



The Masonic Philatelist

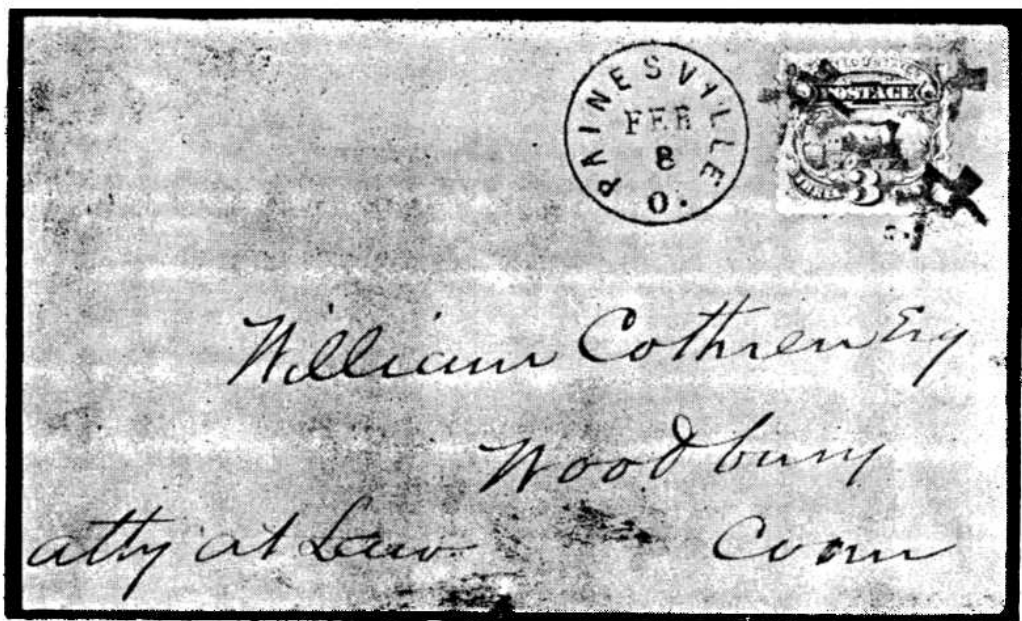
A QUARTERLY

VOL. 41

JUNE, 1985

NO. 2

Masonic Cancellations



3c Ultramarine (114). Centered, tied in corners by three clear Ty. 2 Masonic Cancels., clear "Painesville, O." pmk., on Immaculate Yellow Cover, A Very Choice Cover, Extremely Fine Showpiece

The MASONIC PHILATELIST

VOL. 41

NO. 2

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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.

Please Address All Communications To The

MASONIC STAMP CLUB OF N.Y.

MASONIC HALL - Box 10
46 West 24th St.
New York, N.Y. 10010

ON THE COVER

Masonic Cancellations has been an ongoing topic of our MASONIC PHILATELIST for many years.

The Milton Greenbaum collection included the Masonic cover featured on the cover of this issue which was sold at Southby Parke Bernet Stamp Auction Inc. on October 30, 1979 for \$3,250.00

The Sidney F. Barrett collection of Masonic cancellations and allied material, such as corner cards, etc. was sold at auction in February 1953 and did much to focus the interest of postal historians on this facet of philately.

The subject has created many requests for back numbers of the MASONIC PHILATELIST on this subject which are now out-of-print. We have consolidated and updated some of the past articles and include them in this issue for our members.

Regular meetings, 2:00 p.m., 2nd Wednesday each month except July and August at:

The Collectors Club
22 East 35th Street
New York, NY 10016
Phone (212) 683-0559

Masonic Stamp Club Golden Anniversary Year

Masonic Cancellations

Dr. S. Duffield Swan

At the time of the Civil War, Masonry became an important feature of the social and political life in the U. S. This is evidenced by the tremendous number of new lodges formed. It is also well depicted in the many Masonic Cancellations found in the ten year period following the close of hostilities.

There were about 40,000 post offices under the postmaster generals control in this period. Instructions were that the postage stamps must be canceled so that they could not be "reused." This was due to the fact that some of the inks used in that day could be "washed off" and although the common stamp was only 3¢, many saw their way into service a second and third time. This brought into use an "obliterating canceler."

For the many who are unaware of the nature of a canceler, the following is a description of one type that became common due to the official order on cancellations.

It consisted of a holder, termed "hammer" that had a general shape similar to a hammer-type gavel. The head was cylindrical, 3 1/2 by 1 1/2 inches and the handle was 9 inches long. It was made of hardwood. Each end was hollowed out with a tapering opening of one-inch diameter. In one end was fitted a "slug" usually of metal with the town and state name and in some was an opening in the middle to put the date. In the other end was fitted any obliterating device desired. This is where the Masonic or other fancy cancelers were placed. The sale of these hammers and cancelers became quite a business. The salesman had a considerable supply of these hammers and crude representative of the single-headed ones found in the post offices today, which they carried from town to town making direct sales. However most of these hammers contained metal cancelers and did not include fraternal insignia. The artistic and enthusiastic fraternal man substituted and hand-carved head containing some emblem of importance to

him. A few made metal heads, others hardwood, (from broom handles) but the most prevalent were carved from cork.

I have seen many other cancelers, mostly single-headed ones, but all with the hollowed out head, tapering for easy fitting. Some were even square or oblong in shape.

Accumulating date concerning the Masonic Cancellations used in the early postage stamp days, has brought many interesting facts to light, which give us some idea of the nature of the individuals who devised the cancelers. Many of the postmasters who were responsible for these cancellations were in small villages where they were the only postal employee and frequently they combined a general store with the post office.

We find one such in Putney, Vt., where Alexis B. Hewitt operated a general store and was postmaster from 1862 to 1882.

Another interesting report showed George S. Silsby as postmaster of Winterport, Me. A local history reports him as "a very religious man, a good dresser who sang in the choir of the Congregational Church."

In Douglas, Kansas, J. B. Ives was a school teacher, "an excellent, artistic penman," — samples of his records are still held for their beauty.

William B. Darlington of Westchester, Pa. was a Major in the Civil War who lost a leg in the battle of the Wilderness. "He was known for his whittlings," — (wood carvings).

At Painted Post, N.Y., Henry D. Edwards, according to a local history was "a dealer in and repair of watches, clocks, jewelry, etc., also engraving."

W. S. Miller, the postmaster of Ludlow, Mass. claimed his masonic connections in Chicopee, Mass. He probably was inspired to produce a masonic canceler by Capt. Andrew S. Hunter, postmaster of

Chicopee, who was one of the early user of Masonic Cancellations. These latter cancellations are quite common.

Actual connection of many of these men in Masonic circles is difficult to establish. Local lodges of the day have been superseded by those organized after the 1885 period, and the old records have been lost. In other known cases members claimed their affiliation with lodges in different cities. It is reasonably safe to assume that they all were "brothers" who were loyal to the fraternity and were demonstrating that loyalty by the use of the special designs in cancellers.

One of the earliest users of Masonic Cancellers was Cambridge, Ohio, according to Carl J. Rech. It seems that C. L. Madison was secretary of the local "Blue Lodge" in that period as well as postmaster. He was closely associated with Killian H. van Rensselaer, who was Deputy for Western Pennsylvania and Ohio for the A.A.S.R. Masons. Van Rensselaer also was superintendent of construction of the "Central Ohio R.R." These two men were responsible for the organization of the Cambridge Scottish Rite Masonic body.

Masonic cancellers of various designs are reputed to have been used by Postmaster Madison, but the only one we have observed was the square and compasses.

I have seen many other cancelers, mostly single-headed ones, but all with the hollowed out head, tapering for easy fitting. Some were even square or oblong in shape.

The use of Masonic cancelers was not new in the late 60's, as several towns, namely, Chicopee, Ludlow and Mittineague, all of Massachusetts, Holderness, N. H., Newport, Tenn., and Norwich, Conn., all used the square and compasses before 1860.

It is not certain which of these towns was the first to use a Masonic canceler, but Mittineague has been generally accredited as being first, since they went to the trouble of having a metallic canceler made, while the others were simply carved cork. This canceller was used at fre-

quent intervals over a period of more than five years as covers are of record from 1857 to 1863. The postmaster in this period (1854-85) was Luke Bliss, who was definitely established as a Mason.

Following 1865 towns all over the country and Canada began the use of fancy cancels and especially those of Masonic import.

For the sake of systemization we classify Masonic cancellations in seven groups of classes, according to types and apparent intent of the designer of the canceler. These are:

Class I: Negative square and compasses with the letter "G" in the center. Commonly made from cork.

Class II: Positive square and compasses with the letter "G" in the center. Many made from metal and hardwood.

Class III: Negative square and compasses, similar to Class I, but without the letter "G".

Class IV: Positive square and compasses, similar to Class II, but without the letter "G".

Class V: Identified degree symbols.

Class VI: Identified higher degree symbols.

Class VII: Marginal symbols

Over the past years an endeavor has been made to determine the personal authorship of the various cancellations. Recently a renewed effort, which included cancellations not in the author's collection, has given results which are included in the tabulation of towns found later in this article. The cooperation of local postmasters and Masonic lodges is gratefully acknowledged — many of these men having had to search forgotten and musty records to obtain the necessary information. In the case of cities like New York, Boston, Baltimore, etc. it was impossible to trace the cancellation artist, even when the area of the source was known. Many of the small post offices have been discontinued or have become lost as sustations in larger cities. Records over the years have been destroyed and exact data is not obtainable in some cases

even from Washington. Local historians in many cases and older philatelists have been of great assistance in ferreting out details that otherwise would have never been found.

Of the 105 offices originally selected for contacts, 72 have yielded definite name, dates, etc. and about 15 others are still searching available records.

The other 18 could give no information.

By 1868 the vogue of Masonic cancellers had spread from New England and reached such towns as Bangor, Wis., Marengo, Ia., Douglas, Kan., Austin, Tex., and Mobile, Ala. Copies of these cancellations on cover have brought excellent prices in auction.

Beginning in 1868 we start to see the use of minor Masonic symbols, but of course, the square and compasses continued to be the principal ones found. Those of special interest are the Lowell, Mass., spade; Pittston, Pa., Trowell and the Centerville, Mich., square, triangle and G. These are quite rare as in 25 years only one of each on cover has come to our attention.

Minor symbols continued to appear in increasing numbers after 1868. King Solomon's Seal, trowels, Master Squares, Enblazoned "G," Allseeing eyes, Euclids 47th problem, Cane with two dots, sun and moon, moon and star, and a number of others that have been accepted by some collectors as Masonic.

This brings up the subject of just which are Masonic cancellations. Of course, the square and compasses with the letter G or blazing sun are easily recognizable as truly Masonic. However, it is frequently difficult to decide on some negative cork cancels which resemble a square and compasses. I have made it a rule that the corner of the square must be entirely within the cork and if possible the ends of the square and compasses also should be entirely within the cork. The angle of the square should be 90°, however, in some known cases it has been found to be either a little more or less than this figure, so the final judgment is individual and dependent on interpretation of intent.

Some square and compasses may be derived from other organizations such as the "Junior Order of American Mechanics"; one of the early Temperance Societies; or certain Benevolent societies that claimed relationship to the Masonic principles. Such emblems are without the letter "G" or have some other figure to replace it.

In the period 1928 to 1930 several fancy cancellations appeared from various small cities, such as Sharon, Pa. and Ed, Ky. It has been established that in no case was the Post Office responsible for these cancellers. Ambitious philatelists sent the prepared canceller together with envelopes bearing satisfactory postage to these offices. The cancellers were then destroyed or returned to the sender, and no record made of the transaction. It is rarely possible that similar conditions existed in the earlier days in a few post offices.

As this is a continuing research, there are some towns without a postmaster's name, and of course there are many that are still under investigation for Masonic connections. We have the names of most of the postmasters, and in the case of many of the towns with out a name, we have a succession of postmaster names, because we are not certain of the year date of the cancellation and are trying to find if any of the names have masonic record.

It will be noticed that a few of the cancels which are included in this compilation break some of the rules laid down in the preceding paragraphs. They are there because these particular items appeared in standard publications in years gone by, or we have identified the Masonic connection.

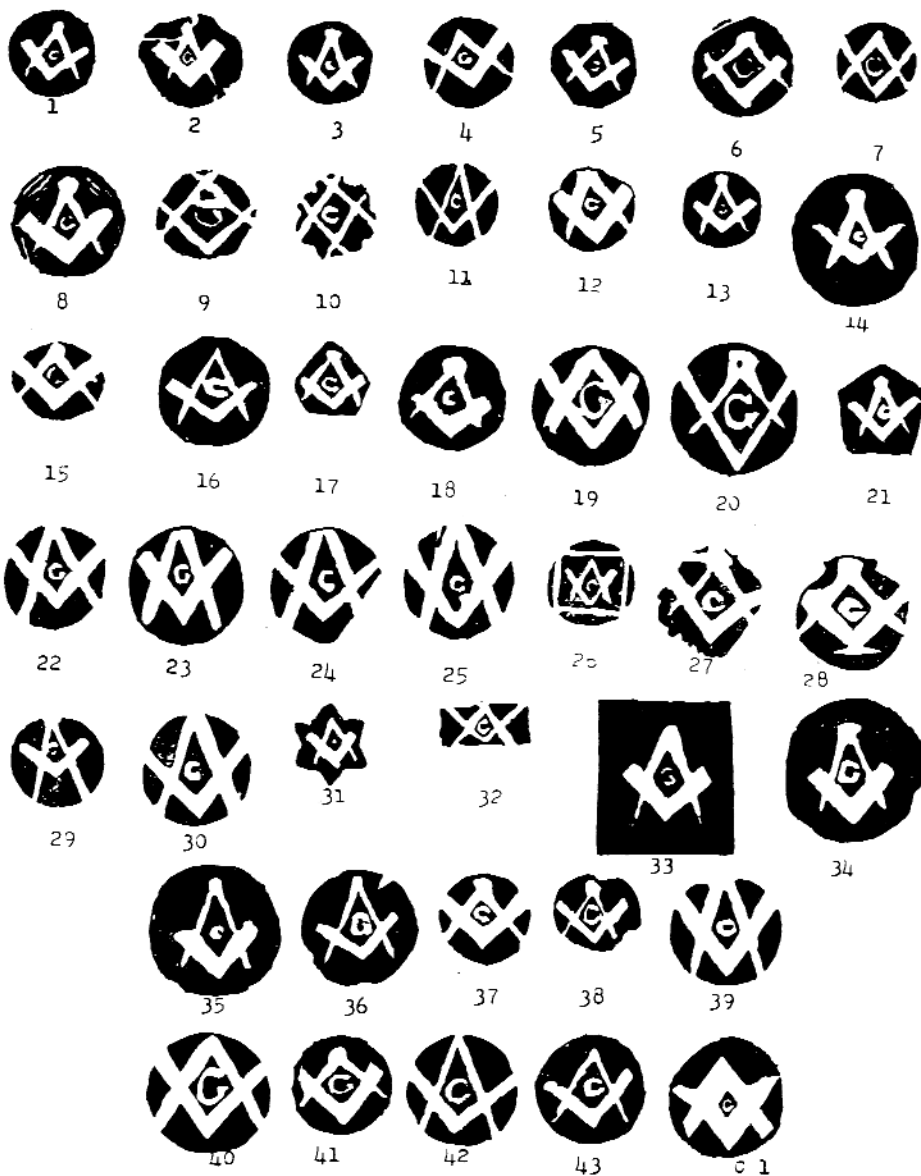
In the case of New York City, we have traced the source to the post office at Cooper Square. As this was a large post office even in those days we have been unable to establish a responsible party there, even though we have definite dates. All four of the New York cancels came from this station.

Canadian Masonic cancellations are included in our illustrations and charts. They will be identified with a letter "C" before the number. They are numbered in succession according to their appearance in our classification.

The compilation which follows has been attained with the assistance of many brothers. The collections included are Sidney Barrett's and Charels Gramm's, which have been dissipated by auctions.

	Post Office	Stamp	Measurement	Postmaster	Mason
1.	Adrian, Mich.	184-212	17.0x17.0	Jerome H. Fee	
2.	Ashland, O.	65	20.8x18.8	A. G. Beer	
3.	August, Me.	185	18.8x16.5	Horace H. Hamlin	
4.	Baltimore, Md.	65	17.7x17.7	Andrew W. Denison	
5.	Boonton, N. J.	156	16.8x16.6	Esli B. Dawson	
6.	Boston, Mass.	65	19.6x19.6	W. Lathrop Burt	
7.	Boston, Mass.	114	16.3x15.8	W. Lathrop Burt	
8.	Brattleboro, Vt.	65	22.0x22.0	Daniel Kellogg, Sr.	M
9.	Brookline, Mass.	88	19.6x17.4	Cyrus W. Ruggles	
10.	Canton, Mass.	65	16.2x16.2	Rufus C. Wood	
11.	Clyde, O.	65	16.2x16.2	Zelots Perrin	
12.	Denmark, Me.	65	16.6x16.6	Joseph Bennett	M
13.	Dunkirk, N. Y.	145	16.0x15.5	Lee L. Hyde	
14.	Elmer, N. J.	210	25.4x26.0	Mrs. Eliza Smith	
15.	Forest, N. Y.	216	17.8x15.5		
16.	Greenfield, Mass.	65	21.5x21.5	Lewis Merriam	M
17.	Middlebury, Vt.	65	14.8x14.8	John Cobb	M
18.	New Milford, Conn.	158	21.0x21.0		
19.	New York, N. Y.	65	23.0x23.0		
20.	New York, N. Y.	65	25.5x26.0		
21.	North Conway, N. H.	65	17.6x17.6	Durgin Eastman	M
22.	Norwich, Conn.	27	22.3x23.2	Capt. Henry B. Tracy	M
23.	Norwich, Conn.	27	19.8x19.8	Capt. Henry B. Tracy	M
24.	Norwich, Conn.	27	22.5x21.5	Capt. Henry B. Tracy	M
25.	Palmyra, N. Y.	158	21.4x22.7	Edward S. Averill	M
26.	Putney, Vt.	65	17.0x17.0	Alexis B. Hewitt	
27.	Quincy, Mass.	65	20.7x21.7	John B. Bass	M
28.	Quincy, Mass.	65	21.7x22.5	John B. Bass	M
29.	Reading, Pa.	65	18.2x17.7	Wm. Brinner	
30.	Richmond, Va.	65	20.5x21.7	Alexander Sharp	
31.	Rosrand, Vt.	65	15.0x15.8	John B. Kilburn	M
32.	Salem, Mass.	158	17.5x8.0	Geo. H. Pierson	M
33.	Sharon, Pa.	(1928)	26.5x30.0	Paul Wentz —	M
34.	Sharon, Pa.	(1928)	27.7x26.6	a collector)	M
35.	Sharon, Pa.	(1928)	26.4x26.4	(Paul Wentz)	M
36.	Shenandoah, Va.	114	23.3x23.3	James W. Rodgers	
37.	Sherman, N. Y.	185	18.2x18.0	John C. Page	
38.	South Wilbraham, Mass.	65	17.5x15.6	Horton S. Hendrick	
39.	Springfield, Mass.	94	21.8x21.5	Wm. Stowe	
40.	Tamworth, N. H.	147	24.0x24.0	Mary J. Gilman	
41.	Washington, Conn.	65	20.0x20.0	Erastus J. Hurlburt	
42.	Washington, N. J.	88	21.2x21.2	Jeremiah Kesfer	
43.	Wells River, Vt.	114	21.4x21.4	Franklin Deming	
C1	Simon, Ont.	37	22.3x23.8	Henry Mulkins	

CLASS I



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

	Post Office	Stamp	Measurement	Postmaster	Mason
1	Alleytown, Mich.	184	27.5x25.0	John W. Haye	
2	Bangor, Wis.	65	29.0x27.0	John S. Houser	
3	Blairtowns, N. J.	184	21.6x21.6	James D. Vail	
4	Branford, Conn.	65	19.5x19.5		
5	Cadiz, N. Y.	114	18.8x22.3	LeRoy Burlingame	
6	Cambridge, N. Y.	65	13.6x13.4	Ezra Smith	
7	Cambridge, N. Y.	65	13.0x12.2	Ezra Smith	
8	Charlestown, N. H.	65	21.4x21.4	Charles C. Kimball	M
9	Chelsea, Vt.	114	22.0x15.0	John B. Bacon	
10	Columbus, Ky.	65	20.5x18.8	James M. Moore	
11	Conway, N. H.	184	14.0x13.5	Christopher W. Wildner	
12	Danville, Va.	65	22.4x22.4		
13	East Eddington, Me.	65	13.3x13.7	William H. Johnson	
14	Ed. Ky.	(1930)	22.4x24.5	*	
15	Hartford, Conn.	69	23.5x22.3	Edward S. Cleveland	
16	Haverhill, Mass.	136	16.8x15.0	David Boynton	M
17	Holderness, N. H.	65	21.8x21.4	Edward F. Smyth	
18	Kinsbury, Ind.	117	21.8x22.4	Lorenzo D. Brand	
19	Kopperl, Texas	184	22.5x21.5	Rice Maxey	
20	Northeast, Pa.	U83	19.0x19.0	William Jones	
21	Pacolet Mills, S. C.	(1930)	18.0x23.8	Jesse J. Glass (not a Mason)	
22	Peterborough, N. H.	114	14.8x12.8	John R. Miller	
23	Pomfret, Conn.	65	20.6x20.6	Thos. W. Williams	
24	Quincy, Mass.	65	21.5x19.0	John B. Bass	M
25	Quincy, Mass.	65	22.3x22.8	John B. Bass	M
26	Quincy, Mass.	65	21.4x15.0	John B. Bass	M
27	Richmond, Va.	65	18.0x17.5	Alexander Sharp	
28	Rockaway, N. J.	65	16.8x16.0	Henry Dalrympletttle	M
29	Scranton, Pa.	184	22.7x24.6	Joseph A. Scranton	
30	Sharon, Pa.	(1928)	29.5x32.5	(Paul Wentz - a collector)	M
31	Shoreham, Vt.	65	16.8x15.8	Geo. L. Deming	
32	Shoreham, Vt.	65	19.7x17.2	Geo. L. Deming	
33	Springfield, Mass.	65	30.0x26.3	William Stowe	
34	Syracuse, N. Y.	147	14.5x14.5	Austin C. Chase	M
35	Topsham, Me.	147	21.0x19.5	Robert P. Whitney	
36	West Bloomfield, N. Y.	65	17.0x16.5	Chas. M. Hendre	
37	Willistown, Vt.	65	14.0x13.0	Truman A. Chittenden	M
38	Willistown, Vt.	158	14.6x13.0	Truman A. Chittenden	M
39	Willistown, Vt.	158	14.2x14.2	Truman A. Chittenden	M
* Cancellor sent in, source unknown.					
C2	Brockville, Ont.	35	16.5x17.3	John Crawford	
C3	Preston, Ont.	37	18.5x14.1	Conrad Nispel	
OFF COVER					
51		65	17.8x16.0		
52		65	14.4x16.5		
53		65	21.3x19.7		
54		72	11.8x12.0		
55		73	12.5x11.2		
56		73	12.3x12.0		
57		206	12.0x12.0		
58		210	15.5x24.8		
59		252	12.3x11.8		

CLASS II



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CLASS II



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C 2



C 3



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I will now review what I have classified as Class III Masonic cancellations. Again, I am listing various post offices, postmasters, and measurement of the cancellations. An "M" following the postmaster's name indicates that he was a member of our fraternity.

CLASS III

	Post Office	Stamp	Measurement	Postmaster	Mason
1	Abington, Pa.	114	16.0x16.0	Henry Vasey	
2	Allegheny, Pa.	207	16.5x17.0	John A. Huyler	
3	Alliance, Ohio	65	16.3x16.3	Humphrey Hoover	M
4	Alliance, Ohio	65	20.3x17.5	Humphrey Hoover	M
5	Amenia, N. Y.	U59	18.5x19.0		
6	Atlanta, Ga.	212	26.7x25.6	Wm. T. B. Wilson	
7	Atlanta, Ga.	212	27.5x27.5	Wm. T. B. Wilson	
8	Audenreid, Pa.	U34	25.0x25.0	Mary E. Lazarus	
9	Augusta, Ga.	153	18.7x18.0	Foster Blodgett	
10	Augusta, Me.	135	16.0x14.8	Horace H. Hamlin	
11	Baltimore, Md.	113	17.8x17.0	Andrew W. Denison	
12	Bango, Wis.	212	21.3x22.0	John S. Houser	
13	Barnstead, N. H.	114	14.2x14.7	Cyrus Blanchard	
14	Belfast, Me.	114	17.5x17.5	Samuel G. Thurlow	
15	Bethel, Me.	UX1	20.0x19.0	Samuel R. Shehan	
16	Bellefonte, Pa.	114	16.0x16.6	John F. Johnston	
17	Billings & Helena R.P.O.	212	18.5x15.8		
18	Boston, Mass.	65	20.0x18.4	Wm. Lathrop Burt	
19	Boston, Mass.	114	22.5x22.8	Wm. Lathrop Burt	
20	Bridgewater, Mass.	83	19.4x19.1	Lewis Holmes	
21	Brookline, Mass.	88	19.8x19.3	Cyrus W. Ruggles	
22	Brookville, Pa.	65	18.2x18.4	Barton F. Hastings	
23	Brunswick, Me.	153	16.4x18.7	Feor C. Crawford	M
24	Cannan, Me.	65	20.3x25.5		
25	Canon City, Colo.	184	16.4x18.0	Capt. B. F. Rockafellow	
26	Canton, Ohio	147	13.1x14.1	Henry D. Shaffer	
27	Center White Creek N. Y.	146	18.7x18.7		
28	Chariton, Iowa	153	26.7x26.2	Albert W. McCormick	M
29	Chicopee, Mass.	27	20.7x20.5	Capt. Andrew S. Hunter	M
30	Chicopee, Mass.	65	23.6x23.6	Capt. Andrew S. Hunter	M
31	Chicopee Falls, Mass.	63	22.7x22.7		
32	Cleveland, Ohio	207	20.5x20.5	Thos. Jones, Jr.	
33	Columbus, Ohio	145	18.2x18.2	James M. Comly	
34	Concord, N. H.	65	16.0x16.0	Moses T. Willard	
35	Conway, N. H.	184	14.0x14.0	Christopher W. Wilder	
36	Cunningham, Pa.	147	18.7x18.7	Wm. Sedgwick	
37	Dayton, Ohio	158	20.5x19.6	Fielding Lowry	
38	Denver, Colo.	184	17.4x17.4	Edw. C. Sumner	
39	Derby, Conn.	114	16.4x15.8	Robert C. Naramore	
40	East Nantmeal Pa.	U228	24.8x18.3	Annie M. Stringle	
41	East Woodstock, Vt.	114	17.3x17.3		
42	Fairport, N. Y.	114	20.5x20.5	Mortimer R. Wilcox	
43	Frankfort Springs, Pa.	114	17.0x19.4	James McCutchen	
44	Franklin, Ind.	114	16.1x15.7	Ephraim Jeffry	
45	Greenwood Depot, Va.	65	17.0x16.4	Lucy A. Bruce	
46	Grinnell, Iowa	156	16.8x19.5	Wm. S. Leisure	
47	Hailey, Idaho	208	17.5x17.5	Henry Bews	M
48	Holly Springs, Miss.	184	19.4x24.2	Solomon Baer	
49	Jeffersonville, Ind.	65	20.5x20.0	Wm. A. Ingrapham	M

CLASS III



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CLASS III



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	Post Office	Stamp	Measurement	Postmaster	Mason
50	Little America, Ill.	114	17.5x9.4	John E. Willett	
51	Little Falls, N. Y.	65	15.2x14.6	Wm. Dorr	M
52	Little Falls, N. Y.	65	18.0x17.4	Wm. Dorr	M
53	Little Georgetown, W. Va.	213	22.0x23.7	Eli Fleming	
54	Lone Rock, Wis.	65	14.7x13.3		
55	Louisville, Ky.	65	21.7x16.1	John J. Speed	
56	Louisville, KY	65	17.8x17.8	John J. Speed	
57	Lyme, Conn.	158	20.8x21.7	Hiram Beckwith	M
58	McConnellsville, Vt.	147	17.2x15.5		
59	McMinnsville Tenn.	145	8.3x11.5	Richard Kennedy	
60	Middlebury, Vt.	145	16.6x15.8	John Cobb	M
61	Middlebury, Vt.	147	18.0x18.0	John Cobb	M
62	Middleville, Mich.	65	17.8x17.8	John F. Emory	
63	Mobile, Ala.	65	17.5x18.0	Byron R. Pierce	
64	Mt. Pleasant, Ia.	114	16.2x15.6	Jas. H. White	
65	Mt. Union, pa.	184	22.5x21.6	Thos. A. Appleby	
66	Mystic Bridge, Conn.	114	14.4x15.2	John A. Rathbun	
67	Nashua, N. H.	65	18.0x18.0	Geo. W. Swain	M
68	Nashua, N. H.	65	17.5x17.5	Geo. W. Swain	M
69	Nashua, N. H.	65	16.3x16.5	Geo. W. Swain	M
70	Nashua, N. H.	65	19.1x18.2	Geo. W. Swain	M
71	Nashua, N. H.	88	18.8x19.8	Geo. W. Swain	M
72	Nashua, N. H.	114	20.0x19.0	Geo. W. Swain	M
73	Nashua, N. H.	114	19.3x19.0	Geo. W. Swain	M
74	Nashua, N. H.	114	16.8x16.3	Geo. W. Swain	M
75	Nashua, N. H.	114	18.0x18.0	Geo. W. Swain	M
76	Nashua, N. H.	114	17.5x17.5	Geo. W. Swain	M
77	Nashua, N. H.	114	17.8x17.8	Geo. W. Swain	M
78	New Orleans, La.	65	17.6x19.3	Chas. W. Lowell	
79	New Orleans, La.	114	17.7x17.0	Chas. W. Lowell	
80	New Orelans, Oa.	114	22.2x22.2	Chas. W. Lowell	
81	Newport, Tenn.	27	15.5x16.4	David Stewart	M
82	Newton, Kan.	188	21.2x22.4	Alvarado C. Frederick	
83	New York, N. Y.	65	23.3x23.3		
84	N.Y.C - R.P.O.	114	16.0x15.0		
85	North Conway, N. H.	65	15.5x17.5	Durgin Eastman	M
86	Norwich, Conn.	27	22.5x22.5	Capt. Henry B. Tracy	M
87	Old Point Comfort, Va.	65	27.0x22.0		
88	Painted Post, N. Y.	114	18.8x18.0	Henry D. Edwards	M
89	Petersborough, N. Y.	158	28.0x22.0	John R. Miller	
90	Port Huron, Mich.	147	13.0x12.5	Wm. Hartsuff	
91	Richwood, O.	210	23.7x22.0		
92	Reliance, O.	65	22.0x23.0		
93	Rochester, N. H.	114	20.0x21.5	Geo. B. Roberts	
94	St. Joseph, Mich.	65	19.4x18.6	Henry W. Gustin	
95	St. Paul, Minn.	147	20.2x20.2	Joseph Wheelock	
96	St. Paul, Minn.	147	19.8x20.3	Joseph Wheelock	
97	Salem, Mass.	158	18.1x13.0	Geo. H. Pierson	M
98	Saratoga Springs, N. Y.	114	23.7x23.7	Benj. F. Judson	M
99	Saratoga Springs, N. Y.	145	18.5x16.3	Benj. F. Judson	M

CLASS III



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CLASS III



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The following is the conclusion of what I have classified as Class III Masonic cancellations. The number in the first column refers to the number under the diagram of the cancellations on the following pages:

	Post Office	Stamp	Measurement	Postmaster	Mason
100	Saratoga Springs, N. Y.	94	18.4x23.0	Benji. F. Judson	M
101	Sharon, Pa.	(1928)	27.4x29.7	(Paul Wentz, a collector)	M
102	Shorham, Vt.	65	17.3x14.8	Geo. L. Deming	
103	Smith Road, O	65	23.2x23.2		
104	Stroudsburg, Pa.	114	16.0x16.8	Michael M. Burnett	
105	Stuart, Iowa	145	19.6x18.4	H. C. Trout	
106	Temperanceville, Va.	65	24.0x23.5	Wm. J. Bayley	
107	Vermont, Ill.	114	18.6x18	John H. Hunter	
108	Washington, N. J.	94	20.8x21.8	Jeremiah Kaefer	
109	Watertown, Mass.	114	20.4x9.5	Archibald McMaster	
110	Welch Run, Pa.	65	21.5x21.5		
111	Wentworth, N. H.	114	18.0x17.5	Albert S. Hammond	
112	West Brookfield, Mass.	114	16.4x16.2	Ezra Hutchins Blair	
113	West Chelmsford, Mass.	114	19.1x19.9	Christopher Roby	
114	Westchester, Pa.	114	23.0x21.3	Wm. B. Darlington	
115	Westford, Mass.	114	19.1x16.9	John B. Fletcher	
116	Whitehall, N. Y.	114	16.8x17.5	Horatio N. Park	
117	Wolcott, N. Y.	184	17.3x17.3		
118	Young America, Ill.	114	16.8x9.0	John E. Willett	
CANADA					
C4	Simcoe, Ont.	35	19.5x19.5	Henry Mulkins	
C5	Simcoe, Ont.	37	24.5x25.1	Henry Mulkins	
C6	Stayner, Ont.	41	21.1x18.4	Wm. B. Sanders Edgar B. Sanders	M M
C7	Yarmouth, Nova Scotia	37	17.5x17.5	A. J. Hood	M
C8	—, Canada	37	20.3x20.3	—	
C9	Early UC	—	16.0x15.4		
C10	(Newfoundland)	30	19.5x19.5		

OFF COVER

	Stamp	Size		Stamp	Size
131	11	15.3x12.6	155	158	17.2x14.8
132	27	16.8x17.0	156	158	14.5x14.5
133	27	17.7x17.4	157	178	15.8x15.0
134	65	17.2x19.7	158	184	18.8x18.5
135	65	14.8x14.8	159	184	25.0x22.3
136	65	20.7x20.0	160	184	19.5x17.8
137	65	19.9x18.9	161	184	19.0x19.0
138	67	13.3x17.8	162	184	18.3x20.0
139	72	16.2x16.2	163	184	19.2x19.2
140	72	18.2x17.2	164	184	20.5x19.2
141	72	17.0x15.7	165	194	18.8x18.x
142	113	18.0x18.0	166	206	17.2x13.3
143	113	19.0x17.6	167	206	15.6x18.2
144	114	17.5x16.8	168	210	17.6x18.2
145	114	16.4x16.4	169	212	16.2x19.7
146	114	17.3x17.3	170	213	17.8x17.8
147	116	17.8x18.5	171	213	18.8x20.5
148	136	17.6x9.2	172	231	13.8x13.8
149	145	23.3x20.5	173	231	15.7x16.0

CLASS III



100



101



102



103



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c 4



c 5



c 6



c 7



c 8



c 9

CLASS III



C 10



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CLASS III



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150	148	15.8x18.0	174	236	15.5x18.8
151	148	20.7x19.8	175	O36	15.0x13.2
152	152	9.1x9.8	176	O79	14.8x18.2
153	158	20.8x19.5	177	O89	20.7x21.2
154	158	17.5x20.6	178	114	16.3x16.0

Masonic Cancellations 'Off Cover'

By Bro. S. Duffield Swan

The most common occurrence of Masonic Cancellations is "Off Cover." We here offer a number of this type which have come to our attention, and we cannot connect with any Post Office, as we have never seen them on cover. They also are not in any of the presently illustrated lists.



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Masonic Cancellations 'Off Cover'



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Masonic Cancellations 'Off Cover'

Scott's Number	Cancellation Color	206, 210	Black
1. 65	Black	20.	Black
2. 183	Purple	21.	Black
3. 184	Black	22.	Blue
4. 252	Black	23.	Black
5. 65	Black	24.	Black
6. 73	Black	25.	Black
7. 73	Red	26.	Black
8. 73	Red	27.	Blue
9. 73 (65)	Blue	28.	Black
10. 73	Black	29.	Black
11. 112	Black	30.	Black
12. 113	Black	31.	Black
13. 184	Purple	32.	Black
14. 184	Black	33.	Black
15. 184	Black	34.	Black
16. 184	Blue	35.	Black
17. 184	Black	36.	Blue
18. 189	Black	37.	Black
19. 189	Purple	38.	Black
		39.	Blue

Canadian Masonic Cancellations

Canadian Masonic Cancellations have long intrigued the interest of cancellation collectors but, due to their scarcity very few of us have had a chance to add them to our collections, and when we did it was at a very high price.

This particular study started with Jarrett's catalogue, where four sources of Canadian Masonics were listed. These were Toronto, Beachville, Simcoe and Woodstock. Through the courtesy of Bro. Milton Greenbaum of Saginaw, Michigan, we have the photos of three covers from his collection. One of these covers indicates a different post office than those mentioned before, Brockville, and it is quite distinctive.

In the course of this research, I obtained a postal card from Embro, Ont., with the illustrated cancellation (6) showing, and I also discovered the existence of a cover from Blythe, Ont., but have not as yet obtained a tracing for the record.

With reference to the postmasters at the various towns, we have accumulated the following information. The Hon. G. Alexander was postmaster and William Hargrave was deputy postmaster at Woodstock at the time of the cover usage there, but to date we cannot be sure that either was a member of the Fraternity. Similarly, while H. Mulkins was postmaster at Simcoe, we cannot be sure that he was a Mason either.

Record shows that Charles Mason was postmaster at Beachville. According to his grandson, R. S. Mason of Port Dover, he was not a member of the Fraternity but used the insignia to identify and advertise his surname. A further point of interest is that he apparently became an itinerant member of the postal staff. Jarrett and the Post Office Department list him as Beachville postmaster from 1875. Brockville, Beachville, Embro and a couple of other cancellations observed on off-cover stamps are so similar that we think they could have been the work of this man.

It is possible that as Beachville was a collecting center for many small towns, Mason in checking the mail may have found some stamps uncanceled and so did his own obliteration, even though the envelope bore the town cancellation. We have found the same cancellation on some U. S. stamps of the period, possibly a receiving cancellation, as even some of the Canadian usages may well have been.

The Newfoundland cancellation apparently was made with a signet of some kind. The fancy script initials S. D. H. (or K.) can be identified as well as the square and compasses. This was my first Canadian cancellation, and tracing (3) was from my second, both obtained many years ago.

The Canadian Post Office Department at Ottawa has very obligingly cooperated with us. Furnishing information regarding the postmasters of various towns during the specified period of cancellation usage.

The data which we have assembled is as follows. All towns are in Ontario Province.

Of these cancels which are illustrated here, the Waterloo and Kingston tracings are most interesting. The Waterloo Knights Templar Cross, with the crown and cross in negative, also has the I-H-S-V initials, as is usual with the English Knights Templar, depicting of the "In Hoc Signo Vincas" motto.

Kingston was a very active Masonic area in the early 1870's. The Royal Arch Chapter there bears the number 2. The first Scottish Rite Valley in upper Canada also was located there. The import of the cancellations seems to indicate a desire to represent the insignia of these two bodies.

The Blyth cancel (#4) is one of the three reported to exist, but I have not received the tracings of the other ones for comparison and this one is not too distinct. This cancel was reported in the April and

May 1962 articles, but no tracing was then available. This is also true of the Toronto cancel shown in the chart, which we present now as #10, together with information on the Postmaster's Masonic connection.

Christian Kumpf (a clerk) was initiated a member of Blenheim Lodge #108, Princeton, and later became a charter member of Grand River Lodge #151 in Kitchener.

The Postmaster of Toronto, Thomas Patterson (a clerk) was initiated a member of Kerr Lodge #230, Barrie. He later affiliated with Stanley Lodge #426, Toronto, as charter member.

Alexander J. Hood, Postmaster at Yarmouth, Nova Scotia, likewise was a Mason. He joined Hirma Lodge, now #12, at Yarmouth, prior to 1870, at which time he was of record a Past Master. This information was furnished by the Grand Lodge of Nova Scotia through out good brother W. A. G. Huxsel.

The Postmaster of Stayner, Edgar B. Sanders (a solicitor) was a member of Norther Light Lodge #226 in Stayner. He was Postmaster from October 1, 1887 to July 5, 1895. His predecessor was Wm. W. B. Sanders, his brother, who also was a member of the Fraternity.

WILLIAM HARGRAVE (Woodstock) was initiated March 13, 1867 in Oxford Lodge No. 76, located in Woodstock. He was deputy postmaster of that town.

The other postmasters mentioned in the preceding article are not Masons of Record, but it is possible that some may have been members of the Craft prior to the formation of Ontario's Grand Lodge and never affiliated with the Lodges of that jurisdiction.

DONALD BRUCE McKINNON (Blyth) was initiated November 16, 1864 in Clinton Lodge No. 84 and became a charter member of Blyth Lodge No. 303. He was its first Junior Warden. (Please note correct town spelling in Blyth, not Blythe.)

We wish to express our deep appreciation to the Grand Secretary of the Grand Lodge of Canada, for their splendid cooperation in digging out the details which we are able to report here. Without his help we would have had little information of value.

We also wish to thank John Kitchen, Bro. Robert Thomsen, Bro. J. Ronald McMurrick, Dr. K. M. Day and E. A. Smythies, who have been instrumental in furnishing us with the material illustrated, and Bro. W. A. G. Huxsel who has cooperated in our report.



ITAGLIO CORK CANCEL OF SQUARE AND COMPASSES ON THE
3 CENT 1851-56 ISSUE OCT 2 BOSTON, MASS NO YEAR SHOWN
FROM THE COLLECTIONS OF CLUB MEMBER GERALD C. CARR

