



# The Masonic Philatelist

VOL. 27

NOVEMBER 1970

NO. 3



*Happy Thanksgiving*

# The MASONIC PHILATELIST

NOVEMBER 1970

VOL. 27

NO. 3

★ ★ ★ ★

Published By

The Ralph A. Barry - Al Van Dahl

PUBLICATION FUND

of the Masonic Stamp Club of New York, Inc.  
22 East 35th Street, New York, N.Y. 10016

★ ★ ★ ★ ★

ROY T. KETCHAM

Editor

Jules Cass Emanuel Reggel Irwin M. Yarry  
Associate Editors

★ ★ ★ ★ ★

MASONIC STAMP CLUB OF NEW YORK, INC.  
OFFICERS 1970-1971

President ..... Edwin Mayer  
1st Vice-President ..... Louis Bernstein  
2nd Vice-President ..... George H. Wettach  
Secretary ..... Robert A. Smith  
Treasurer ..... Joseph Munk  
Chaplain ..... Emanuel Reggel

## BOARD OF DIRECTORS

### ONE YEAR —

R. T. Ketcham, P. Rosenbaum, Yale J. Shapiro.

### TWO YEARS —

E. M. Reggel, I. M. Yarry, E. Milnor Peck

### Three Years

### THREE YEARS —

Phil Gold, Norman H. Sehlmeier, Stanley A. Salomon

★ ★ ★ ★ ★

## COMMITTEES

Membership ..... Norman Sehlmeier  
Publicity ..... Joseph H. Levinsohn  
Cachet ..... E. Milnor Peck - J. N. Kane  
Dinner ..... Irwin M. Yarry  
Slides ..... Louis Bernstein  
Financial ..... Norman Sehlmeier,  
Yale Shapiro, George H. Wettach  
Program ..... Stanley Salomon, Louis Bernstein

The Masonic Stamp Club of New York was organized in 1934 for the purpose of encouraging research and study in Masonic Philately, and to establish bonds of good fellowship among Masons who are stamp collectors. The need for the organization has proved itself through the years with its ever increasing membership and the formation of other Masonic stamp clubs in the United States.

## ★ MEETINGS ★

First Friday of Every Month  
(Except July and August)

COLLECTORS CLUB BUILDING  
22 East 35th St., N.Y., N.Y. 10017

## ON THE COVER

The 6¢ stamp, commemorating the 350th anniversary of the landing of the Mayflower will be issued November 21st with first day ceremonies at Plymouth, Massachusetts, where the Pilgrim colony was established December 26, 1620. The vertical design by Mark English of Georgetown, Connecticut, shows a group of Pilgrims in black and white, with the ship in the background. Vertical lettering at the right is "1620 The Landing of the Pilgrims," and across the bottom is "U.S. Postage 6 Cents."

## CLUB TO BE AT A.S.D.A. SHOW

The Masonic Stamp Club of New York, Inc. is again participating in the annual A.S.D.A. National Postage Stamp Show. They are one of twenty societies that will have a lounge. Again this year, Masonic cachets will be available. Brother Yale Shapiro is in charge of organizing the booth and assigning the volunteers to man it. As always, many old friends are expected to stop by to renew acquaintances. It is also hoped that collectors who belong to the Masonic Order and not members of our club will join.

This event is the largest annual stamp show in the United States. The twenty-second A.S.D.A. show will again be held in the Exposition Rotunda of Madison Square Garden in New York City. It is scheduled for November 20, 21, and 22. The hours on Friday and Saturday will be from 10:00 a.m. to 9:00 p.m. On Sunday the doors will open at 1:00 p.m. and the show will conclude at 8:00 p.m. Admission will be \$1.50 for adults and 75¢ for children.

An exhibit containing 400 frames will be shown. The frames will contain presentations of the United States Post Office Department, United Nations Postal Administration, The Smithsonian Institution, The Cardinal Spellman Philatelic Museum, The American First Day Cover Society, foreign governments, and other stamp societies.

Post offices will be set up by the United States, and the United Nations. Both will issue a new release to coincide with the show. The U.S. Post Office will place a 6¢ "25th Anniversary of the United Nations" stamp into circulation. The United Nations is planning a "Peace, Justice and Progress" set. The two post offices will also place other commemoratives and regular issues on sale at face value. These will be stamps that have been issued during the past year and have not been sold out by the post offices.

Leading stamp publications, dealers and accessories manufacturers will also have booths.



### MAJOR GENERAL JOHN SULLIVAN

A U.S. stamp, No. 657, was issued June 17, 1929 commemorating the 150th anniversary of the "Sullivan Expedition" of the Revolutionary War and honoring the memory of Major General John Sullivan who led the punitive expedition against the Six Nations of Indians in Central New York and the Finger Lakes region.

Predatory attacks on the settlers and border settlements were keeping the people in constant alarm and terror. The Indians had large crops of corn and other vegetables, not for themselves alone, but for supplies to the British army. By the destruction of these crops the Indians would be driven back upon the British garrisons at Niagara and Oswego and thus increase the expense to the English government in carrying out the war. General Washington sent General Sullivan with about 5,000 men in the summer of 1779 to rout the Indians and British, burn the Indian villages and lay waste to the country to prevent their return.

John Sullivan was born February 17, 1740, at Somersworth, New Hampshire (some sources give his birthplace as Berwick, Maine, located across the river from Somersworth). He had a good education under the direction of his father; then went to Portsmouth, N.H. and read law with Hon. Isaac Livermore until being admitted to the bar. He commenced the practice of law at Durham, N.H. which was his residence until his death.

John Sullivan was made a Mason in historic St. John's Lodge No. 1, Portsmouth, N.H. He received the E.A. and F.C. degrees on March 19, 1767 and the M.M. degree on December 28, 1768. He attended lodge as often as he could although the journey from Durham

usually meant an overnight stay in Portsmouth.

We find him in 1772 as major of a New Hampshire regiment. In the spring of 1774 he was in the Provincial Assembly of New Hampshire and in September 1774 and 1775 he was a delegate to the Continental Congress. That body appointed him one of the eight original Continental brigadier generals in June 1775 and major general in July 1776. He served at the siege of Boston, the relief of American forces in Canada, the battles of Long Island, Trenton, Princeton, Brandywine and Germantown, and wintered at Valley Forge. He was at the siege of Newport, R.I. in August, 1778. He granted permission to brethren under his command to join in the Festival of St. John on December 28, 1778.

With Sullivan's expedition in 1779 was a military Lodge of Masons, No. 19. Its warrant was granted on May 18, 1779 by the Grand Lodge of Pennsylvania. Col. Thomas Proctor was its first master. Sullivan, like Gen. Washington, was a worldly man but very devout in his belief of a Supreme Being. With a sizeable number of Masons in his troops he was assured that those who died or were killed in battle would be given proper burial by men who believed in Almighty God. The only large battle of the campaign was fought on Sunday, August 29, 1779 at Newtown (near where Elmira now is) when the Indians under Joseph Brant and Tories under Sir John Johnson were defeated. At the close of the campaign in November, Gen. Sullivan asked leave to retire from the army.

Sullivan's later life was devoted largely to public affairs. In 1780-81 he was a delegate to Congress; 1782-86 he was attorney-general of New Hampshire; 1786-87 he was President of the State of New Hampshire (at that time the chief executive was not called governor); 1788 he was Speaker of the House of Representatives of New Hampshire and president of the convention that ratified the Constitution of the United States; 1789 he was a presidential elector and voted for General Washington for President of the United States. In March 1789 he was elected president of the state for the third time; and President Washington appointed him Judge of the U.S. District Court of New Hampshire, an office he held until his death.

Also in 1789, on July 8, the newly formed Grand Lodge of New Hampshire chose Bro. Sullivan to be Grand Master. Up to this time he had never been Master of a Lodge. On Dec. 3,

1789 St. John's Lodge No. 1 elected him Master and he was installed on December 24 in Stavers Tavern where the Lodge met. He was seated in the Grand East on April 8, 1790. While serving as Grand Master he also presided over his old Lodge in Portsmouth. In the fall of 1790 the alarming state of his health no longer permitted him to serve as Grand Master. On resigning he expressed thanks and acknowledgement to the Grand Lodge for the honor conferred on him. He also resigned as president of the state on account of ill health.

In 1780 Harvard University honored Sullivan with a Master of Arts degree; and Dartmouth conferred the Doctor of Laws degree on him in 1789.

Bro. Sullivan died in Durham, New Hampshire on January 23, 1795. A monument erected to his memory was dedicated in Durham, N.H. September 27, 1894. Another monument, erected upon Sullivan's Hill, Elmira, N.Y., was appropriately dedicated by the Masonic fraternity August 29, 1879 at the Centennial Celebration commemorating the Battle of Newtown.

Marshall S. Loke

## MASONRY DURING THE REVOLUTION

By Stanley Solomon

Probably never in any series of events so closely connected have so many Freemasons taken an active part. It seems quite obvious from the leaders active in the conduct of the Revolutionary War and founding of our country that General Washington chose officers whom he felt a strong trusting tie to—namely Masonry.

### Battles of Lexington and Concord

April 19, 1775

These battles, the first of the Revolution, involved several Freemasons. These include:

Robert Foster, captain of the Minute Men, Master of Essex Lodge, Salem, Mass.

Brig. Gen. John Glover, member of Philanthropic Lodge, Marblehead, Mass.

Jonathon Harrington, last survivor of the Battle of Lexington. He was made a Mason in King Solomon Lodge of Charlestown, Mass. on March 7, 1797 and was a charter member of Hiram Lodge at Lexington. He was buried Masonically.

Return J. Meigs, Sr., served at the Battle of Lexington as a captain. He served as Master of American Union Lodge in 1801 and was treasurer from



1791 to 1794.

Comfort Sage also served as a captain at the Battle of Lexington. He was made a Mason in St. Johns Lodge No. 2 at Middletown, Conn. on June 12, 1754. He served as Master from 1768 to 1783.

### Battle of Bunker Hill

June 17, 1775



Major General Israel Putnam, a leader in the Battle of Bunker Hill, was made a Mason June 7, 1758 in a British Military Lodge meeting at Crown Point, New York. He is also credited with being a member of Hiram Lodge No. 1 at New Haven, Conn. While in camp at Redding, Conn. he was the guest of honor in all events planned by American Union Lodge.

General Joseph Warren received his degrees at St. Andrews Lodge, Boston, Mass. in 1761 and was elected Master on November 30, 1768. The Grand Master of Scotland granted him a commission dated March 3, 1772 as Provincial Grand Master of North America. He exercised the authority of his commission on December 27, 1769 by organizing the Provincial Grand Lodge of Massachusetts at the Green Dragon

Tavern, Boston, and continued as its Grand Master until his death at Bunker Hill.

Other Masons at Bunker Hill include: Henry Champion, American Union Lodge, Redding, Conn.; Henry Dearborn, St. Johns Lodge No. 1, Portsmouth, N.H.; Richard Gridley, St. Johns Lodge, Boston, Mass.; Thomas Grosvenor, American Union Lodge, Redding, Conn.; Jonathon Heart, American Union Lodge, Redding, Conn.

#### **Campaign for New York**

July to November 1776

There were 29 well-known Masons in the campaign. Here are a few:

General George Washington, Fredericksburg Lodge, Va.; Henry Champion, American Union Lodge, Redding, Conn.; Col. Joel Clark, Founding Master, American Union Lodge, Redding, Conn.; Henry Burbeck, St. Johns Lodge, Boston; James Monroe, 5th President, Williamsburg Lodge. He was initiated at 17 years.

#### **Battle of White Plains**

October 1776



Several Masons, 15 well known, in addition to Washington and Alexander Hamilton, were involved in the famous battle.

Alexander Hamilton, details not known.

Brig. Gen. William Hull, Washington Lodge No. 10, a traveling lodge at West Point.

Henry Champion, American Union Lodge, Redding, Conn.

Gen. Benjamin Lincoln, St. Andrews Lodge, Boston, Mass.

It is Hamilton who is pictured on the stamp as commanding a battery.

#### **Burgoyne's Campaign**

1777



Burgoyne's Campaign involved the capture of Fort Ticonderoga, the Battle

of Bennington, the ambush at Oriskany, the siege of Fort Tanwix, engagements at Freeman's Farm and the British surrender at Saratoga. The design of the stamp from a painting by Col. Trumbell, depicts Gen. Burgoyne and Gen. Phillips handing the sword to Gen. Gates. At the left of Gates, in light clothing, is Col. Morgan, the second in command. Col. Scammell is also pictured in the group of American officers. Gen. Gates, Col. Morgan, and Col. Scammell were Freemasons. John Stark, Joseph Brant and Benedict Arnold, leaders involved in various engagements, were also Masons.

Gen. Horatio Gates, Annapolis Royal Lodge, Nova Scotia.

Joseph Brant, A Mohawk Indian chief, Hiram Cliftonian Lodge No. 17, London, 1776.

Anthony Heart, American Union Lodge, Redding, Conn.

Gen. Benjamin Lincoln, St. Andrews Lodge, Boston, Mass.

#### **Winter at Valley Forge**

1777-1778



There were 16 well-known Masons at Valley Forge that winter. Among those that spent the winter with Gen. Washington were:

Baron Von Steubon, Trinity Lodge No. 10.

Marquis de Lafayette. No definite records. Probably made a Mason by Washington in American Union Lodge.

John Marshall, First Chief Justice of Supreme Court, Richmond Lodge, Va.

Brig. Gen. William Maxwell, Pennsylvania Military Lodge No. 19.

#### **Siege of Yorktown**

October 1781

The siege of Yorktown, leading to Cornwallis' surrender, involved several Freemasons. General Cornwallis surrendered his British forces by presenting his sword to Gen. Benjamin Lincoln. Both were Masons.

Gen. Benjamin Lincoln, St. Andrews Lodge, Boston, Mass.

Gen. Lord Chas. Cornwallis, Masonic background not established but he performed the Grand Honors of Masonry at the funeral of Major General DeKalb who had been wounded and taken prisoner at the Battle of Camden.

# **Battle of Braddock's Field July 1755**



George Washington was one of Gen. Braddock's aides.

James Craik, physician, Alexandria Lodge No. 22, Alexandria, Va.

Horatio Gates, Annapolis Royal, Nova Scotia.

Brig. Gen. James Grant, St. Andrews Lodge No. 1, Pensacola, W. Fla.

Brig. Gen. Hugh Mercer, Fredericksburg Lodge No. 4.

# **Sullivan's Expedition 1779**



Against the Six Nations of Indians.  
Gen John Sullivan, St. Johns Lodge No. 1, Portsmouth, N.H., Master of his Lodge and G.M. of N.H.

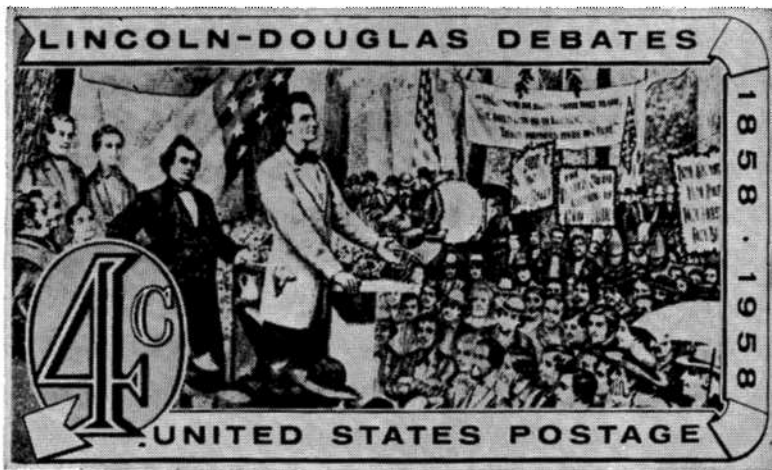
Brig. Gen. James Clinton, Warren Lodge, Little Britain, N.Y.

Samuel Kirkland, Patriot and clergyman, St. Patrick's Lodge No. 8, Johnstown, N.Y.

## **Bro. Stephen Arnold Douglas, 'The Little Giant'**

By Sam Brooks

(Reprinted from the Dec. '58 Masonic Philatelist)



"Of all the members of the General Assembly, the most curious in appearance was a Democratic member from Morgan County, Stephen A. Douglas. Only slightly more than five feet tall, he looked like a boy. A mighty head covered with a great mass of thick brown hair, powerful neck and shoulders, and a deep chest. His deep blue eyes were described by a newspaperman, as 'shooting out electric fires.' He was ambitious, an incessant talker, had the vision of a Statesman and was adept in the tricks of the politician."

This was the opinion of a contemporary in 1836 when Brother Douglas was 23 years of age.

Stephen A. Douglas was born in Brandon, Vermont, April 23, 1813. Because of the death of his father, his early schooling was at the hands of an uncle, with whom he, his mother and sister lived. His mother remarried and he then went to his new home in Ontario County, N.Y. For a short time he attended Canandaigua Academy, and then began the study of law.

In June of 1833, he set out for Cleve-

land in Ohio. He became ill there, and because of a lack of employment opportunity, when he recovered his health he went on to Jacksonville, Illinois. Not finding employment he went on to Winchester, 10 miles away. He opened a school and soon had forty students. In his spare time he continued to read law from borrowed books.

Soon he felt his knowledge of law was adequate. So back to Jacksonville, where he went before a Justice of the Supreme Court and obtained a license to practice law. He was just about 21 when he opened his law office and began to dabble in the local politics. His popularity grew and was a factor in his election as States Attorney. Before he was 28, he was a Judge of the Supreme Court of Illinois.

He became very active in the Democratic party and his organization of all political levels in the state earned him election as the Democratic member from Morgan County, to the State Legislature. This was the real beginning of an active political career which was to bring him almost to the Presidency. Here too, he met for the first time, the man who overshadowed his political career and kept him from the fulfillment of his greatest desires. Abraham Lincoln was a member of that State Legislature.

Douglas became an eloquent speaker and earned for himself the title of "The Little Giant," which was confirmed by his later work as a law-maker, as a politician and as a Statesman. His political life was one advancement after another. Even his defeats were by such narrow margins that he was soon accepted as a dominant factor in the life of the Democratic party in Illinois.

Chairman of the Democratic State Committee, Campaign Manager, Secretary of State, Judge of the Supreme Court, Congressman, and then in 1847, United States Senator from Illinois.

In the Senate, he was appointed Chairman of the Committee on Territories. In this capacity he had to deal with the most difficult political problems of the next decade, when the anti-slavery movement reached its greatest momentum.

In 1857 he broke with the dominant pro-slavery faction of his party and as a result he was bitterly abused. However his group in Illinois stood by him and supported him for reelection to the Senate. It was in this campaign that the famous series of debates with Abraham Lincoln brought out Lincoln as a national figure. Although de-

feated, Lincoln was projected into the Presidency.

In 1856 Douglas lost the Democratic nomination for President to Buchanan, who was elected. Buchanan was a Mason. In 1860, although nominated for the Presidency by his party, the southern faction set up their own party and nominated John C. Breckenridge, also a Mason. It was this split in the Democratic party which assured the election for Lincoln, and brought on the Civil War.

April 14th, 1861, Douglas called on President Lincoln, and the dispatches of the day gave it that he "had an interesting conversation on the present condition of the country. Douglas, while opposed to the Administration on all its political issues, sustained the President in the exercise of all his constitutional functions to preserve the Union." He died June 3, 1861.

"All honor then to the memory of the man who thus threw party considerations to the winds and gave himself wholly and unreservedly to his country."

Bro. Stephen A. Douglas was initiated June 11, 1840, in Springfield Lodge No. 41. He was Passed June 24, 1840 and Raised June 26, 1840. In October of 1840 he was elected Grand Orator of the Grand Lodge of Illinois. In December 1840, he was Junior Warden of his Lodge, but he resigned. At his own request, he was buried Masonically.

#### HONORE' IV OF MONACO

Honore' IV of Monaco was born in 1758 and died in 1810.

In France he served as a captain in the "Cent Suisses", the crack regiment of 100 Swiss forming the bodyguard of Louis XVI which played such a dramatic role in the riotous days of the French Revolution.

In 1793 the Grimaldi dynasty was deprived of its rights and the Principality of Monaco was annexed to France. In 1814 Honore' V was rehabilitated.

Honore' IV was a Mason and was, in 1786, one of the founders of the "La Bonne Union Lodge" in Rethel-Mazarin, a place in the north of France, presumably one of the many military Lodges.

Stamp: Monaco, Scott #B70.

Source: J. A. Faucher and A. Ricker: "Histoire de la Franc-Maçonnerie en France" (Paris 1967) Page 173.

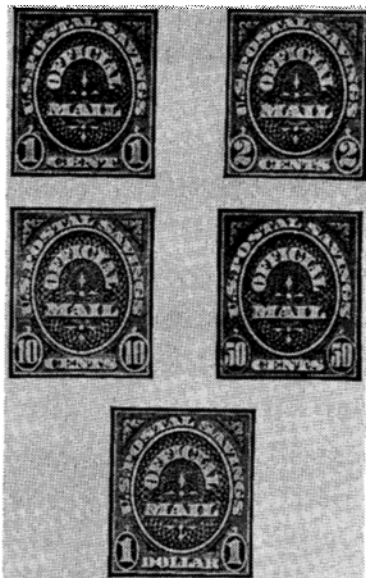
—Wessel M. Lans  
The Netherlands

## UNITED STATES POSTAGE FIRSTS

By Joseph Nathan Kane

The first postage stamp catalog was compiled by A. C. Kline, 824 Walnut Street, Philadelphia, Pa., in 1862. It listed 1,500 varieties of stamps and was published in Philadelphia. Its title was "The Stamp Collector's Manual, Being A Complete Guide To The Collectors of American and Foreign Postage and Despatch Stamps."

The first postal savings stamps were issued in accordance with the authority conferred upon the Post Office Department by Act of Congress of June 25, 1910 (36 Stat. L. 814) establishing postal savings depositories. Their use was discontinued on September 23, 1914.



The first steel mail car was built by the Standard Steel Car Company, Pittsburgh, Pa. and exhibited May 4th to 13th, 1905 at the International Railway Congress, Washington, D.C. It was lighted with acetylene gas and lined with fireproof composite board. The inside length was 65 feet, two inches. It was framed of steel plates, and insulated with hair felt. It was placed in service June 7, 1905 by the New York Salamanca and Chicago Railroad Company.

The first, first day special cancellation was prepared for the Virginia Dare commemorative stamp released August 18, 1937 at Manteo, North Carolina. The one-inch square blue five cent stamp commemorated the 350th anniversary of her birth.



The first permit mail was authorized April 28, 1904. Order No. 1,052, dated September 20, 1904, signed by Postmaster General Henry Clay Payne, permitted 2,000 or more identical pieces of third or fourth class mail to be mailed without stamps affixed. The denomination of the postage, the place of mailing and the permit was printed in the place where the stamp would be affixed, and the fee paid in money.

The first railway postal clerks (women) were Maude and Mary Olson, daughters of the Galva postmaster at the time, who substituted for Colonel Charles Northrop, who was taken ill in September, 1896. They served on the "Dolly", the Galva and Burlington Railroad post office, later known as the Galesburg and Burlington Railroad post office.

The first free city delivery of mail was authorized by Act of March 3, 1863. (12 Stat. L. 705). City delivery service was placed in operation July 1, 1863 in 49 cities with 440 carriers at an annual cost of \$300,000. On January 3, 1887, free delivery service was extended to cities of over 50,000 population and permitted in places having a population of at least 10,000 and postal receipts of \$10,000. (In 1963 a special stamp commemorating the centennial anniversary of city mail delivery was issued.)

The first letter to encircle the world by commercial air mail was dispatched from New York City on April 19, 1937. It was routed via San Francisco, Hong Kong, Penang, Amsterdam and Brazil and was returned to New York on May 25, 1937.

The first postal card was issued May 1, 1873, under Act of Congress of June 8, 1872 (17 Stat. L. 304). A 1 cent stamp printed on the upper right hand corner showed a profile of the Goddess of Liberty looking to the left and surrounded by a lathe-work border with the words "U.S. Postage" inserted above, and "One Cent" below. The body of the card was light buff, the printing velvet brown. The size of the card was 3x5 1/8 inches. The card was made by the Morgan Envelope Company, Springfield, Mass. The first known cancellation was May 12, 1873.