Masonic Cancellations

Edward L. Willard
1905 - 1973
THE COVER

Mr Willard, affectionately known as "Ned," was probably best known for his two-cent red brown specialized collection but he was also a student of the Spanish Civil War issues and was a general collector of Latin America.

He graduated from Pennsylvania State University in 1927, and received his law degree from Harvard in 1930. He was at one time district attorney of Centre County, Pennsylvania, and more recently served there as public defender.

It is well known that he was president of the American Philatelic Society from 1965 until 1969 having served as a director from 1961 to 1965. He was a leader in establishing the Inter-American Philatelic Association of which he was vice-president from 1969 to 1971, and it was his leadership which brought together the philatelic societies of North and South America into one great association. He also was instrumental in arranging for the building of the A.P.S. Headquarters in State College, and at the time of his passing he was president of American Philatelic Research Library in that city.

His many philatelic affiliations include the Collectors Club of New York, the New York Masonic Stamp Club, the Royal Philatelic Society of London, the Royal Philatelic Society of Canada, the U. S. Cancellation Club, the United Postal Stationery Society, the Philatelic Literature Association, the Spanish Civil War Study Group, the American Topical Association, the Society of Philatelic Americans, A.P.S. Writers Unit No. 30, and Life Member, Mt. Nittany Philatelic Society of State College.

He also was a Past Master of State College Lodge, No. 700, F. & A.M.; and a member of State College B.P.O.E. 1800. Some of his other affiliations were: Nittany Council No. 57, Royal and Select Masters; Bellefonte Chapter No. 211, Royal Arch Masons; Constantine Commandery No. 33, Knights Templar; Pennsylvania College of Bites, Shamokin; The Red Cross of Constantine; Tall Cedars of Lebanon, Centre Forest 129; and Council of Anointed Kings, Commonwealth of Pennsylvania.

An Edward L. Willard Memorial Fund has been established at the American Philatelic Research Library in State College, and memorial contributions may be made to that organization. The address is A.P.R.L., F.O. Box 338, State College, Pa. 16801.
The study of cancellations on any stamp for any period reflects the interests of the generation then current. For some years we collected cancellations on all 19th Century U.S. stamps and since 1851 there have been cancellations whose masonic origin is obvious in the years prior to the turn of the century. Cancelling devices were most frequently supplied by individual postmasters rather than the government.

Generally, Masonic Cancellations started with the issue of 1851. We know of no such cancellation on the issue of 1847 though such may exist. Masonics first found wide usage on the issue of 1861 and its succeeding grilled stamps. The most usual forms were the square and compass of the Blue Lodge. The Open Bible of Rutland, Vermont is well-known and there are a few others, but all seen are directed towards Blue Lodge Masonry.

We are not so familiar with the period of the three cent greens and they do contain many interesting Masonic cancels, but York Rite Freemasonry which seemed to boom following the years of the Civil War, finds itself best covered in period between 1883-1887 which was the time of the two cent red brown in which we specialize. On the two cent green and the series of 1890 fancy cancellations are much less frequent and except for the period of the late '20s non-existant after the turn of the century in volume sufficient to form a collection.
Masonic cancellations must be viewed in the light of the Masonic times. The great landmarks do not seem to change.

Coming now to the period of 1883-1887 the most common Masonic is, as usual, the square and compass. Every Mason, operative or speculative, is aware of these tools. Some square and compass cancellations are easy to identify. The real problem is to separate the very non-Masonic situation of a clerk who desired
simply to identify his killer by dual knife cuts and crossing similar knife cuts. We draw a distinction in two ways. There must be either a definite head or hinge to the compass or on the other hand the legs of the compass must show definite intention of tapering to a point. The square can seldom be used to determine Masonic character.

Again in the Blue Lodge cancels there appears the trowel. This working tool

Jewish script for the word Jehovah
Putnam, Conn.

Sun and Moon Masters Trowel

KEYSTONES
ROYAL ARCH MASONIC SYMBOLS

Keystone of anarch Keystone with letters
was strangely seldom used and appears only as a hand cutting on a cork.

In the period 1883-1887 we are not aware of a G in a square and compass such as was used in earlier times, but the single letter G with Masonic implications present. First, we hasten to say that all letter G’s are not Masonic. The letter G appears in the list of post office stations in New York City and was located at 1661 Broadway and also in Philadelphia it denoted the station at Germantown. Cut corks sometimes contain a G as the first letter of the town name or the initial of a particular clerk. Only by true postal history research can a G be said to be
truly Masonic. Such research is too long for these notes.

Some of the great lights of Blue Lodge Masonry are illustrated in a plain sun and moon. There are frequent moon and star cancellations reported to be Masonic, particularly three different types from Northampton, Massachusetts, but we have failed to identify these as having reference to work under the Grand Lodge of Massachusetts after having attended lodges in Boston and Cambridge, Massachusetts.

The word Jehovah in Hebrew is well known to be of Masonic origin and from Putnam, Connecticut, and is set out in full as illustration 315 on page 63 of Herst Sampson on “Fancy Cancellations”. Not being a student of the Hebrew language, our tracing is faulty. Besides the G there is only one other Masonic reference to the diety and this does not occur to our knowledge in the ’80s. It is a Hebrew Yod used at Oregon, Pennsylvania in the ’60s and would appear to be more associated with the work of the Council. It is Drawing No. 1695 in Herst-Sampson and perhaps is more appropriate to a member of the Council of Royal and Select Masters.

With the ’80s York Rite Masonry seems to have been reflected in greater volume in cancelling devices. For example, the beautiful piece of work which was neither plumb, level nor square, but completed the Royal Arch. Examine another
cancellation bearing the initials H.T.S.S.T.K.S. What Royal Arch Mason would fail
to recognize the first letters of that sentence “He that would smoke Spanish
tobacco knows something.”

Next there frequently appears a killer in the form of an equilateral triangle.
No Royal Arch Mason can forget this symbol which was lost for 470 years and
at one time inscribed in the three great languages of the day—Syriac, Chaldeac
and Egyptian. No inscriptions occur on postal cancellations. The sum within the
triangle now has meaning also.

Commanderies of Knights of the Order of the Temple were flourishing. Three
cancels are shown having commandery background. The first is the Cross of the
Order of Malta. There are many Maltese Cross cancellations, but we believe this
one to be purely Masonic because of the indentation of the sides.

The last two devices are the Cross of the Savior and are directly traced to
the Order of the Temple.

It is at once apparent that work in different Grand Bodies varies slightly but
the basic landmarks do not. We believe the cancellations here shown are truly
representative of Freemasonry and its superior bodies.

COLLECTING “NON-MASONICS”
By Bro. Herman Horst

Brothers will perhaps forgive the negative approach, but are there those
who collect “non-Masonics?” We suspect there are, for on numerous oc-
casions we have seen in Masonic collections, various items that by strict
definition do not belong.

Most frequently these are represented by postmarks which the uninitiated
regard as Masonic, simply because they represent simple cork postmarks, show-
ing two angles, in opposite direction to each other. Members of the Craft right-
ly demand that one of the angles be a right angle, in order that it fulfill the
Masonic requirement of a square. The other may assume any angle to be
regarded as the compass, but one should not settle for less than the right
angle to be the square.

Other doubtful Masonics are the letter “G,” which may or may not be
Masonic. When it is located in the center of a Square and Compass, or
in a Star, especially one with six points, there is little doubt, but a “G”
by itself should not be assumed to be Masonic, even a six pointed one.

Masonic collectors invariably include in their collections the stamps issued
by Great Britain at the close of the war. There is no doubt that these
stamps include Masonic insignia, for a square and compass, as well as a
trowel and a sprig of acacia is an integral part of the design. However,
on numerous occasions, the British

Government has explicitly denied the Masonic interpretation given these
stamps, even though the Monarch at the time was Grand Master of the
United Kingdom. The task at hand when the stamp was issued was the re-
building of Britain, following the ravages of war, and square and com-
pass and trowel represented recon-
struction, just as the alleged sprig of
acacia represented Britain’s formidable
challenge to agriculture to make the
nation self-subsistent.

The fact that any Blue Lodge Mason
who has passed his third degree will
readily perceive that the Square and
Compass on the stamp, is not the
Square and Compass which he be-
held on being brought to light, would
 lend credence to the British denial.

Along these same lines, we occasion-
ally see similar symbols on covers of
the past century, especially on corner
cards. An organization termed itself
the Junior Order of American Me-
chanics thrived about a century ago,
on fraternal lines, its symbol being the
Square and Compass. Here, too, the
symbol was the same, but any brother
who learned his lesson well, will know
that the sign is not that of a Master
Mason.

Such items as these are always of
interest to a Mason, and perhaps they
belong in a Masonic collection. They
should, however, be regarded as the
cowans that they are, clandestine, and
not regarded in the same light as the
ture Masonic items which are so well
known, and Masonic in nature beyond
the slightest doubt.
THE SCOPE, MASONIC PHILATELY
By R. W. Louis E. Krohn

The collecting of what is known as "Masonic Stamps" is a comparatively new hobby in philately, rapidly increasing in popularity among members of the Masonic fraternity, having originated less than 50 years ago. It now ranks 16th in popularity in thematic philately. The subject provides an area sufficient for the application of ingenuity, research, education, originality and pleasure. The landmark of secrecy, necessarily limits the full appreciation of such a collection to non-members, as well as to members of the Craft. Care must be exercised that the material and explanations of the various stamps do not violate the ancient landmark.

The subject of a Masonic collection is limitless in scope, and never completed, and if permitted to run wild, may destroy the true significance and value of the hobby. It is my observation and belief that some basic guide or rule should be established and recognized, to limit the subject within reasonable bounds. I have no quarrel with those who wish to include everything and anything, regardless of relevancy or objectiveness of the stamp, if they enjoy so doing.

But the question is "What is a Masonic Collection?"

There is no difficulty about the definition of a collection of ships, trains, animals, flowers, music, etc., but the definition of a "Masonic Stamp" is not so easy. I doubt if in a lifetime a collector could assemble a complete collection of pre Masonic stamps, even with proper and reasonable limitations.

1. Persons. A stamp which bears a representation or picture of a Mason.

2. Buildings. A stamp which depicts Masonic Temples, Homes, Structures, Memorials, and the like.

3. Symbols & Furniture. Stamps depicting all the symbols used in Masonry, such as the gavel, Bible, compass, square, level, hoodwink, spade, and all the other symbols, and furniture comprising the altar, Mosaic Pavement, Blazing Star, Indented Tassel, etc.

4. Tenets. Stamps depicting the Tenets of Masonry, such as Relief, Light, Brotherly Love, Truth, Faith, Patriotism, Belief in God, Fortitude, Integrity, and so on.

5. Ritualistic. (a) Stamps depicting parts of the ritual, such as perambulation, prayer, kneeling, obligation, oath, apprentice, burial, singing, penny, casket, fortitude, so forth. (b) Stamps depicting or having on it's face, words, letters or Language mottos, etc., for illustration "Give me Liberty or give me death" Peace, and the other mottos of the Credo series, the Letter "G" Penny, and all other words, letters, signs, figures, etc., having direct Masonic significance.

6. Landmarks. Stamps depicting the Landmarks such as secrecy, Bible, Legend of third degree, Worshipful Master, Wardens, Belief in God, Immortality, Equality, etc.

All the above is sufficiently extensive to suit the scope of any collector without the inclusion of remote, extrinsic, foreign or collateral matter.

I disapprove the classification of a stamp as Masonic under the following category viz:

1. A stamp depicting a building, structure or memorial, not directly Masonic, simply because a Mason may have built, designed or dedicated it.

2. A stamp depicting a battle or other event, simply because a Mason may have participated in it. Most all battles had some Masonic participation.

3. A stamp depicting a country, State or other municipality, because a Mason was a President, Ruler, or Governor of the same. All political divisions have had Masons in prominent positions.

Stamps of this character, are by far too collateral, remote irrelevant and indirect to be properly classified as Masonic. Including such stamps as Masonic renders the whole collection meaningless, absurd, and of no value.

Exceptions. A non-Masonic stamp may become relevant and properly used in instances where the theme of a page may be devoted to a main central Masonic subject, and when the non-Masonic stamp is closely allied to and descriptive of the main central subject. For instance a page devoted to George Washington, as our first President, as a dominant and central figure, could include a non-Masonic stamp, such as a cherry tree, White House, his home, burial place, and other subject related to Washington. But standing alone, I do not think such stamps should qualify as a Masonic Stamp.

DUKE OF EDINBURGH

Prince Philip, Duke of Edinburgh and consort of Queen Elizabeth II, was initiated December 5, 1952, in Navy Lodge No. 2612. This brings to the fore the special Masonic significance of the grouping of special stamps issued to mark the 25th anniversary of the Royal Wedding.
In the crypt below the domed chapel of the United States Naval Academy at Annapolis is a magnificent tomb of marble and porphyry. In it repose the mortal remains of America’s first great sea fighter, John Paul Jones.

He was born John Paul on July 6, 1747, in the small fishing village of Arbigland, Parish of Kirkbean, Stewarty of Kirkcudbright, on the shore of the Solway Firth. This was the country of William Wallace, Robert Bruce, John Knox, and Robert Burns. Its people still smarted from the crushing blow to their hopes for independence inflicted by the English under George II at Culloden Moor the previous year.

John’s father, a landscape gardener, worked for Dr. Robert Craik, a member of Parliament. His mother, Jeannie Macduff, the daughter of a gunsmith, worked for Mrs. Craik. Shortly thereafter, Dr. Craik came to Alexandria, Virginia, and became a friend and physician to George Washington.

At the age of 14, John was an apprentice on the brig Friendship and made a voyage to Virginia. On this trip he visited Fredericksburg and met the Rev. Patrick Henry, rector of the Church of England and uncle of his namesake, the fiery orator of the Revolution. For the next several years John Paul made a number of voyages to America and the West Indies, earning his promotion to first mate while still in his teens.

On his return to England he apparently obtained a midshipman’s warrant in the British Navy, through the influence of the Duke of Queensbury. Lacking the social connections which in those days was almost a requisite for rapid promotion, John apparently recognized his deficiency and resigned from the Navy. He went back into the merchant service as a mate on a vessel engaged in the slave trade. Resigning a couple of years later, he joined a company of actors on the island of Jamaica. This experience was to stand him in good stead, for it taught him a grasp of correct speech and diction which is reflected in his writings and letters. He learned to express himself lucidly in the presence of an audience, although his contemporaries were conscious at times of a certain aloofness, which may have been accounted for by his proud and introspective nature.

Returning to Scotland he applied for and was received into membership of the Masonic lodge in Kirkcudbright. The following year, while in command of the trading vessel Belsey, anchored off the island of Tobago in the West Indies, he unintentionally killed a sailor who attacked him with a club. Recognizing the possibility of being accused of manslaughter he hurriedly departed.

It was about this period that his elder brother, who had been living in America, died; and in 1713, John inherited his estate. Shortly afterward he made the acquaintance of two socially prominent brothers, Wylie and Allen Jones of Edenton, N.C. The brothers had been educated at Eton and lived a life of leisureliness. As a guest in their home John Paul adopted the standards of gentility, a love of good books, and an insight into politics.

It has been suggested by some biographers that the young sea captain was so impressed by his hosts that he took their name and was ever afterward known as John Paul Jones. It is possible that there may be another reason for his taking the name of Jones. Soon after he killed the sailor who attacked him in Tobago, a young man from Martha’s Vineyard named Chase, sought him out and informed him that a vessel came to the Vineyard and put ashore an officer for burial. Chase, a carpenter, built the coffin. The captain of the ship told him that the name of the deceased was Paul Jones and that he believed himself the illegitimate son of the Earl of Selkirk. Perhaps John Paul sought another identity and the idea of posing as a son of a nobleman may have touched his vanity.

On October 3, 1775, the Continental Congress voted to purchase two warships, hopefully to intercept British
merchant vessels and transports en route for Boston. The Lexington and the Reprisal were bought and fitted out as privateers. Later it was decided to increase the number of ships to 13. The original Marine Committee consisting of John Adams, Stephen Hopkins, Richard Henry Lee, and Joseph Hewes had the responsibility of selecting the officers to command the ships. John Barry was given command of the Lexington, a name to become famous in American Naval history. Jones at the age of 29 was appointed a senior naval lieutenant on December 22, 1775. He was assigned the task of arming and manning the flagship Alfred moored at Philadelphia.

On May 19, 1776, Jones was given command of the Providence. Soon afterward he was in an engagement with the British frigate Cerberus and after an exchange of shots was lucky enough to escape. On August 8, 1776, he received his Captain's commission, signed by John Hancock, and was given command of the Ranger, a ship of 18 guns. His first mission was the carrying of dispatches to France.

Following the completion of his mission he made a daring foray into English coastal waters raiding the port of Whitehaven and capturing the Drae, a 20-gun ship, after an hour's battle. Jones sailed his prize into a French port and in Paris he met with Benjamin Franklin, a member of the American Commission.

Franklin, apparently was favorably impressed by the daring young Scot and was instrumental in introducing him to the Duke and Duchess of Chartres. The Duke was Master of all Masonic lodges in France. The Duchess was the leader in an "adoptive" lodge of women freemasons affiliated with the Lodge of Candour. Franklin was a luminary of the Lodge of Nine Sisters. Among its members were Voltaire, Helvetius the philosopher, and Houdon the sculptor. Jones is reported to have been a frequent visitor.

Through the influence of the Duchess, Jones was granted an audience with King Louis XVI. The King put at his disposal the 40-gun ship Duras which Jones renamed the Bon Homme Richard in tribute to Benjamin Franklin. After making necessary repairs and modifications, Jones in company with a smaller vessel, the Alliance, sailed in quest of enemy ships. Off the English coast he fell in with the British 50-gun Serapis and the 28-gun Countess of Scarborough. These ships were escorting a 40-ship convoy. A desperate three and one-half hour battle ensued. Two of his guns burst at the first broadside, killing or wounding their crews. Knowing he was outranged and outgunned, Jones tried to come alongside his opponent to board her but his first attempt failed.

On the second attempt the Richard crashed into the Serapis, and grappling irons locked the ships in a death grip. Realizing that his enemy was badly damaged Captain Pearson hailed, "Have you struck?" Jones' response was, "I have not yet begun to fight."

Apocryphal or not, this slogan has been in the American lexicon ever since.

Fierce hand-to-hand fighting on the deck of the Serapis ensued and suddenly it was discovered that grenades had set the Bon Homme Richard afire. After many of his men were killed or wounded, Captain Pearson surrendered. Jones transferred his men to the English ship and the following day the Bon Homme Richard sank. The Countess of Scarborough had beaten her opponent and sailed away.

Although the Serapis had sustained a great deal of damage and was leaking severely, Jones successfully sailed her into Dutch waters, anchoring in the Texel. Later, during a storm he was able to elude the blockading British ships and escape to Lorient. For his exploits Louis XVI presented him with a gold-hilted sword and the royal order of military merit, and made him a chevalier of France.

In December 1780, he sailed for the United States and arrived in Philadelphia February 18, 1781. After much delay and a good deal of political chicanery he obtained command of the first ship of the line, the America, but it was turned over to the French to replace the Magnifique which had been wrecked in Boston Harbor.

In November 1783, he was sent to Paris as agent for the prizes captured in European waters under his own command. He apparently engaged in many social affairs and private business ventures, but he was successful in collecting the prize money. He returned to America in 1787 and was awarded a gold medal from Congress in recognition of his services.

On November 11, 1787, he sailed for Europe never to return. On April 8, 1788, Jones wrote Jefferson hinting that he was going to St. Petersburg. The Empress Catherine the Great was patron of the Masonic Lodge of Clio of Moscow. In May 1788, he was presented at Court to Catherine where he was warmly received. He was offered the post of Rear Admiral, which he accepted, conditional to retaining his American citizenship and standing as an officer.

He took part in the Black Sea actions against the Turks but the inefficiency of the Russian officers and the jealousy
toward him shown by Prince Potemkin, a boorish unpredictable scoundrel, completely disillusioned him. After a miserable 6 months he left Russia and went to Warsaw for a short stay.

He was back in Paris by May of 1790, and Gouverneur Morris reported that he was much disturbed with the political situation in the country. Morris noted signs of his aging, though at the time Jones was only 43. In July 1792, he was visited by Gouverneur Morris. A few days later, Col. Samuel Blackden of South Carolina and Major Beaupoil of the French Army came to see him. Concerned by his physical condition they sent for Gouverneur Morris to whom Jones dictated his last will and testament. Jones died the same day, July 18, at the age of 45. His body was placed in a leaden coffin and taken to the St. Louis Protestant Cemetery for foreigners. Military honors including the firing of 21 guns and the laying in state were accorded him in the presence of Col. Blackden and Major J. C. Montfleure, both former U.S. Army officers.

In 1834, Congress authorized the naming of a ship after him; and in 1845 George Bancroft, Secretary of the Navy and founder of the Naval Academy, requested permission to have the body returned to the United States. Complications arose and the project languished, and the burial place was almost forgotten.

However, in 1899 General Horace Porter, U.S. Ambassador to France, determined to find the body of Jones at his own expense. Houses had been built on much of the site of the old Protestant cemetery, but finally the leaden casket was discovered and the body was in a remarkable good state of preservation. The work of excavating had begun in 1903, and President Theodore Roosevelt ordered Rear Admiral Charles D. Sigsbee to proceed with a squadron to France and bring back the body.

On April 24, 1906, commitment exercises were held at Annapolis with addresses by the President, Secretary of the Navy Charles J. Bonaparte, and French Ambassador J. J. Jusserand. Also present were General Porter and Governor Warfield of Maryland. The casket lay on a trestle behind a stairway in Bancroft Hall for seven years, but on January 26, 1913, the coffin was placed in its present place in the chapel of the Naval Academy. On his tomb are inscribed the names of the ships he made famous, the Ranger, the Bon Homme Richard, the Alliance, and the Ariel.

EXCERPTS FROM THE JOHN A. FOX AUCTION

November 15th and 16th, 1960.

By Dr. S. Darfield Swan

Forty-two Masonics, off cover, appeared in the eleven hundred cancellation lots, and they all brought good prices. The catalogue of the sale was superbly illustrated. As one of our brothers remarked, "Bro. Fox did himself proud. He photographed every lot, whether it was worth a dollar or a hundred." For that reason we are able here to give complete illustrations and descriptions of the Masonic and other fraternal cancels,

The first group illustrated shows many varieties of the square and compasses. We have identified a good percentage of these. They speak for themselves. Several would have brought higher prices if the owner had been able to identify their source.

The second group are probably intended as Masonic. There are 7 illustrations of "King Solomon’s Seal." The "All Seeing Eye" brought a tremendous price, higher even than my previous record on cover. The Masonic Keystone is readily recognizable as a Royal Arch insignia.

The third group represent other fraternal or local society cancellations which at times have been attributed to Masonry, but actually have no real direct connection. The Odd Fellows cancellations are distinct. Number 1365 is an extremely rare cancel, and should be assigned to the "Junior Order of American Mechanics." Numbers 926, 933 and 934 illustrate the types of "Mut. mers" cancellations that are found from Philadelphia only. The two keystones are from local societies in Pennsylvania; there are about ten of this type of record, none Masonic. The only authentic Masonic Keystones found to date are the Royal Arch (No. 1481) and the Rose of Sharon.

On the appended listing the first number is the auction lot number, the number in parentheses is the Scott Catalogue numbers.
Masonic Square & Compass in circle, 3¢ Dull Red, Chicopee, Mass. (26)
Masonic Square & Compass, G in rope circle, Holderness, N.H. 3¢ Imprint, minor stain corner (26)
Masonic Square & Compass, 3¢ Rose, small thin spot (65)
Masonic, negative Square & Compass, Brookline, Mass. (65)
Masonic, negative Square & Compass, Denmark, Me. (65)
Masonic, negative Square & Compass & G., Quincy, Mass. (65)
Negative Square & Compass, 3¢ Rose (65)
Masonic, Square & Compass, 30¢ Orange, East Eddington, Me. (71)
Masonic, neg. Square & Compass, 1¢ Blue, F Grill, Nashua, N.H. (92)
Masonic, negative Square & Compass, 3¢ Red, F Grill, Bridgewater, Mass. (94)
Masonic, Square & Compass in circle, 3¢ tied picco, Charleston, N. H. (94)
Masonic Square & Compass, VF strike, 1¢ Buff, tiny tear, Nashua, N.H. (112)
Square & Compass in G, 3¢ Ultramarine, Willistown, Vt. (114)
Negative Masonic Square & Compass, rare, 3¢ Ultramarine (114)
Masonic Square & Compass, 3¢ Ultramarine, small corner crease, Nashua, N.H. (114)
Masonic Square & Compass, 3¢ Green, Burlington, Vt. (147)
Masonic Square & Compass in circle, 3¢ Green, Burlington, Vt. (147)
Masonic Square & Compass, Bridgeton, N.J., 3¢ on piece, crease (147)
Masonic Square & Compass 1¢ Dark Ultramarine (182)
Masonic Square & Compass in circle, 2¢ Brown (146)
Masonic Square & Compass, 3¢ Green, Arlington, Mass. (184)
Negative Masonic Square & Compass, 3¢ Blue Green (207)
Masonic Square & Compass, Warsaw, N.Y. ties 2¢ on piece (210)
Masonic Square & Compass, 2¢ Brown (210)
Masonic Negative Square & Compass, 2¢ Vermilion (183)
Masonic Square & Compass, 2¢ Carmine (267)
Negative Masonic Square & Compass, 1¢ Ultramarine, thin spot (212)
Negative Masonic Square & Compass, 3¢ cut sq., Nashua, N.H. (U58)
Canada, Negative Masonic Square & Compass, 1¢ Yellow (35)
Chicopee Star on 3¢ Dull Red (11)
Six pointed star, Chicopee, Mass., 3¢ Dull Red; tiny closed tear T. (26)
Chicopee Star bold strike on 3¢ (65)
Negative 6 Pointed Star, New Haven, Ct., 3¢ Rose on piece (65)
Six Pointed Star, 3¢ Rose (65)
Negative Six Pointed Star, New Haven, Ct., 3¢ Rose (65)
Open Book in Six Point Star, 3¢ Green (147)
Masonic Trowel in circle, Greenfield, Mass., 3¢ Rose (65)
Masonic "All Seeing Eye," New York (65)
Open Book, Rutland, Vt., 3¢ Rose, E Grill (88)
Open Book, 10¢ Brown (161)
Cross in sunburst, 10¢ Brown (161)
Masonic Keystone, 2¢ Carmine (267)
Odd Fellows Links ties 3¢ 1861, Forest, O. (65)
Odd Fellows Links in negative, 1¢ Ultramarine (145)
Masonic Square & Compass, flexed arm in purple shield, rare cancel on 2¢ Brown, tiny thin spot (210)
Shriners' Fez, 3¢ Red, F Grill (94)
Masonic Book, 3¢ Red, F Grill, light crease (94)
Masonic Book, 3¢ Red, F Grill, light crease (94)
Cross in Keystone, one of the rarest Masonic pmk. 3¢ Green (158)
Negative O K in Keystone. Masonic cancel, 3¢ Green reper., R. (184)
Great Masons Who Opposed One Another

By W. M. Lans

It sounds ironical and actually it is very tragic that the Brotherhood, which should span the earth, sometimes breaks because of the nationalities of the people and the passions of the political differences.

As in your case, my American Brothers, the most tragic period of your history was the Civil War, in which Brother opposed Brother; we had the time of Napoleon Bonaparte in Europe during the last years of the 18th century and the beginning of the 19th century. This was the time of the greatest growth of the Masonic order in Europe.

It is very doubtful that Napoleon himself was a Mason. It is true that there are several stories which would show this. But if we had to believe all these stories, then we would have to accept that Napoleon was initiated three times. Good evidence was never given. It is hard to imagine that one could not find unquestionable data of a man whose whole life has been investigated up to the most personal details. More so, because such details are known of many of his closest collaborators. However, it is a fact that Napoleon tried to influence the Masonic order with the help of these assistants and to direct the order in any way he saw fit.

Before Napoleon placed his stamp on the history of Europe, Masons already played an important role in some countries.

In Russia Suworov led the Russian Army against the Polish Army. He found himself opposing other masons, Kosciuszko and Poniatowski, who were defending their country with the same ardor with which he himself was fighting for his demanding empress Catherine II. Poland was totally defeated by Russia on October 11, 1794.

During these same years the Revolution raged in France and this country had a life and death struggle with her enemies. Lazare Carnot (a Mason) reorganized the army and developed a new battle technique. By introducing compulsory military service, he placed numerically superior forces opposite the professional armies. He trained a new corps of officers, because many of the old corps had become victims of the revolution. Many of these men, who had grown up with the motto "Liberty, Equality and Fraternity," joined the Masons.

It will not be the purpose of this article to describe in detail the many wars of France. I will limit myself to mention a few episodes, which are of interest to us as Masons.

In 1798 Suworov, leading a Russian-Austrian army, went to Northern Italy and defeated the French generals Moreau (a Mason) at Cassino and MacDonald (a Mason) at the Trebbia. After these battles he crossed the St. Gothard to help his countrymen who were defeated by Massena (a Mason). Suworov, too, suffered a big defeat by Massena and returned to Moscow.

During the Third and Fourth Coalition War (1805-1807) in which Napoleon fought against his united enemies, three important men emerged: Ney, Blücher and Kutusov, all Masons, who fought each other with various success. At the same time the English Admiral Nelson (a Mason) defeated the French Navy at Trafalgar on October 21, 1805.

However, Napoleon gained the most advantages and in 1807 Prussia was forced into a very disadvantageous peace treaty at Tilsit. The Prussian Minister von Stein understood that a reorganization of the armies was required and he ordered the Generals Scharnhorst, Gneisenau and Blücher to do so. This reorganization made it possible for Russia to again play an important part in the final struggle against Napoleon. This struggle reached its culmination during the tragic march of Napoleon to Moscow in 1812 and 1813, followed by his final defeat at Leipzig.

The battle at Borodino in Russia, September 7, 1812, is noteworthy. Here Kutusov tried in a last desperate attempt to change the fate of Moscow and he was opposed by Napoleon and his generals Ney, de Beauharnais, Murat and Poniatowski, all Masons. Kutusov had to retreat and Napoleon entered Moscow.

Because of its burning, Moscow was not usable for winter quarters, and the retreat to France was started. Marshal Ney had the difficult task of protecting the rear guard of the French Army against Kutusov. At Smolensk Ney was defeated and the French Army perished on the vast snowfields of Russia.

However, Napoleon assembled a new army of 250,000 men and again went eastward. Near Leipzig the decisive battle took place on October 16-18, 1813.
and all the great men were there: Napoleon, Ney, Blücher and many others as Poniatowski, Gneisenau, Bernadotte (a Mason) and the future King of Sweden, Charles XIV.

Kutusov died in April 1813 and was succeeded by Bennigsen (a Mason). During the three day battle Napoleon's power was broken.

After the return of Napoleon in 1815 from his deportation island, Elba, the final phase took place in the southern part of the Netherlands (Belgium). Three armies, an English one lead by Wellington (a Mason), a Dutch one lead by Prince William of Orange (a Mason), who later became King William III, and a Prussian army lead by Blücher and Gneisenau. Napoleon defeated Blücher at Ligney, but that same day's attack by Ney on the important roadway crossing at Quatre-Bras failed. The Prince of Orange was able to keep that point in control. Two days later the Allies defeated Napoleon at Waterloo (June 18, 1815). Here Napoleon and Ney almost succeeded in defeating Wellington when the Prussian Army lead by Gneisenau appeared again on the battlefield. They changed Napoleon's victory into a crushing defeat. This was the end of the power of a brilliant soldier and an ambitious ruler.

Freemasonry is prohibited in the German Democratic Republic. However, in 1963 the Post Office in East Germany honored five masons on three stamps, not out of appreciation for the Freemasonry, but out of gratefulness to these great masons, who had saved their country from doom. They were: Von Stein, Blücher, Gneisenau, Scharnhorst and the Russian Kutusov.

Heinrich Friedrich Karl von Stein was born October 28, 1757. After studying law he became a government employee in Prussia in 1780 and after the Peace of Tilsit in 1807 he set up the local government as prime minister. When Napoleon, however, noticed that he was preparing Prussia at the same time for a revenge war, he fled first to Austria and later to Russia. In 1813 he persuaded Alexander I to continue the liberation war into Germany. He retired from active service in 1816 and died in 1831. In 1778 Von Stein became a member of the Lodge "Joseph zu den drei Helmen" in Wetzlar.

Stamp: D.D.R. 1953 (No. 670); 1953 (No. 181) and German Bundesrepublik 1957 (No. 776).

Gebhard Leberecht Blücher was born in 1742 in Rostock. He started his career in a Swedish regiment, but soon he joined the Prussian Army. During these early years he was an adventurer, a wild and rash officer, who did not shrink back of starting a conflict with King Frederick the Great, with the consequence that the King discharged him. However, he distinguished himself again in 1793 and 1794 as a colonel of the hussars against France. After the Peace of Tilsit he worked with Scharnhorst and Gneisenau on the reorganization of the Prussian Army. He was discharged in 1811 on the insistence of Napoleon.

After the defeat of Napoleon in Russia, Blücher became the commander of the Prussian Army and he was one of the greatest opponents of Napoleon. He entered Paris on July 7, 1815.

Blücher was initiated on February 6, 1782 in the Lodge "Augusta zur Goldene Krone" in Stargard (East Germany). In 1799 he was a member of the Lodge "Zum hellen Licht" in Hanau and visited the Lodge "Pax inimicannis" in Emmerich as a General-Major frequently. He brought both his sons and nine of his officers into the Craft. From 1802 until 1806 he was W.M. of the Lodge "Zu den drei Balken" in Munster.

A few days before the battle near Lützen (1813), he visited with Bro. Scharnhorst at the Lodge. "Archimedes zu den drei Reizbrettern" in Altenburg. On September 18, 1813, shortly after the victory at the Kutzbach against Mac Donald he made his famous address in which this boisterous soldier ( Marshal Onward) spoke of his desire to keep the Quetzal and the Friendship in the lodge and to talk with his Brothers about the more spiritual things of life. He died in 1814.

Stamp: D.D.R. 1953 (No. 183); 1963 No. 668.

August Neithardt von Gneisenau was born on October 27, 1760 in Schilldau in Saxony. From 1782-1783 he fought with the English in America. In 1788 he joined the Prussian Army. He worked with Blücher and von Scharnhorst to improve Prussia. From 1813 to 1815 he was chief of staff for Blücher. He died August 23, 1831. Von Gneisenau became a member of the Lodge "Zu den drei Felsen" in Schmiedeberg.

Two stamps of D.D.R. in 1960 (No. 518-519); 1963 (No. 668).
Gerhard Johann David von Scharnhorst was born on November 12, 1755 in Bordenau (Hannover). In 1801 he entered the Prussian army as a lieutenant. In 1806 he was already chief of staff, but was taken prisoner by the French. He was exchanged and soon he distinguished himself again on the battlefield. In 1807 he became Minister of War (Secretary of War) and chairman of the committee for military reorganization. This led to a treaty with Russia and the Liberation war against France started. Von Scharnhorst died on May 2, 1813 as a result from a wound. In 1779 he became a member of the Lodge “Zum Goldenen Zirkel” in Gottingen. In 1801 he was a member of the Lodge “Zum Goldenen Schiff in Berlin and in 1813 he visited with Blucher the Lodge in Altenburg. Stamp: DDR 1963 (No. 672).

Michael Ilarionowitsch Golenisjjev Kutusov was born in St. Petersbourg on September 16, 1745. He already joined the Russian Army in 1759 and fought against the Turks and Poles, among others with Suworov. On December 2, 1805 he led the Russian and Austrian Armies against Napoleon and his generals Ney and Massena in Austerlitz. In 1812 he had to retreat at Borodino for the French armées, but made a great victory over Napoleon’s armies on his retreat from Moscow. For this he received the title “Prince of Smolensk.” In 1813 Kutusov was for a little while commander in chief of the Russian-Prussian Army, but he died before the battle of Leipzig. Kutusov was initiated in the Lodge “Zu den drei Schlusseln in Ratisbonne” in 1779. He has also been a member of the Lodge “Trois Drapeaux” in Moscow and “Sphinx” in St. Petersbourg. He was initiated in the 7th degree of the Swedish system.

He is pictured on several Russian stamps. 1945 (No. 1007-08), 1962 (No. 2636) and DDR 1963 (672).

A few other important masons during that time are:

Josef Anton Poniatowski was born on May 7, 1763 in Vienna. He was a Polish general and a French marshal. First he served in the Austrian army. In 1789 he became commander in chief of the Polish army and fought courageously against the Russians, but after the treason of his uncle, King Stanislaus, he asked for his dismissal. In 1794 he fought under Kosciusko against the Prussians and Russians led by Suworov to defend Warsaw. After Napoleon established the Grand Duchy of Warsaw in 1807, Poniatowski became Minister of War and he recreated the Polish army. In 1812 he marched with the French to Moscow. He died after the battle of Leipzig trying to cover the retreat of the French (October 19, 1813).

Poniatowski was an honorary member of the Lodge “Bracia Polacy Zjednoczeni,” which means: United Brothers of Poland. Poland 1938 (No. 329), 1956 (No. 739).

Alexander Vasilevich Suworov lived from 1730 until 1800. From his eleventh year Suworov belonged to the Russian army, in 1747 he was promoted to corporal and he finished his military career in 1800 as commander in chief. Due to his victory over the Turks at Rimanik he received the title “Baron of Rimanikski” and after his campaign in North Italy the title “Prince of Italyski.”

Because of his refusal to follow the military reforms of Czar Paul I, he fell in disfavor. The Czar refused to receive him after his return to Russia. During the last months of his life Suworov was in poor health, he lived nearly as a prisoner. He died on May 18, 1800.

Suworov received his master degree in the Lodge “Aix trois Étoiles” in St. Petersbourg. On January 25, 1761 he became “Maitre Ecossais” (5th degree) in the Lodge “Zu den drei Kronen” in Koningsbergen, of which town he was the governor during the seven year war (1756-1763). He visited the Scottish Lodge “Zum Goldenen Leuchter” in this town too.

Suworov is pictured on different Russian stamps. The 50k issue 1950 shows the trip over the St. Gothard. Stamp: Russia 1941 (No. 632-33, 834-35, 845-47); 1950 (No. 1464, 1465, 1466); 1956 (No. 1888-90).

Spoils of War

London Guide: (Boastfully) and here are two cannons we captured at Bunker Hill.

Proud Yankee: How nice. You have the cannons and we have the hill.

President Grover Cleveland was not a Mason but was favorable to the Fraternity. At the banquet following the dedication by the Grand Lodge of Virginia of the monument erected to Mary, the mother of Washington, he said he regarded it as misfortune that he had never been made a Mason. At one time there was talk of making him a Mason “at Sight” in the Grand Lodge of New Jersey, but it was never accomplished. — (10,000 Famous Freemasons.)
MASONIC CANCELLATIONS
By Dr. Stewart Duffield Swan

In previous issues of the Masonic Philatelist the classes of Masonic cancellation were explained. Following are examples of the Class II cancellations, along with list indicating the post office that used the cancellation, the size, postmaster and whether he was a Mason or no.

CLASS II

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<tr>
<th>Post Office</th>
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<th>Postmaster</th>
<th>Mason</th>
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<td>Bangor, Wis.</td>
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<td>LeRoy Burlingame</td>
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<td>18.8x22.3</td>
<td>Ezra Smith</td>
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<td>65</td>
<td>13.6x13.4</td>
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<tr>
<td>Cambridge, N. Y.</td>
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<td>Charles C. Kimball</td>
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<td>21.4x21.4</td>
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<td>Ed, Ky. (1930)</td>
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C2 Brockville, Ont.  35  16.5x17.3  John Crawford
C3 Preston, Ont.     37  18.5x14.1  Conrad Nispel

OFF COVER

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# Masonic Symbolism On Stamps

By DR. S. DUFFIELD SWAN

A group of stamps with Masonic insignia that has been neglected by most philatelic Masons, is the private die proprietary group, more especially the match stamps.

These stamps were issued in the 1860's and 1870's and paid the tax on the boxes of matches which were in common usage at that time. In Scott's Specialized U.S. Catalogue, these comprise the "RO" group.

### Denomination

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<th>Color</th>
<th>Issuer</th>
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<td>1¢ Brown</td>
<td>B. Bendel &amp; Co.</td>
<td>Maltese Cross</td>
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<tr>
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<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>31B</td>
<td>1¢ Black</td>
<td>Block, Schneider &amp; Co.</td>
<td>All-Seeing Eye in Triangle</td>
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<td>32B</td>
<td>4¢ Green</td>
<td>William Bond &amp; Co.</td>
<td>Anchor</td>
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<td></td>
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<td>Henry A. Clark</td>
<td>Square and Compasses</td>
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<td>1¢ Black</td>
<td>Crown Match</td>
<td>Crown</td>
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<td>125D</td>
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<td>1¢ Black</td>
<td>Leigh &amp; Palmer</td>
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<td>H. &amp; W. Roeber</td>
<td>Clasped Hands on Shield</td>
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FAMOUS MASON HONORED ON STAMPS OF THE WORLD

By Water C. Marshall—

A philatelic journey around the world would bring before our eyes many different stamps of Masonic interest. We would find many stamps honoring great men who are Masons, many of whom were Masons before they rose to fame.

Voltaire became a Mason at the age of 84. King Kamehameha IV of Hawaii invited his brothers to the Royal Palace to celebrate his initiation.

President Theodore Roosevelt while Governor of New York, was initiated by his gardener, who was Master of the Lodge. The Duke of Edinburgh joined the Lodge of the Royal House of England in 1952.

The list of Masons appearing on the stamps of the world is indeed imposing. In our discussion, we are omitting such well-known Americans as George Washington, Benjamin Franklin, and Franklin D. Roosevelt and such South Americans as Simon Bolivar and San Martin who appear on stamps of countries all over the world.

In this list, an admission must be made of the possibility of some errors or omissions since many famous people have been called and are considered Masons with a definite lack of proof.

The famous Ludwig von Beethoven, whose Ninth Symphony fairly breathes Masonry, and Friedrich von Schiller have been referred to as Masons, but no proof has been available; in spite of which fact many Lodges have adopted their names.

Kings dominate on the stamps of the British Empire. King Edward VII and King George VI were Masons. King George V was a Freemason by adoption, and not actually initiated into the fraternity. Capt. Cook and Lord Nelson are mentioned as Masons, but definite proof is lacking.

For Empire issues, however, we may include Australia—Sir Edmund Barton (240) and the Duke of Edinburgh (267); Canada—Sir John A. Macdonald (141), Sir Robert Laird Borden (303), the Duke of Edinburgh (315), Richard Bedford Bennett (357), and Sir MacKenzie Bowell (350).

Also Egypt—Khendive Ismail Pasha (253); Newfoundland—The Duke of Connaught (113); New Zealand—Shackleton and Scott (L2); and Rhodesia—Cecil Rhodes (54).

Also Bolivia—General Antonio Jose de Sucre (32); Brazil—President Epitacio Pessoa da Silva (233); Chile—Hernando von Stephani (260); Colombia—Roosevelt and Churchill (630); and Cuba—Palma (284), Marti (264), and Masonic Temple (369).

And, Canal Zone—Senator Blackburn of Kentucky (114); Nicaragua—Melvin Jones, founder of Lions International (800); Panama—William Howard Taft (C55); and Venezuela—Francesco de Miranda (250) who was proposed by Gen. Lafayette.

The stamps of Europe are replete with designs of Masonic interest. Famous men depicted include: Austria—Mozart (609) whose Magic Flute is based on a Masonic theme, and Lithuania—Thaddeus Kosciuszko (42) the Polish patriot who fought for General Washington.

And, Czechoslovakia—Tolstoi (351) has not been proven a Mason, but he used a Masonic background in “War and Peace”; Finland—Jean Sibillius (247); and France—von Goethe (583) whose “Wilhem Meister Lehrjahre” was inspired by Masonry.

Also Germany—Carl Schurz (691) who fled from Germany and was later a senator from Missouri, and Gen. G. C. Marshall (821); and Italy—Garibaldi, Cavour, and Mazzini (776); Liberia—President James Monroe (C69); Rumania—Robert Burns (1265) and Mark Twain (1341);

And, finally, Ryukyus Islands—Commodore Perry (28); Spain—Premier Manuel Ruiz Zorrilla (534) Grand Master of the Grand Orient of Spain, and Lindbergh (C56); Sweden—King Oscar II, District Grand Master and King Gustav V Grand Master of Sweden. These are some examples.

Henry Dunant, the founder of the Red Cross and a Mason, is depicted on the stamps of Algeria (C375), Belgium (B233), Chile (322), Colombia (RA55), East Germany (350), Ecuador (C375), Greece (657), France (B328), Germany (B330), Honduras (RA4), India (291), Norway (401), Poland (868), Saar (B95), Sweden (B45), Switzerland (B48), and Viet Nam (136).

He wrote a booklet on the sufferings of soldiers entitled “Un Souvenir de Solferino” (on sale at the American Red Cross in Washington) which shocked the conscience of the world.

Due to the business reverses, Dunant’s health failed. Lying in the Heiden Hospital near Lake Constance in December 1901, he was informed that he and Frederic Passy were co-winners of the Nobel Peace Prize. He used his share of the money to pay off his debts, and finally died Oct. 30, 1910.
WILL. ROGERS, MASON

Bro. Rogers was born near Claremore, Okla. (Indian Territory at the time) on Nov. 4, 1879. He was the son of Clem V. and Mary Rogers, both part Cherokee Indian. What schooling he had was at Kemper Academy, Booneville, Mo., which he attended for part of two terms. In 1905 he entered vaudeville at Keith’s Union Square Theatre, New York City, delivering humorous monologues while doing lasso tricks. As a lecturer, motion picture actor, and newspaper columnist, he was known for his shrewd but kindly commentary on current events. He was nearly always referred to as this nation’s unofficial ambassador to any foreign country he visited, and was always well received by those nations. He was married to Betty Blake in Nov. 1908 and to this union three children were born. Will Rogers was killed Aug. 15, 1935 in an airplane crash at Port Barrow, Alaska, while flying with his friend Wiley Post, holder of the round the world flight record.

Noble Rogers was raised March 21, 1900 in Claremore Lodge No. 53, Claremore, Okla. He was also a member of the Ancient and Accepted Scottish Rite, Southern Jurisdiction, Valley of Claremore, Okla., and Aikdar Temple, A.A.O.N.M.S., at Tulsa, Okla.

—R. L. Needham

I have not yet begun to fight

John Paul Jones
US Bicentennial 15c

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