lodge records are missing.

Meanwhile political events were taking place which eventually brought on the Revolutionary War, and the emergency of Washington as a soldier and patriot.

In April of 1775 the first battle of the war took place at Lexington-Concord. In Philadelphia the Second Continental Congress was in session and on May 10th voted to raise 20,000 men for defense, and chose George Washington to lead them.

Then followed the various battles of

Long Island, Harlem Heights and White Plains, compelling Washington to retreat across to New Jersey and then to Pennsylvania.

In 1777, a convention met to form the Grand Lodge of Virginia. It was recommended that "His Excellency General George Washington as a proper person to fill the office of Grand Master." Being off with the Army, he could hardly accept the office.

Busy as he was during the next few years, it is known that he sought relaxation by attendance at Masonic meetings held by various Army Lodges.

In 1779 a movement originated at a meeting of American Union Lodge held in Morristown, N. J. to select a Grand Master over all the Brethren in the United States. January 13, 1780 the Grand Lodge of Pennsylvania voted on this question and suggested George Washington as General Grand Master. However the matter was dropped when the Grand Lodge of Massachusetts objected.

Although the War ended with Cornwallis' surrender on October 19, 1781, the Treaty of Peace was not signed at Paris until September 3, 1783. General Washington then resigned his commission and returned to private life.

In June of 1784 he was elected an Honorary Member of Lodge #39 at Alexandria, Va. This Lodge was working under a charter granted by the Grand Lodge of Pennsylvania.

By this time the Grand Lodge of Virginia was formed, and Lodge #39 petitioned this Body for a charter under their jurisdiction. In this petition George Washington was selected as Worshipful Master, so that the charter granted as of April 28, 1788, named him as Master. The Lodge was named Alexandria Lodge and given No. 22. This Lodge continues to work although the name was changed in 1805 to Alexandria-Washington Lodge.

Meanwhile Washington was elected President of the United States and prepared to journey to New York for his inauguration.

On April 30, 1789, on the balcony of Federal Hall, the oath of President was administered to Washington by Chancellor Robert R. Livingston, who was then Grand Master of Masons of New York. Major Jacob Marton, Master of St. Johns Lodge No. 1 provided the Lodge Bible for the oath. This Bible is carefully preserved by the Lodge.

It is significant that our First Presi-

dent took the oath of office on a Bible belonging to a Masonic Lodge, administered by a Grand Master and while he was Worshipful Master of Alexandria Lodge No. 22.

Washington was reelected President in 1792 and at the end of this term retired to private life.

On September 18, 1793, the Corner Stone of the Capitol of the United States was laid by George Washington in a beautiful Masonic Ceremony. Taking part in the ceremonies were the

Grand Lodge of Maryland, and Washington's Lodge, Alexandria No. 22.

On Saturday, December 14, 1799, after a brief illness Washington passed away. He was buried with Masonic honors, under the supervision of members of his own Lodge.

It is nearly 200 years, since in that little Lodge at Fredericksburg a candidate for Freemasonry did indeed dedicate his life to the service of God and became a true and faithful Brother among us.

## 'Crossing The Hot Sands'

By F. T. ANDERSON

There are many interesting by-paths that can be taken by a Masonic Philatelist. Of special interest to those who are Shriners would be an album devoted to the desert. A good title for such an album would be "Crossing The Hot Sands." On the title page would be a good place to display the Shrine emblem in colors.

A page showing Shrine emblems on stamps could include Yemen and Egypt with a scimitar, Turkey and several others with a crescent and stars, the sphynx on Egyptian stamps. French Morocco, A33, pictures the city of Fez, where the fez is said to have originated and is still made.

Another page (or more) could be used to show desert scenes. Algeria, Morocco, in fact nearly all the Northern African countries have many good examples. Design AP4 of French West Africa will appeal to those who remember the start of their journey across the burning sands.

By far the largest part of my Shrine album is devoted to camels. Until one begins digging, it is hard to realize there are so many stamps picturing camels. I have 65 pages with something over 500 stamps and quite a few empty spaces, because even some of the cheaper stamps are hard to find. Camel stamps on cover are especially interesting and not too easy to come by. Sudan alone makes an interesting study because most of their stamps picture camels. It is surprising to find how many people do not know that there is a camel on our own Ft. Bliss stamp.

The check list is, I think, quite complete until 1954 as shown in Scott's 1955 catalog. However, there are probably some numbers missing and I

would like to hear from anyone who finds them.

Check list of "Camels on Stamps":

From Scott's 1955 Catalog

Aden 17, 26, 45  
Algeria 79, 91, 92, 93, 102, 249  
Cameroons C9  
Cyrenaica C6-8  
Dahomey C11-13  
Egypt 53, 65, 81, 285  
Eritrea 128, 158, 160, 168, C1-3  
France, Off. Morocco 126, 127, CB2-3, CB12-13  
French Sudan 21-60, C11-13  
French West Africa 4-7  
Ifni 51-53  
India 157  
India, Scinde District 62-63  
Indo-China C20  
Iraq 6, 8, 12, 06, 08, 020, 036, 011, 023, 052  
Israel 27  
Italian Colonies 24, 27, 30, 33, 36, 39  
Lebanon 225-227, C149a  
Libia B13, B21, B28, B46, C18, C20, C22, C36-8, C25, N11-15, 2N12-14, EB1-2  
Mauretania 76-100, B9-11, B13-14, C11-13  
Mongolia 73  
Niger 1-28, C11-13, J9-21  
Nyassa 33-41, 44-46, 50, 51-53, 70-78, 81-84, 94-96  
Obock 44a, 45, 60-64  
Pakistan, Bahawalpur 02, 010, 012  
Russia 441, 446  
Saudi Arabia 187-191  
Senegal C7-11, C22-24  
Somali Coast 4, 5, 21, 22, 32-33F, 40-45, 55-60, 70-76, 2 Vichy  
Somaliland Protectorate 128, 130, 131  
Spain, Off. Morocco 93-98, 171, 192-3  
Spanish West Africa 4-5, 8-9, 12-13, 16, C2-8  
Spanish West Sahara 1-12, 24-35, 52, 53, 55, 57-58, 60-64, B16-18, C9, C11, C13, C15  
Sudan, about 80% picture camels  
Syria M4-10  
Tannu Tuva 22, 24, several not listed by Scott  
Tripolitania C43-C48  
Tunisia 98-114, 137-142, 144, 146, 150-152, 154-162, 188, 204, 206, B47-53, B82  
Upper Senegal & Niger 18-34  
Upper Volta 1-42  
United States 976

# MASONIC CANCELLATIONS ON EARLY U. S. STAMPS

By DR. S. DUFFIELD SWAN

## Part 6.

The following listing of Post Offices known to have issued Masonic cancellations shows the stamp used, the Postmaster, if he has been established as a Mason, the Swan Classification of cancellation type, and the Rarity Scale:

Post Office	Stamp	Postmaster	Mason	Class	Rarity
Port Huron, Mich	147	William Hartsuff		IV	1
Putney, Vt.	65	Alexis B. Hewitt		IVB	1
Quincy, Mass.	65	John B. Bass	M.	I & II	1, 2 & 5
Reliance, O.	65			IV	1
Richmond, Va	65	X		IV	1
Rochester, N. H.	114	Goe. B. Roberts		IV	1
Rockaway, N. J.	94	Henry Dalrymple Tuttle	M.	XV	2
Richmond, Va.	65	John B. Kilburn	M.	IX	1, 3 & 4
Saratoga Springs, N. Y.	65	Benj. Franklin Judson	M.	IV	2
St. Joseph, Mich	65			IV	1
St. Paul, Minn.	147	Joseph Wheelock		IV	2
Salem, Mass.	158	--		IB	2
Sharon, Pa.	(1930)	(Paul Wentz, a collector)		IB & XV	5
Shenandoah, Va.	114			I	1
Shoreham, Vt.	65	Geo. L. Deming		IVB	2
Smith Road, O.	65	Not an official post office in this period		V	1
South Wilbraham, Mass.	65	Horton H. Hardwick		I	2
South Yarmouth, Mass.	65	Peleq P. Akin		XV	3
Springfield Crossroads, Pa.	65	Timothy S. Cowles		VIII	1
Stroudsburg, Pa.	114	Michael M. Burnett		IV	1
Stuart, Ia.	145	H. C. Trout		IV	1
Syracuse, N. Y.	184	Austin C. Chase	M.	VIB	4
The Glen, N. Y.	65	David Whitaker		XV	2
Union City, Ind.	65	Valentine Thompson		V	1
Unionville, Conn.	147				1
Vermont, Ill.	114	John H. Hunter		IVB	1
Warren, N. H.	65			I	
Watertown, Mass.	114	Archibald McMaster		IVB	1
West Brookfield, Mass.	112	Ezra Hutchins Blair		IV	1
West Chelmsford, Mass.	114	Christopher Roby		IV	1
Westchester, Pa.	114	Wm. B. Darlington		IV	2
Westford, Mass.	114	John B. Fletcher		IV	2
Whitehall, N. Y.	114	Horatio N. Parke		IV	2
Willistown, Vt.	27	Truman A. Chittenden	M.	III	1
Wilmington, Del.	161	X		IV	2
Wilton, N. H.	94	Nathan Flint	M.	VIII	1
Winterport, Me.	146	Geo. S. Silsby		V	1
Woffborough, N. H.	136				1
Wooster, O.	114	Addison McClure		V	2
Worcester, Mass.	184	Gen. Josiah Pickett		X	2
Young America, Ill.	114	John E. Willett		IV	1
Zanesville, O.	65	W. C. Morehead		V	2
R. P. O.					
Billings & Helena	210			IVB	1
Boston & Springfield	(PC)			XV	1
Lincoln & Con.	252			XV	1
N. Y. Central	114			IV	1

(THE END)

In our last issue we spoke about the 175th Anniversary Grand Lodge F. & A. M. — State of New York and the set of three Masonic Cachets and Cancellations at \$1.00 per set. These are unusual covers to own, therefore do not neglect to send to MASONIC CACHETS, Pleasantville, New York for them.