

The Progression Of The New York Foreign Mail Cancellation 1870–1878

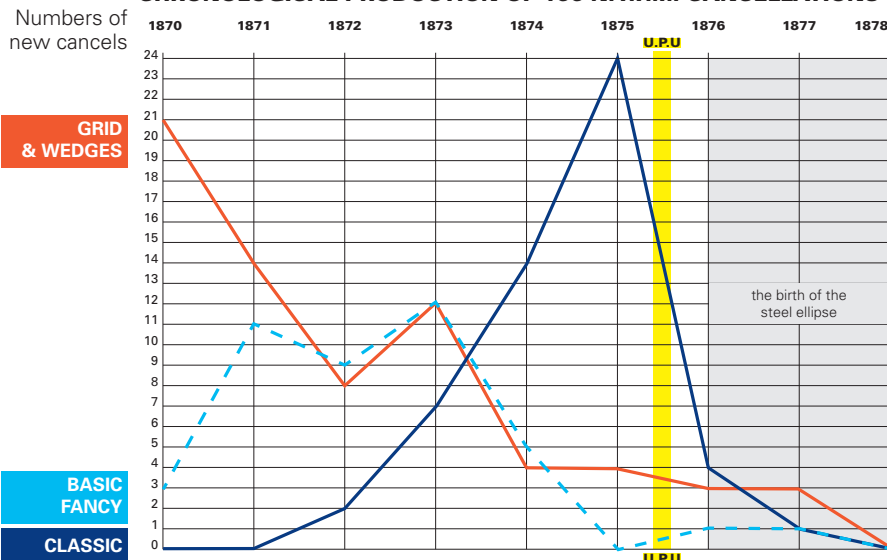
ORIGINS AND HISTORY of the New York Foreign Mail Cancellation

New York Foreign Mail (NYFM) cancellations were designed for use in the Foreign Mail Department of the main New York City Post Office. They were first identified by J. Murray Bartels in 1926 as, '... attractive cancellations used in New York City from 1870 to 1876 on outgoing foreign mail'. This was later qualified by William R. Weiss, Jr in 1990 as, '... a group of cancellations usually applied to mail which usually originated in New York City and was usually destined for a foreign country (other than Canada)'.

THE AIM of this exhibit is to plot the chronological progression of cancellation designs used in the Foreign Mail Department 1870-1878. This ground-breaking treatment reveals the emergence of four categories (which, for convenience, are each assigned a colour which is replicated throughout the exhibit).

- **a) 1870 to 1871:** the predominance of **grid and wedge** cancellations
- **b) 1871 to 1873:** the introduction and predominance of **basic fancy** cancellations
- **c) 1873 to 1875:** the predominance of the **classic intricate fancy** cancellation
- **d) 1875 to 1878:** the progressive decline of *all* handcarved designs with the **inception of the Universal Postal Union (U.P.U.)** on 7/1/1875 and the introduction of the **steel duplex** cancelling device (first recorded use in the Foreign Mail Department being in Jun1876)

CHRONOLOGICAL PRODUCTION OF 166 N.Y.F.M. CANCELLATIONS



NUMBERS OF RECORDED CANCEL DESIGNS

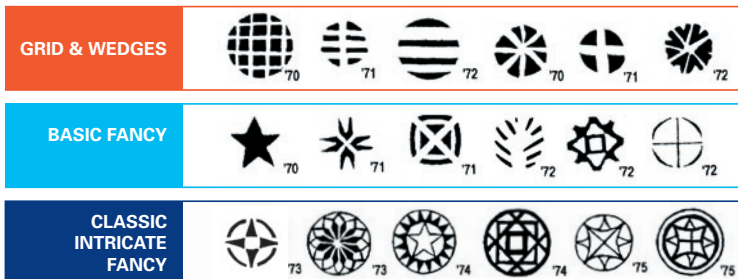
After extensive research the exhibitor believes there currently exist **166** distinctive NYFM cancel designs. He illustrates **154 (93%)** of these with emphasis on the **classic intricate fancy** cancels which so became the hallmark of the period **where 49 of the recorded 52 are shown.**

MATERIAL DISPLAYED

The exhibit shows a comprehensive range of on cover NYFM usage such as supplementary mail (a system to expedite shipping), mail originating outside of New York City yet attracting a NYFM cancel (2-5), or leaving New York by train (rather than ship) for transit via El Paso (4-6); postal cards, stamped envelopes, dual and triple country frankings (1-5 and 8-15) respectively, advertisement (7-3), propaganda (8-5) and steamship usage (5-6). Also shown are the only recorded shipwreck cover (1-14), previously unrecorded cancel designs such as (3-7), a cover bearing two different intricate fancy cancels simultaneously (7-5) and the only recorded Wells Fargo cover originating in Mexico (7-9). Rare destinations with two or less recorded, include Trinidad (2-13), Romania (3-1), Malta (4-6), Uruguay (6-10), Tunisia (6-13), Venezuela (7-4), Columbia (8-1) and Australia (8-14).

A letter 'E' placed by an item denotes it possesses a certificate of expertisation.

The 3 types of cancellation in the graph above are typified below



tracings
25% of
actual size

DATES FOR CANCELLATION USE (shown immediately below cancellation tracings) and numbers of recorded covers can change as new material emerges.

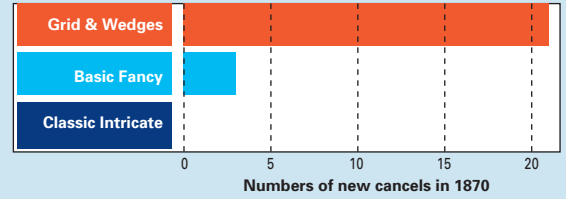
Exchange Office datestamps, where indistinct, are replicated as originally intended where space allows. Generally coloured red and applied exclusively in the Foreign Mail Department, they show dates of departure from New York.

Significant covers showing 'only known use' of a cancel, rare destinations or usages, will be highlighted with a dark red surround

1870 – THE 1st YEAR

GRID AND WEDGE CANCELLATIONS PREDOMINATE

The emergence of the first two basic fancy cancellations



7/27/1870 to Downpatrick

13 covers recorded with this cancel

15 NYFM covers recorded to Ireland

'The World' newspaper was published in New York 1860-1931

Postage paid the 6c British Mail Treaty rate

WEDGES



2/19/1870
to
1/22/1873



10/15/1870 to Austria

The latest of 4 covers showing a worn use with this cancel

Postage paid the 4c Circular Mail NGU Direct rate (paid in full to Austria)

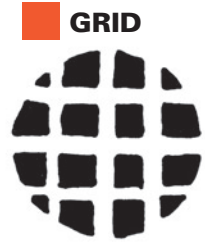
WEDGES



3/5/1870
to
10/15/1870

PAID ALL

1870



3/18/1870
to
11/4/1875

8/10/1872 to France
20 covers recorded with this cancel
Postage paid the 42c French Mail rate via England for 40 to 50 grams

WEDGES



4/14/1870
to
6/1/1877

2/6/1873 to Germany
One of the most common NYFM cancels spanning 1870-78 with 65 recorded covers

Postage paid the 6c NGU (North German Union) Direct Mail rate via Hamburg



4/26/1870
to
6/11/1872

2/22/1872 to St Croix
A worn example of 8 covers recorded with this cancel (note the negative lines in the segments)
10 NYFM covers recorded to Danish West Indies
Postage paid double the 10c American Packet rate via St Thomas

1870

THE FIRST RECORDED BASIC FANCY CANCELLATION



4/23/1870

'CIRCLE OF DIAMONDS'



4/23/1870 red **Supplementary Type 'A'** to Ireland

The only recorded example of this cancel on cover

We may assume this was a supplementary mail Type 'A' use because the obliterating cancel is in red, the accepted colour for supplementary mail Type 'A' at this time. It was not uncommon for the cachet, shown below, to be either absent or poorly struck. This would therefore be an earliest recorded use of Type 'A' during the large U.S. Bank Note NYFM period (defining known use 4/23/1870 to 7/12/1873)

Postage paid the 6c British Mail Treaty rate. The supplementary fee of 6c was paid in cash at the dockside



Presumed missing red cachet

SUPPLEMENTARY MAIL was a system allowing a sender who missed the regular mail at the main P.O. to go to the dockside, pay a fee expressed with additional postage or cash, and get the letter taken directly onto the ship. From 7/10/1873 this service was only available at the main P.O.

1870

DUAL COUNTRY FRANKING U.S./FRENCH STAMPS

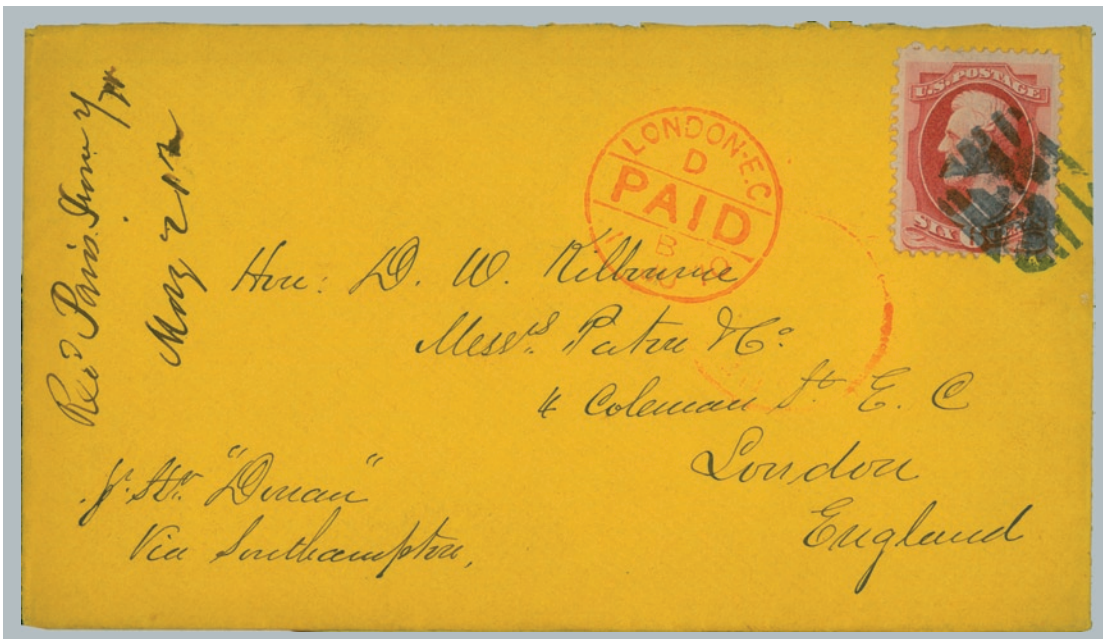


4/26/1870
to
6/11/1870

5/21/1870 front to France

5 covers reported with this previously unlisted NYFM cancel

The sender in New York applied both the two US 3c stamps and the French 20 and 40 centime stamps. It appears he was trying to send the letter at at the 10c Direct Letter rate via French vessel to a French port with the French stamps paying the Inland special rate established 12/22/1869 (in effect until 7/1/1871). Unfortunately the sender did not apply the correct US 10c postage due so the NYFM clerk forwarded the letter using the 4c British Open Mail rate to England and then onto France



5/22/1870 to England

Postage paid the 6c British Mail Treaty rate

1870



5/25/1870 to England

The earliest of 3 covers recorded with this smallest and most rare of NYFM 'circle of V's' cancels

Postage paid the 6c British Treaty rate

WEDGES



5/25/1870
to
8/28/1872

THE SECOND RECORDED BASIC FANCY CANCELLATION



10/31/1871 to Germany

10 covers recorded with this cancel (which varies in size)

Postage paid the 6c NGU Direct rate via Hamburg (the Direct Steamer rate was reduced from 7c to 6c on 10/1/1871)



5/4/1870
to
4/13/1875





WEDGES

5/14/1870
to
9/3/1874

**ORIGINATING OUTSIDE NEW YORK
YET ATTRACTING A NYFM CANCEL**

9/3/1870 to England

This was carried out of the mails from New Jersey to New York City for onward transit

25 covers recorded with this cancel

Postage paid the double 6c British Mail Treaty rate

E

3/29/1873 to England

The separate cancel on the bottom of the cover illustrates how the 8 wedges could fragment into 12

Postage paid the 6c British Mail



DUAL COUNTRY FRANKING

9/3/1874 to France

The latest recorded use of this cancel and one of 12 known NYFM dual country frankings

The French 15 centime stamp was affixed by the French forwarding agent 'Munroe & Co' to cover the cost of redirection to the Paris address

The U.S. postage paid the new 9c French Mail rate effective 8/1/1874 to 12/31/1875

1870



6/1/1870 to Italy

The earliest of 2 covers recorded with this cancel

Postage of 20c overpaid by 1c the 19c NGL Closed Mail rate

GRID



6/1/1870
to
7/20/1872



Exchange Office
datestamp on
the rear



7/20/1872 to Turkey

The latest recorded use of this cancel (worn state)

6 covers with NYFM cancels recorded to Turkey

The addressee, Henry Schliemann, had recently discovered the ancient City of Troy from Homer's 'Iliad' and was excavating the site

Postage paid the 11c per 1/2 ounce NGU Direct Mail rate (effective 10/1/1871 to 6/30/1875)



1870



WEDGES



6/11/1870
to
6/18/1870

6/18/1870 to England

The latest of 8 covers recorded with this cancel

Postage paid the 6c British Treaty rate



WEDGES



7/7/1870
to
8/29/1874

8/29/1874 to Mexico

The latest of 8 covers recorded with this cancel (which is invariably over-inked as in this example)

Postage paid the 10c American Packet rate

E

1870



WEDGES



7/7/1870
to
10/5/1878

3/25/1871 to England
Postage paid the 6c British Mail
Treaty rate

14 covers recorded with this cancel



**MIXED U.S. ISSUE
FRANKING**

4/22/1871 to Germany

Bears U.S. 1868 1c blue (grilled)
and 1870 6c carmine stamps

10 mixed U.S. issue frankings
recorded with NYFM usage

Postage paid the 7c per half ounce
NGU Closed Mail rate



10/25/1871 mourning cover to
England

The ink spot at centre is probably
inadvertent and not worthy of
separate classification.

Postage paid the 6c British Mail Treaty
rate

1870

GRID



7/12/1870
to
12/4/1875



E

3/15/1872 to Valparaiso

40 covers recorded with this cancel

3 NYFM covers recorded to Chile

Postage paid the 22c British Packet rate via Colon



E



5/22/1872 to Mexico

The colour BLUE Exchange Office datestamp is possibly unique (inks were either red or black. Blue is a primary colour which cannot be created by a mix of other colours. This is a duplexed cancel so the grid killers MUST have used the same ink pad - but the portions on the stamps are a much darker blue)

Postage paid the double 10c American Packet rate

1870



7/21/1870
to
7/20/1873

1/11/1871 to England
12 covers recorded with this cancel
Postage paid the 6c British Mail Treaty rate



7/22/1871 to Germany
Postage paid the 10c per 1/2 ounce NGU Closed Mail rate (effective 7/1/1870 to 9/31/1871)

1870



GRID



9/9/1870
to
9/14/1870

9/14/1870 front to Algeria

The latest of 2 covers recorded with this cancel
6 NYFM covers recorded to Algeria

Postage paid the 4c British Open Mail rate (5 decimes was due on arrival)

E

GRID



9/20/1870
to
6/12/1873

9/20/1870 to Talcahuana (Chile)

The earliest of 4 covers recorded with this cancel

Postage paid the 22c rate by American Packet to Panama and then by British Packet to Chile



WEDGES



23mm diam

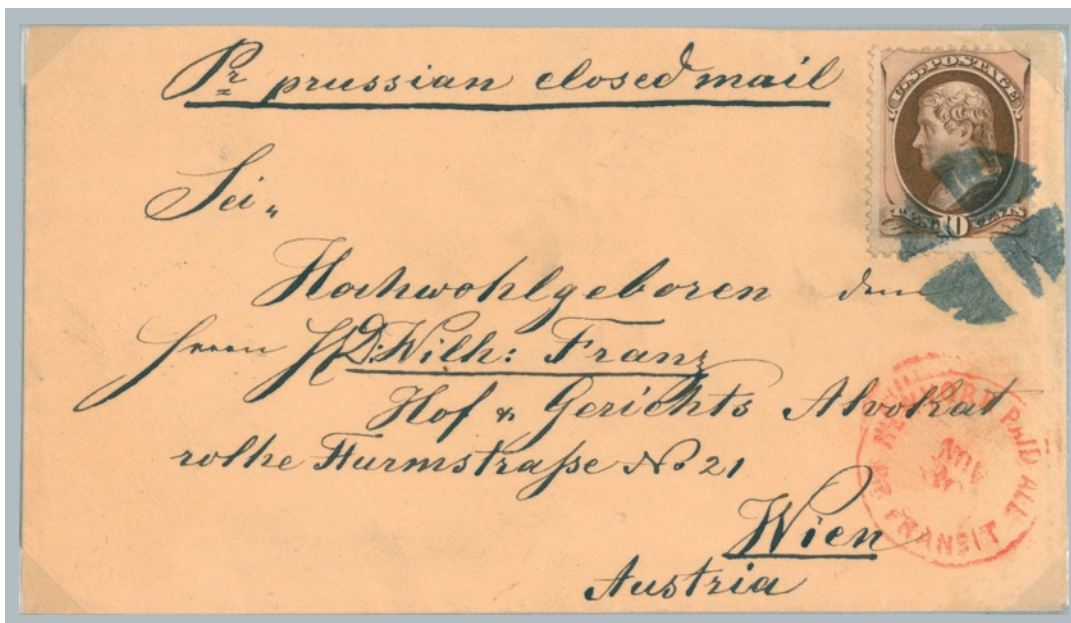
10/5/1870
to
6/10/1876

11/30/1870 to Austria

3 covers recorded with this, one of the smallest and most rare varieties of NYFM four wedge cancels

Larger four wedge cancels span the whole NYFM period 1870-78

Postage paid the 10c NGU Closed Mail rate via England



E

1870

WEDGES



10/20/1870
to
8/2/1879

ONLY RECORDED NYFM SHIPWRECK LETTER



11/12/1873 to Germany

68 covers recorded with this cancel

This cover travelled on North German Lloyd's 'Koenig Wilhelm I'. The ship landed 25 bags of mail at Southampton but was then wrecked off the Dutch coast at Nieuwediep on 11/26/1873. 24 bags of mail were rescued and continued their journey receiving the BREMEN transit stamp on 30th Nov 1873 before arriving at POFSNECK on 1st Dec. This is the only recorded NYFM cover from the wreck

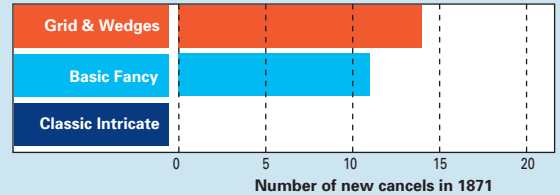
Postage paid the 6c NGU Direct Mail rate via Bremen



1871 – THE 2nd YEAR

GRID AND WEDGE CANCELLATIONS BEGIN TO DIMINISH

Grid and wedge cancellations are virtually equalled by a sharp rise in basic fancy cancellations



1/7/1871 to France

2 covers recorded with this cancel, both dated the same day

Postage of 15c paid the so called 'Second Phantom Rate' (after July 1st 1870). It overpaid the 10c rate which included a 6c credit to England. Called the 'Phantom Rate' because the 10c rate was not published in the U.S. until Oct 28th 1871



1/21/1871 to England

The only recorded example of this cancel on cover

Postage paid the 6c British Treaty rate



4/19/1871 to England
The earliest of 3 recorded uses of this cancel on cover
 Postage paid the 6c British Mail Treaty rate

This cover shows a datestamp as shown at Fig. 1. Fig. 2 shows this datestamp as originally intended, a currency marking with 'NOTES' & '20'. These were later omitted transforming the datestamp to an Exchange Office marking for outbound mail



GRID

4/19/1871
 to
 6/20/1872



Fig. 1

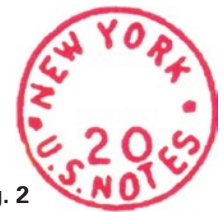


Fig. 2



7/22/1871 to England
The latest of 2 covers recorded with this cancel
 Postage paid the 6c British Mail Treaty rate

**BASIC FANCY
 'ROSETTE'**



5/9/1871
 to
 7/22/1871



1871

'FLYING CLOTHES PINS'



BASIC FANCY

3/25/1871
to
9/28/1872



3/13/1872 to France

Of 50 covers recorded with this cancel this is the only known with a 15c Bank Note stamp

The sender affixed 16c postage thinking it was a double rate cover weighing over 1/3 but less than 1/2 ounce which would have been the correct rate. However, it apparently weighed less than 1/3 ounce at the P.O. who rated it as a single rate cover giving a 4c credit to the US and 6c credit to Britain ('6' shown in the red Exchange Office datestamp).

The correct postage due was therefore 10c making the cover 6c overpaid



4/4/1872 to Turkey

Although the cancel is brownish red there is no evidence that colours other than black or red were used in the Foreign Mail Dept so this shade is probably an inadvertent mixing of inks

Postage paid the 12c German Closed Mail rate via England per 1/2 ounce (effective Oct 1, 1871 to June 30 1875)



1871



BASIC FANCY 'SPOKES'



5/9/1871
to
7/28/1871

E

6/22/1871 to France

13 covers recorded with this cancel

Postage paid the 10c Treaty rate for up to 1/3 oz (effective 1/1/1870 to 7/31/1874)



GRID



7/1/1871
to
7/9/1871

7/9/1871 to Germany

The latest of 2 covers recorded with this cancel

Postage paid the 7c NGU rate

Ironically, the plainest NYFM designs, as in the instance above, are some of the most scarce on cover. Because the cancels were not attractive the covers were probably destroyed or the stamps removed

1871



GRID



5/13/1871
to
7/6/1872

6/20/1871 to England

3 covers recorded with this, the smallest and most rare NYFM grid cancel

Postage paid the 6c British Mail Treaty rate

GRID

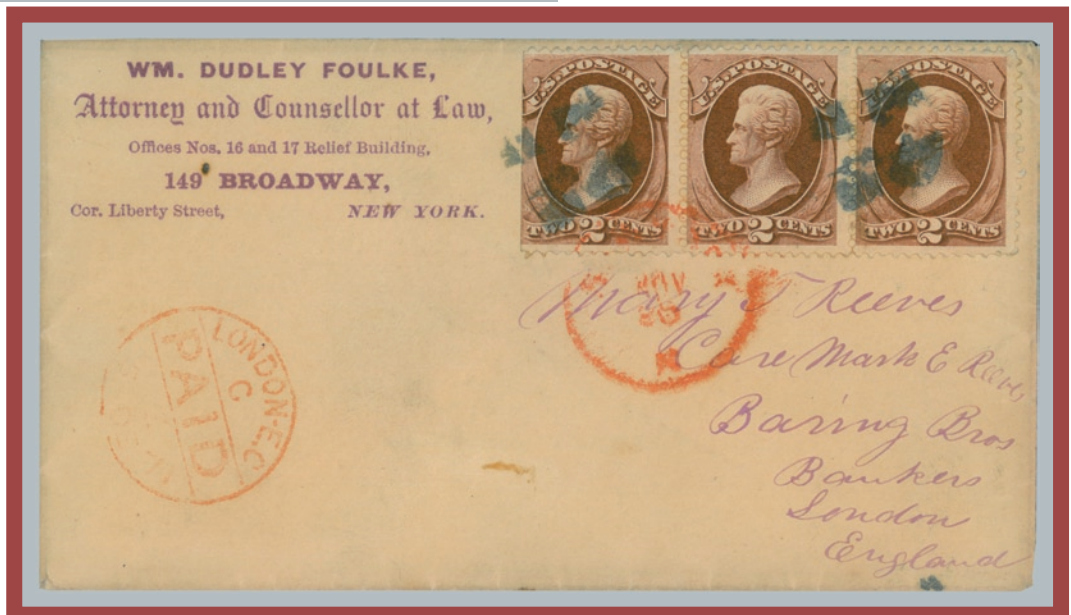


5/20/1871

5/20/1871 to England

The only recorded use of this cancel on cover

Postage paid the 6c British Mail Treaty rate



'STAR WITH NEGATIVE CENTRE'

BASIC FANCY



missing red cachet

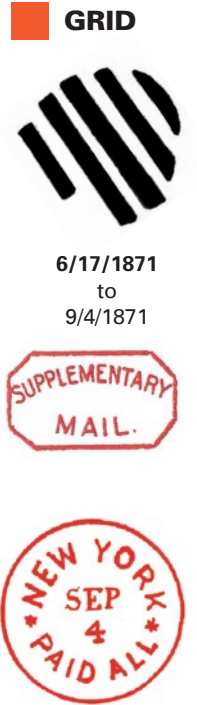
5/23/1871
to
7/14/1877

7/27/1872 red **Supplementary Mail Type 'A'** to France

Of 8 covers recorded with this cancel, 2 are known with the killer in red

Postage paid should have been 4c British Open Mail rate plus 4c Supplementary Mail fee = 8c, so postage paid of 12c was 4c overpaid. Possibly brought to the dockside with stamps already affixed because people were not so familiar with the changing rates during this 'no treaty' period





9/4/1871 red **Supplementary Mail Type 'A'** to England
The latest of 3 covers recorded with this cancel and the only known in red
 Postage paid the double weight 6c British Mail Treaty rate. The 6c supplementary Mail fee was paid in cash at the dockside



8/8/1871 to England
The latest of 8 covers recorded with this cancel
 Postage paid the 6c British Mail Treaty rate

1871

**BASIC FANCY
'SHIELD'**



6/3/1871
to
7/3/1871

ORIGINATING OUTSIDE OF NEW YORK CITY YET ATTRACTING A NYFM CANCEL



6/3/1871 6c Well Fargo Stamped Envelope to England (dated per backstamp)

An earliest of 9 covers recorded with this cancel

The only recorded use of an U.Ss 1869 6c stamp on an entire from Vancouver Island to England

Wells Fargo & Co received the cover in Victoria, where the British Columbian 1869 5c on bright red and the US 1869 6c ultramarine stamps were affixed. It was then carried by Wells Fargo to New York where it entered the post office mail on the 6/3/1871. The 5c stamp paid the local Colonial rate to the border, and the U.S. 6c stamp plus the 6c entire paid the double 6c treaty rate U.S. to England. This is one of only two recorded examples where an 1869 6c stamp, in combination with stamps of another country, were BOTH fixed at the point of origin



1871



GRID



7/20/1871

7/20/1871 to Germany

The only recorded use of this cancel on cover

Postage paid the 7c NGU Treaty rate

'SPOKES'

BASIC FANCY



7/24/1871
to
11/3/1877

1/2/1873 to France

5 covers recorded with this cancel, the smallest of the NYFM 'spokes' varieties

Postage paid the 16c French Treaty rate for 10 to 15 grams



GRID



8/8/1871
to
10/14/1871

8/8/1871 to England

The earliest of 2 covers recorded with this cancel

Postage paid the 6c British Mail Treaty rate



1871

 BASIC FANCY



8/29/1871
to
9/14/1871



8/29/1871 'paste back' 6c Wells Fargo Stamped Envelope from Vancouver Island, British Columbia, to England via New York

The earliest of 2 covers recorded with this cancel

The sender's letter was contained in a separately addressed envelope and pasted onto the rear of the stamped envelope, an accepted practice at that time.

There are two super-imposed sets of datestamps;

- a) a red 'NEW YORK AUG 29' Exchange Office datestamp imposed on a similar black datestamp. This indicates that initially the NY Exchange Office thought it underpaid so used a black handstamp but reconsidered and applied the red handstamp showing it fully prepaid.
- b) a large black datestamp 'LONDON E.C. SP 8 71' imposed on a smaller red 'LONDON SP 8 71'. The red datestamp, applied by the London Foreign Office, indicated the envelope was received as prepaid. The black 'LONDON' delivery postmark was then struck co-incidentally over the red datestamp (these datestamps would normally be applied to the rear of the envelope).

The oval blue handstamp reads 'WELLS FARGO & CO - EXPRESS - VICTORIA ISLAND'. The 5 cent British Columbian stamp, affixed when the 6c Stamped Envelope was sold by Wells Fargo, prepaid postage to Great Britain. The sender paid, in cash, 20c or 25c for the Wells Fargo service.



 GRID



9/21/1871

9/21/1871 to England

1 of 2 covers recorded with this cancel both dated the same day

Postage paid the 6c British Mail Treaty rate

 BASIC FANCY 'CROSS'



9/26/1871
to
10/20/1871

9/26/1871 3c Stamped Envelope to Bavaria (Germany)

The earliest of 4 covers recorded with this cancel and the only known on a Stamped Envelope

(Stamped Envelopes account for approximately 3.5% of NYFM usage)

Postage paid the 7c NGU Direct Mail rate



 WEDGES



10/7/1871
to
12/12/1876

10/7/1871 to England

An earliest use of 4 covers recorded with this cancel

Postage paid the 6c British Treaty rate



1871

 BASIC FANCY



10/10/1871
to
2/10/1873

'CIRCLE OF DIAMONDS'



10/10/1871 'INSUFFICIENTLY PAID' to Italy

The earliest recorded of 20 covers with this cancel

3 colour franking including a 2c grilled Bank Note stamp

This is the only recorded NYFM cover bearing 4 different denomination Italian centesimi stamps

Postage of 11c overpaid by 1c the 10c NGU Direct Mail rate effective 10/1/1871. However, the Genova PO decided postage was due at the previous 14c NGU rate so debited postage of 75 centesimi equivalent to 14.25 US cents (no credit was given for the 11c pre-paid postage)



Exchange Office datestamp on
the rear (in black)

1871



1/6/1872 3c Stamped Envelope to France

The cover is addressed to **Philip de La Renotiere von FERRARI** who probably assembled the largest and most valuable stamp collection the world has ever known. It was seized for war reparations after World War I

Postage paid the 4c British Open Mail rate (with 10 decimes due from the addressee)



1/10/1872 to Germany

The only recorded 1c/6c combination on cover with this cancel

Postage paid the 7c NGL Closed Mail rate via England

1871



BASIC FANCY



11/19/1871
to
12/15/1871



11/25/1871 to England

6 covers recorded with this cancel

Postage paid the double 6c British Mail Treaty rate



GRID



12/13/1871
to
8/21/1872



12/28/1871 to England

8 covers recorded with this cancel

Postage paid the 6c British Mail Treaty rate



E



11/22/1871
to
11/23/1871

11/22/1871 mourning cover to England

An earliest of two covers recorded with this cancel
(confirmed by another cover dated just one day later shown below)
Postage paid the 6c British Mail Treaty rate

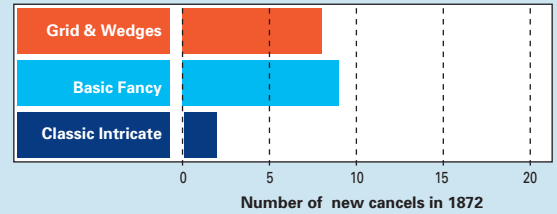


11/23/1871 to Rio de Janeiro (arriving per backstamp 1/19/1872)

A latest use of this cancel
6 covers with NYFM cancels recorded to Brazil
Postage paid the 15c Treaty rate by American Packet from New York

1872 – THE 3rd YEAR
BASIC FANCY CANCELLATIONS PREDOMINATE

A year when grid and wedge cancellations continue to diminish whilst basic fancy cancellation production remains constant. The emergence of the **first intricate fancy cancellation**



2/10/1872 Printed Circular to Trinidad (dated internally)

The only recorded use of this cancel on cover and 1 of only 2 known NYFM uses to Trinidad
 Endorsed 'Circulars via Havana'. Colonial '1d (penny)' handstamp. Blue '1' was due rating for inland postage. U.S. 2c stamp paid the 2c Printed Circular rate



LETTERS 'NYPO'

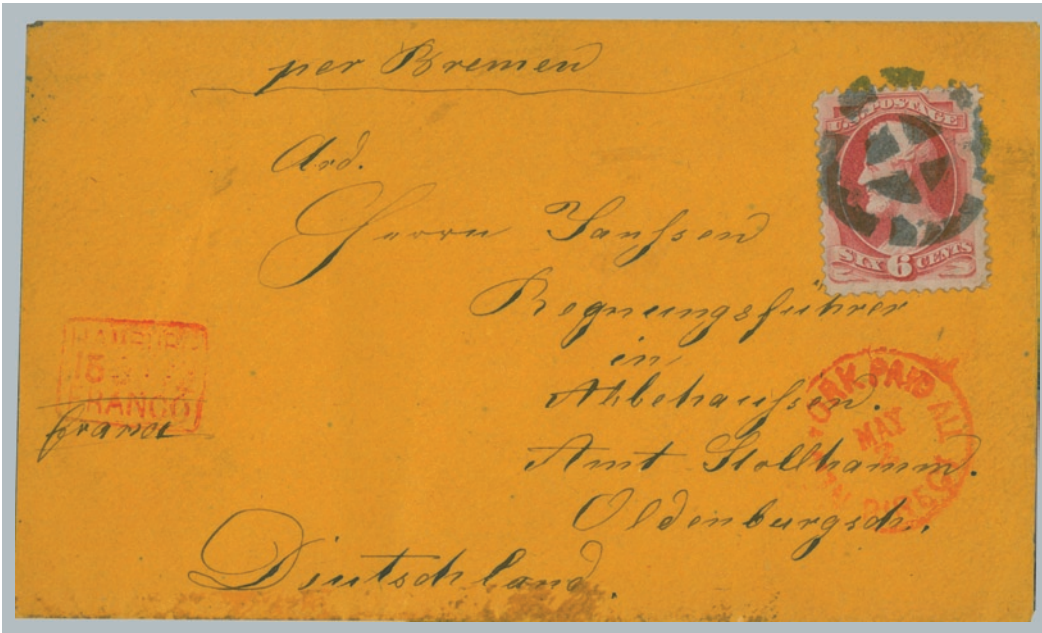


5/14/1872 to England

The latest of 3 covers recorded with this cancel
 A unique style of NYFM cancel where 'NEW YORK POST OFFICE' is abbreviated to 'NYPO'
 Postage paid the 6c British Mail Treaty rate



1872



5/2/1872 Germany

8 covers recorded with this cancel

Postage paid the 6c Direct Mail rate

BASIC FANCY



5/1/1872
to
5/11/1872

'LEAF'



BASIC FANCY



5/18/1872
to
7/13/1872

5/30/1872 to Aspinwall, Panama (now known as Colon, a port at the Caribbean entrance to the Panama Canal)

9 covers recorded with this cancel

3 NYFM uses recorded to Panama

Postage paid the 10c American Direct Packet rate

E

1872

 BASIC FANCY



5/16/1872

'LEAF'



E

5/16/1872 to Holland

The only recorded use of this cancel on cover

Postage paid the double 10c Netherlands Closed Mail rate effective Feb 1870



1872



6/27/1872 front to England

6 covers recorded with this cancel

Due to the fragility of the carving the design seemingly started to break up after only 4 days and was taken out of use

Postage paid the 6c British Mail Treaty rate

BASIC FANCY



6/26/1872
to
6/29/1872



GRID



7/4/1872
to
7/13/1872



7/4/1872 3c Stamped Envelope to England

The earliest of 2 covers recorded with this cancel both of which are worn or broken

Postage paid the 6c British Mail Treaty rate



1872



GRID



6/20/1872
to
12/4/1875

12/24/1873 to Romania

**1 of 2 covers recorded to Romania,
one of the rarest NYFM destinations**

17 covers recorded with this cancel
Postage paid the 9c NGU Direct rate

E

1/8/1874 to Italy
Postage paid the 10c Direct Mail rate



1/24/1874 1c Postal Card to Austria

**The only Postal Card recorded
with this cancel**

**(Postal Cards account for approxi-
mately 12% of recorded NYFM
usage)**

Postage paid the 6c NGU Direct Mail
rate via Stettin



1872

'BEAR'S PAW'



6/6/1872 to England

7 covers recorded with this cancel which is invariably worn or broken as in this example

Postage paid the 6c British Mail Treaty rate

BASIC FANCY



6/5/1872 to 6/15/1872



7/27/1872 to England

8 covers recorded with this cancel

Postage paid the 6c British Mail Treaty rate

GRID



7/25/1872 to 8/21/1872



E

1872



BASIC FANCY



9/24/1872
to
3/2/1873



9/24/1872 to Saxony (Germany)

The earliest use of 14 covers recorded with this cancel and the only known with 2x7c values

Postage paid the double 7c NGU Closed Mail rate

'INSUFFICIENTLY PAID'



11/9/1872 to Italy

Postage prepaid of 6c should have been 10c (per NGU Direct rate). On arrival this prepayment was not recognised and the full postage of 10c was debited equivalent to 55 centesimi



Exchange Office
datestamp on the
rear in black

1872



WEDGES



9/21/1872
to
8/9/1876

11/27/1875 to Japan

9 NYFM covers known to Japan

Postage paid the 33c British Mail rate via Brindisi



WEDGES



10/19/1872

10/19/1872 to Germany

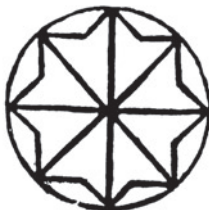
1 of 2 covers recorded with this cancel both dated the same day

Postage paid the 7c NGU Closed Mail rate



1872

THE FIRST INTRICATE FANCY CANCELLATION



10/9/1872
to
12/16/1874



E

10/9/1872 red **Supplementary Mail Type 'A'** to France

Of 46 covers recorded with this cancel this is the **earliest known use** (1872 backstamp) and one of only two known in red. **Extraordinarily, the next recorded use of this cancel is not until 25 months later on 11/14/1874 (see the cover to Russia at the top of 3-6).** One explanation might be this was a 'trial run' of a group of cancels prepared for the Post Office, another that the cancel was initially design purely for Supplementary Mail use before being brought into general use later. But if that was the case we might expect to see other uses prior to the next recorded Supplementary Mail use on 10/10/1874

The 9c prepayment appears two years before the 9c Treaty rate went into effect so it is assumed the postage paid equated to the 4c British Open Mail rate plus the 4c supplementary fee (with 1c overpaid)



Missing Type 'A' cachet



9/30/1874 mourning cover to France

A crisp strike of this cancel
Postage paid the 10c French Treaty rate

11/14/1874 to Nizni Novgord, Russia

The only known cover with this cancel recorded with a pair of 12c stamps

Although Nizni Novgorod is deleted, that is where it eventually arrived on 1/7/1875 (according to the backstamp)

Postage of 24c overpaid the double 11c Closed Mail rate of 22c by 2c



PREVIOUSLY UNLISTED WEDGES



9/12/1872 to 10/2/1872

10/2/1872 Supplementary Mail Type 'A' to England

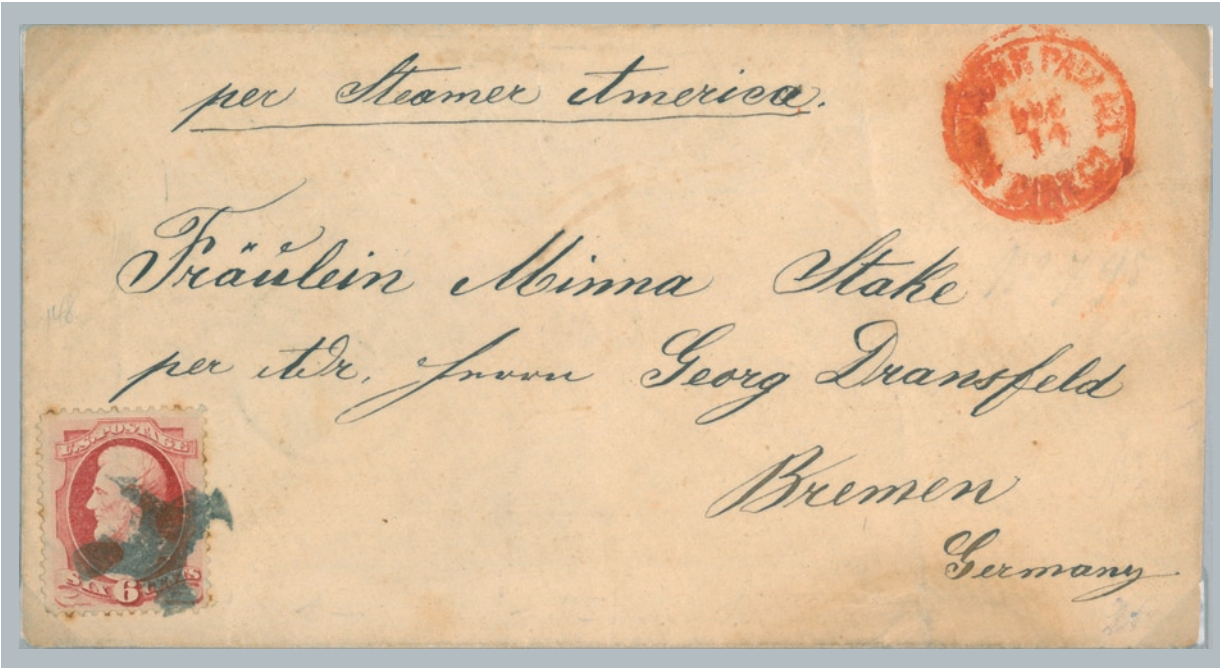
The latest recorded use of 5 covers recorded of this previously unlisted cancel

Postage paid the 6c NGU Mail rate plus the 6c Supplementary Mail fee (we may presume the Supplementary Mail Type 'A' cachet is absent)

1872

A NEWLY DISCOVERED NYFM '4 SPOKES' CANCEL

BASIC FANCY



12/14/1872
to
12/21/1872



12/14/1872 to Germany

The earliest of an unrecorded NYFM cancel confirmed by a twin (see below) dated one week later

Postage paid the 6c NGU Direct Mail rate



12/21/1872 to Cardenas (North coast of Cuba)

A latest recorded use of this cancel

'NA1' translates 'Norte America 1 Real' which was due on arrival in Havana

Postage paid the 10c American Packet rate

1872

'TANKARD'?



12/12/1872 to France

The earliest of 2 covers recorded with this cancel spanning just 3 days, it is not possible to say for certain what this 'fancy' represents

Postage paid the 10c French Treaty rate

BASIC FANCY



12/12/1872
to
12/14/1872



12/28/1872 to Germany

The earliest of 3 covers recorded with this cancel
Postage of 9c overpaid by 2c the 7c NGU Closed Mail rate

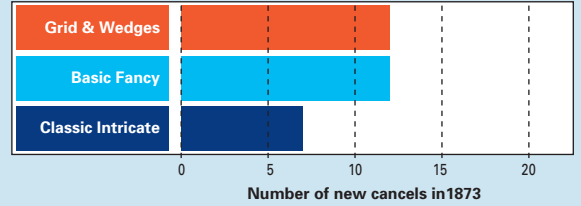
GRID



12/28/1872
to
1/1/1873

1873 – THE 4th YEAR

A slight increase in both grids and wedges and basic fancy production. **A surge in intricate fancy cancels.** It would appear the Foreign Mail Department had decided on a policy of developing more distinctive and recognizable cancels



GRID



1/9/1873
to
1/11/1873



1/11/1873 to Norway

The latest of 4 covers recorded with this cancel (all show the negative zigzag in lower left segment)

4 NYFM uses recorded to Norway

Postage paid the 12c NGU Closed Mail rate



WEDGES



18-19mm diam

1/22/1873
to
4/19/1873
(family)

4/19/1873 to France

An over-inked and latest of 4 covers recorded with this smallest and most rare NYFM 'circle of V's' cancel

Postage paid the 16c French Mail rate for a cover weighing over 1/3 ounce but less than 1/2 ounce

1873

LETTER 'H'



8/2/1873 6c Stamped Envelope to Prussia

The latest of 2 covers recorded with this cancel

(Stamped Envelopes above 3c represent a tiny fraction of 1% of N.Y.F.M. usage)

Postage paid the 6c NGU Direct Mail rate via Bremen

BASIC FANCY



1/9/1873
to
8/2/1873



'NEGATIVE SQUARE'



2/15/1873 to France

4 covers recorded with this cancel

Postage paid the 10c French Treaty rate

BASIC FANCY



1/28/1873
to
3/6/1873



1873

'4 BLADES'

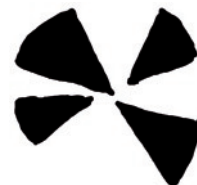


1/29/1873 to England

The earliest of 5 covers recorded with this cancel (the position of the 'blades' appears to vary even on such a small sample of covers)

Postage paid the 6c British Mail Treaty rate

BASIC FANCY



1/29/1873
to
12/2/1873



3/13/1873 to France

6 covers recorded with this cancel

Postage paid the 10c British Mail Treaty rate

BASIC FANCY



2/19/1873
to
3/15/1873



E

1873

THE SECOND INTRICATE FANCY CANCELLATION



2/27/1873
to
3/6/1873



2/27/1873 front to England

The earliest of 3 covers recorded with this cancel

Postage paid the triple 6c rate (6c per ½ ounce per the British/US Postal Convention of 1869 effective 1/1/1870)



1873



WEDGES



2/24/1873
to
5/18/1873

5/18/1873 to Prussia (Germany)

The latest of 7 covers recorded
with this cancel

Postage paid the 7c NGU Closed
Mail rate

WEDGES



2/22/1873
to
3/1/1873

3/1/1873 to England

The latest of 4 covers re-
corded with this cancel

Postage paid the 6c British
Mail Treaty rate



GRID

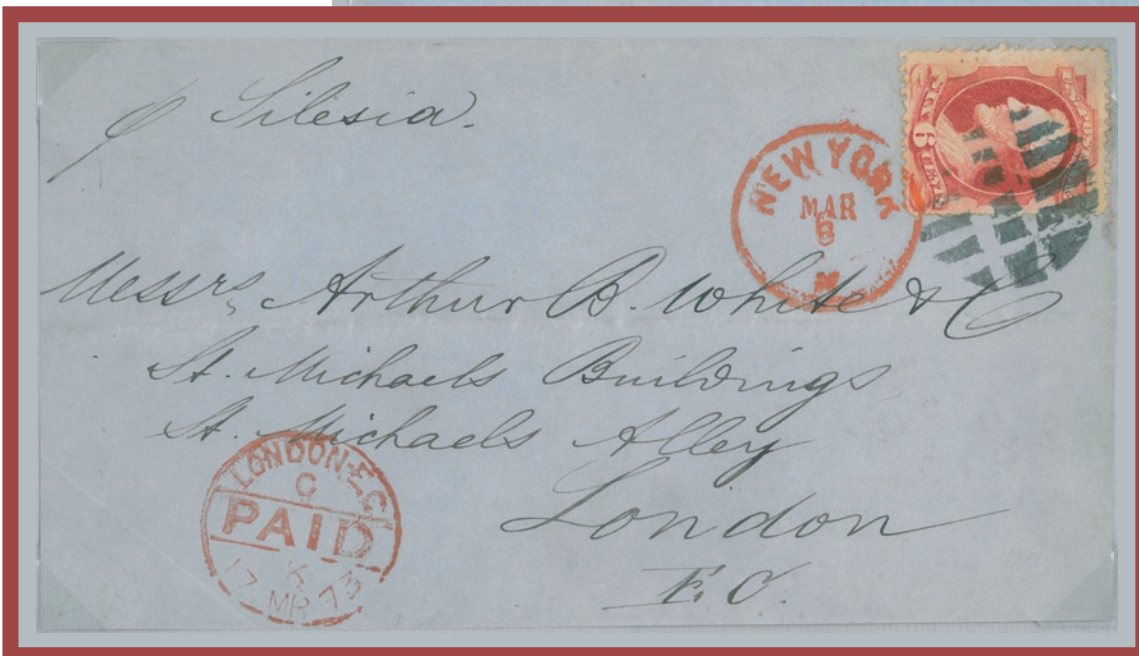


3/8/1873

3/8/1873 front to England

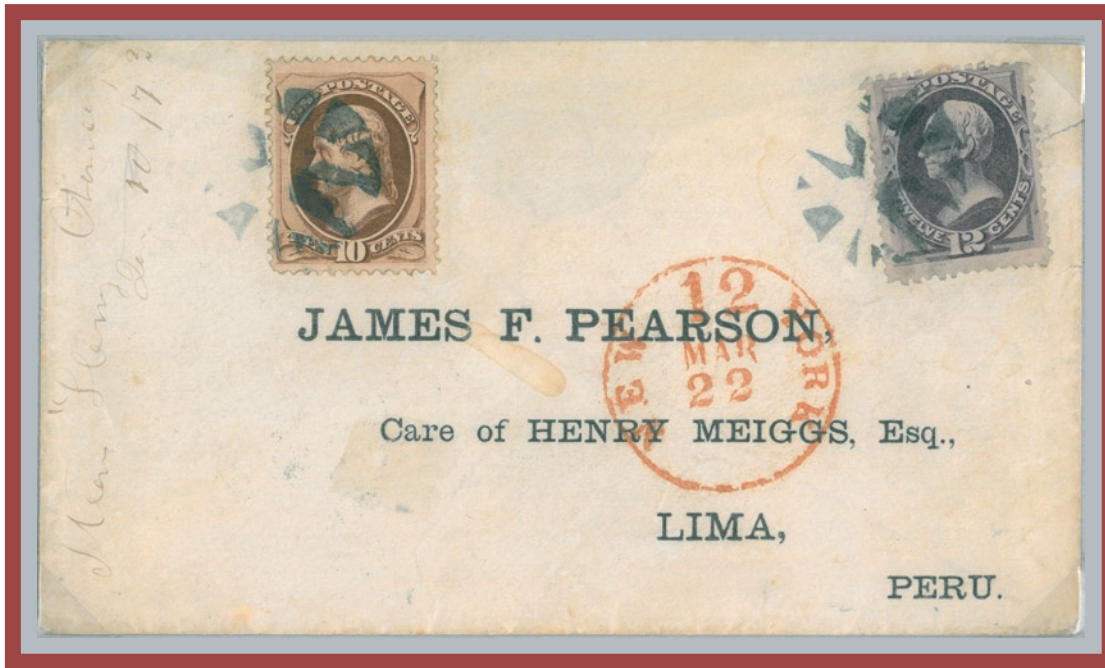
The only recorded use of
this cancel on cover

Postage paid the 6c British
Mail Treaty rate



E

1873



BASIC FANCY



3/22/1873

3/22/1873 to Peru

The only recorded use of this cancel on cover

Carried on British Pacific Steam Navigation Co's ship via Aspinwall, across the Isthmus to Panama and then downward to Peru

Postage paid the 22c rate by American Packet to Colon, then by British Packet to Peru



WEDGES



3/8/1873

3/8/1873 to France

1 of 2 covers recorded with this cancel both dated the same day

Postage paid the 20c French Treaty rate for 15 to 20 grams



1873

NEGATIVE 'H'



BASIC FANCY



3/24/1873
to
9/23/74

9/23/1874 to Brazil

The latest of 6 covers recorded with this cancel

Carried from New York to Para via St. Thomas in a sealed mail bag on the 'Ontario'. Blue crayon '2' (centavos) was due for inland postage. Receiving back stamp of 1/3/1875 indicates the journey took over 3 months (although the year is mistakenly shown as 1874)

Postage paid the 15c Treaty Rate by American Packet (effective Oct 1870-Jan 1877)

NEGATIVE 'H'



BASIC FANCY



5/1/1873
to
7/10/1873

5/1/1873 to Mexico

The earliest of 10 covers recorded with this cancel

Postage paid the double 10c American Packet rate

1873

'STAR IN A CIRCLE'



BASIC FANCY



4/10/1873
to
10/8/1873

4/10/1873 to Mexico

The earliest of 8 covers recorded with this cancel

24 NYFM covers recorded with 30c stamps

Postage paid the quadruple 10c American Packet rate

E

'J' AT CENTRE



10/1/1873

10/1/1873 to Germany

The only recorded cover with this variety

Can we speculate that the carver's christian or surname began with 'J'?

Postage paid the 6c NGU Mail rate via Bremen



GRID



4/26/1873

4/26/1873 to England

The only recorded cover with this cancel

Postage paid the 6c British Mail Treaty rate



1873



GRID



4/26/1873
to
7/21/1873

4/26/1873 to England

The earliest of 4 covers recorded
with this cancel

Postage paid the 6c British Mail
Treaty rate

BASIC
FANCY



7/9/1873
to
9/18/1873

Undated 'Wallis half-cover' to Spain

The rarest of the leaf cancels with
3 covers recorded. Dated as 1873
based on the other two uses on
cover (a large correspondence to Wallis
and Co in Madrid was discovered cut in
half)

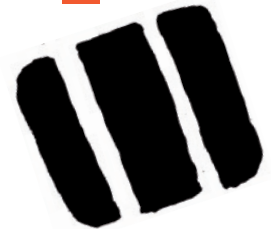
Postage paid the 16c rate via France

'LEAF'



E

GRID



9/24/1873
to
10/8/1873

10/8/1873 to Germany

The latest of 3 covers recorded with
this cancel

Postage paid the 7c NGU Closed Mail rate





BASIC FANCY
'HEART'



7/24/1873

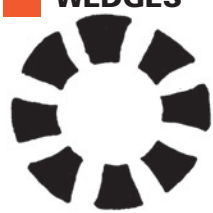
7/24/1873 to France

1 of 2 covers recorded with this cancel both dated the same day

A first month use of an 1873 U.S. Bank Note Co stamp

Postage paid the 16c French Treaty rate for 10 to 15 grams

WEDGES



9/25/1873
to
12/3/1873

10/11/1873 6c Stamped Envelope to Germany

Of 11 covers recorded with this cancel this is the only known on a Stamped Envelope

Postage paid the 6c NGU Direct Rate via Bremen



12/3/1873 to France

The latest recorded use of this cancel

Postage paid the 10c French Direct Treaty rate for up to 1/3 oz (effective 1/1/1870 to 7/31/1874)



1873

'NEGATIVE ROSETTE'



6/5/1873 red **Supplementary Mail Type 'A'** to France

5 covers recorded with this cancel - all in red

An unusual NYFM cancel – being common in red and rare in black. An explanation might be that this cancel was possessed uniquely by the clerk who conducted the Supplementary Mail service who would use red ink as a matter of course

Postage paid the 10c Anglo-French (1869) and US-British (1870) convention rate plus the 10c Supplementary Mail fee

INTRICATE FANCY



4/24/1873
to
6/11/1873



part red cachet
seen at low left of
10c pair



5/24/1873 red **Supplementary Mail Type 'A'** to England

Postage of 36c paid the triple 6c British Mail Treaty rate per half ounce plus the 18c Supplementary Mail fee



In the exhibitor's collection of over 900 NYFM covers this is the sole red NY Exchange Office datestamp measuring just 21mm. The standard size to Europe was normally min 25mm to max 26mm



1873

INTRICATE FANCY



4/18/1873
to
5/18/1874



E

7/12/1873 red **Supplementary Mail Type 'A'** to England

Of 120 covers recorded with this cancel only 3 are known in red

Postage of 24c paid double the 6c British Mail Treaty rate plus the 12c Supplementary Mail fee

From 7/10/1873 Supplementary Mail service at the dockside was discontinued. The service was only available from the main PO. During this period of transition type 'A' cachets can be found missing from other covers. Perhaps the handstamps were withdrawn in preparation for the introduction of the Type 'D' handstamp - or folk mistakenly continued to go to the dockside where a clerk remained - although without his type 'A' handstamp.

On that basis this cover would qualify as the latest recorded use of Type 'A' Supplementary Mail usage.



presumed missing
type 'A' cachet



1873



8/27/1873 to France

Of more than 120 N.Y.F.M. covers recorded with this cancel this is the only known with a 15c Bank Note stamp

The sender affixed 16c postage thinking it was a double rate cover weighing over 1/3 but less than 1/2 ounce which would have been the correct rate. However, it apparently weighed less than 1/3 ounce at the P.O. who rated it as a single rate cover giving a 4c credit to the US and a 6c credit to Britain ('6' shown in the red Exchange Office datestamp). The correct postage due was therefore 10c making the cover 6c overpaid



11/27/1873 to Germany

Postage paid the 7c NGU rate



E

1873



2/10/1874 to Malta

1 of 2 NYFM covers recorded to Malta

Postage paid the 16c British Mail Treaty rate via Southampton (effective Oct 1 1870 to Jun 30 1875)

LEAVING NEW YORK BY TRAIN RATHER THAN SHIP



2/21/1874 to Parral, Mexico via El Paso

A rare routing of a cover to Mexico leaving New York by train for New Orleans, then by boat to Indianola, then stagecoach to the border crossing at El Paso, Texas, and then down to the provincial capital, Parral. Indianola has since been destroyed by repeated hurricanes and no longer exists. 5 such covers are recorded (all to the same address and from the same sender)

Postage paid the double 10c American Packet rate



1873



3/14/1874 to Cairo

5 NYFM uses recorded to Egypt

Postage paid the 16c NGU Direct Mail rate (cover went via Southampton, Brindisi and Alexandria)

MIXED U.S. ISSUE FRANKING



3/20/1874 to Germany

Franked with U.S. 1861 5c brown and 1870 1c ultramarine stamps

Postage paid the 6c NGU Direct Mail rate



E

1873



INTRICATE FANCY



3/26/1873
to
4/10/1875

5/24/1873 'Wallis half cover' to Spain

72 covers recorded with this cancel

Postage of 28c paid the the double weight progression via France

ORIGINATING OUTSIDE NEW YORK CITY YET STILL ATTRACTING A NYFM CANCEL



5/28/1873 from Cuba via New York leaving on 6/11/1873 to Spain

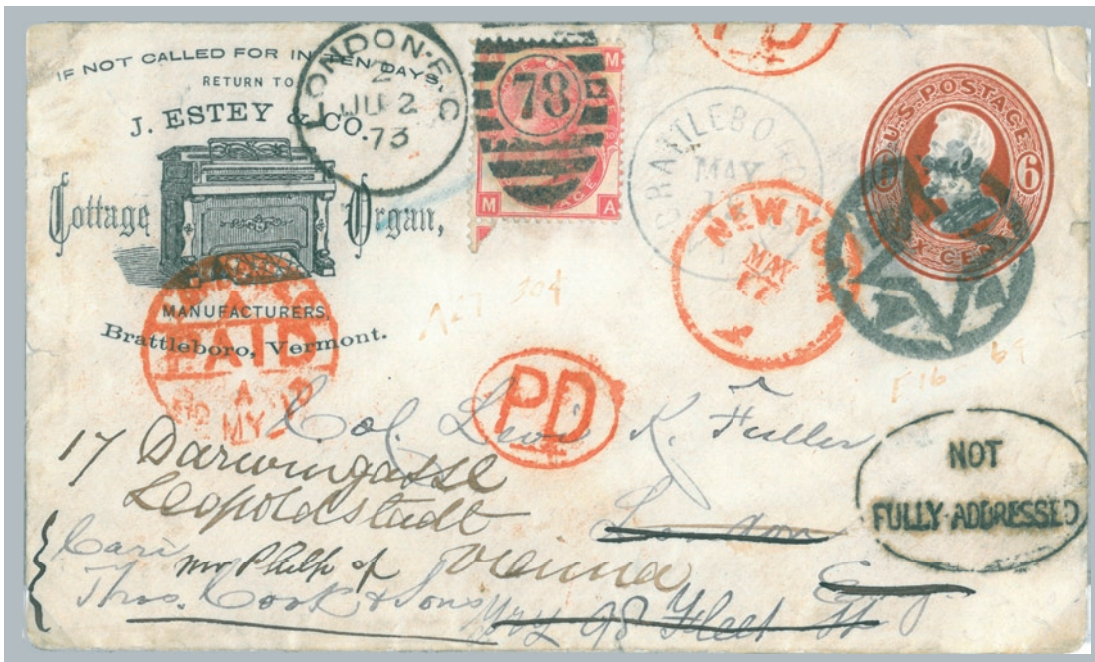
10 covers recorded originating outside of New York City but attracting a NYFM cancel

Postage paid the 16c British Mail rate via France (effective 10/1/1870 to 6/30/1875). Carried privately from Santiago de Cuba to New York. NYC forwarder placed in mails for transit by British Mail via France to Spain

E

1873

**ORIGINATING OUTSIDE NEW YORK CITY WITH DUAL U.S.A./G.B. FRANKING
YET ATTRACTING A NYFM CANCEL**



5/17/1873 6c Stamped Envelope from Brattleboro, V.T., via N.Y., to London, forwarded onto Austria
Oval London P.O. 'NOT FULLY ADDRESSED'. Fuller address '98 Fleet Street' added. A G.B. threepenny
rose stamp was then affixed and the letter forwarded onto Vienna arriving on 6/5/1873 (per backstamp)

Initial postage paid the 6c British Mail Treaty rate



6/18/1873 to France

Postage paid the 4c British Open Mail rate (5 decimes due on arrival)

E

1873

**ORIGINATING OUTSIDE NEW YORK CITY WITH DUAL CANADA/U.S.A. FRANKING
YET ATTRACTING A NYFM CANCEL**



7/25/1873 **Wells, Fargo & Co from Canada** via New York to England

Of 75 covers recorded with this cancel this is the only known Wells, Fargo & Co usage

Franked with an uncanceled Canadian 6c as per directive and carried from Canada to the U.S. out of the mails

U.S. 6c stamp paid the British Mail Treaty rate U.S. to Britain



1873

INCOMING STEAMSHIP LETTER TO NEW YORK FOR ONWARD TRANSIT



E



7/13/1873 from Cuba inbound to New York

1 of 3 covers recorded with a 'STEAMSHIP' datestamp in combination with a NYFM cancel (mostly the 'STEAMSHIP' datestamp was used to cancel the stamps)

Postage paid the 10c American Steamship rate



8/21/1873 red **Supplementary Mail Type 'D'** to Belgium

Type 'D' was in recorded use 8/9/1873 to 7/18/1874 and was always in red

Postage due was 8c Belgium Closed Mail rate plus 8c Supplementary Mail fee = 16c. So postage of 28c was 12c overpaid

1873



BASIC FANCY



6/6/1873
to
8/30/1874

8/7/1873 to France
**A worn state of 5 covers
recorded with this cancel**
Postage paid the 10c French
Treaty rate

9/4/1873 three colour franking to Germany
Postage paid the double 7c NGU Closed Mail rate



8/20/1873 to England

Postage paid the double 6c
British Treaty rate (effective
1/1/1870 to 6/30/1875)

1873

INTRICATE FANCY



8/21/1873
to
8/?/1874



8/?/1874 1c stamped envelope to England (dated per backstamp)

Of only 2 covers recorded with this cancel this is by far the clearest strike

Postage paid the 2c Printed Circular Rate (unsealed and ungummed leaf)



9/6/1873
to
11/30/1875

10/23/1873 red **Supplementary Mail Type 'D'** to France

Of 8 covers recorded with this cancel this is the sole in red

Postage paid the 16c British Mail Treaty rate plus the 16c Supplementary Mail fee



11/29/1873 mourning cover to England

Postage paid the 6c British Treaty rate



BASIC FANCY

12/17/1873
to
2/20/1875

2/21/1874 to Italy

3 covers recorded with this cancel

Postage paid the 10c NGU Direct rate

INTRICATE FANCY



12/18/1873
to
5/15/1875

12/18/1873 to France

**A first day of use of this
common cancel**

Postage paid the 10c French
Treaty rate

3/28/1874 to Bruxelles

11 NYFM covers recorded to Belgium

Postage paid the double 8c Belgium Closed Mail rate but the cover was sent as British Open Mail rate leaving postage to be paid on arrival in Belgium



Exchange Office
datestamp on
the rear



5/7/1874 red **Supplementary Mail Type 'D'** to
England

**Of 85 covers recorded with this cancel this is
the only one known in red**

Postage paid the 6c British Mail Treaty rate plus the 6c
Supplementary Mail fee



1873



E

4/2/1874 3c Stamped Envelope to Greece

6 covers recorded to Greece, one of the scarcer NYFM destinations

Postage paid the 15c NGU Closed Mail Treaty rate



E

5/23/1874 to Amoy, one of 14 NYFM covers recorded to China

Travelled from N.Y. to San Francisco by train. Then by 1st Pacific Mail Steamship Company Steamer via Yokohama, Japan, where it left on 6/13/1874, enroute to Hong Kong arriving on 7/15/1874. It then departed on Peninsular and Oriental's branch steamer 'Norma' travelling via Swatow arriving at Amoy on 7/18/1874

Reverend Kip, a missionary, is buried in Greenwood cemetery, Brooklyn, New York

Postage paid the 10c American Packet rate



1873

INTRICATE FANCY



12/10/1873
to
12/27/1873



12/10/1873 to England

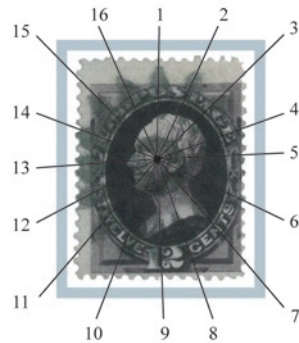
A earliest of 3 covers recorded with this cancel

Postage overpaid the 6c British Treaty Rate by 4c

IMPORTANT FOOTNOTE

This cancel has been incorrectly reproduced in ALL previous NYFM reference books ie
Edwin Milliken (1942)
Herst-Zareski (1951)
Vilisingen/Waud (1968)
William Weiss (1990)
James Cole (1996)

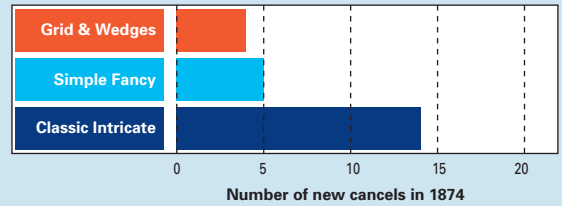
All showed it with 15 diamonds as seen below



However, as this full strike shows, this cancel actually has 16 diamonds

1874 - THE 5th YEAR

A constant increase in the production of intricate fancy cancellations whilst grid, wedge and basic fancy cancellations decline sharply



GRID



1/27/1874
to
5/14/1874



1/27/1874 1c Postal Card to Germany

The earliest and only use on a Postal Card of 5 covers recorded with this cancel

Postage paid the 2c Postal Card NGU rate



1/29/1874 to Germany

Postage paid the 6c NGU Direct Mail rate

1874

'SPOKES'



BASIC FANCY



1/7/1874
to
8/11/1875



11/21/1874 to Amoy, China

9 covers recorded with this cancel, the largest 'spokes' variety

Postage paid the 10c American Packet rate



11/17/1874 to England

Postage paid the 6c British Mail Treaty rate (effective 1/1/1870 to 6/30/1875)

1874



2/2/1874
to
5/25/1878



11/11/1874 3c Stamped Envelope **Supplementary Mail Type 'E'** to Germany
Shows a worn and broken state of this cancel

55 covers recorded with this cancel of which various sizes and styles exist

Type 'E' Supplementary Mail was in recorded use 8/8/1874 to 3/7/1877 (31 known in black and 15 known in red)

Postage due was 7c NGU Closed Mail rate plus the 7c supplementary Mail fee, a total of 14c, so 17c paid was 3c overpaid



8/19/1876 3c Stamped Envelope red **Supplementary Mail Type 'E'** to Germany

Postage paid the 5c UPU rate to Germany plus the 5c Supplementary Mail fee

1874



8/26/1876 red **Supplementary Mail Type 'E'** to Sachsen (Germany)

Postage paid the 5c UPU rate plus the 5c Supplementary Mail fee



10/1/1876 3c Stamped Envelope to Saxony (Germany)

NYFM cancels on 1876 Issue Stamped Envelopes are far more scarce than on the earlier 1870-75 Stamped Envelope Issues

Postage paid the 5c UPU rate



10/7/1876 to Bahia (Brazil)

Carried on White Star's 'Britannic' to England and then by Pacific Steam Navigation's 'John Elder' from Liverpool to Brazil

Postage paid the 21c British Mail rate via Great Britain

STEAMSHIP LETTER WITH 'FORWARDED' CACHET



12/26/(76) incoming 'N.YORK STEAMSHIP' letter from the West Indies to Burlington, NJ, redirected to Philadelphia

The cover bears the only recorded use of a 'FORWARDED' cachet on a NYFM cover (applied at the New York Post Office)

Postage prepaid the 5c Steamship rate. The cover was forwarded free as was allowed for prepaid mail



INTRICATE FANCY



2/12/1874
to
10/16/1874

5/7/1874 to France
22 covers recorded with this cancel
Postage paid the 16c Progressive French
Mail rate

5/16/1874 red **Supplementary Mail**
Type 'D' to Germany

1 of 2 covers recorded with this
cancel in red


Postage paid the 6c NGU Direct rate plus
the 6c Supplementary Mail fee




9/29/1874 red **Supplementary**
Mail Type 'E' to England

The addressee, 'J Painter',
discovered the U.S. 1893
Columbian 4c blue error of
colour

Postage paid the 6c Direct rate plus
the 6c Supplementary Mail fee





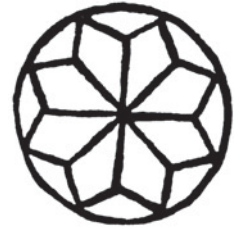
3/(1)/1875 to 'RAWA', then in Russia, (Russian spelling per backstamp being 'PABA')

'RAWA' or 'PABA' is now in Ukraine

24 covers recorded with this cancel

Postage paid the 10c NGL Direct Mail rate with a 4c credit to Great Britain

INTRICATE FANCY



3/5/1874
to
4/20/1875

Although the Exchange Office datestamp reads 'MAR' followed by two indecipherable digits this is improbable. The cover has two clear receiving backstamps dated 15th and 16th March respectively. Allowing a minimum of 10 days for the cross-Atlantic sailing and a further 5 days to boat and train from Great Britain to Russia the datestamp is more likely dated March the 1st or 2nd

ORIGINATING OUTSIDE NEW YORK CITY YET ATTRACTING A NYFM CANCEL



2/24/1875 to England

Carried out of the mails from Mexico to New York leaving for onward transit to England on 2/24/1875

Postage paid the 6c British Mail Treaty rate



1874



2/17/1875 1c Postal Card to Germany

1 of 2 Postal Cards recorded with this cancel

Postage paid the 2c Postal Card NGU rate



3/20/1875 mourning cover to England

The only recorded example of this variety on cover (or is this merely an under-inked version of the design intended?)

Postage paid the 6c British Mail Treaty rate

INTRICATE FANCY

VARIETY
'HOLE IN CENTRE'



E

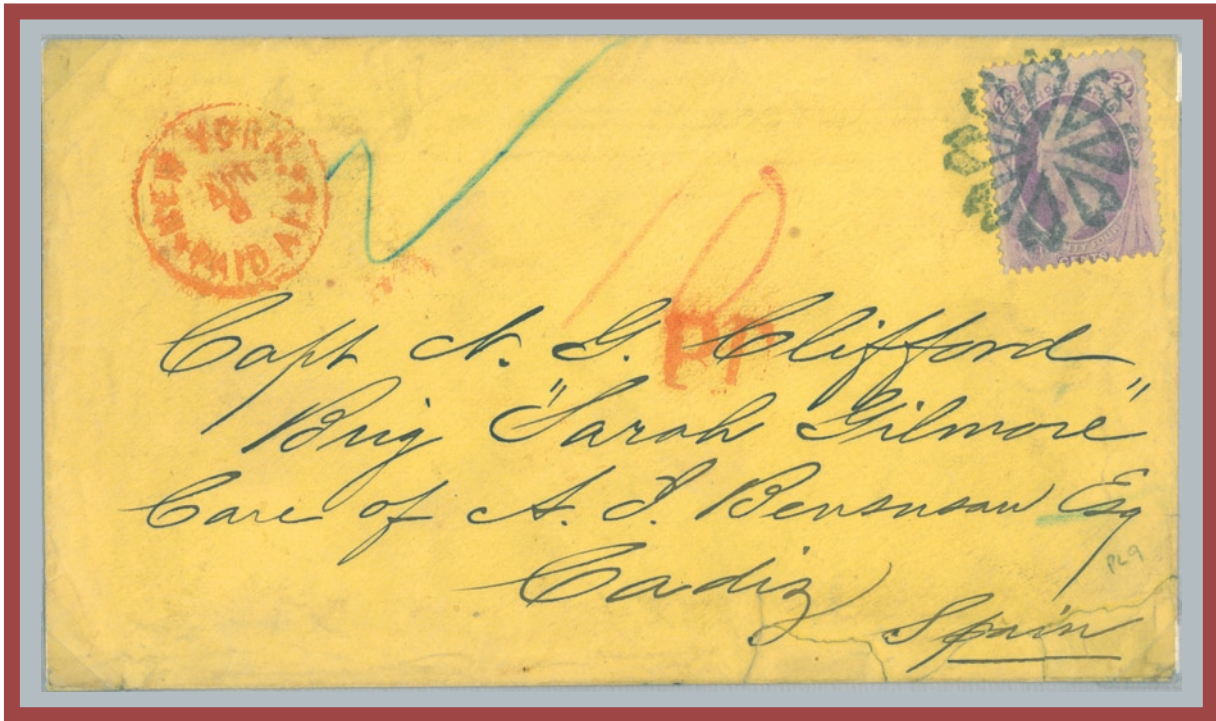
1874

INTRICATE FANCY



3/30/1874
to
9/12/1874

'CIRCLE OF HEARTS'



E

4/8/1874 to Spain

Of 60 covers recorded with this cancel this is the only known with the 24c value

Postage paid the double 12c NGU Closed Mail rate



1874



E

4/25/1874 to Bucharest, Romania
Postage paid the 10c NGU Closed Mail rate



E

6/4/1874 3c Stamped Envelope to France



Sent under the open mail provisions of the 1868 U.S/British Convention. The rate was 4c per half ounce, so postage paid of 6c was 2c overpaid. The cover was therefore more than fully paid to England. However the scarce 'PAID TO ENGLAND' Exchange Office datestamp indicates payment TO England, not THROUGH England. Britain sent the letter to France under the 1869 Anglo/French Convention. The London debited France 40 centimes per 30 grams bulk weight. France charged 10 decimes postage due, a double rate, indicating the letter weighed more than 10 grams, but less the half an ounce (approximately 15 grams)

1874

NEWLY DISCOVERED NYFM LETTER 'N' CANCEL



5/2/1874 to France

The earliest of 3 covers recorded with this newly discovered 'N' cancel

An unusually NYFM cancels in two respects a) the larger style NYFM cancels were probably developed to cancel more effectively the larger 1870 Bank Note stamps; so it is odd this cancel is so small and b) numeral cancels were generally used in sub-post offices in New York City dealing with domestic mails

Postage of 12c overpaid the 10c Direct Mail rate by 2c

BASIC FANCY



5/2/1874
to
7/11/1874



The cancel shown in sharper profile



7/11/1874 to Sicily

The latest recorded example of this cancel

Postage paid the double 10c Direct Mail rate

1874

 WEDGES



7/14/1874
to
7/15/1874



7/15/1874 to Germany

The latest of 2 covers recorded with this cancel, the other dated one day earlier

Postage paid the double 7c NGU Closed Mail rate





8/8/1874 to England

46 covers jointly recorded with this two varieties of star cancel
 (note the inner 'star' does not connect with the outer circle)

Postage paid three times the 6c per 1/2 ounce British Mail Treaty rate (effective 1/1/1870 to 6/30/1875)

BASIC FANCY



7/8/74
to
6/?/1875



8/29/1874 red **Supplementary Mail Type 'E'** to Holland

(note the inner 'star' connects with the outer circle)

Postage paid the 10c British Mail rate plus the 10c Supplementary Mail fee

BASIC FANCY



7/8/74
to
6/?/1875



1874



INTRICATE FANCY



8/15/1874
to
9/29/1874

8/15/1874 to Switzerland

A previously unrecorded earliest use of 11 covers recorded with this cancel

Postage paid the 8c Switzerland Closed Mail rate via Bremen



E



8/26/1874 to England

Postage paid the double 6c British Treaty Mail rate

1874

 BASIC FANCY



12/12/1874
to
12/13/1874



12/13/1874 to England

The latest of 2 covers recorded with this cancel, in use for just 2 days

Postage paid the 6c British Mail Treaty rate



1874

INTRICATE FANCY



9/17/1874
to
11/30/1874

9/24/1874 1c Postal Card to Germany
24 covers recorded with this cancel
Postage paid the 2c Postal Card NGU rate



E

DUAL COUNTRY FRANKING U.S./G.B. STAMPS

9/24/1874 to East Grinstead, England
then redirected to Shaftsbury, Dorset

Postage paid the 6c British Mail Treaty rate
plus a GB 1 penny red for the redirection



10/7/1874 to France
Postage paid the 9c French
Direct Mail rate

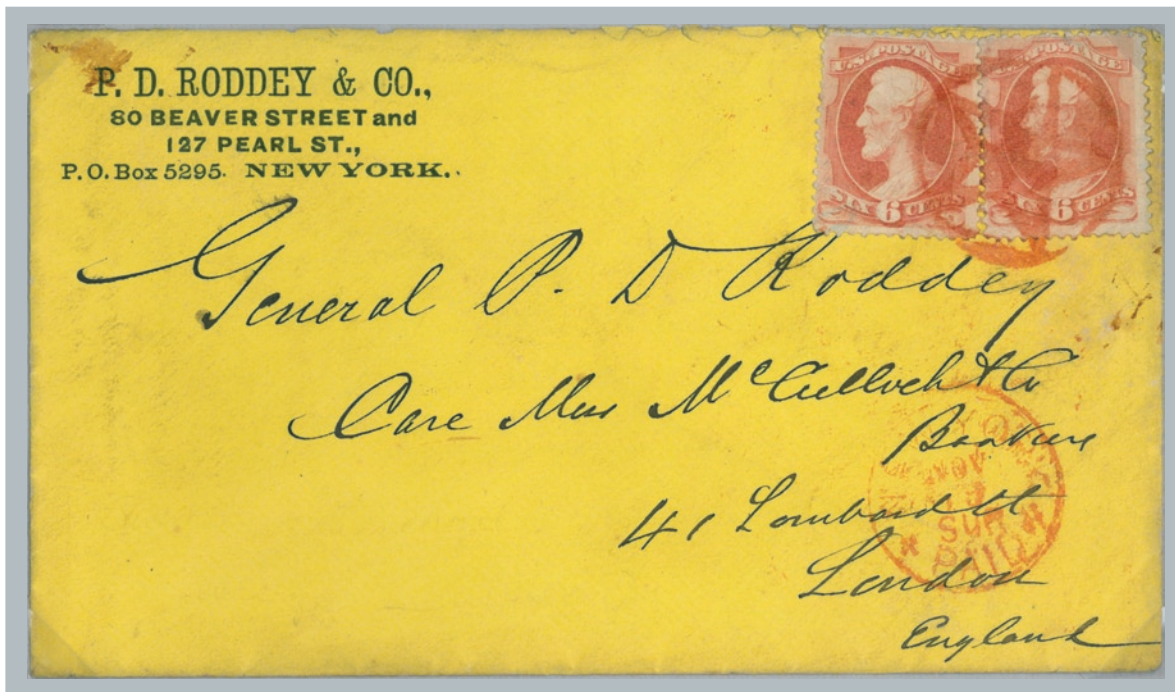


E

1874



10/7/1874 to Germany
Postage paid the double 7c NGU Closed Mail rate



11/19/1874 red **Supplementary Mail Type 'E'** to England
1 of 3 of this cancel recorded in red
Postage paid the 6c British Mail Treaty rate per half ounce plus the 6c Supplementary Mail fee

1874

INTRICATE FANCY



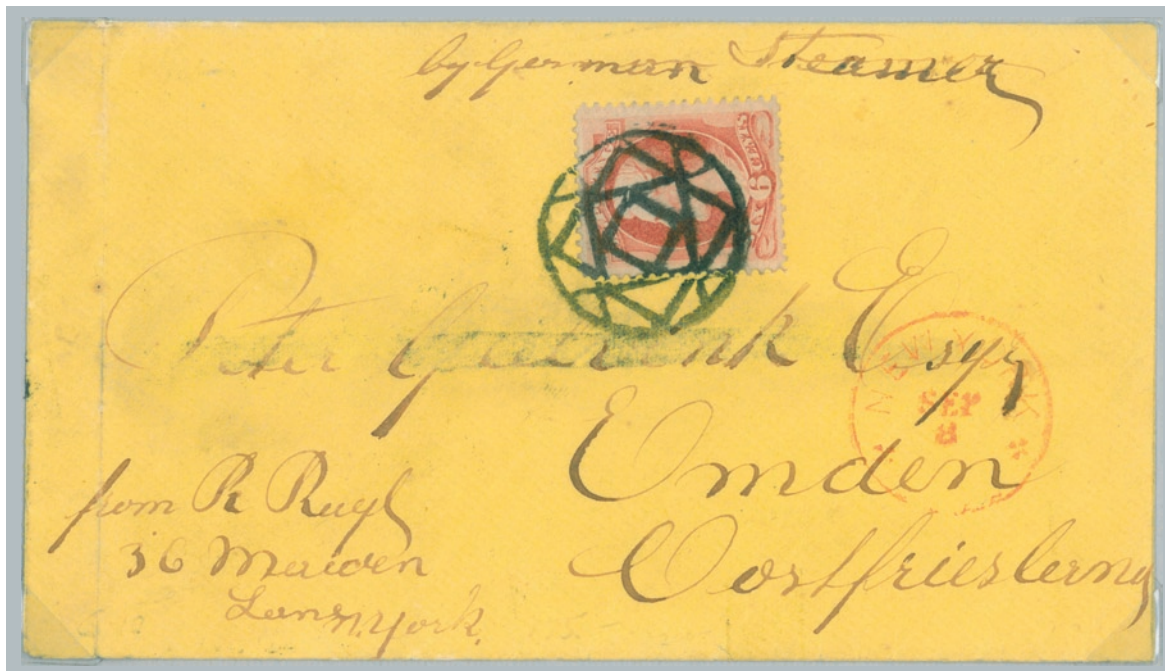
9/5/1874
to
10/31/1874



9/5/1874 red **Supplementary Mail Type 'E'** to England

**The earliest of 13 covers recorded with this cancel and 1 of only 2 known with
Supplementary Mail usage**

Postage paid the 6c British Mail Treaty rate plus the 6c Supplementary Mail fee



9/8/1874 to Oostfriesland

Until 1871 this town was situated in the Kingdom of Saxony prior to becoming
a part of the German Empire

Postage paid the 6c NGU Direct Mail rate



1874

'COMPASS ROSE'

INTRICATE FANCY



9/18/1874
to
5/?/1875



1/27/1875 to France

10 covers recorded with this cancel

One of the few NYFM cancellations to depict a known object

Postage paid the 9c French Mail rate



1/28/1875 to Italy

A remarkably crisp strike of this cancel

Postage paid the double 10c NGU Closed Mail rate

1874

INTRICATE FANCY



9/13/1874
to
6/22/1875



12/19/1874 to Austria

13 covers recorded with this cancel which is rarely cleanly struck

The inner negative centre and the outer negative diamonds and triangles were prone to 'ink in'

Postage paid the 6c NGU Direct Mail rate



12/24/1874 Supplementary Mail Type 'E' to Italy

The only recorded example of this cancel on a cover with Supplementary Mail usage

Postage paid the 10c NGU Direct Closed Mail rate via England plus the 10c Supplementary Mail fee



1874



INTRICATE FANCY



10/1/1874
to
12/14/1874



E

10/1/1874 to London

The earliest of 10 covers recorded with this cancel

Postage paid the 6c British Mail Treaty rate



E

10/6/1874 to Austria

Fiume was a city in the Austrian/Hungary Empire. It is now located in the area called Croatia

Postage paid the 6c NGU Direct Mail rate

1874



INTRICATE FANCY



10/17/1874
to
11/14/1875



10/17/1874 to France

The first recorded use of 15 covers known with this cancel

Postage overpaid the 9c French Mail Treaty rate by 1c

BONA FIDE NYFM CANCELLATION USED DOMESTICALLY



12??/1874 advertisement cover to New York City

Unlike some, this is not a 'look-a-like' domestic NYFM cancel. Somehow the cover was processed expediently in the Foreign Mail Department

Postage paid the 1c Circular Mail rate

1874



10/24/1874 red **Supplementary Mail type 'E'** to Germany

Postage paid the 6c NGU Direct Mail Rate plus the 6c Supplementary Mail fee



11/26/1874 1c Postal Card to Switzerland

Worn state of this cancel

The **'VIA HAMBURG'** Exchange Office datestamp is scarce with just 3 recorded Postal Card NYFM usages

Postage paid the 2c Postal Card rate by Swiss Closed Mail rate via Hamburg

1874



INTRICATE FANCY



1/9/1874
to
2/27/1875



12/15/1874 advertisement cover to Switzerland

13 covers recorded with this cancel

Company Benziger was an importer of church furnishings and books

Postage paid the 8c Switzerland Closed Mail rate via Hamburg



1/9/1875 **three colour franking** to Sicily

Postage paid the 10c NGU Direct Mail rate to Italy

1874

INTRICATE FANCY



12/8/1874
to
12/24/1875



12/24/1874 to Montevideo

17 covers recorded with this cancel

1 of 2 NYFM covers recorded to Uruguay

Postage paid the 18c rate by American Packet to Rio de Janeiro, then by British Packet to Montevideo

1874



12/8/1874 1c Postal Card to Switzerland

The only use of this cancel recorded on a Postal Card and also the earliest use of this cancel

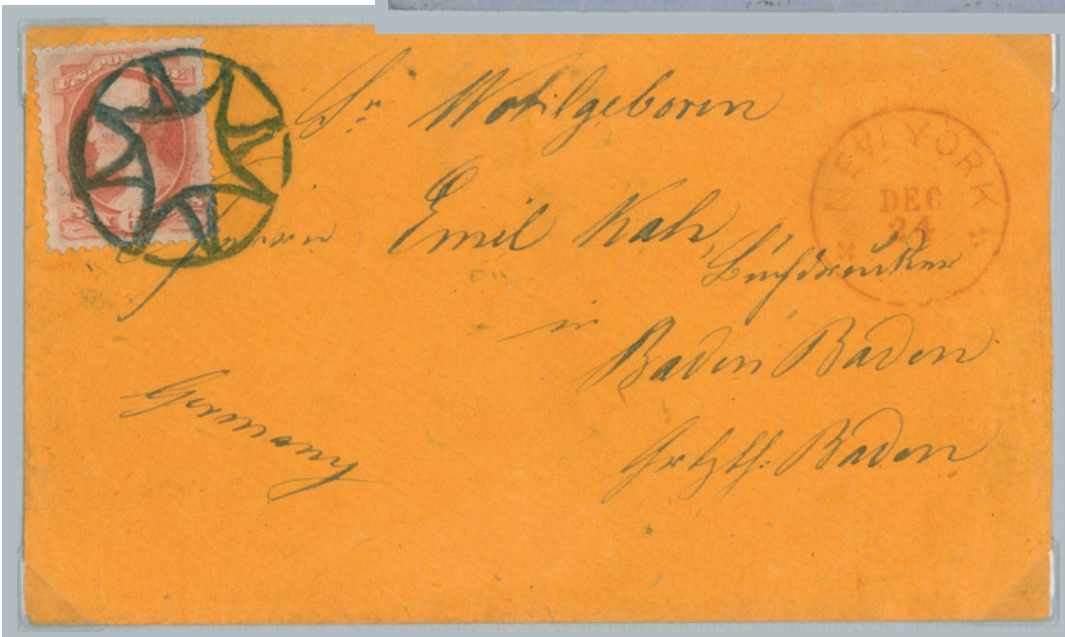
Postage paid the 2c Postal Card Switzerland Closed Mail rate via Hamburg



E



12/17/1874 to France
Postage paid the 9c French Treaty rate



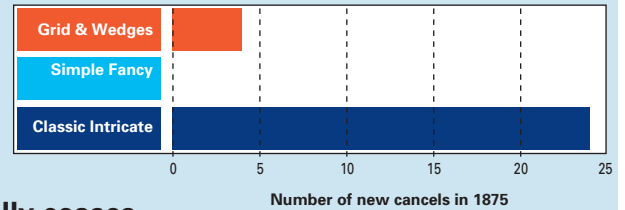
12/24/1874 to Germany
Postage paid the 6c NGU Direct Mail rate



1875 – THE 6th YEAR

INTRICATE FANCY CANCELLATION'S GOLDEN ERA

Intricate fancy cancellations peak at 24 new designs. Basic fancy, grid and wedge cancellations slump. However, from 9/12/1875, production of intricate fancy cancellations virtually ceases



Perhaps it was a combination of two factors;

- on 7/1/1875 provisions of the **General Postal Union** were introduced. Perhaps this was thought a suitable occasion for standardisation paving the way for the **inception of the steel ellipse**
- on 8/29/1875 the N.Y. P.O. commenced operations at **new purpose built City Park Hall premises**. Perhaps this was used as an opportunity to reorganise working practice

INTRICATE FANCY



1/9/1875



E

1/9/1875 1c Postal Card to Prussia (Germany)

This is the only recorded use of this cancel on an entire

Postage paid the 2c Postal Card NGU Mail rate



1875

INTRICATE FANCY



1/11/1875
to
7/27/1875



3/14/1875 to Tunis

**The only NYFM cover recorded to Tunisia
16 covers recorded with this cancel**

Postage paid the 15c German Closed Mail rate via England and Brindisi. The addition, on arrival, of the Italian 1 and 2 lira postage due stamps (equating to US 57c) appears inexplicably imposed



1875

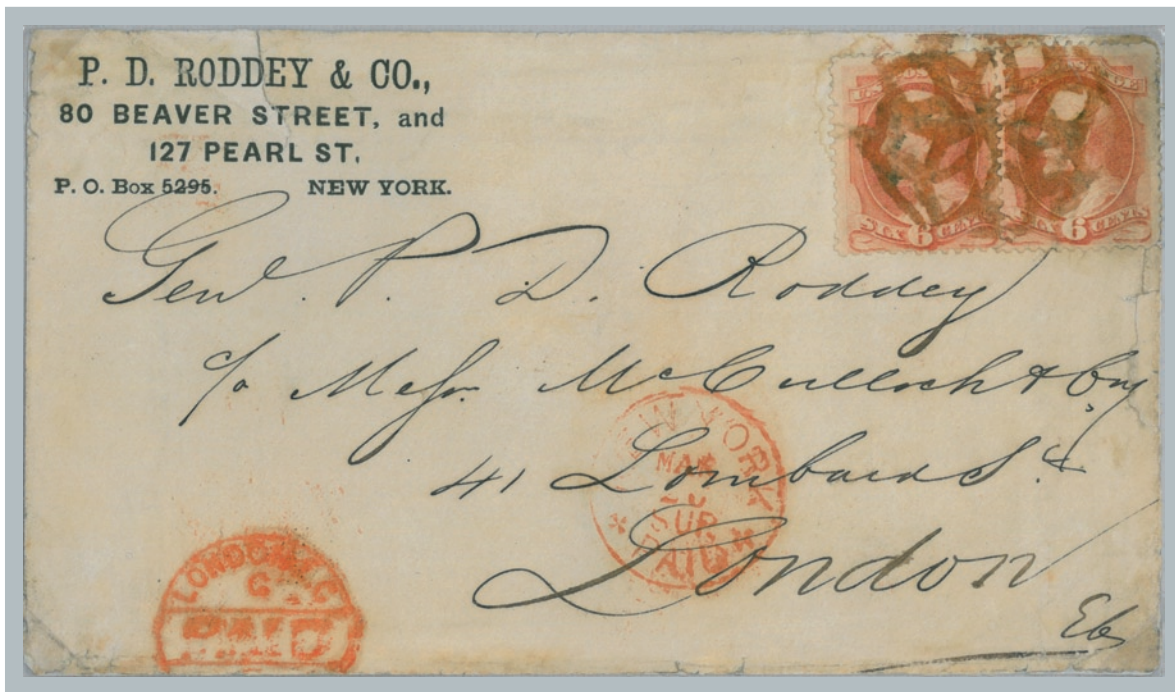


3/11/1875 to Germany
 Postage paid the 6c NGU
 Direct Mail rate

3/20/1875 red **Supplementary Mail 'Type E'** to England

The only recorded example of this cancel in red

Postage paid the 6c British Mail Treaty rate per half ounce plus the 6c Supplementary Mail fee



7/27/1875 to Germany
The latest recorded use of this cancel

An unusually full strike of this cancel - the outer circle on larger 30mm diameter NYFM cancels is often broken or missing due to uneven application

Postage of 6c overpaid by 1c the 5c UPU rate



1875

INTRICATE FANCY



1/12/1875
to
2/17/1875



1/23/1875 to France

4 covers recorded with this cancel

Postage paid the 9c French Mail rate

ORIGINATING OUTSIDE NEW YORK CITY YET ATTRACTING A NYFM CANCEL WITH MIXED ISSUE FRANKING



Originating Newark N.J. on 2/15/1875 via New York to Moradabad

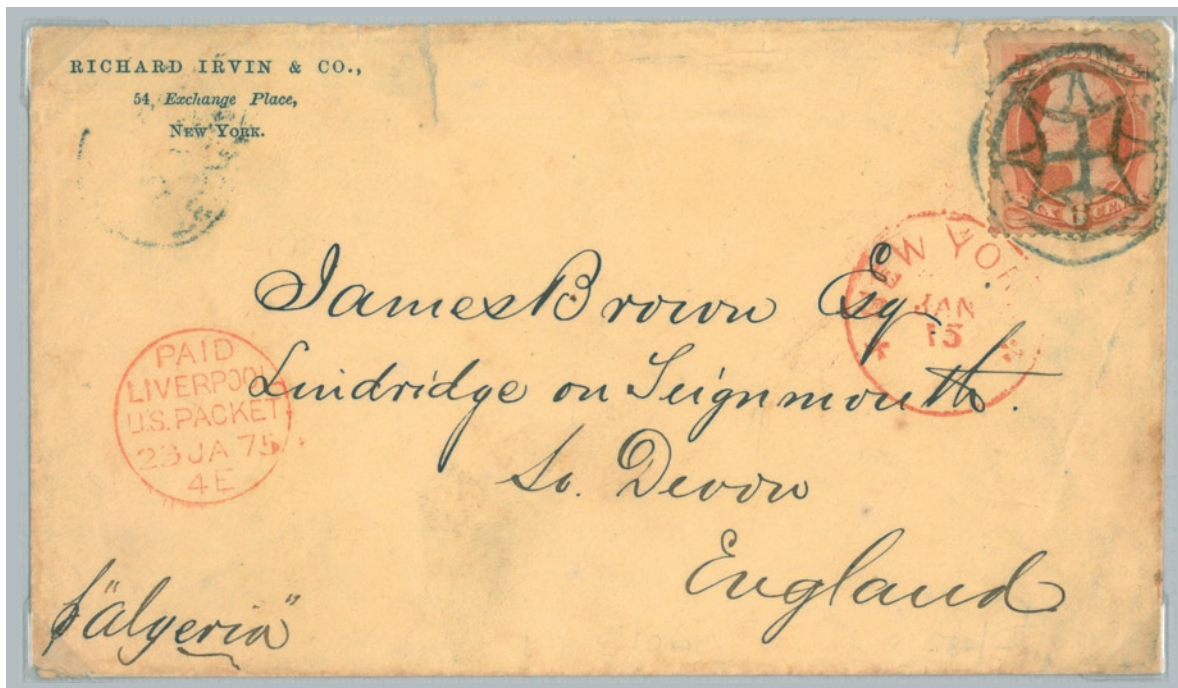
14 NYFM uses recorded to India

Bears mixed issue stamps - an 1866 2c stamp and 2 x 1870 Banknote 2c stamps

Van Vlissingen, a pre-eminent NYFM student, notes on 3/30/1963 on the rear 'The only cover I have ever seen that was mailed and postmarked elsewhere, but still received a N.Y. Foreign Mail cancel'. Since Vlissingen made that note at least 4 further such uses have emerged

Postage paid the 28c British Mail rate via Brindisi

1875



INTRICATE FANCY



1/13/1875
to
1/23/1875



E

1/15/1875 to England

5 covers recorded with this cancel, in use for just 10 days

Postage paid the 6c British Mail Treaty rate



WEDGES



?/?/(1875)

E

?/?/(1875) 1c Stamped Envelope to Germany

1 of 2 covers recorded with this cancel

An extraordinary NYFM cancel out of character with the other fancy cancels being produced at this time. It is confirmed as originating in New York City because the other recorded use is a New York City corner cover dated 1875

Postage paid the 2c UPU rate

1875

INTRICATE FANCY



1/13/1875
to
2/6/1875



1/23/1875 1c Postal Card to Prussia (Germany)

Of 31 covers recorded with this cancel this is the only known on a Postal Card

The sender writes on the rear 'Can you find me a portrait of Rudolph II Emperor of Germany 1552-1612 ?'

Postage paid the 2c Postal Card NGU Mail rate



1/23/1875 to Hamilton

6 NYFM covers recorded to Bermuda

Postage of 28c shortpaid by 2c the triple 10c Mail rate due of 30c

1874



2/6/1875 to Spain

A latest recorded use of this cancel on cover

The cancelling device can be seen to lose ink as it is struck right to left

Postage paid the quadruple 12c NGU Closed Mail rate

1875



1/14/1875 advertisement cover to Prussia (Germany)

2 NYFM covers recorded with strips of 6 x 1c stamps

The 4 strikes can be seen to weaken right to left as the device lost ink

Postage paid the 6c NGU Direct Mail rate



INTRICATE FANCY



1/21/1875
to
2/17/1875

2/6/1875 to France

4 covers recorded with this cancel

This smaller version is far scarcer than the earlier larger, more common, type shown on the cover at the top of this page

Postage paid the 9c French Mail Treaty rate

1875

INTRICATE FANCY



2/26/1875
to
5/11/1875

SOLE RECORDED USE OF A NYFM USAGE WITH A STEAMSHIP CO PRIVATE LETTER STAMP



4/23/1875 via St Thomas, Danish West Indies (DWI) to Venezuela

Of 9 covers recorded with this cancel this example shows a remarkably clear strike of a cancel which is invariably broken or over-inked

Not only is this the sole recorded NYFM use with a private letter stamp (Hamburg-American Line) but it is also the sole known NYFM use to Venezuela

*The U.S. steamship postage was paid for by the U.S. 10c stamp
The 4c DWI post office charge was paid by the forwarder in cash
The 10c HAPAG charge was paid for by the 10c HAPAG stamp*

1875

TWO DIFFERENT NYFM INTRICATE FANCY CANCELLATIONS ON ONE COVER



RETURNED FOR POSTAGE

5/11/1875 to Havana, Cuba, carried from New York on NY & Mexican's 'CUBA'

The sole example of 2 different NYFM fancy cancels on one cover

A latest and worn use of the righthand cancel

Initial postage of 11c (3 times 3c plus 2c stamp at the right) overpaid the 10c American Packer rate by 1c. The 1st NYFM cancel was applied before it transpired this was a double weight letter and 20c was due. So a red 'RETURNED FOR POSTAGE' was applied in New York and the letter returned to the sender, who then added 3 times 3c stamps, two at the left, and one at the left side of the 2c stamp on the right to complete the 20c required. The Foreign Mail Department then applied the 2nd NYFM cancel on the left. The handstamp '3' represents 3 Reales due on arrival

Below are shown the 2 designs of cancellation struck on this cover



on the cover at the left
(see 7-13)

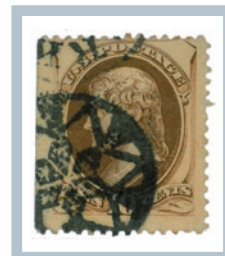


crisp early state

E



on the cover at the right
(see 7-4)



crisp early state

1875

INTRICATE FANCY



2/27/1875
to
3/26/1875

ORIGINATING OUTSIDE NEW YORK CITY YET ATTRACTING A NYFM CANCEL
WITH DUAL COUNTRY US/CUBAN FRANKING



From Cuba to Spain via New York (on 3/3/1875)

12 covers recorded with this cancel

Bears **mixed issue U.S. stamps**, 1869 2c stamp, 6 x 1873 10c stamps and 2 x Cuban 50 peseta stamps

Cuban stamps were required for Cuban postage even though the cover did not enter the Cuban postal system. U.S. stamps were not valid in Cuba, however, they were available through the U.S. consul to assist senders to prepay mail via, or through, the U.S.

The endorsement '*Via Estados Unidos*' translates 'Via United States'. The endorsement beneath the top stamps reads '*Duplicate of letter sent 25th Feb 1875*'

The cover travelled by direct U.S. steamer from Havana to New York

U.S. postage paid double the 10c Steamship rate to the U.S. (to 1oz) plus the 32c British Open mail rate, via France to Spain, (half to two thirds oz), a total of 52c. The total of 62c was therefore 10c overpaid.

Two 25c Cuban stamps were added internally

1875

INTRICATE FANCY



3/8/1875
to
3/18/1875



E

3/8/1875 to Mexico (year-dated internally)

The earliest recorded of 3 covers with this cancel

This cancel is rarely fully struck. Often it is identified only by one or two of the half shaded segments. The strike above is therefore a remarkable example with every facet showing in sharp profile

Postage paid the 10c American Packet rate

1875

INTRICATE FANCY



3/13/1875
to
8/17/1875



4/10/1875 mourning cover to Italy

12 covers recorded with this cancel

Postage of 16c overpaid the 10c NGU Direct Mail rate by 6c



8/17/1875 to Bohemia

A newly discovered latest use of this cancel

Bohemia was at that time part of the Hungarian/Austrian Empire. In 1918, together with Moravia and Silisia, it became part of the newly created Czechoslovakia. It is now an area within the Czech Republic (Czechoslovakia being divided into two entities in 1993, The Czech Republic and Slovakia)

Postage overpaid the 5c UPU rate by 1c (it was not unusual during this transitional period for senders not to realise UPU rates had come into effect on 7/1/1875)

1875

ORIGINATING OUTSIDE OF NEW YORK CITY YET ATTRACTING A NYFM CANCEL



INTRICATE FANCY



3/27/1875
to
5/12/1875

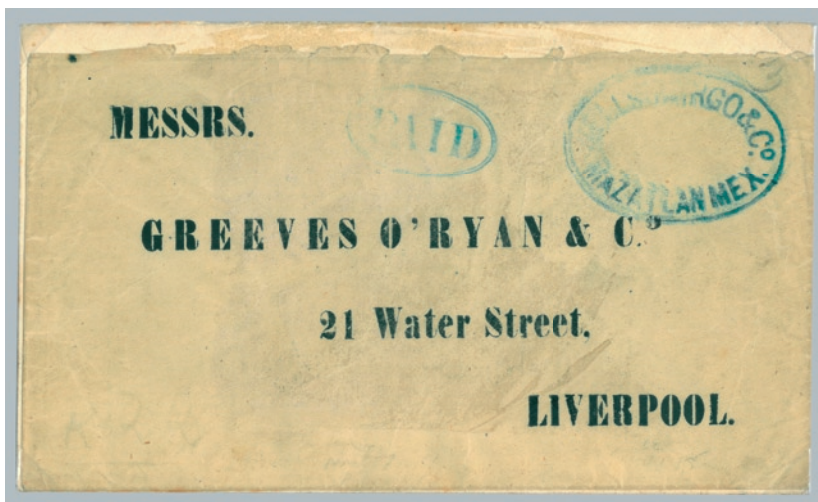


4/23/1875 'paste back' 3c Stamped Wells Fargo Envelope from Mazatlan, Mexico, to Liverpool, England, via New York

18 covers recorded with this cancel

The only recorded Wells Fargo cover originating in Mexico with a NYFM cancel

The 3c Stamped Envelope was purchased at the Wells Fargo office in Mazatlan. The sender attached a 3c stamp to make up the 6c rate to Britain. Wells Fargo Mexican Coast and California Express fee for private, out of the mails carriage, was 35c, so we might assume the sender paid 6c in postage and 29c in cash. The sender's letter was contained in a separately addressed envelope (shown below) pasted onto the rear of the Stamped Envelope



PHOTOCOPY OF THE REAR (75%)



The blue 'WELLS FARGO & Co. MAZATLAN MEX' and 'PAID' handstamps were applied in the Mazatlan Wells Fargo office

The cover was routed by Pacific Mail Company Steamer to San Francisco, then by train to New York, a total journey of approximately 15 days. It was forwarded onto Liverpool on the 8th May arriving on the 19th May

1875



4/3/1875 to Germany

Showing a worn or over-inked state of this cancel

The only recorded cover bearing 2 x 7c stamps with this cancel

Postage paid the double 7c NGU Closed Mail rate



4/7/1875 red **Supplementary Mail Type 'E'** to France

Postage paid the 9c French Mail Treaty Mail rate plus the 9c Supplementary Mail fee



4/22/1875 to Honolulu

6 NYFM covers recorded to Hawaii

Postage paid the 6c Treaty rate (effective Jul 1870)

1875

INTRICATE FANCY



3/30/1875
to
12/23/1875

'FOULED ANCHOR'



E

3/30/1875 to Mexico

The earliest recorded of 14 covers with this cancel

One of the very few 'representative' NYFM cancels

Postage paid the 10c American Packet rate



E

**A remarkably clear strike of
this intricate cancel on a 15c
Bank Note stamp, probably
the finest example extant**

1875



INTRICATE FANCY



4/1/1875
to
5/20/1875

4/24/1875 red **Supplementary Mail Type 'E'** to France

15 covers recorded with this cancel

Postage of 20c paid the 9c French Treaty rate plus the 9c Supplementary Mail fee (2c overpaid)



E

5/15/1875 to Germany

Postage paid the 7c NGU Closed Mail rate

1875



4/21/1875 to England

The earliest of 3 covers recorded with this cancel

Postage paid the 6c British Mail Treaty rate

INTRICATE FANCY



4/21/1875
to
6/21/1875



5/4/1875 to Moradabad

13 NYFM covers recorded to India

This cancel, with over 110 reported covers, defines the intricacy of the classic NYFM

The cover went by Steamer 'Lessing', arriving Plymouth 5/15/1875. It then trained to London and by Packet to Calais and thence onto Brindisi via the Mount Cenis Tunnel. It continued by Packet to Alexandria, train to Suez and Packet to Bombay where it received a SEA POST backstamp. It finally travelled by train and postal wagon to Moradabad

Postage paid the 28c British Mail rate via Brindisi

INTRICATE FANCY



27mm diam
4/26/1875
to
9/6/1876

1875



6/5/1875 red **Supplementary Mail Type 'E'** to France

5 covers recorded with this cancel, a much scarcer variety of this otherwise common 'centre of diamonds' NYFM design

Postage paid the 9c French Mail rate plus the 9c Supplementary Mail fee

INTRICATE FANCY



5/29/1875
to
6/14/1875



8/14/1875 to England

6 covers recorded with this cancel

Postage of 6c overpaid the 5c UPU rate by 1c

WEDGES



6/7/1875
to
11/10/1875



E

1875

INTRICATE FANCY



6/22/1875
to
9/10/1875



6/26/1875 red **Supplementary Mail Type 'E'** to France

12 covers recorded with this cancel

Postage paid the 9c French Mail Treaty rate plus the 9c Supplementary Mail fee



6/28/1875 to England

Postage paid the 6c British Mail Treaty rate

1875

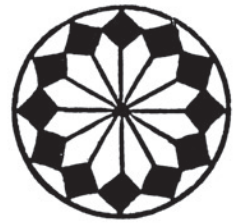
DUAL COUNTRY FRANKING U.S./GERMAN STAMPS



6/24/1875 to Germany

The earliest of 7 covers recorded with this cancel (which is invariably badly worn or broken)
U.S. 6c postage paid the NGU Direct Mail rate. The German 10pf stamp paid the internal forwarding charge

INTRICATE FANCY



6/24/1875
to
8/24/1875



7/17/1875 to England

The earliest of 5 covers recorded with this cancel
Postage paid the 5c UPU rate

INTRICATE FANCY



7/17/1875
to
7/22/1875

E

1875

INTRICATE FANCY



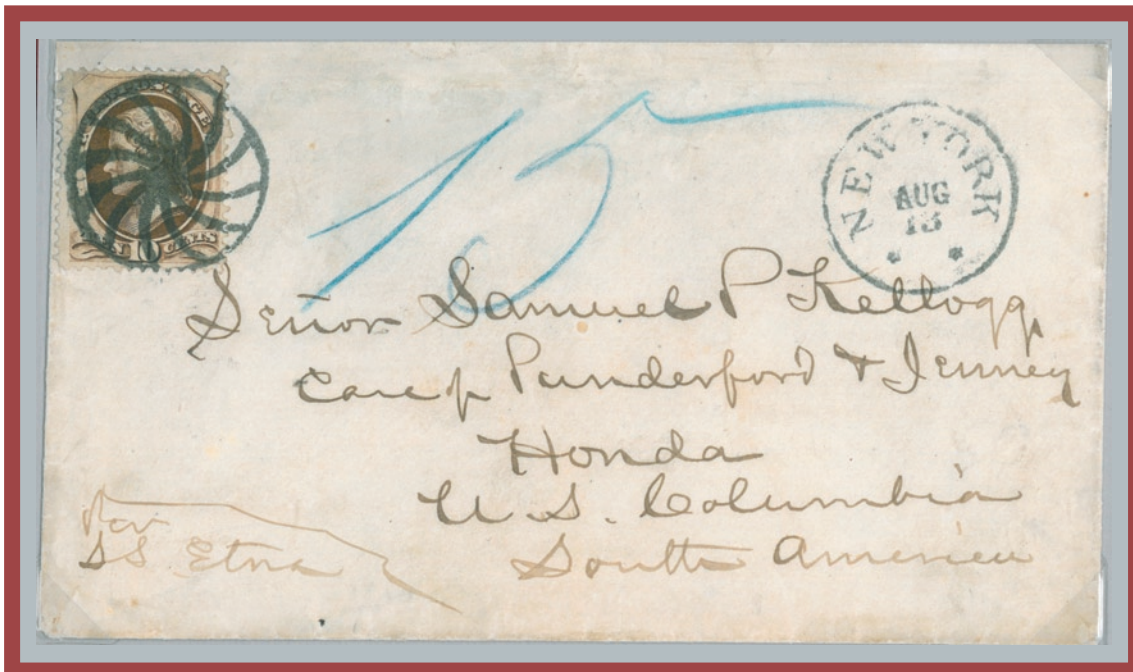
27mm diam
 12 spokes
 8/7/1875
 to
 10/?/1875



8/12/1875 to France

21 covers recorded with this cancel

Postage paid the 9c Closed Mail rate via England



8/13/1875 to U.S. Columbia, South America

The only recorded NYFM use to Columbia

In 1863 'The Granadine Confederation' became 'The United States of Columbia'. It became the 'Republic of Columbia' in 1886

Postage paid the 10c American Packet rate



INTRICATE FANCY



25-26 mm diam

8/26/1875
to
9/2/1875

8/26/1875 1c Postal Card to England

The earliest of 3 entires recorded with this smallest and most scarce of this otherwise common style 'centre of diamonds' NYFM cancel

Postage paid the 2c UPU Postal Card rate

E

9/2/1875 claret **Supplementary Mail Type 'E'** to England

2 NYFM cancels recorded in claret (probably an inadvertant mixing of inks)

The latest recorded use of this cancel

Postage paid the 5c UPU rate plus the 5c Supplementary Mail fee



GRID



12/4/1875



12/4/1875 to England

The only recorded cover with this cancel

Postage of 6c overpaid the 5c UPU rate by 1c

E

1875



9/8/1875 to France

3 covers recorded with this 13 spoke cancel, all dated the same day. It was previously assumed this cancel existed only with 12 spokes. The type above is also 3mm larger than the 12 spoke variety

Postage paid the 9c French Mail rate

INTRICATE FANCY



30mm diam

13 Spokes

9/8/1875



INTRICATE FANCY



25mm diam

12 Spokes

9/21/1875

to

9/25/1875



9/21/1875 to India carried from N.Y. on Guion's 'DAKOTA' to England and then onward via Brindisi arriving Moradabad 12/2/1875 (per backstamp)

The earliest recorded of 3 covers with this cancel spanning 4 days

It is smaller than both the 12 spoke and 13 spoke varieties and has thicker spokes

Postage of 28c overpaid by 1c the prepaid ½ ounce letter rate of 27c to India via England & Brindisi. This rate was used for 12 months from 7/1/1875 until the UPU rate of 10c became effective on 7/1/1876

1875



INTRICATE FANCY



30mm diam

9/22/1875
to
12/23/1876

9/22/1875 1c Postal Card to Germany

The earliest recorded use of this, the largest and most common of this style, with 44 known covers

Postage paid the 2c Postal Card rate

LEAVING NEW YORK CITY BY TRAIN RATHER THAN SHIP



5/1/1876 to Mexico via New Orleans

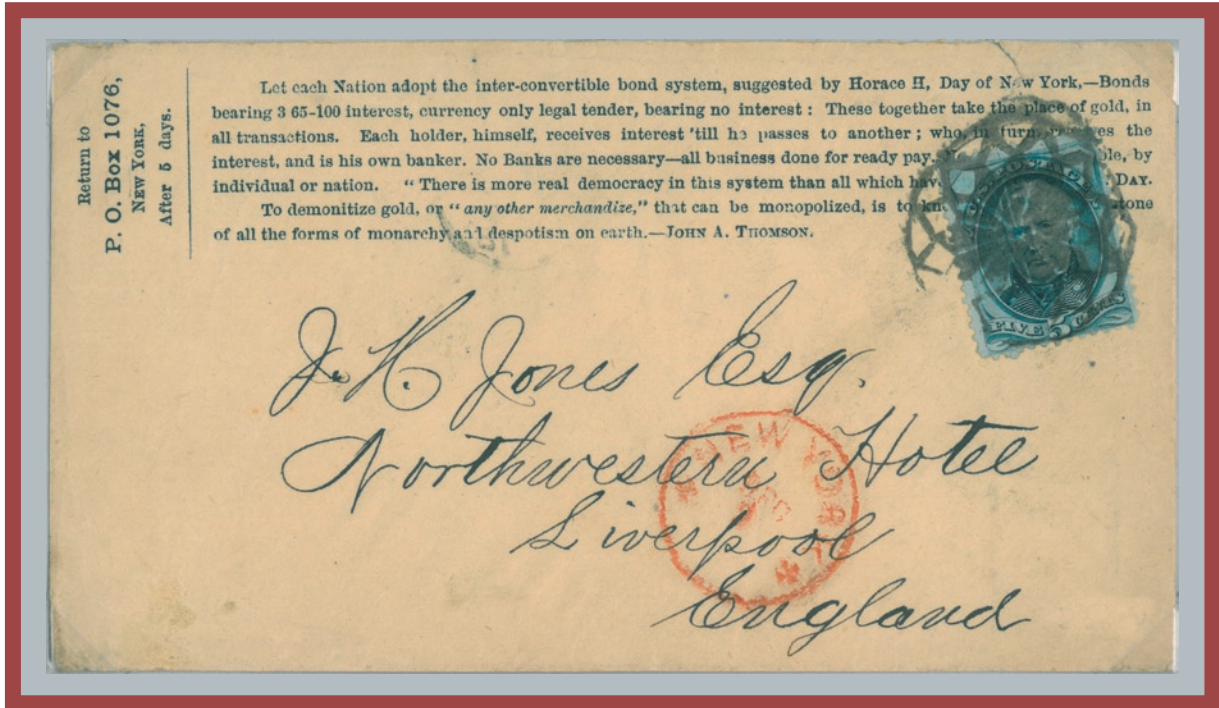
Most mail for Mexico left New York by ship South to Vera Cruz and thence onward. However, 4 covers are recorded endorsed 'Via New Orleans'. It is assumed these covers left New York by train for New Orleans, thence onto Vera Cruz by ship (mailship service commenced New Orleans to Vera Cruz Oct 1874) This cover arrived May 12th taking 11 days.

Postage of 10c overpaid the 7c Land Mail rate by 3c (25 centavos due on arrival)



1875

THE ONLY RECORDED PROPOGANDA COVER WITH NYFM USAGE



12/9/1876 to England

John S Thompson advocates gold demonetization along with the introduction of an inter-convertible bond system for the use and benefit of individuals so as to make banks redundant

'Let each Nation adopt the inter-convertible bond system suggested by Horace H. Day of New York .. these (bonds) take the place of gold in all transactions.... No banks are necessary... There is more real democracy in this system To demonitize gold or any other merchandise that can be monopolized is to (condone) all forms of monarchy and despotism on earth'

Postage paid the 5c UPU rate



1875

NEWLY RECOGNISED GRID



GRID



26mm diam

10/20/1875

10/20/1875 to Holland

This cancel, unrecorded previously, comprises 16 segments arranged in two vertical rows of five plus two rows of three. **The type is confirmed by the Postal Card below dated the same day** (other such grids exist but they measure only 20-22mm diam with smaller segments). **This is one of the last recorded grid cancels prior to the introduction of the steel ellipse, first recorded use in the Foreign Mail Department being in September 1876**

Postage paid the 5c UPU rate



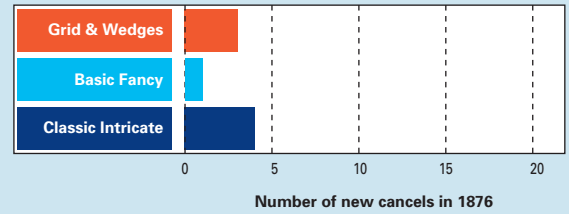
10/20/1875 1c Postal Card to Germany

Postage paid the 2c UPU Postal Card rate

1876 - THE 7th YEAR

DRAMATIC DECLINE OF INTRICATE FANCY CANCELS

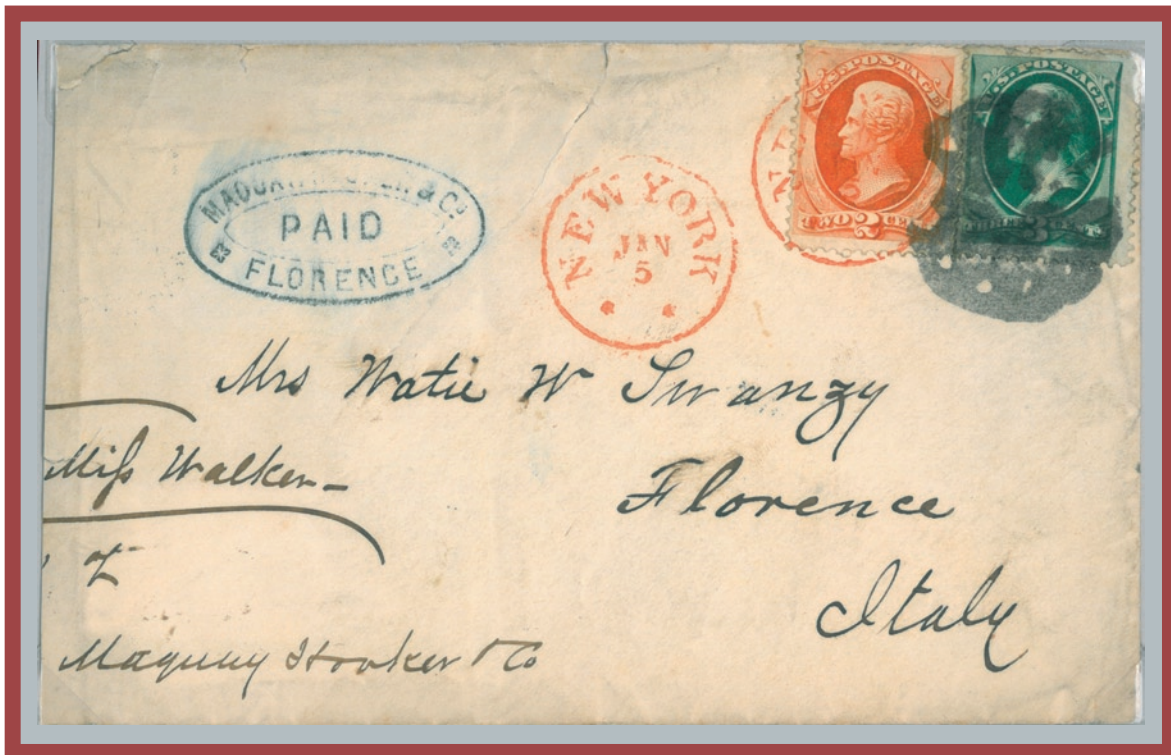
The precursor to the end of the handcarved cancellation came in June with the 1st steel ellipse reported on a NYFM cover



INTRICATE FANCY



1/5/1876



1/5/1876 to Italy

The only use of this cancel recorded on cover

A cancel seemingly discarded on the day of inception probably because the negative spaces filled with ink. Although this example is overinked, the central negative 'diamond' and 2 upper 'spokes' are definable

Postage paid the 5c UPU rate



crisp early state

E

1876

THE LAST INTRICATE FANCY CANCEL DESIGNED FOR USE IN THE NYFM DEPARTMENT
AN ELEGANT AND FITTING CONCLUSION TO A PERIOD OF STUNNING IMAGINATION



1/14/1876
to
12/9/1876

ORIGINATING OUTSIDE NEW YORK CITY YET ATTRACTING A NYFM CANCEL



1/14/1876 from Peru via Panama and New York to Marblehead, Mass

The earliest of 3 covers recorded with this cancel

The 1868 Peru 1d green paid postage to the Peruvian exit port thence to Panama via British Packet where it was stamped with the British 3 line 'PANAMA 20 JAN 1876 TRANSIT'. The 1875 USA 5c paid Panama to New York via US Packet

The handstamp '12' (cents), equalling 6d, represents the British debit to the US for transit Peru to Panama. However, a depreciated currency handstamp 'Due 14 US currency' was applied because settlements with England were in Specie, or it's gold equivalent, while the US due was paid in depreciated currency. This increased the debit from 12 to 14

PANAMA
20JA1876
TRANSIT



1876



E

WEDGES



4/8/1876
to
6/20/1876

6/3/1876 to England

3 covers recorded with this cancel (this shows a typically worn state of the cancel - note the circular negative lines in the wedges)

Postage paid the 5c UPU rate



INTRICATE FANCY



5/30/1876
to
6/15/1876

5/30/1876 Printed Circular to Austria

The earliest of 4 covers recorded with this cancel

Postage paid the 2c Printed Circular UPU rate

Circulars were processed in the CIRCULAR MAIL DEPARTMENT rather than the Foreign Mail Department so may be regarded as N.Y.F.M. hybrids. Few appear to have survived on cover presumably having been discarded as 'junk mail' soon after arrival

1876

WEDGES



3/20/1872
to
7/15/1876



E

7/15/1876 to France

**Of 3 covers recorded with this cancel this is the latest known and is
by far the clearest strike**

*Postage of 30c seemingly grossly overpaid what was probably a maximum
due of the double 5c UPU rate*

1876



WEDGES



9/2/1876
to
8/31/1876

8/31/1876 to St Thomas (Danish West Indies)

The latest of 3 covers recorded with this cancel

Postage paid the 13c British Mail rate via Havana (effective Jul 1, 1875 to Aug 30, 1877)

AN EARLY USE OF THE STEEL ELLIPSE CANCEL



STEEL ELLIPSE



8/11/1876 Duplex No '7' to Mexico

The 2nd earliest recorded steel ellipse duplex cancel used in the Foreign Mail Department (the 1st recorded use being in June 1876)

Postage paid the triple 10c rate to Mexico



BASIC FANCY



'SPOKES'

10/14/1876
to
12/7/1876

11/4/1876 3c Stamped
Envelope to Germany
**22 covers recorded
with this cancel**

Postage paid the 5c UPU rate

11/7/1876 1c Postal Card to
Budapest

**3 NYFM covers recorded to
Hungary**

Postage paid the 2c UPU Postal
Card rate

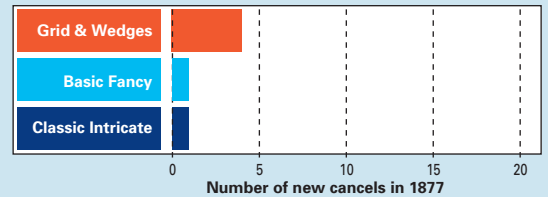


11/25/1876 5c Stamped Envelope to
France

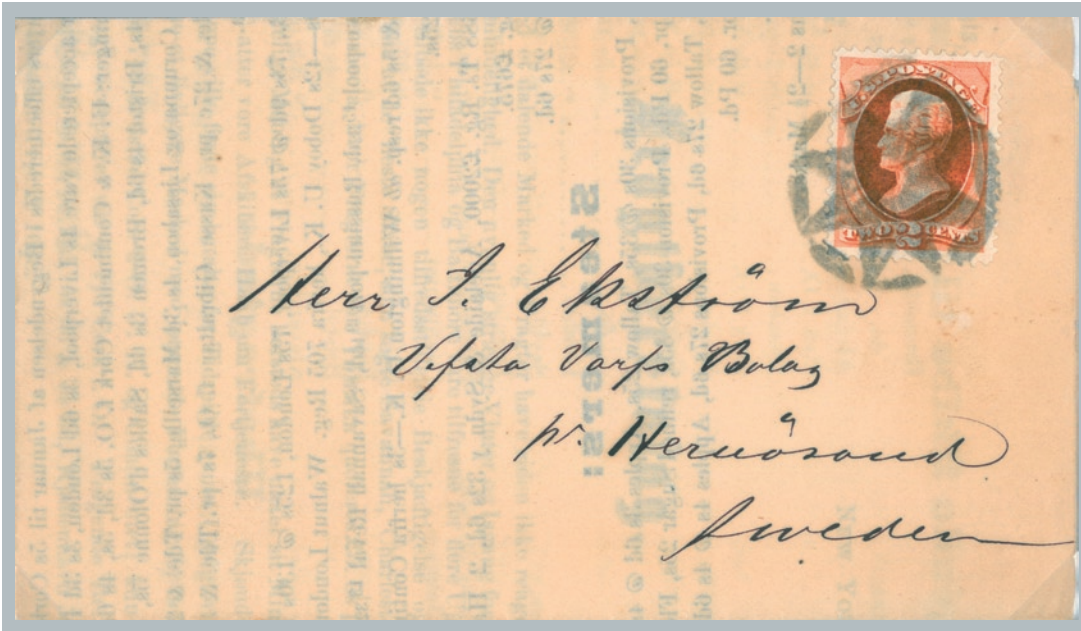
Postage paid the 5c UPU rate (France did
not join the UPU until 1/1/1876)

1877 – THE 8th YEAR

A reversion to the re-use of early wedge cancels with few new handcarved designs as the **steel ellipse** is phased in. In the **Circular Mail Department** just one final classic style N.Y.F.M. intricate fancy cancel is introduced.



THE LAST NYFM INTRICATE FANCY CANCEL (DESIGNED FOR USE IN THE NEW YORK CIRCULAR MAIL DEPARTMENT)



INTRICATE FANCY



3/1/1877

3/1/1877 Printed Circular to Sweden

1 of 2 uses of this cancel recorded on cover both dated the same day

5 NYFM covers recorded to Sweden

Postage paid the 2c Circular UPU rate



WEDGES



3/2/1877

3/2/1877 to Germany

The only recorded use of this cancel on cover

Postage paid the 2c Printed Circular UPU rate

E



WEDGES

3/1/1877
to
12/11/1877

7/10/1877 3c Stamped Envelope to Australia

4 covers recorded with this cancel

1 of only 2 known NYFM covers to Australia

Postage paid the 12c Treaty rate

A PREVIOUSLY UNLISTED WEDGE/GRID NYFM CANCEL



6/16/1877
to
7/26/1877

6/16/1877 black **Supplementary Mail Type 'E'** 3c Stamped Envelope to Germany

The earliest use of 5 covers newly recorded with this cancel (4 bear black Supplementary Mail Type 'E' cancels)

Postage paid the 5c UPU rate to Germany plus the 5c Supplementary Mail fee



STEEL ELLIPSE



10/4/1877 **Supplementary Mail Duplex Type 'F'** 1c Postal Card to France

A second earliest use of Type 'F'

(Supplementary Mail type 'F' has recorded use 9/15/1877 to 8/10/1898)

Postage paid the 2c UPU rate plus the 2c Supplementary Mail fee

1877

WEDGES



11/9/1877

TRIPLE COUNTRY FRANKING U.S./PERUVIAN/G.B. STAMPS



E

10/21/1877 from Callao, Peru, to New York via Panama (dated in N.Y. 11/9/1877)

This circle of wedges, **the sole recorded**, is one of the last hand carved cancels to be recorded prior to the universal use of steel ellipse cancels in the Foreign Exchange Department

The only recorded example of a cover with a NYFM cancel where stamps from THREE different countries were affixed to prepay postage

The Peruvian 1876 grilled 10c green stamp and the G.B. 1873 6p grey were applied and cancelled at the British Post Office at Callao

The U.S. 5c stamp was also applied at Callao but was not cancelled until the cover arrived at the Foreign Exchange Department in New York

The Peruvian 10c stamp paid internally to Callao; the G.B. 6p stamp, Callao to Panama; the U.S. 5c stamp Panama to the U.S. (the reduced blanket ship rate effective July 1, 1875)



1878 THE 9th AND FINAL YEAR
STEEL ELLIPSE DUPLEX CANCELLATIONS FINALLY
PREDOMINATE

| | | | | | |
|-------------------|---|---|----|----|----|
| Grid & Wedges | | | | | |
| Simple Fancy | | | | | |
| Classic Intricate | | | | | |
| | 0 | 5 | 10 | 15 | 20 |



6/4/1878 Duplex No '3' to Switzerland
 Postage paid the double 5c UPU rate



7/13/1878 Duplex No '3' to Mexico
 Postage paid the quadruple 10c rate (effective Aug 1862 to March 1879)