

THOMAS LEAVITT

HIS HISTORY

AND

POSTAL MARKINGS

1875 - 1892

by

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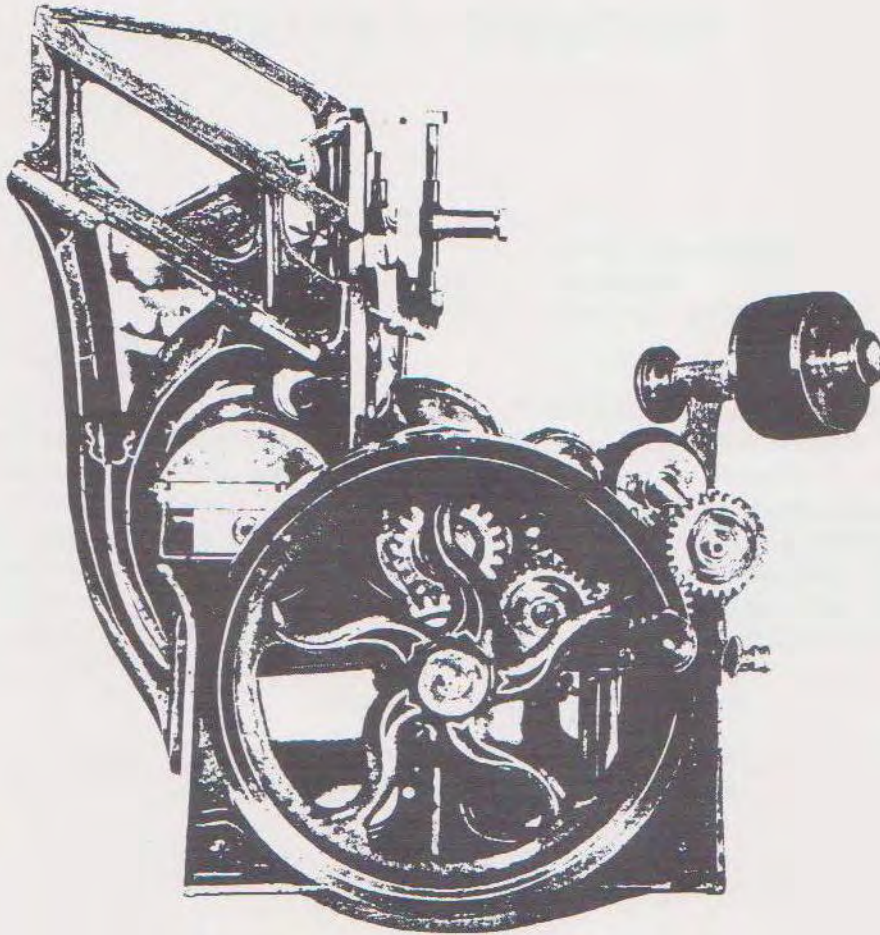
by

The United Postal Stationery Society

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A photograph of an actual working model submitted to the United States Patent Office by Thomas Leavitt with his patent application on June 21, 1879. Patent 219,586 was issued to him for his Rotary Postmarking Machine on September 16, 1879. The Leavitt machine was previously on display at the Smithsonian Institute, Washington, D.C. in its Philatelic Exhibit Section.

Dedicated to a Good Friend and
Early Pioneer in Cataloging Leavitt Cancellations

FRANK B. STRATTON

1001 Carpenter's Way B409
Lakeland FL 33809
May 16, 1992

To whom it may concern:

This is to certify that I, Frank B. Stratton, author and editor of three editions of a "Descriptive Catalog of the LEAVITT MACHINE CANCELLATIONS", published in 1965, 1972, and 1985, hereby transfer to Robert J. Payne all my rights to the contents of these publications, and my permission to use them in any way he sees fit in the production of any future editions of this, or any other works pertaining to the same subject matter. He may, in turn, share these rights with, or transfer them to any other person he considers qualified to continue the work covered in the first editions of the Catalog.

signed FRANK B. STRATTON

Frank B. Stratton



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PUBLISHER'S PREFACE

The United Postal Stationery Society is an international organization of collectors of world-wide postal stationery. A major objective of the Society is to publish books and other reference material of value and importance to the philatelic community. These publications represent significant contributions to philatelic knowledge and are devoted primarily, but not exclusively, to postal stationery.

We want to give special recognition to Austin Dulin of Oak Park, Illinois for his work in developing and producing the typography and formatting of this book.

This book represents one of the many publications supported by the Lewandowski Fund. The Fund is a result of a generous bequest to the United Postal Stationery Society from Arthur Lewandowski, a member of the Society.

Publications of the Society currently in print include:

The United States Postal Card Catalog
Catalog of the 19th Century Stamped Envelopes and Wrappers of the United States
Catalog of the 20th Century Stamped Envelopes and Wrappers of the United States
U.S. Specimens; Stamped Envelopes and Wrappers
Canal Zone Postal Stationery
Phillipine Postal Stationery
Peru Postal Stationery
Cutting Knives of the 19th and 20th Century Stamped Envelopes and Wrappers of the
United States

For additional information on these and other publications and activities of the Society write to: the United Postal Stationery Society, Central Office, Post Office Box 1116, Thousand Oaks, CA 91358-1116.

AUTHOR'S PREFACE

It was indeed an honor for me to be selected by a good friend, Frank B. Stratton, to carry on the tradition of his high standards in updating his publication **DESCRIPTIVE CATALOG** of the **LEAVITT MACHINE CANCELLATIONS**

Frank's last publication was in 1985 and now after more than a decade, the United Postal Stationery Society has completely sold all of these publications.

On May 16, 1992, Frank Stratton transferred all rights to the contents of his previous catalogs published in 1965, 1972 and 1985 on the Leavitt machine and cancellations to this author.

We will strive to continue with the high standards that Frank set forth. His knowledge of United States Postal Cards and Leavitt cancellations is unsurpassed.

Frank put up a gallant battle until the very end on April 12, 1994, when he passed away. Our hearts and sympathy were extended to his lovely wife, Myra Stratton.

We feel after more than a decade, an updated version of a new Leavitt Book is warranted. So again, this book is dedicated in the memory of Frank B. Stratton.

Robert J. Payne
Thousand Oaks, California
December 1999

INTRODUCTION

Thomas and Martin Leavitt invented the first successful machine to be used continuously in America for the cancelling of letters and postal cards. These Rotary Postmarking Machines were in operation in most major cities within the United States, ranging in length of time from a few months to 15 years.

Thomas Leavitt and his older brother, Martin, both skilled machinists and mechanical engineers used their abilities to develop and patent cancelling machines. The brothers filed a patent application on September 28, 1875, with patent 175,290 granted on March 28, 1876, the first of their five patents.

Martin Leavitt passed away on April 2, 1877, leaving Thomas the task of carrying on alone their ideas. This would change shortly for Thomas. Because of his financial woes, Henry E. Waite (later with the American Postal Machines Company) soon became a partner and financial backer.

Shortly thereafter, Leavitt hired a relative and a skilled mechanic, Elijah Leavitt Howard, who was essential in the construction of the Leavitt machines and part of the duo working to develop a new experimental letter machine.

Between 1877 and 1890 Leavitt was performing countless hours of informal experiments with machines in the Boston Post Office. From the knowledge gained in this experimental work, Leavitt applied for and was granted four additional patents. During this period, there was no formal agreement between Leavitt and officials in the Boston Post Office or with the United States Post Office Department in Washington, D.C.

Thomas Leavitt was honored by the Massachusetts Charitable Mechanic's Association for his accomplishments in the field of Postmarking and Cancelling Machines on two separate occasions with gold medals. The first was awarded in 1878 and three years later, he received his second gold medal.

All rights and patents granted to Thomas and Martin Leavitt were purchased by Henry E. Waite and his associates in 1884. Later, these rights and patents were included in the American Postal Machines Company incorporation papers in 1885.

In 1899, Thomas Leavitt passed away at the age of 71, the end of a career for an individual that many historians consider to be the father of our present day cancelling machines.

ACKNOWLEDGMENTS

The current expanse and importance of this publication, the new THOMAS LEAVITT - HIS HISTORY AND POSTAL MARKINGS - 1875 to 1892 would not have been possible without the help of the many dedicated collectors that helped with their

Bart Billings
Ted Bozarth
Fred Brofos
Peter Buckley
Robert Bush
Louis Cohen
Joe Cormier
Allan Crosby
Roger Curran
Fredelle Fishburn
Peter Fowke
Del Frazier
Louis Geschwinder
Arthur Hadley
Raymond Hadley
Jack Haefil
Bill Hart
Joseph Holleman
Merrill Johnsom

Included are parts of the excellent literary work of F.G.Floyd THE MACHINE COMMATS OF BOSTON, MASS., 1876 - 1896 written in 1940 and not published until 1950 in Billig's Philatelic Handbook, Vols.XII and XIII. While some of this research and groundwork needs updating because of present day knowledge, it is an excellent source of biographical background on the Leavitt family and Thomas Leavitt, the man.

Frank B. Stratton deserves special recognition for the articles and catalogs he wrote that preceded this book. Without his knowledge and writings this study would not

knowledge and contributions of photocopies.

Frank (posthumously), Reg and I wish to sincerely thank each and every one of the many contributors that have helped in this expanded and in depth study of Leavitt machine cancels in recent years:-

Bedford Joyner
Frederick Langford
Gilbert Levere
Joe McDonough
William Maisel
Robert Patkin
Donald Pearson
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John Scott
Norman Shachat
Jeffery Smith
Glen Spies
Robert Stendel
Robert Stets
Frank Vacca
M. Lauck Walton
Ted Wassam
Ray Woodman

have been possible.

One collector/dealer, Robert Patkin, merits special thanks for photocopies graciously sent from his impressive collection of Leavitt cancellations. This help is greatly appreciated and will enhance this study.

Lastly, my personal thanks to the Past-President of the Machine Cancel Society, Reg G. Morris, for his outstanding contributions to this study that includes his two articles on the Leavitt markings published in the Machine Cancel Forum more than a decade ago with his recent updates.

CHAPTER I

The Machine Commats of Boston, Mass. 1876-1886

Part I

by Fred G. Floyd

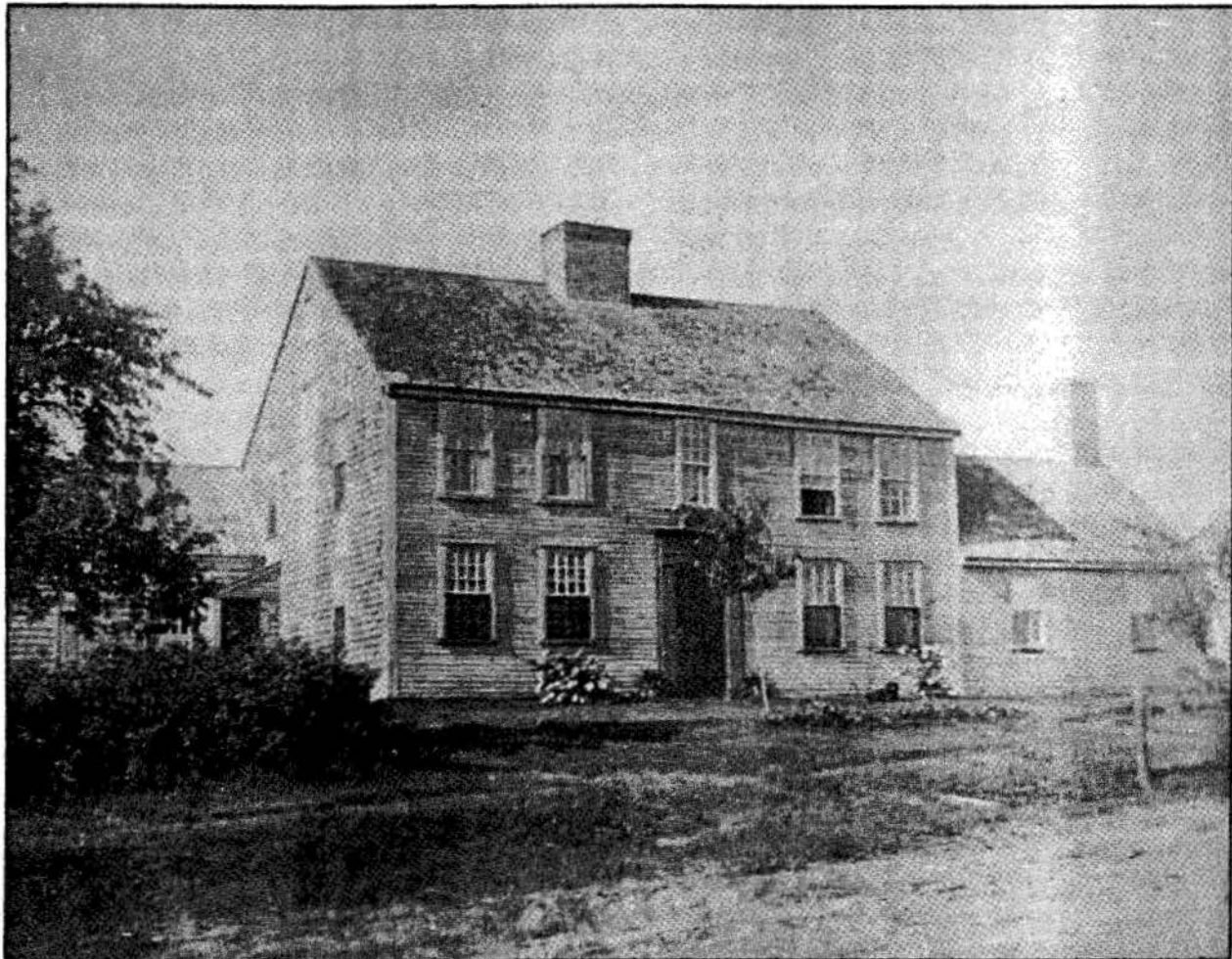
The following material was written in 1940 by Fred G. Floyd and appeared in print in Billig's Philatelic Handbook Volumes XII and XIII in 1950. It provides an early personal history of Thomas Leavitt, which is reproduced here, separate from his philatelic history and accomplishments to which this book is devoted. It has been edited only slightly. For a discussion of the word "commats" (Greek KOMMA - the mark of a blow. e.g. as in coining) see Floyd's articles in The American Philatelist Vols. 45:181; 49:529-538; 50:541-543.



Thomas Leavitt, Inventor of
the Leavitt Cancelling Machine

The introduction of the cancelling machine marks a distinct epoch in the postal development of the United States, for on the successful achievement of Mr. Leavitt's machine, the first feeble step in the evolution of modern postal facilities, rests that long time of inventive initiative culminating in and making possible that wonderful mechanism of today, which not only prints the requisite postal indicia but also at the same time saves the Post Office Department all the labor and expense of cancellation. It is therefore with the keenest personal pleasure that I, as a belated tribute to the memory of Thomas Leavitt and in recognition of the service rendered by him to humanity, present this humble testimonial of his life and work.

Thomas Leavitt, the inventor of the first practical machine for mechanical cancellation of mail, was born in Hingham, Massachusetts, Oct. 12, 1827. The town of Hingham, a small rural community, situated on the South Shore of Massachusetts Bay some twenty miles from Boston, located in a picturesque gently rolling country, presents today with its wide streets bordered with majestic elms and sheltering many examples of old colonial architecture, as fine a specimen of a typical New England village as it is possible to find. Hingham is justly proud of her antiquity, not over ten communities of the old Bay State being able to claim priority in the matter of their natal day. Early in 1635, to the inhospitable wilderness,



Leavitt Homestead - Leavitt Street, Hingham, Massachusetts
Birthplace of Thomas Leavitt

came a small company of hardy pioneers and religious enthusiasts from Hingham, England (from which the town derives its name) and, after obtaining legal title to the land from the resident sachem claiming jurisdiction, proceeded to build a settlement, incorporating on Sep. 2, 1635, under the name of Hingham.

John Leavitt, the original ancestor of the Hingham branch of the Leavitt family in America, was born in England in 1608. Emigrating to America in 1628, he first located in Dorchester, Mass. and later settled in

Hingham, where in 1836, he was granted a house lot on what is now Leavitt Street and proceeded to build there a log cabin. In his will he is described as a "taylor". He must have been a man of considerable prominence, both in church and state, for it is recorded that for many years he was a Deacon of the church, occupied the position of Selectman over a period of some fourteen years, and twice served the town as Representative to the General Court. He married twice and at his death as was customary for those times, left a generous progeny. The Leavitts thrived and

multiplied and to judge from the records, the family seems to have been more than ordinarily prominent in town affairs, for during the first 200 years of Hingham history seldom was there a time when one or more of them did not occupy some position of trust and responsibility, from Constable to Town Treasurer.

As was to be expected in an agricultural community, many of them were farmers, but amongst them we find a sprinkling of other vocations. A latent tendency in the family towards a decidedly mechanical turn of mind, which later manifested itself in the case of Thomas and his brother Martin, is early noticeable in Josiah Leavitt (1744-1804) a great-uncle of the brothers. He also must have been a man of considerable versatility, proficient in all the arts and parts and somewhat of a mechanical genius for his day. Not only did he practice medicine in the town for a number of years but he also, at one time, constructed a clock for the Old Ship Church,(1) later turning his hand to organ builder as a profession.

In the course of time the original log cabin erected by John Leavitt outgrew its usefulness and in 1712 it was replaced at the same location by the house now standing on Leavitt Street known as the old Leavitt homestead. Here on Oct. 12, 1827, Thomas Leavitt was born, sixth son of Martin and Tirzah (Thomas) Leavitt in the sixth generation of the direct line from the original John.

In the old homestead he lived and grew up, and in public schools of the old town he received his education and reached maturity amidst an atmosphere of rural simplicity and an environment of tranquil peace. Of his early life in Hingham, little is known. I find no record that he held any public office, nor is there evidence to show that he identified

himself in any way with town affairs. In 1860 he removed to South Malden, Mass. (incorporated as Everett in 1870) where he continued to make his home during the remainder of his life.

If Mr. Leavitt was indifferent to his civic duties while a resident in Hingham, the accusation of apathy can not be maintained during the period of his later life, for he was a most public spirited citizen of Everett. In all the affairs of the little town of his adoption he took a keen interest, devoting much of his time and energy to any project of moment affecting its destiny.

When the purchase of a fire engine is contemplated we find his name on the committee to make a selection; a public library is needed, and among those sponsoring the project Mr. Leavitt's name is prominent; when it becomes necessary to construct a new school building, again Mr. Leavitt is on the committee to superintend the structure; is the proposition of a new railway station at an inconvenient location before the town? We find him taking the initiative in opposition and favoring a more desirable substitute position and carrying his point. And when, after twenty-two years, the infant town, outgrowing its swaddling clothes, aspires to the dignity of a city, Mr. Leavitt is drafted to assist in the drawing up a charter and securing incorporation. He served his community in many and varied capacities and such was his energy and activity we are almost willing to avow there may be something in a name after all.(2)

Perhaps he is best known and most generally remembered in his home town in connection with his work on the Water Board, with which body he was identified almost from

its inception, serving as Chairman, except for a short period of two years, for nearly two decades. In 1889 the Everett Savings Bank was incorporated with Mr. Leavitt one of the Trustees, which position he continued to hold up to the time of his death. He was a leading member of the University Society of the town from the beginning when in 1869 he is found as one of the pioneers for organization.

Professionally Mr. Leavitt was a machinist and mechanical engineer, engaged in the manufacturing of machinery. His name first appears in the Boston Directory in 1859, where he is listed as a "machinist", located at 12 Devonshire Street and he continued to maintain a business office at various locations in Boston almost up to the time of his death. During the period of the Civil War he is said to have been an expert to some extent for the government but the specific nature of his service is not a matter of record. During the latter part of his life, his interests were considerably varied and not entirely mechanical. He was President of the Boston and Hingham Steamboat Co. and President of the Nantasket Land Co. For twenty-five years he was a member of the Massachusetts Charitable Mechanic Assn. and at one time served on its governing body.

Mr. Leavitt was an enthusiastic Mason and stood very high in the fraternity. He was raised in Mount Vernon Lodge, A.F. & A.M. of Malden, April 4, 1867, and played a conspicuous part in the formation of Palestine Lodge A.F. & A.M. of Everett, of which lodge he was a charter member. At its first regular communication held on Jan. 14, 1869, he officiated in the dual capacity of Treasurer and

Tyler. He was also a charter member of Arch Chapter of the Tabernacle of Malden and its first Scribe, a member of Melrose Council. Royal and Select Masters of Malden and a charter member of Beauseount Commandery of the K.T. of Malden.

In 1854 Mr. Leavitt married Martha E. Whittier. He passed away Dec. 14, 1899, beloved for his many good deeds and respected by his fellow citizens for his faithful and unselfish services to his community.(3)

- (1) This church is the oldest church structure in America in continuous use as a house of worship.
- (2) It's said the founder of the Leavitt line in England and (ancestor of John) came over from Normandy with William the Conqueror and the French form of the name is "le Vite" translated quick, active and energetic.
- (3) In the preparation of this sketch of Thomas Leavitt the following have been useful - History of the Town of Hingham, 1893; Everett Souvenir, 1870-1893 Everett Republican of Dec. 16, 1899. I also wish to express my gratitude to those who have so generously assisted me in this work - Mrs. H. M. Noyes, Secty. Assn. of Leavitt Families; Clarence S. Brigham, Director Am. Antiquities Soc.; Georgia W. Rathbone, Librarian F. E. Parlin Memorial Library; R. G. Hensley, Ref. Librarian, Boston Public Library; Judson Baldwin, Secty. Mass. Char. Assn.; Fredk W. Hamilton, Grand Secty., Grand Lodge A.F. & A.M. of Massachusetts; Mr. Elmer A. Leavitt, West Roxbury; Mr. Charles L. Keyes, Hingham, Massachusetts.

CHAPTER II

LEAVITT OR
ELIJAH LEAVITT HOWARD

and POSTSCRIPT

by Reg G. Morris

This material originally appeared in The Machine Cancell Forum, No. 100 of August 1982. It was the definitive work on the subject when published and continues to be the basic reference. It is reproduced here with the permission of the author.

There are just so many ways the mail matter can be moved through cancelling machines. The simplest and obvious way is by hand - one item at a time. And the simplest cancelling machine is a postal clerk with a handstamp in one hand and the mail being fed with the other. And this elementary system works well in situations where labor is cheap and mail volumes are low and time is "not of the essence" as our legal friends are apt to put it. But where time is of the essence or volumes are large, manual letter manipulating systems tend to be erratic and not terribly efficient. Mechanical methods are to be preferred.

Any student of postal mechanization will know that moving mail mechanically and quickly is a much tougher problem to solve than marking mail. Letters come in all sizes and thicknesses. They also range in texture from the flimsiest of papers to inflexible board-like items. Moreover, the contents do not fit the envelopes too perfectly and the machinery must be able to cope with odd non-paper enclosures - paper clips and coins being the most common. Irrespectively of which way you could devise for bringing a letter and a mail marking device together quickly and repeatably and with reasonable register, you can be sure that someone has already tried it and patented it! Indeed, in the course of the past few years we have described a number of machines and their marking and mail moving mechanism - some very simple and some quite complex.

Waite said the Leavitt machine had three basic defects:-

- i) the backs of the cards were inked (our examples suggest less than 0.8%).
- ii) high proportion of the cards were destroyed by passage through the machine. (Our sample suggests the number of cards damaged was insignificant).

- iii) many of the cards passed through the machine without being cancelled.

Our study would suggest that poor inking and poor cancel registration should have been on Waite's list of defects.

Certainly, George Hey (of International fame) noted the poor registration for he remarked in a court case (ref. Machine Cancel Forum page 967 for the complete quote):-

"It is simply an impossibility to make a successful cancelling machine with a marking mechanism arranged so that letters are fed with their broad or flat side towards the printing couple. I personally conducted a long series of experiments in an endeavor to construct such a machine and I found that there is no way of guiding a letter into proper printing relation under such conditions to ensure a proper register."

Thus, if one contrasts what Waite said, what Hey said and what we can observe from extant cancellations, it would appear that we are all talking about different machines! So it behooves us to take a look at the relevant patents and particularly at the feed systems. How was mail matter moved in and out of the postmarking and cancelling station? And did all the Leavitt machines use the same form of feed mechanism?

But first you might like to take a hard look at your Leavitt markings and see if you can spot any telltale impressions, dents, or crumples which could yield clues as to the way the item was fed into the cancelling device. It is possible to tell for example if the item was fed broadside on as Hey asserted? Quite clearly if feeding - or mis-feeding - was the problem with the Leavitt machine(s), the feed mechanism would figure prominently in the patent specifications. Thomas and Martin

Leavitt filed for patent protection on September 28, 1875, with patent No. 175,290 awarded to the brothers on March 28, 1876, for a hand cranked, hand fed machine. Seven weeks later, an experiment was conducted in the Boston Post Office on Leavitt's prototype machine.

We have extracted from patent 175,290 a portion of what the brothers describe about

their invention ...

"Our invention relates to a machine for postmarking and cancelling letters, in which the type for marking and cancelling are arranged upon the periphery of a cylinder which rolls in contact with another cylinder for giving the impression; and it consists, first, in the use of tapes for feeding the letters



Type A-1 (E)

November 15 (1875)

BOSTON, MASS.

There are two cancels from this brief Boston trial of the Leavitt's first prototype machine. No year dates appear in the cancel or on the back of the card or the letter. On Page 73, we illustrate the Type A-1(E) on a letter! It is our opinion that both cancels are from the 1875 trial!

to the printing cylinder, one or more intermittently-vibrating fingers or stops arranged by the side of or between said tapes or belts, and adapted to intercept the forward movement of the letter and release it at a given or determined time, thus accurately registering the letter relative to the type on the type-cylinder, so that the printing will always be done on the same

portion of the letter."

Figure 1a and 1b (pages 12 and 13) are interesting submissions to the U.S. Patent Office of the original Leavitt patent application dated September 25, 1875, and from their archives.

Figure 2 (page 14) shows the interesting

the Leavitt brothers patent application.

Figure 3 (*page 15*) shows the first modification to Thomas and Martin Leavitt's patent 175,290.

In view of the known period of use and the rarity of the first Leavitt Type A-1 (E) cancel, it seems reasonable to suggest the first experimental cancel was the product of their first hand fed - one at a time machine. The basic design of the machine is shown in Figures 4 and 5 (*pages 16 and 17*). The machine was cranked by a hand wheel attached to shaft "C". Letters were fed one at a time, end ways on, stamp facing up and stamp end first. The letters rested on the table "Q" and held in position by the stop g.

As the handle was turned, "g" would move anti-clockwise out of the path of the letter

which was carried on band P and nipped between the impression roll "c" and cancelling die "B." The letter would be propelled out of the back of the machine. Whilst "B" continued to rotate, the postmarking and cancelling dies stood proud of the cylinder wiped the ink transfer roller "M" ready for cancelling the next mail item on the next revolution.

If the operator didn't present a letter but cranked the machine, an impression would have been left on the surface of the impression cylinder "C" causing inking on the backs of subsequent mail. What Leavitt did to avoid such back marking (offsets) was to cover the impression cylinder surface with an absorbent blotting tape "1." This could be made any length one wished but any impression received by the blotter tape due to mis-feeding would have plenty of time to dry before it again came into position between the impression rollers.

To the Commissioner of Patents:

The Petition of *Thomas Leavitt of Everett & Martin Leavitt*
of *Melrose* both in the County of *Middlesex* ———
and State of *Massachusetts* ———

Respectfully Represents. That your Petitioners have invented *jointly certain new*
and useful improvements in Machines for
Post-Marking Letters & Canceling the Stamps on the same
which they verily believe have not been known or used prior to the invention thereof by
your Petitioners. They therefore pray that Letters Patent of the United States may be granted
to *Thomas Leavitt as Trustee*
therefor, vesting in *him and his* ^{*successors*} ~~representatives~~ the
exclusive right to the same, upon the terms and conditions expressed in the Act of Congress
in that case made and provided ~~They~~ having paid fifteen dollars into the Treasury, and complied
with the other provisions of said Act. And ~~They~~ hereby authorize *N. C. LOMBARD*, of the City of
Boston, to act as ~~their~~ Attorney in presenting this application, to alter or withdraw the same
as the case may require, to sign ~~the~~ drawings, and to receive the patent when granted, with full
power to appoint such other person to act in his stead as he may deem expedient.

Thomas Leavitt
County of *Suffolk* ——— } *Martin Leavitt*
State of *Massachusetts* } ss

(On this *Twenty Fifth* day of *September* 1875 before the subscriber,
a Justice of the Peace for said County, personally appeared the within-named

Thomas & Martin Leavitt
and made solemn oath that they verily believe themselves to be the
Original ^{*joint*} and first inventors of *the within described improvements*
in Machines for Post-Marking Letters & Canceling Stamps on
it ——— and that ~~they~~ do not know or believe the same was ever before known
or used, and that they are citizens of the United States.

N. C. Lombard Justice of the Peace

The undersigned, Assignee in the case of ———

application for letters patent for

hereby appoint *N. C. LOMBARD*
the Inventor.

Agent, with all the powers granted him by

Figure 1a
The Leavitt's Original Patent Petition

To all whom it may concern

Be it known that we Thomas Leavitt of Everett and Martin Leavitt of Melrose both in the County of Middlesex and State of Massachusetts have jointly invented certain new and useful improvements in Machines for Post Marking Letters and canceling the Stamps on the same of which the following taken in connection with the accompanying drawings is a specification.

Our invention relates to a machine for post-marking and canceling letters in which the type for marking and canceling are arranged upon the periphery of a cylinder which rolls in contact with another cylinder for giving the impression and it consists first in the use of tapes for feeding the letters to the printing cylinder, in combination with one or more intermittently vibrating fingers or stops, adapted to intercept the forward movement of the letter, and release it at a given or determined time; thus accurately registering the letter relative to the type. *Wt*

Insert of
Nov. 9. 1875.

Insert #3
Nov. 9. 1875.

Note in-sert
comments

Figure 1b
The Leavitt's Original Patent Petition

U. S. Patent Office,

Washington, D. C., October 25, 1875.

Leavitt and Leavitt, care N. C. Lombard, 40 State St, Boston.
 Case. - Machine for Post-Marking Letters, - Filed Sept. 28, 75.

Claims 1, 2, 4, and 5 are met by 111,000, 6,636, Jan. 16, 1849. Claim 3 is inaccurate in describing the belts P and R as passing "over and partially" around their respective cylinder. The belts pass entirely around, but only partially in contact. The words quoted above could be erased to advantage. So with the word "partially," claims 7 & 8. Claim 6 is met by 141,314, Bradwood & Hewitt, Jul. 29, 73, if understood broadly. It is also so inexplicit that it hardly complies with the statute. Claim 9 is for a double use of an old form of tension pulley. The device performs no new function, and is not patentable. Its use on belting is so common that no specific reference seems required. The statement of invention should be amended to conform to claims.

Bartlett, Asst.

A. L. Freeman
Ex.

Figure 2

Patent Examiner's Response to Leavitt's Patent 175,290

Office of
N. C. LOMBARD.
Mechanical Engineer, and Solicitor of Patents.

40 State Street, Union Building, Room 41

Boston, Nov. 5th 1875
Hon. Comr. of Patents

Sir:

In the matter of the application of Thomas & Martin Leavitt for a patent for Machine for Post Marking and Canceling Letters filed Sept. 28th 1875, and in view of the references cited in your official letter of the 25th ult. I will amend the specification as follows,

After "cylinders" at the beginning of the 22nd line 1st page insert the words — one, or more, of which passes around one of said cylinders —

Also after "stops" in the 24th line same page insert — arranged by the side of said tapes or belts and —

Also after "cylinders" in the 8th line 2nd page insert — one or more of which passes around one of said cylinders —

Also after "stops" in the 9th line same page insert — arranged by the side of or between said tapes —

Also after the end of the 10th line same page insert — at right angles to the line of ~~the word "partially"~~ the word "partially" in the 18th

Figure 3
First Modification to Leavitt's Patent 175,290

T. & M. LEAVITT.

ROTARY POST MARKING AND CANCELING PRESS.

No. 175,290.

Patented March 28, 1876.

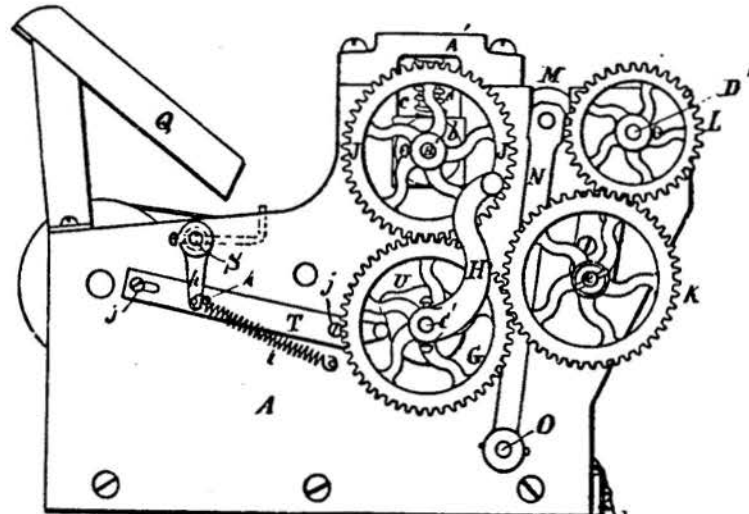
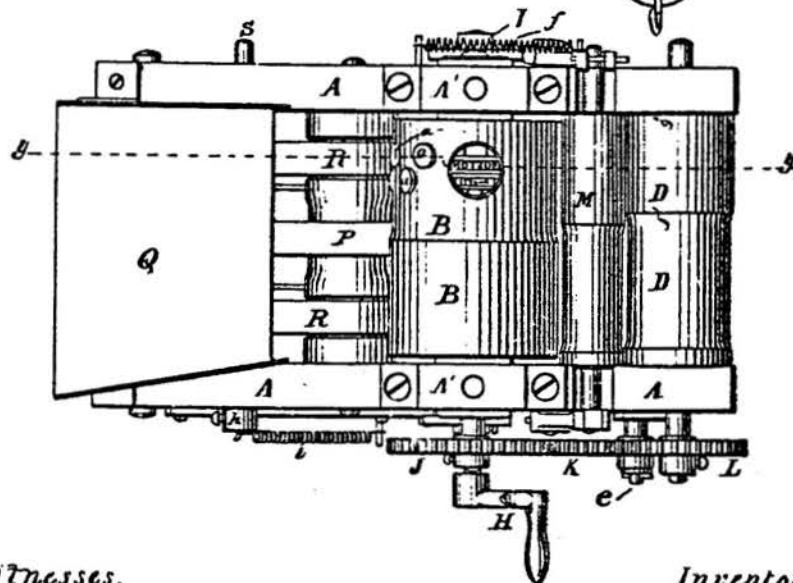


Fig. 2.



Witnesses.

N. C. Lombard
B. Andrews.

Inventors.

Thomas Leavitt
Martin Leavitt.

Figure 4

Thomas and Martin Leavitt's Patent 175,290

T. & M. LEAVITT.

ROTARY POST MARKING AND CANCELING PRESS.
No. 175,290.

Patented March 28, 1876.

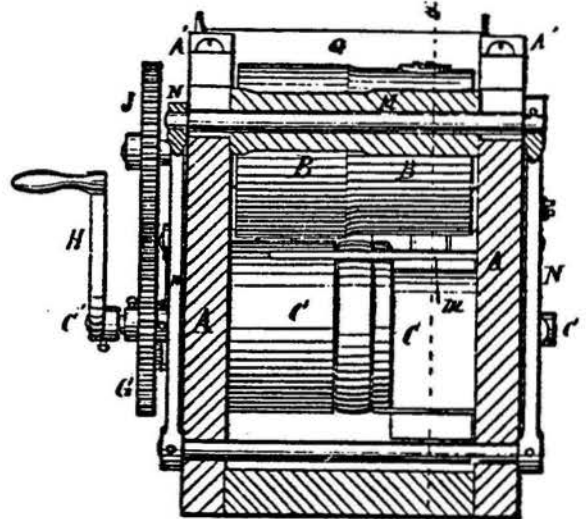


Fig. 6.

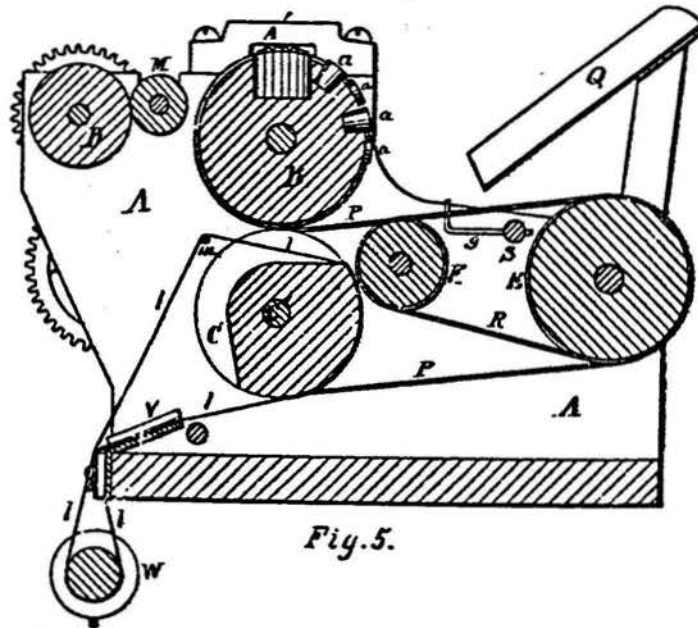


Fig. 5.

Witnesses.

N. P. Lombard
B. Andrews Jr.

Inventors.

Thomas Leavitt
Martin Leavitt.

Figure 5
Thomas and Martin Leavitt's Patent 175,290

Since mail matter was fed on end with the top edge of the letters and cards butted up to the guide plate "Q," both examples of the Type A-1(E) prototype cancels show good registration with respect to the top of the card and letter. But depending on how they were fed once the time stop g moved out of the way, horizontal register depended on the amount of slippage, if any, on the piece from the conveying tapes "P" and "R."

While there is no record of another patent prior to January 6, 1876, it becomes apparent the Leavitt brothers first prototype machine tested on November 15, 1875, was a failure and their machine was removed from the Boston Post Office and taken to their workshop where their first machine underwent extensive modifications with the cancelling die changed but retaining several features including . . .

- 1) the rectilinear postmark was retained but adding to the indicia a time and two digit year date.
- 2) the seven horizontal bar canceler with one cross-cut cork was changed to 14 oblique bars with two corks.

After what could be termed a successful test in the Boston Post Office of their modified experimental machine, the brothers submitted a second patent application on April 17, 1876, but before patent 192,519 was awarded some 15 months later on June 26, 1877, Martin Leavitt passed away on April 2, 1877, and the patent was issued to Thomas Leavitt..

Barely a week after the award of this patent, Thomas states in the preamble that the invention is an improvement on the machine described in his first patent. He also states that



TYPE A-1

January 6, 1876

BOSTON, MASS.

This designated Type A-1 was first used January 6, 1876, in the Boston Post Office. A very interesting example of Leavitt's first continuous operational machine cancel in America cancelling its first designed postal card.

it is specially designed for and applicable to postmarking and cancelling postal cards.

A typical cancel is shown below with the new cancelling die having the same basic rectilinear postmark used in the Type A-1 cancel but now with only nine oblique bars.

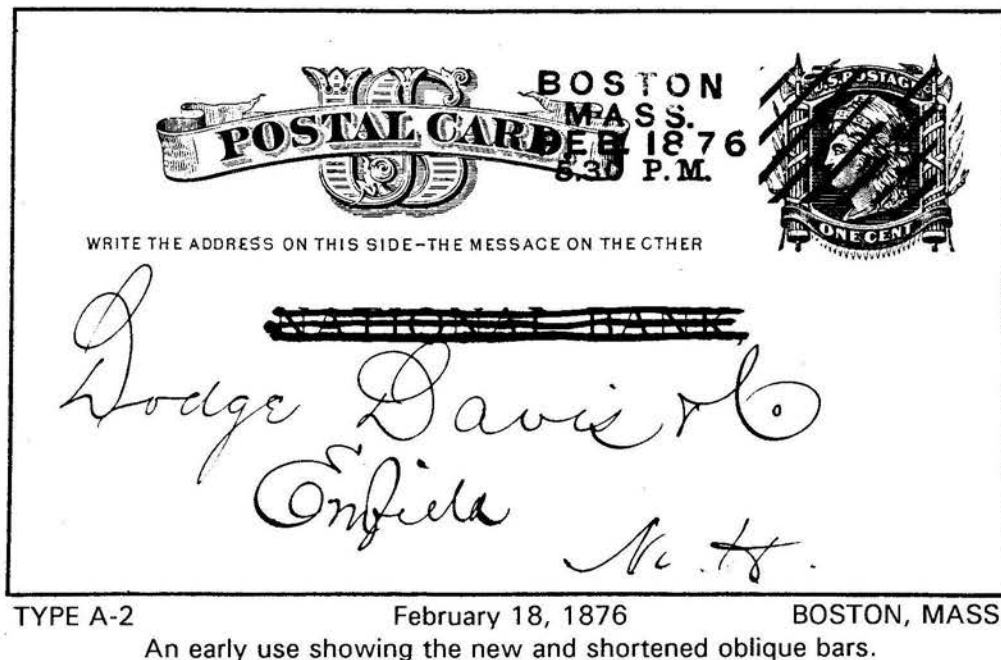
The earliest cancel from the machine designed specifically for postal cards is February 9, 1876, and used nine weeks prior to patents 192,519 application dated April 17, 1876.

Figure 6 (pages 20 and 21) shows the basic construction of Thomas Leavitt's second patent 192,519 filed on April 17, 1876. Note the blotting tape is eliminated and particularly the different card feed system. A stack of postal cards were put into the carrier and kept in place by a lid or keeper "U."

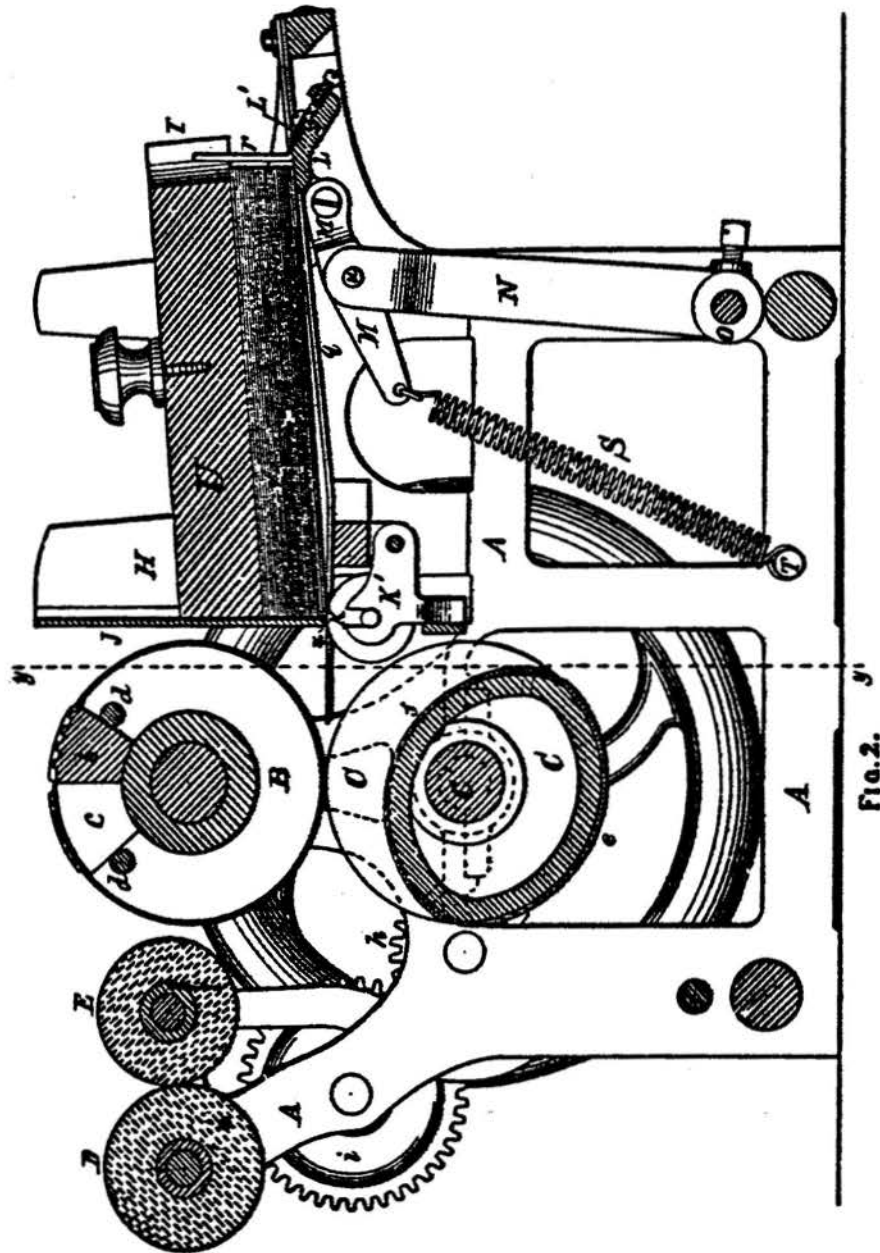
The carrier did not have a solid base but rather three narrow strips of metal bent in the middle so the cards rested on the front-most

parts and the rear parts but not on the middle portion. The front plate "J" could be adjusted to allow just one card to dip underneath it. As the handle was cranked, shaft "O" oscillated causing arm "N" to draw back sufficiently for "L," the carrier or feeding-plunger with its chiseled-edge bars "L" to extend beyond the edge of the card deck, then coming forward to engage the back edge of the bottom card and dragging it forward under front plate "J" into the cancelling cylinders.

Postal cards were uniform in dimensions at the time measuring 130 x 76 mm. That allowed the machine to be designed for only one size of mailed piece. The system fed the bottom card from the stack one at a time endwise - not stamp-end first - into the cancelling cylinder. This system would not work on other types of mail matter nor was it designed for variable lengths of mail. Because the cards were of uniform thickness, a pusher-system was used on the bottom card against the stamp-end. One would imagine some indication marks from the pusher action would



T. LEAVITT.
POSTMARKING AND CANCELING MACHINE.
 No. 192,519. Patented June 26, 1877



WITNESSES

Wm. C. Edwards
E. J. Kimball

INVENTOR

Thomas Leavitt

Figure 6
 Thomas Leavitt's Patent 192,519

T. LEAVITT.

POSTMARKING AND CANCELING MACHINE.

No. 192,519.

Patented June 26, 1877.

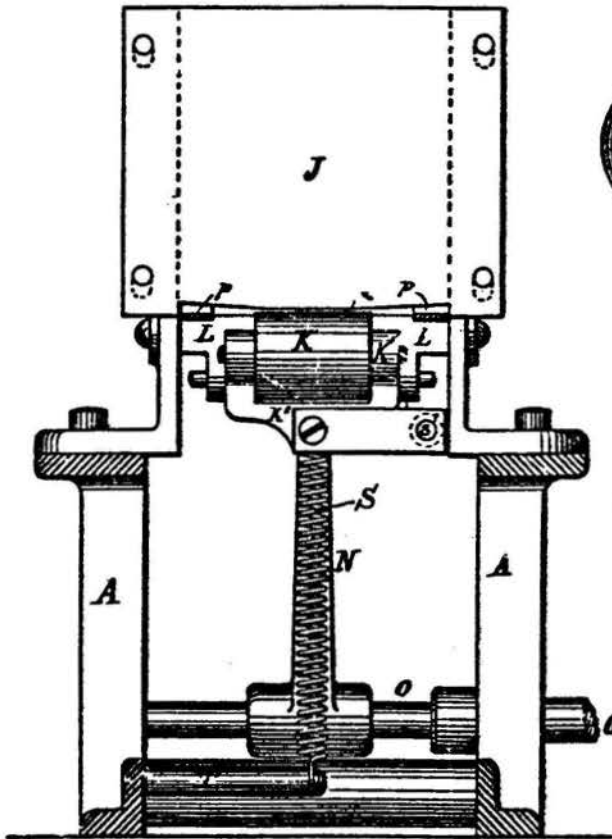


Fig. 3.

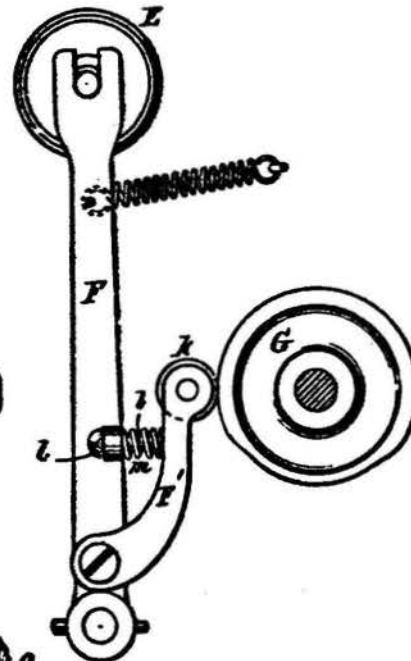


Fig. 4.

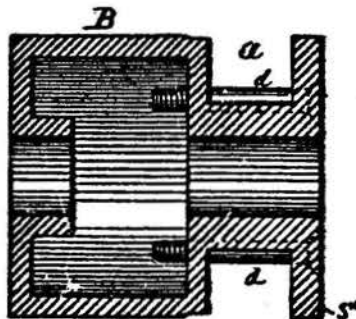


Fig. 6.

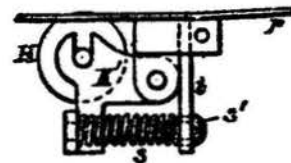


Fig. 5.

WITNESSES

Wm. O. Edwards
E. A. Remondy

INVENTOR

Thomas Leavitt

be visible on the cards stamp side edge. (see drawing in Figure 7 below)

Examination of the edges of a number of postal cards using a 50X stereo microscope yielded disappointing results. There was no more than an inconclusive suggestion of chisel marks on some of the cards together with irregular card surface abrasion at points approximately 1 inch from top and bottom of the card. These marks are insufficiently distinct or similar to state positively that they are made by the feeder-plunger chiseled edge bars. Other marks appear on some cards approximately $\frac{3}{8}$ " from the top and bottom but again these are too inconsistent to draw any positive conclusions.

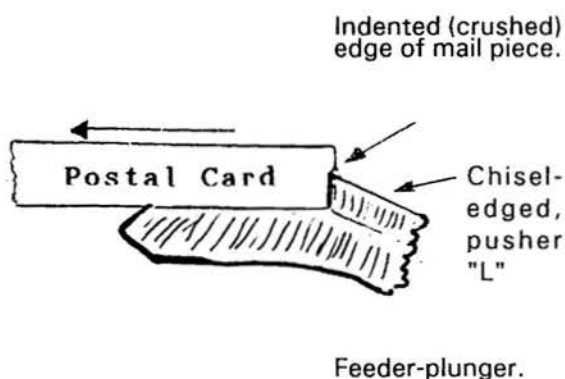


Figure 7

Recall that Leavitt filed for his patent on April 17, 1876. The next patents attributed to Leavitt were 219,586 and 219,587, both awarded on September 16, 1879, that were filed on June 21, 1879, three years after the previous patent.

Let us first consider Patent 219,587, shown here as Figure 8 (page 24).

Leavitt claimed this invention relates... "more especially to the feeding mechanism for separating the letters or cards and feeding them successfully to the type and impression

cylinders, and is an improvement upon the invention described in another application of even date herewith."

We can see from Figure 8 that the machine is superficially the same as the first one patented, but with a vertical rather than a horizontal feed system. The feed system comprised a hopper "B" into which the faced mail was stacked and retained by a keeper. The top most card rested up against vertical rolls "n," i.e., parallel and very close to the vertical face plate "C." At the bottom of the hopper formed by "B" and "C" was an adjustable narrow opening or throat through which mail - one at a time - could pass but which would normally be impeded by lightly loaded spring fingers "P" and "P."

As the handle was rotated arm "J" moved forward and the articulated toothed plates "gg" moved through a slot in plate "C", engaged with the top letter or card contained in the hopper and fed it downward until its lower end was seized by the cylinders "D,D." The feed arm then receded and moved upward out of contact with the letters. The so called toothed plate "g" can be clearly seen in the lower drawing of Figure 8.

Let us now take a brief look at the contemporary patent 219,586 seen in Figure 10 on pages 26, 27 and 28.

Figure 11 is a fine copy of one of the patent drawings prepared by the late Ken Olson and used here by kind permission of Mrs. Olson.

In this instance it can be seen that the device comprises of an inclined hopper or chute in which the letters are placed on end, in a vertical position, the leading item resting up against the same vertical rods as mentioned previously. The hopper and vertical plate form a narrow throat through which letters and cards

may be fed in a vertical or near vertical direction into the bite between the impression and type cylinder.

A weighted follower or keeper pressed the mail matter into the lowest part of the hopper and a reciprocating feed-pawl of a design - of an inferior and ergo an earlier design than that separately patented at the same time. The feed pawl engaged the top most letter or card and pulled it through the hopper throat into the cancelling cylinders.

The patent specifications gives just a little more detail of the feeding process . . . "during its up-upward motion lever 'P' is held away from the letters until the truck 't-1' comes into contact with the inclined surface 't-2' of the cam slot P1, when the direct line of the toggle is broken and the tension of the spring 'U-2', causes the lower end of the pawl-lever 'P' to be thrown suddenly inward against the letters or cards and the points of the teeth of the feed plates 'S' and 'S-1,' to engage with the surface of the front letter or card in the hopper and as the pawl 'P' is moved downward the letter or card is moved endwise through the throat 'O,' compressing the springs sufficiently to allow passage of said letter or card."

In both cases, one would expect to find the teeth marks - one or two vertical sets of teeth marks - below the level of the stamp and to the left of it - roughly in the position suggested in Figure 9. And since these machines were submitted for patent protection in June 1879, one should start looking on cards emanating from offices that received machines after that date, i.e., the cards showing Stratton's Type B cancels other than Baltimore, Boston and New York.

The Authors have looked at many postal cards but NONE show teeth marks. To the contrary many show edge push-marks which

suggest that the Type B cancels were the product of machines made more or less to the design patented in 1876.

The next patent (235,952) attributed to Leavitt was filed on March 30, 1880, and was awarded on December 28 of the same year, i.e. was filed some six months after he was awarded patents 219,586 and 219,587.

Moreover, in the preamble it states:
"My invention . . . consists of an improved construction and arrangement of the separation and feeding mechanism, also in the manner of mounting and operating the ink fountain and in the construction of the type and impression cylinders . . ."

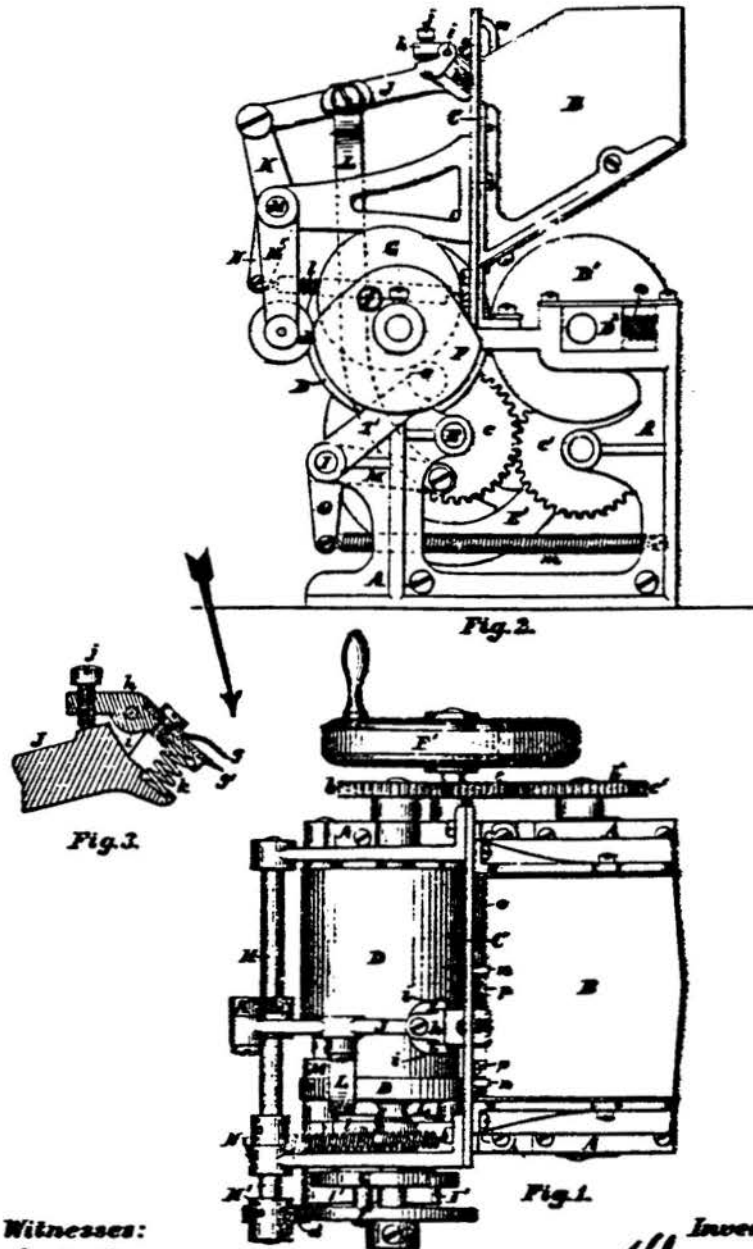
Firstly note that it relates to a machine for postmarking and cancelling letters and postal cards.

Secondly note the hopper in Figure 12 (page 30). The Plate "C" has its top end inclined towards the front of the machine instead of standing in a vertical position. It was found by "practical experiment" (Leavitt's words) that such inclination of the plate and the corresponding inclination of the letters and cards rendered the feeding of said letters and cards more sure. And although the feed pawl arrangement looks rather different from that shown in the 1879 patents, the toothed plate construction and the plate position with respect to the top and right edge of the mail matter are identical. Thus one would again expect to find tooth marks on postal cards.

Patent 235,952 (Figure 12, pages 30 and 31) was the last patent awarded to Thomas Leavitt, but it was not the last patent on this Leavitt type machinery.

As indicated in the Machine Cancel Forum

T. LEAVITT.
Post Marking and Canceling Machine.
 No. 219,587. Patented Sept. 16, 1879.



Witnesses:
E. A. H. Emmerway
C. B. Todd.

Inventor:
Thomas Leavitt
 by *N. P. Lombard*
 Attorney.

FIGURE 8
 Thomas Leavitt's Patent 219,587

(page 954) and also explained in much greater detail in the study of the American Postal Machines Company (Reference 2), Henry Waite who became Treasurer of American Postal Machines Company financed the building of the Leavitt machines and a Mr. Elijah L. Howard actually was employed by Leavitt and then by Waite to perfect the machines.

In official Court records (Reference 3) it reads:

"The first stamp cancelling machine of this general character, so far as the records show, was made by Thomas Leavitt in Boston as early as 1877 (sic), and Henry E. Waite advanced the money for its construction and was interested in it."

This had serious defects which rendered its use impracticable. Howard had been a machinist in Leavitt's shop and in 1882 undertook to improve on Leavitt's mechanism. Waite advanced the necessary money and was the real owner of the machine constructed by Howard in December 1882.

To operate this machine, the letters had to be properly faced and packed on a receiving board that presented them to the clutching device in turn. Each letter was seized, carried between the rolls, and at the proper place,

received the cancelling imprint. To prevent the deposit of ink upon the pressure roll, the mechanism was so arranged as to revolve the rolls without contact of the printing die when no letter was engaged. This was accomplished by the operation of cams that slightly separated the two rolls, when the printing die on the printing roll was presented by its revolution to the impression cylinder or roll.

A tripping finger or trigger was arranged, which, when moved, rendered the cams inoperative, thus bringing the rolls in contact.

When in normal motion the space between the rolls would admit the letter. The letter would spring the trigger, thereby rendering the cam inoperative, for the time, and bringing the rolls together for the impression of the die upon the letter.

When completed, the machine was taken to the Boston post-office by Waite and Howard and, under the latter's superintendence, was operated upon letter mail several hours a day for from four to eight days, prior to February 20, 1883. After this, the machine was photographed from several points of view, and these photographs were produced in evidence. It was then taken back to the shop and was never again operated or tested in public; but was partly dismantled and then laid aside.

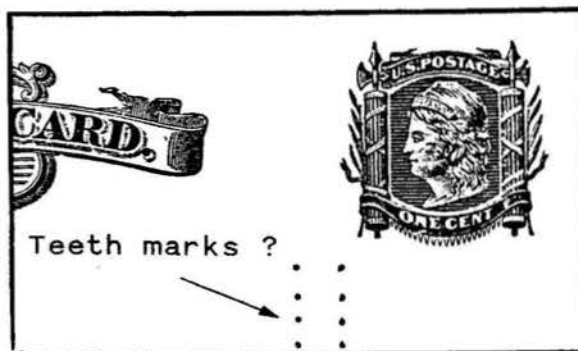
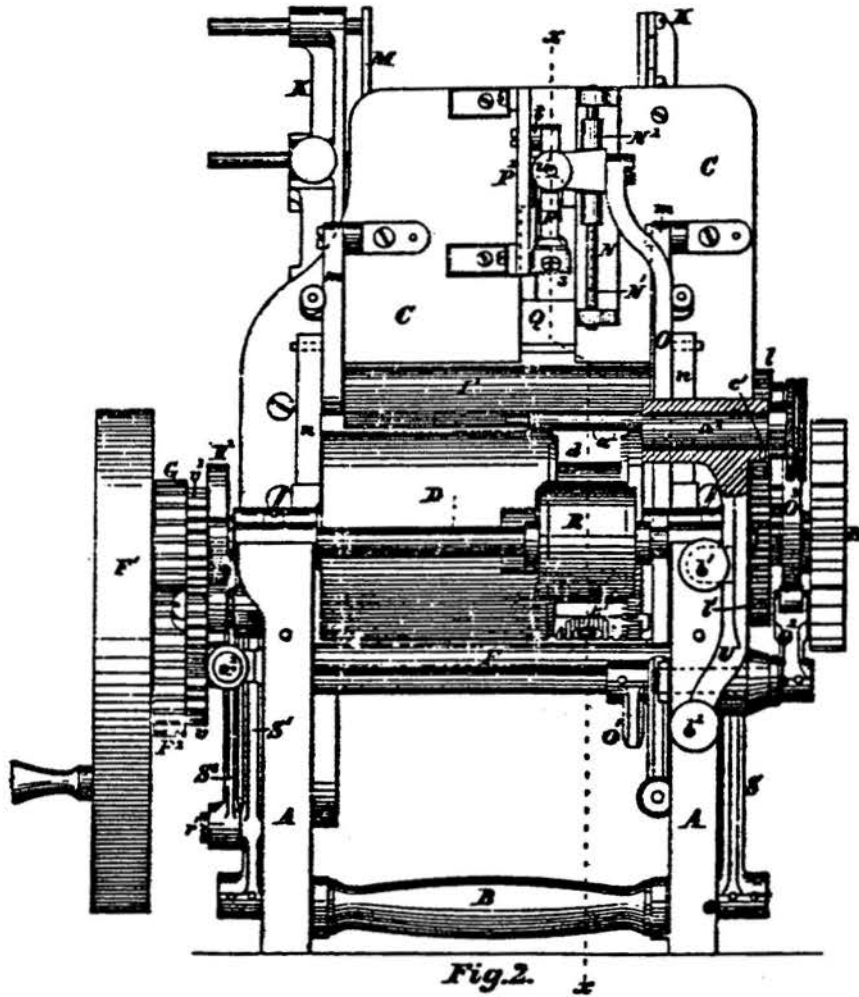


Figure 9

One or two rows of teeth marks on Postal Cards?

T. LEAVITT.
Post Marking and Canceling Machines.
 No. 219,586. Patented Sept. 16, 1879.



Witnesses:

E. A. Hummerway
C. B. Ditt.

Inventor?

Thomas Leavitt
 by *N. Lombard*
 Attorney.

Figure 10
 Thomas Leavitt's Patent 219,586

T. LEAVITT.
Post Marking and Canceling Machines.
No. 219,586. Patented Sept. 16, 1879.

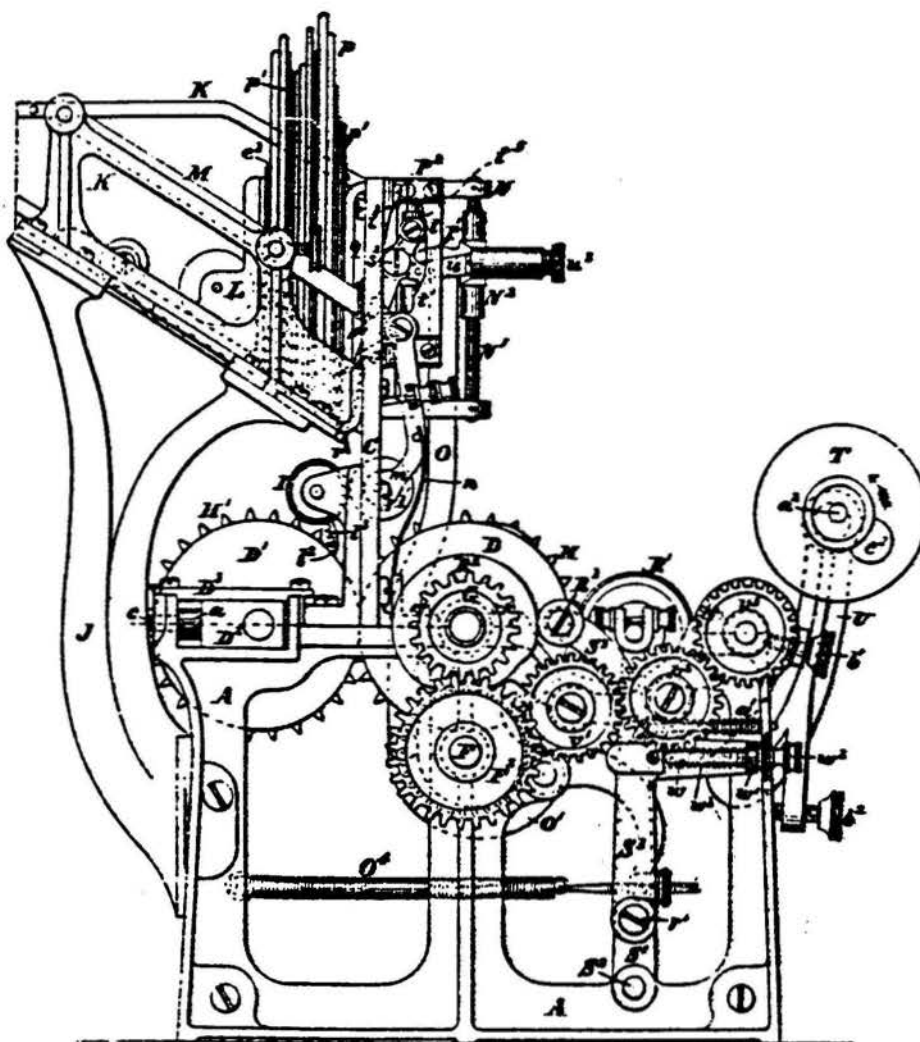


Fig. 3.

Witnesses.

E. A. Hammenway
C. H. David.

Inventor:

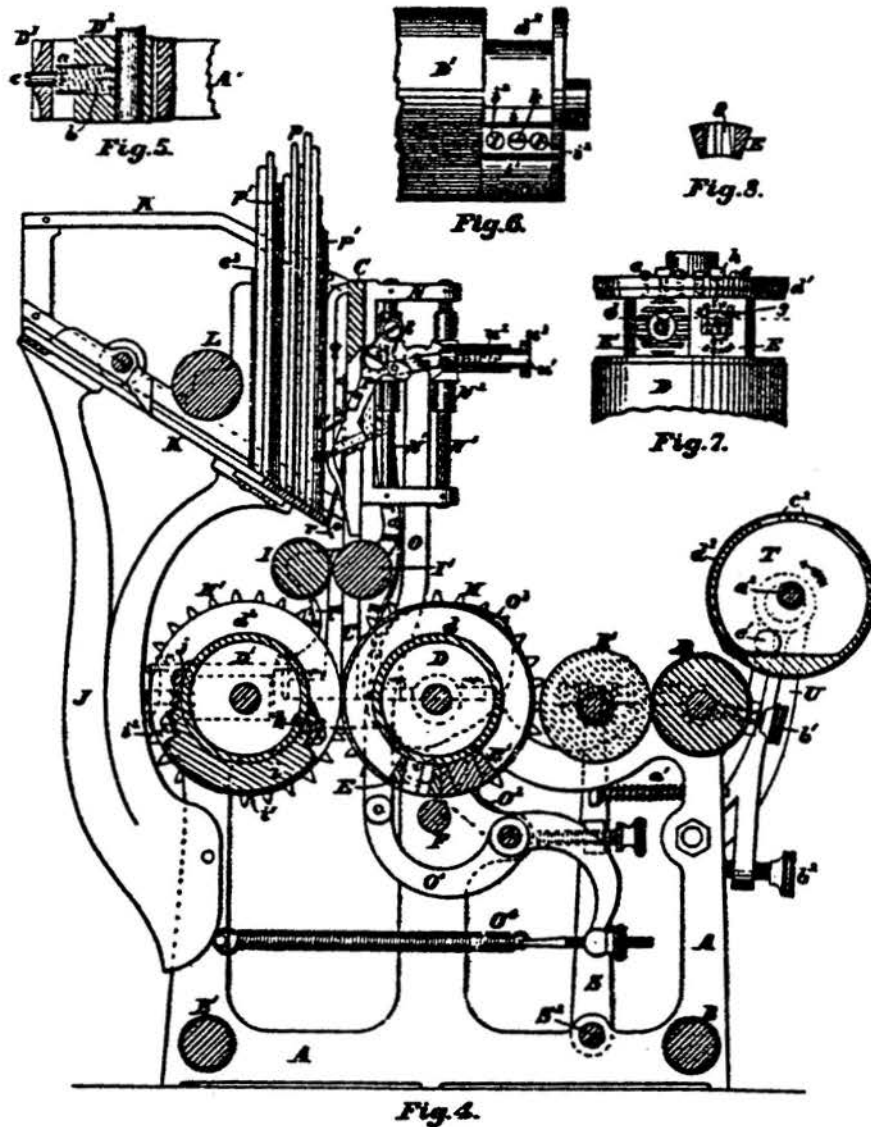
Thomas Leavitt
 by *N. D. Lombard*
Attorney.

Figure 10 cont'd
 Thomas Leavitt's Patent 219,586

T. LEAVITT.
Post Marking and Canceling Machines.

No. 219,586.

Patented Sept. 16, 1879.



Witnesses:

E. A. Hummaway
C. H. Galt

Inventor:

Thomas Leavitt
by *N. Lombard*
Attorney.

Figure 10 cont'd
Thomas Leavitt's Patent 219,586

T. LEAVITT
Post Marking and Canceling Machines
No. 219,586 Patented Sept. 16, 1879

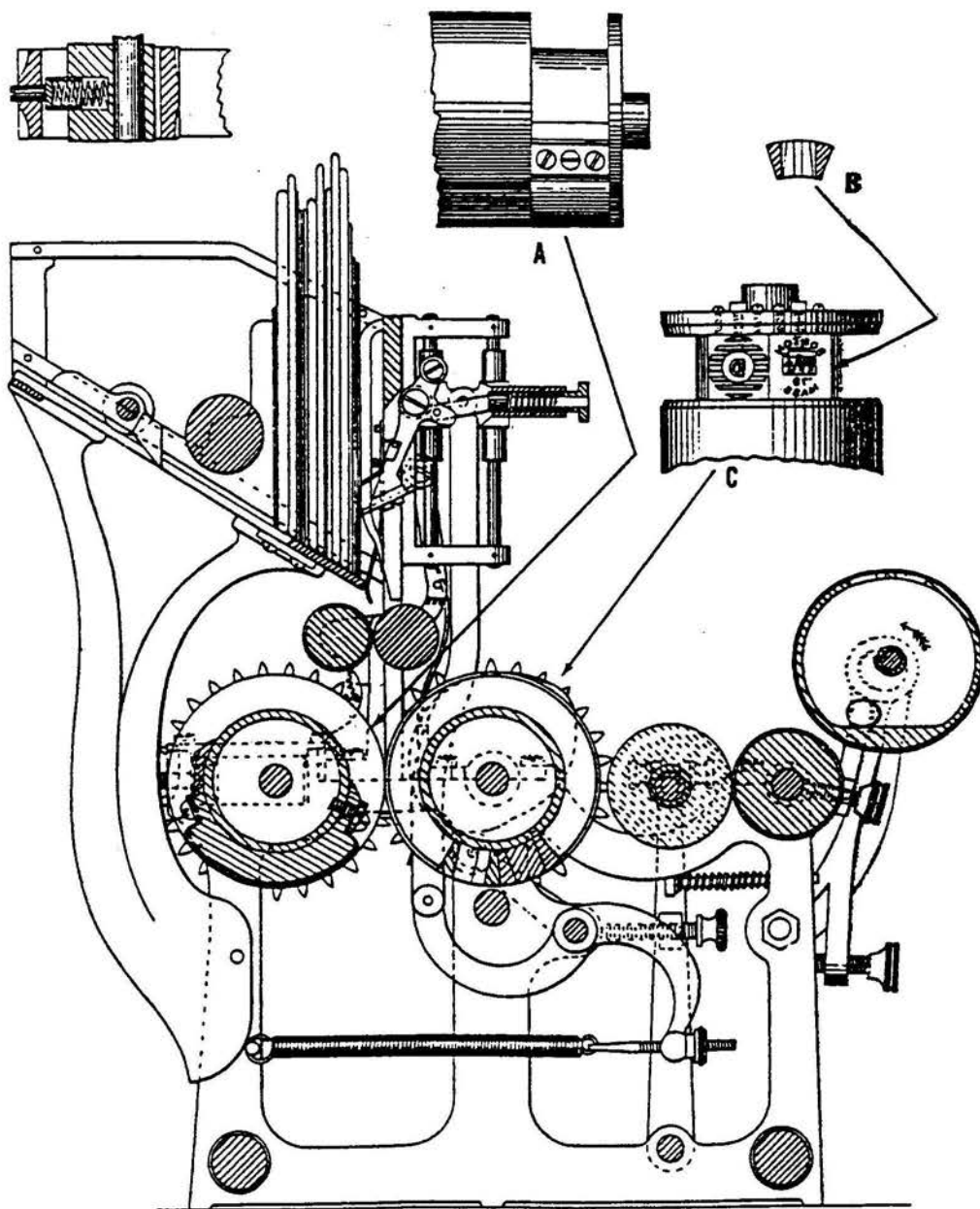


Figure 11
Ken Olson's Drawing of
Thomas Leavitt's Patent 219,586

(No Model.)

4 Sheets—Sheet 1.

T. LEAVITT.

Postmarking and Canceling Machine.

No. 235,952.

Patented Dec. 28, 1880.

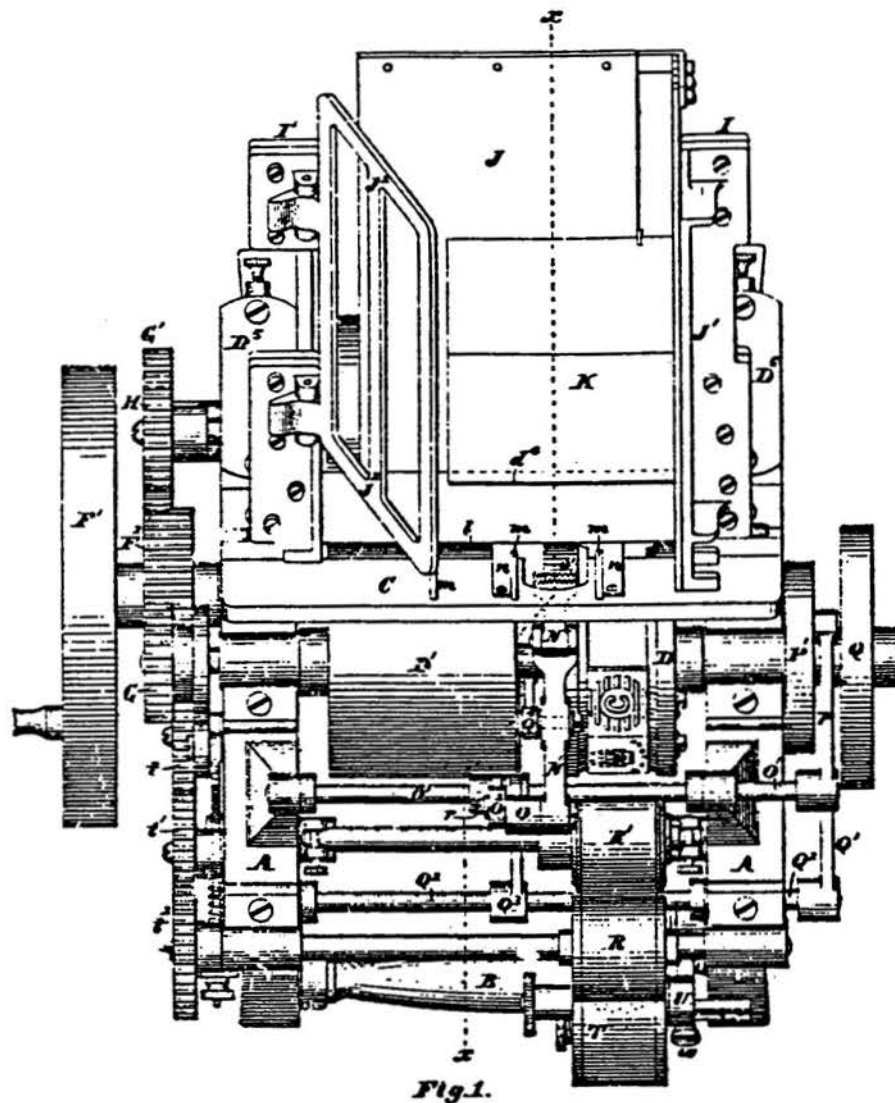


Fig. 1.

Witnesses:

E. A. Kennedy
Walter O. Lombard

Inventor:

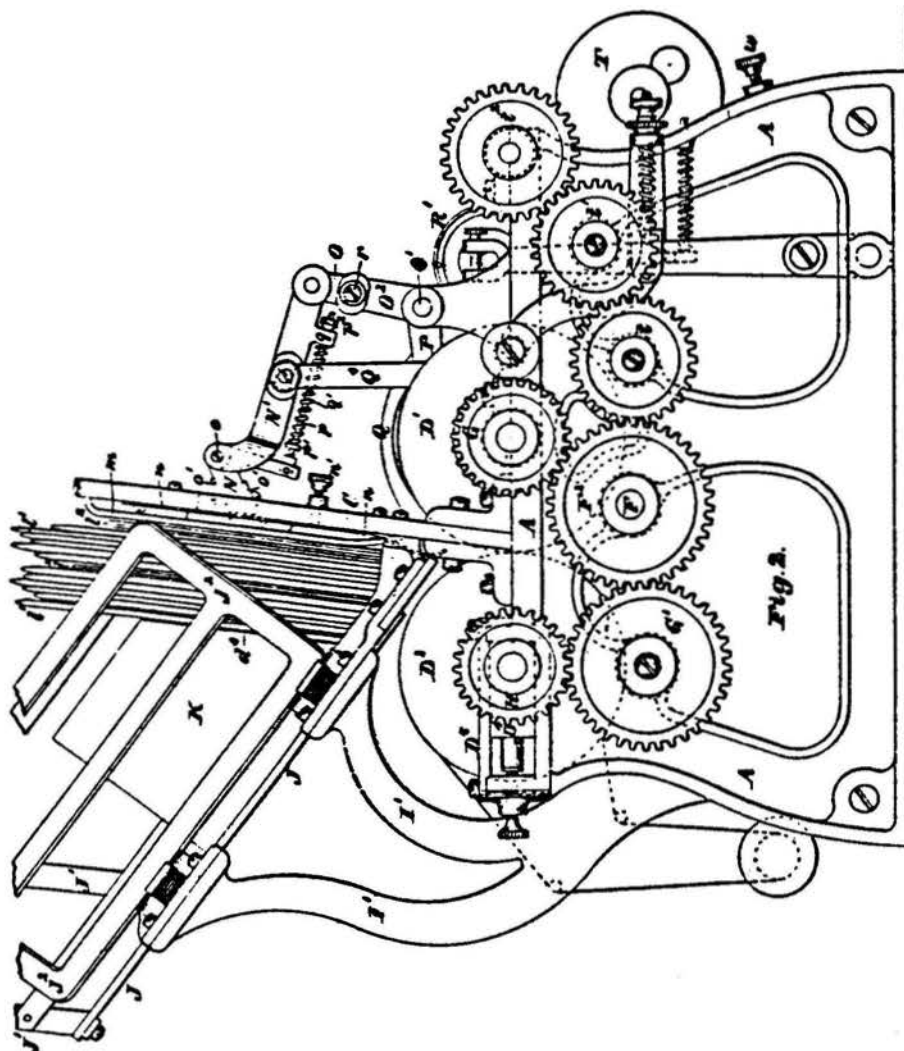
Thomas Leavitt
by *N. V. Lombard*
Attorney.

Figure 12
Thomas Leavitt's Patent 235,952

(No Model.)

4 Sheets—Sheet 2

T. LEAVITT.
Postmarking and Canceling Machine.
No. 235,952. Patented Dec. 28, 1880.



Witnesses:

E. A. Hummery
Walter C. Lombard

Inventor:

Thomas Leavitt
by *N. C. Lombard*
Attorney.

Figure 12 cont'd
Thomas Leavitt's Patent 235,952

From the same Court record, we learn that Waite became interested in mail marking machines in 1877 (sic) at which time he invested three thousand dollars with Thomas Leavitt "for developing and introducing certain mail marking machines of which Leavitt was the Inventor."

Waite became acquainted with Howard in 1881. Howard, whose trade was that of machinist, was then in the employ of Leavitt whom he was assisting in building postal card and letter cancelling machines.

Howard subsequently continued to try and develop Leavitt's machines on his own and in March 1882 he revealed to Waite his own version of a mail marking machine, Howard's machine had been under discussion by Waite and Howard for a year (since the Spring of 1881).

This machine was built in Leavitt's workshop from August 1882 through January 1883, but at this time the workshop was not being used by Leavitt but rather by Mr. Fowler.

In February (1883) it was tested for several days in the Boston Post Office but whether it was actually used to cancel live mail is difficult to assess due to conflicting statements. In Fowler's (Leavitt's) workshop it was tested by Waite as well as Howard.

"...Waite at times ran the machine by himself, dummy letters being placed on the feed table in bundles that were fed by hand towards the feeder, which by the action of the needle clutch and the feeding grippers separated the forward letter from the bundle and carried it into and through the printing rolls and into the packing mechanism. The letters appear to have been clearly and distinctively stamped and postmarked."

After the trial in the Boston Post Office, the machine was laid aside until July 1883 when it was studied by Ethridge at the request of Waite and then much later on was sent to Washington to support a patent application filed by Howard but assigned to the American Postal Machines Company.

Howard actually filed a patent in February 1890 and was granted patent 689,820 in 1901 as shown in Figure 13 (*pages 33 and 34*).

Howard's machine, as can be seen from the study of the patent, incorporated a letter actuated trip which was based on a similar device in the Palmer and Clark machine (if not the one and only machine) and this he showed to Howard in the early 1880's. But again the feature of interest to us is the feed mechanism. A pin feed mechanism and again was not particularly reliable as Howard's model was never used.

Ethridge developed the first successful letter feed system that he then added to a cancelling mechanism based on Howard's design. But this is another story and already covered in Reference 2.

The pin feed system is clearly shown in Figure 13a as "p.p.". Note how the table "T" is inclined and rod "W" is designed to stop the letters from spreading fan-like over the table and causing mis-feeds.

When the rod was withdrawn, the letters would fall forward as shown in the top drawing. The feeder pawl or "grappling mechanism" as Howard called it, consisted of a pair of jaws, pivoted horizontally at their inner ends as shown in the two small sketches (Figure 13b). These jaws opened and closed alternatively. Each jaw was provided with needles "p," fitted in diagonal or inclined positions and these pins

No. 689,820.

Patented Dec. 24, 1901.

E. L. HOWARD.

POSTMARKING AND STAMP CANCELING MACHINE.

(Application filed Feb. 17, 1899.)

(No Model.)

7 Sheets—Sheet 6.

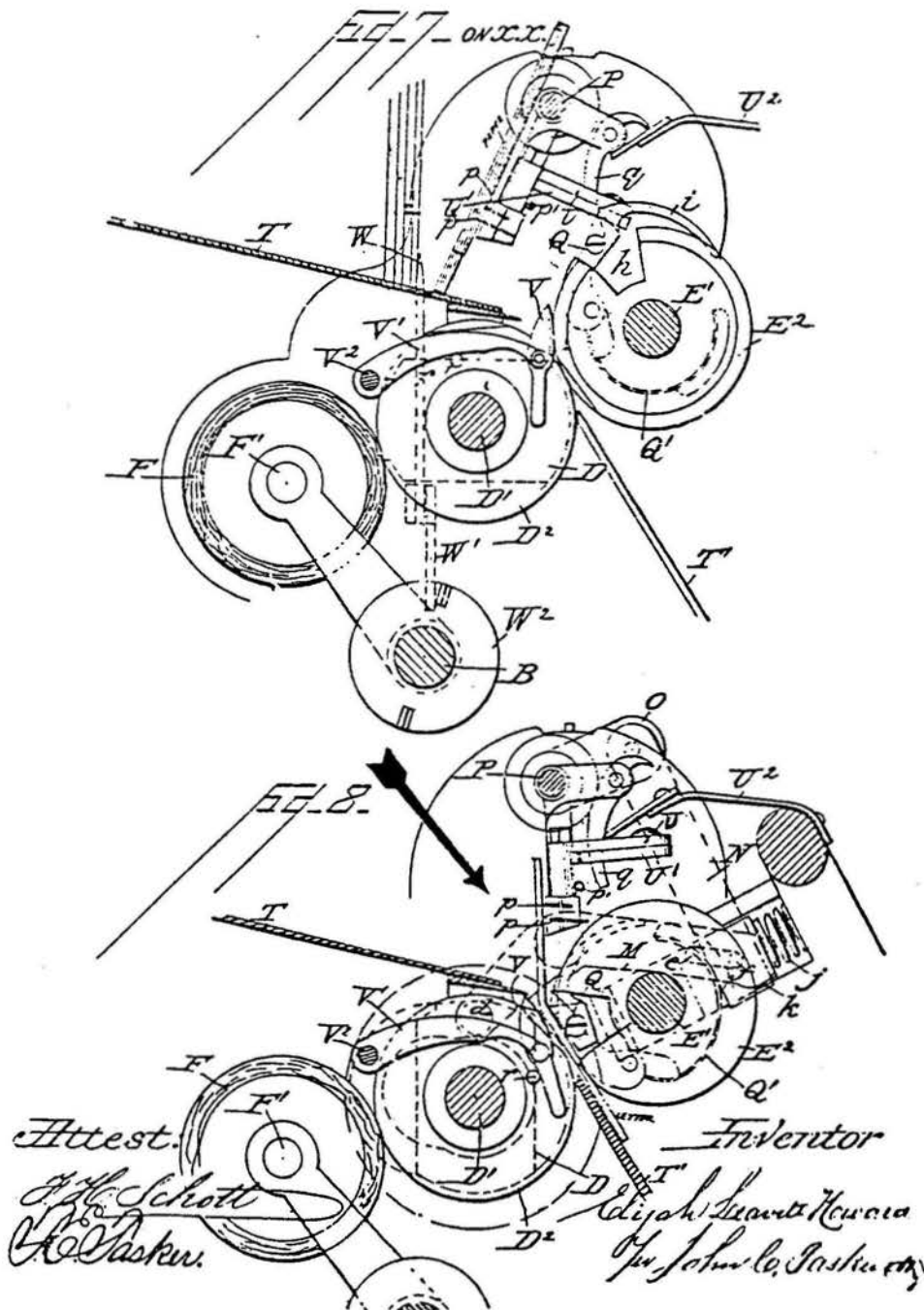


Figure 13a
Elijah Leavitt Howard's Patent 689,820

No. 689,820.

E. L. HOWARD.

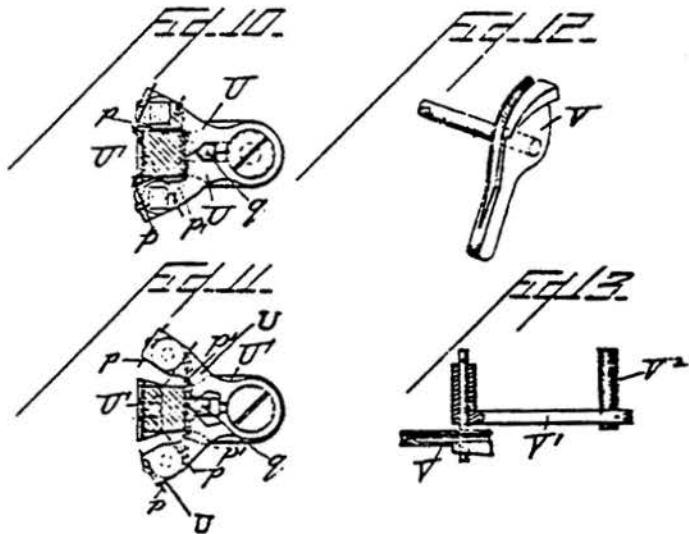
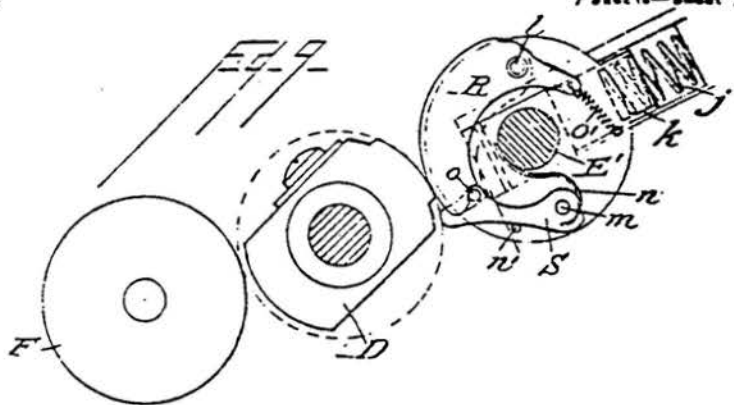
Patented Dec. 24, 1901.

POSTMARKING AND STAMP CANCELING MACHINE.

(Application filed Feb. 17, 1890.)

(No Model.)

7 Sheets—Sheet 7.



Fittest:
 J. H. Schott
 Chas. Parker.

Inventor
Elijah Leonard Howard
By John C. Kuske atty.

Figure 13b
Elijah Leavitt Howard's Patent 689,820

worked through slots in the forward portion of a "U" in a way that when retracted they did not project in front of the frame plate "U."

The lower sketch (Figure 13a) shows a letter having been gripped by the pincer movement of the pins being dragged off the table "T" and downward to be gripped between a smoothed faced jaw "V" and clamping foot "Q" which may or may not have been fitted with pins. What is not clear from the sketches is that, in this machine, the letters were fed broadside, or sideways on. We can thus surmise that any letters that were cancelled by a Howard machine would have quite characteristic and easily identifiable pin marks.

But, apart from a brief trial in the Boston Post Office some time before February 20, 1883, we have a number of independent sources all claiming that the machine was never put into practical use. But this is the only machine of the Leavitt style in which mail was fed broadside on and therefore must have been the one Hey was referring to when he was talking about the Leavitt !

Having reviewed all the patents and the methods of feeding mail to the cancelling dies, we should be able to make an intelligent guess as to which Leavitt markings were made by each type of machine.

No inventor would submit a machine for a test in a Post Office until protected by a pending patent (but Leavitt did on patent 192,519).

Moreover, official procurement policy encouraged such protection ! For example in the Appropriation Act for the fiscal year ending June 30, 1881, we can read in (Reference 4):

"For the purchase of card cancelling and postmarking machines \$6,000 and the proper

offices of the Post Office Department may purchase such machines as in their judgement may best answer the purpose. But no patented machine shall be so purchased until the proper offices shall have fully secured and protected the Government and its officers against the payment of royalty thereon otherwise than in the contract for its use, and against all suits for infringement of any alleged patent for similar machines."

It can be seen from this particular extract that the Post Office officials could only buy machines already patented and authority was given to purchase postal card marking machines in the year starting July 1, 1880.

In the Appropriation Act for fiscal year 1882/1883, the Postmaster was authorized in his discretion to purchase . . . five letter cancelling and postmarking machines at a price not exceeding \$350 each (Reference 5). (Possibly the machines were Leavitt's five experimental letter stamping machines.)

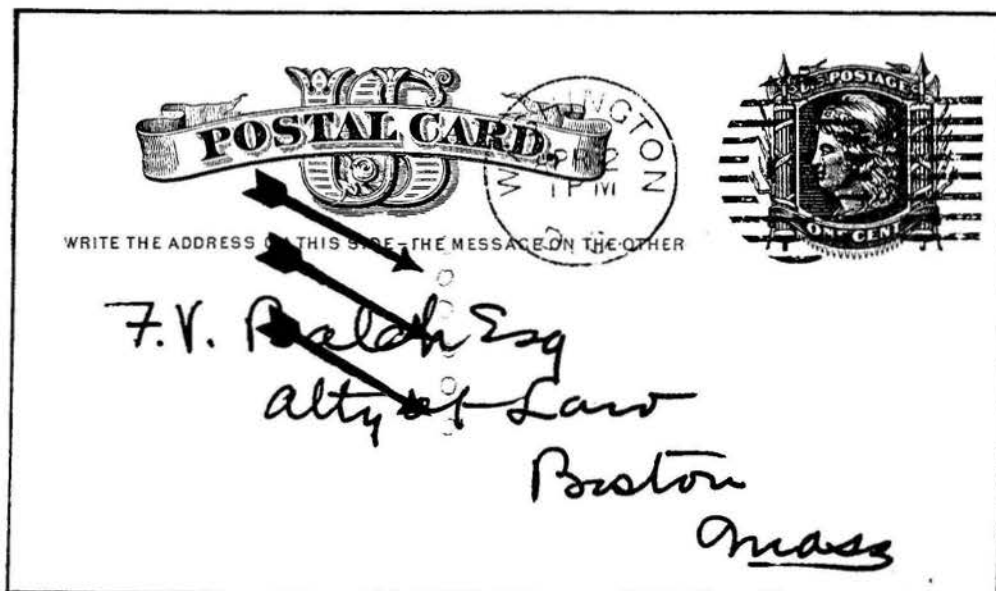
We will see in the following section (Machine Cancel Forum No. 74) that all the postmasters, polled at the end of 1879, mentioned the Leavitt machines were on loan or under trial, i.e., none of them had been leased or purchased as of that date.

From the foregoing, we think we may deduce that:-

- 1) the different styles of Leavitt cancels were made by three different types of Leavitt machines.
- 2) that the Leavitt machine on display in the Smithsonian Institute was built in accordance with Patent 219,586, and of a type which was not used in any Post Office.

- 3) that the Elijah Leavitt Howard machine was not used in any Post Office (other than a short trial in Boston in February 1883).
- 4) that the Stratton Type X cancels were the product of machines built to Patent 35,952; that five machines were used in

the field (Philadelphia/ Washington/ Boston/ New York/ Baltimore) and that all covers and cards so cancelled will also display pin feed holes or marks on the face. The two Leavitt cancels on page 37 are typical examples of Leavitt's Type X markings.

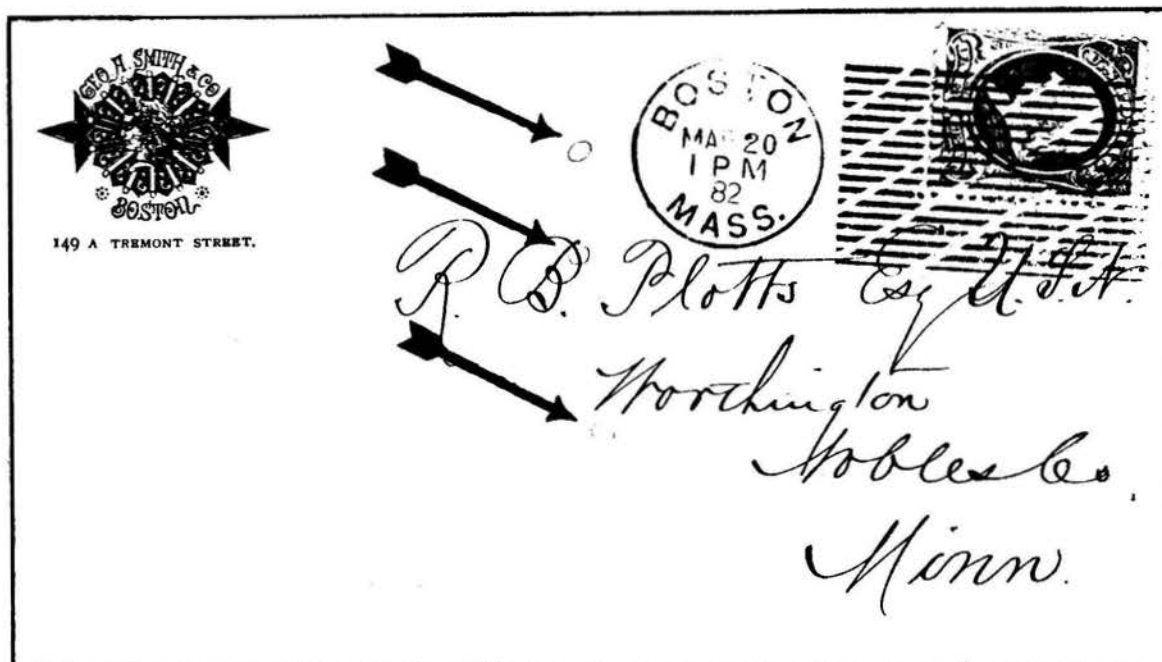


TYPE X-1 DIE

April 2, (1881)

WASHINGTON, D.C.

The Sub-Group 1 machine was experimentally used in Boston, New York and Washington, D.C. The machine used six needles spaced 4.5 to 5 mm. apart with an overall height of 24 mm. to 25 mm. This type of cancel rarely seen on Postal Cards.



TYPE X-2 DIAL B

March 20, 1882

BOSTON, MASS.

The Sub-Group 2 machine was evaluated in the same three cities as Sub-Group 1. The machine used two groups of needles with each group having four needles spaced 5 to 5.5 mm. apart. Examination of this cover shows only three needle punctures that are circled.

TIME RELATIONSHIPS BETWEEN PATENTS AND LEAVITT CANCELS

This table shows the relationships between the patents, i.e., the filing and award dates versus the earliest known introduction and last known use of the many types of the Leavitt cancels.

Patent 175,290 - filed September 28, 1875						
BOSTON						
		1876	1877	1878		
Type	EKU	Jan/Jun/Dec	Jan/Jun/Dec	Jan/Jun/Dec		LKU
A-1 (E)	11/15/75	only one day in 1875				11/15/75
A-1	01/06/76	-----				06/08/76

Patent 192,519 - filed April 17, 1876						
BOSTON						
		1876	1877	1878		
Type	EKU	Jan/Jun/Dec	Jan/Jun/Dec	Jan/Jun/Dec		LKU
A 1-2	02/02/76	-				02/02/76
A-2 I	02/09/76	-				03/31/76
A-2 II	04/01/76	-----				03/04/78
A-2 I	03/09/78			----		04/11/78
A-3 II	12/24/77		-----			03/- /78
A-3 I	03/11/78			---		04/03/78

Patent 192,519 - filed April 17, 1876						
NEW YORK						
		1876	1877	1878		
Type	EKU	Jan/Jun/Dec	Jan/Jun/Dec	Jan/Jun/Dec		LKU
A-2	06/10/76	-				06/28/76
A-2	08/21/76	-----				10/07/76
A-4 II	02/21/78			-		02/23/78
AB-NY I	02/26/78			-		03/01/78
AB-NY II	02/26/78			-		03/25/78

TABLE I *continued*

		Patent 192,519 - filed April 17, 1876			
NEW YORK		1876	1877	1878	1880 1881 1882
Type	EKU	Jan Jun Dec	Jan Jun Dec	Jan Jun Dec	LKU
B-NY (31) I	03/26/78	-----			07/22/79
B-NY (31) II	03/27/78	-----			01/16/79
B-NY (32)	04/08/78	-			04/08/78
B-NY (33)	08/27/78	-			08/27/78
B-NY (31) Q	11/06/80				- 11/06/80
B-NY (31) Q	04/04/81				04/24/81
B-NY (33) A	01/17/82				-- 01/17/82

		Patent 192,519 - filed April 17, 1876			
NEW YORK		1878	1879	1880	
Type	EKU	Jan/Jun/Dec	Jan/Jun/Dec	Jan/Jun/Dec	LKU
B-1	04/05/78	-----		- ---	07/08/80

		Patent 219,586 - filed June 21, 1879							
TYPE B CITIES		1879	1880	1881	1882	1883	1884	1885	1886
Type	EKU								
B-BALT	03/01/79	-----							04/15/82
B-PHIL I/D	06/06/79	---							11/07/79
B-CHIC	06/10/79	-							11/07/79
B-CINC	06/10/79	---							12/08/79
B-ST.L	06/28/79	-----							05/28/87
B-IND I	06/30/79	-----							05/22/84
B-N.O. I	07/14/79	-----							01/12/80
B-L.KY	07/15/79	-----							11/06/80
B-NASH	07/31/79	-----							03/30/85
B-BOST B-2	08/01/79	-----	-						12/30/80
B-BRK	08/06/79	-----							06/24/81

TABLE I *continued*

		1879	1880	1881	1882	1883	1884	1885	1886		
Type	EKU									LKU	
B-ALB	09/04/79	-----								06/24/81	
B-BUF	10/23/79	-----								02/04/92	
B-CLEV	10/28/79	-----					-----			05/23/85	
B-PBG	10/30/79	-----								06/23/80	
B-ROCH	11/02/79	-----								05/09/85	
B-DET	11/03/79	-----								11/15/86	
B-WASH	11/18/79	-----								03/24/82	
B-PHIL I/3	11/21/79	-----								10/21/88	
B-TOL	11/21/79	-----								09/27/87	
B-PHIL II	12/02/79	-----								12/05/82	
B-BOST B-3	01/03/81	-----								02/23/82	
B-N.O. II	04/24/80	-								05/11/80	

Patent 219,586 - filed June 21, 1879

TYPE B CITIES

		80	81	82	83	84	85	86	87	88	89	90	91	92		
Type	EKU														LKU	
B-DAY	07/10/80	-----													02/20/91	
B-S.F.	09/24/80	-----													11/05/90	
B-RICH	09/27/80	-----													01/13/82	
B-NRK	10/01/80	-----													12/28/91	
B-PROV	10/05/80	-----													05/25/82	
B-K.C.	12/01/80	-----													05/14/88	
B-ATL	02/05/81	-													02/05/81	

(The above seven cities possibly received a transferred machine)

TABLE I *continued*

		Patent 219,586 - filed June 21, 1879									
TYPE B - C and D CITIES		82	83	84	85	86	87	88	89	90	91
Type	EKU										
BOST	D-1	02/25/82	—	----	---						10/09/84
BOST	C-1	03/01/82	-								03/23/82
BOST	C-2	03/30/82	-	-----	---						04/15/82
WASH	C	03/31/82	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	04/02/91
BALT	C	05/12/82	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	04/30/87
HART	B	02/17/83		-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	12/02/89
NORW	B	06/04/83		-----	---	-	-	-	-	-	01/28/88
B-IND	II	10/07/84						-----	-----	-----	09/01/92
BOST	D-2	01/27/85				---					08/09/85
PHI	STA.B	04/18/85				-----					01/02/86
BOST	C-3	11/04/85				-----					07/19/86
WASH	C-T	11/16/85				-----					01/18/86
IND	C-T	02/25/86					---				04/20/86
BOST	E	08/17/86						-----	-----	-----	07/08/90

Patent 235,952 - filed March 30, 1880									
EXPERIMENTALS									

TABLE I *continued*

TYPE	DIAL	CITY	DIE	SUB GROUP	EKU	1881	1882	LKU
						J M J S D	J M J S D	
X1	B	BOST	II	2	12/14/81	--		12/14/81
X2	B	BOST	-	2	12/20/81	-----		04/19/82
X1	A	PHIL	I	3	12/02/81	-		12/03/81
X1	-	PHIL	I	3	(No Dial)	(Date Unknown)		(No Dial)
X1	A	BALT	I	3	12/07/81	—		01/06/82
X1	B	PHIL	II	3	12/10/81	—		01/11/82
X1	A	WASH	III	4	11/27/81	-----		10/30/82
X3	A	BOST	I	4	09/01/82		-	09/28/82
X3-2	B	BOST	I	4	09/09/82		-	3 RD c/82
TYPE	DIAL	CITY	DIE	SUB GROUP	EKU	J M J S D	J M J S D	LKU
X3-2	B	BOST	II	4	10/02/82		---	12/30/82
X3	B	BOST	II	4	11/01/82		—	11/03/82
XT	A	BOST	a*	4	11/10/82		-	11/13/82
XT	A	BOST	b*	4	11/14/82		--	12/29/82
X4	N	BOST	-	4	3 RD Class	(Date Unknown)		3 RD Class

* - for easier reference the Dies for the Type XT have been reversed.

REFERENCES:

1. Stratton, Frank B., Descriptive Catalog of the Leavitt Machine Cancellations. U.P.S.S. 1972
2. Morris, Reg, American Machine Cancels - The History, Machinery and Postal Markings of the American Postal Machines Co.,1978.
3. Howard V. Hey Cca, District of Columbia 171, July 24,1902.
4. Statutes at Large Vol 21, Pp.177/178 (Appropriations Act for year ending July 30, 1881).
5. Statutes at Large Vol 22, P. 333.

POSTSCRIPT

By Reg G. Morris

Having written the foregoing article, it seems worthwhile to check with the National Museum of American History - "the Smithsonian" to see if the second deduction relating to the machine in the Smithsonian could be confirmed. Unfortunately, the method of presentation of the machine in the display case precluded its removal for close study. Nevertheless, Mr. Reidar Norby, the Associate Curator, very kindly provided two photographs used here on the front page of this book and as Figure 14, courtesy of the Smithsonian Institution.

Moreover, he intimated that the feed device comprised of a pair of toothed "combs", each with 15-20 very fine teeth. Also the machine shows but slight wear which suggests possible experimental use. Apparently the machine was transferred to the National Museum from the Patent Office many years ago. In Figure 14, the topmost tooth comb can be clearly seen. Our thanks to Mr. Norby for replying so promptly to our query.

Later in this study of Leavitt's machines, we will present to our readers the known types attributed to the Group X cancels with these needle marks; the number normally to be found; their location and possibly the direction of the penetration.

The pinholes (needle marks) show as mere dots and will be ringed for clarity. The score marks suggest that all letters were end fed, i.e., right (stamp) side first into the machine. The actual pinholes suggest likewise on all but two covers and these are indefinite.

Figure 15 (page 45) shows a double scored mark that is highlighted. The scored marks suggest that the needles were either bent or broken from a some hard surface with only a

few needles actually penetrating the paper of the letter.

Figure 16 is one of the more unusual Leavitt experimental 3rd Class cancels where the dial was removed leaving only the canceller to cancel a group of 3rd Class letters.

Figure 17 shows an unusual double strike that confirms letters were fed sideways while the single row of pin holes suggests that the double strike was not due to mis-picking or by slippage but probably by the clerk, having seen that the stamp was not cancelled the first time, processed the letter again.

Figure 18 shows the Type X1-NY-II dated October 19, 1881, from a recent find that accords well with the hypothesis already mooted in this article.

Lastly note the two Boston Transit markings in Figures 19 and 20. The type has been seen several times in the Machine Cancel Forum in recent years with some uncertainty to their origin. Frank Stratton came to the firm conclusion after our correspondence that they were Leavitts due to the discovery by the authors of pin marks on the Leavitt experimental letter machine cancels !

Most pinholes are three inches from the right edge of letters give or take a fraction but there are the exceptions due to various factors but mostly due to hard paper stock that denies penetration causing in some cases the needles to score the paper. So are the needle marks adjacent to the Boston Transit markings (circled for easy viewing) three inches from the right edge ? Q.E.D. for the top example but slightly more than three inches on the bottom marking !

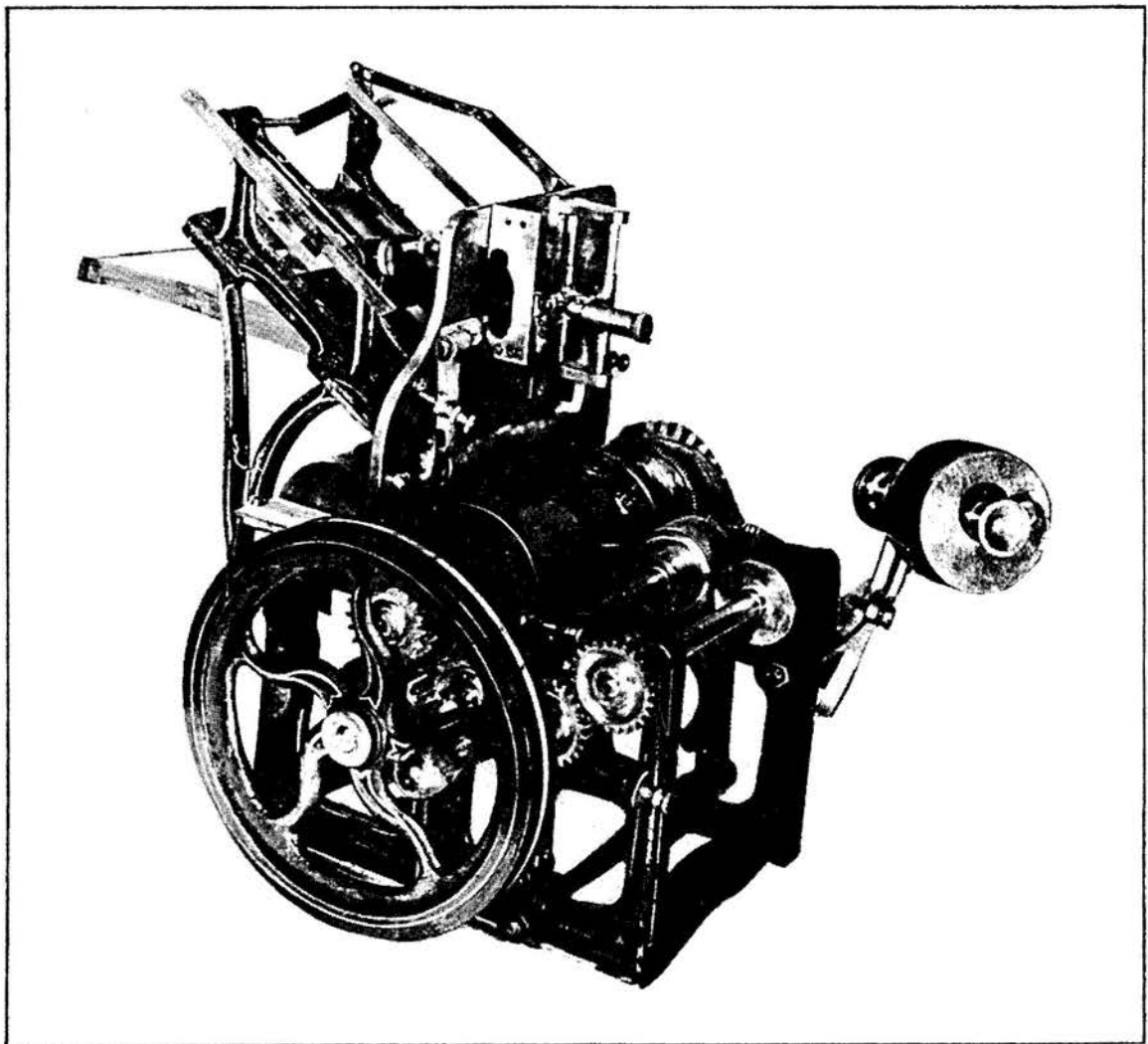


Figure 14
Leavitt Machine in the Smithsonian Institution

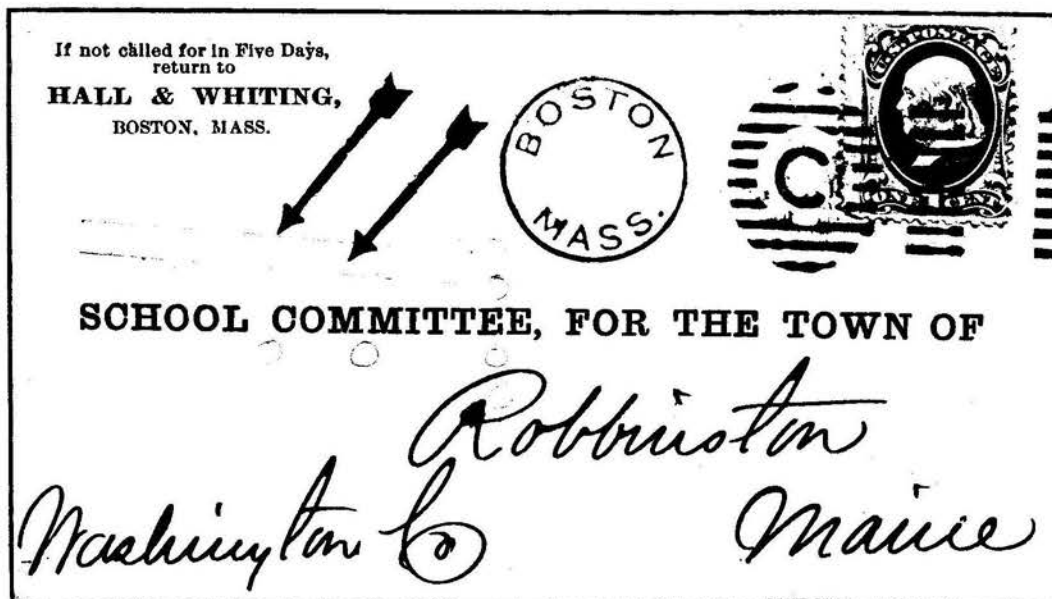


FIGURE 15 TYPE X1-DIAL A 3rd Class (1881) BOSTON, MASS
The Boston experimental letter cancel shows two long scrapes and two extra pin marks that suggests the needles did not completely penetrate the paper stock. The pin grouping and number indicates a Sub-Group 1 and the earliest Group X cancel.

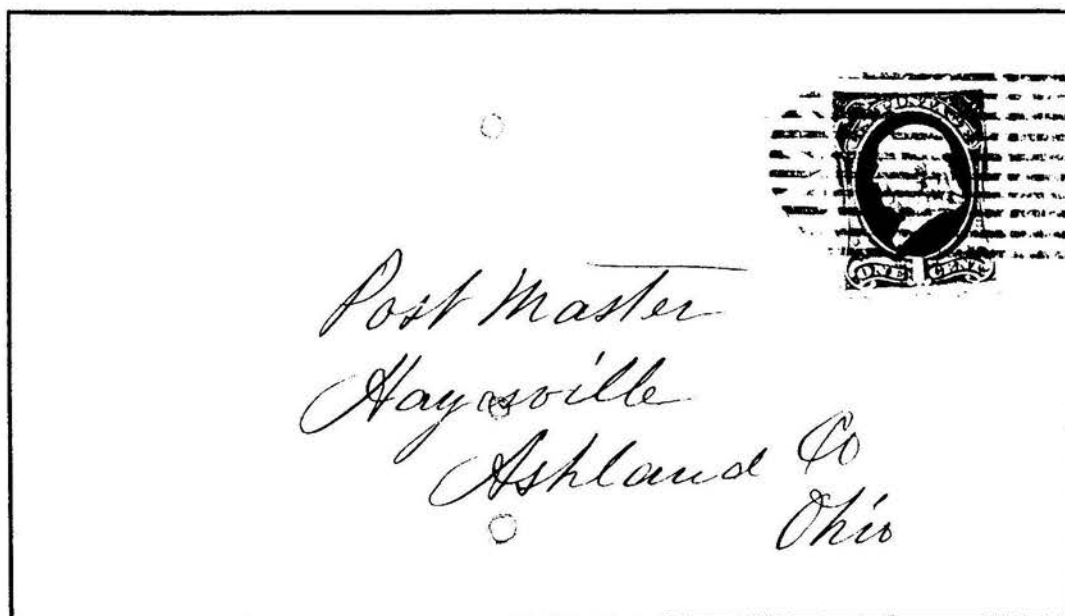


FIGURE 16 TYPE X1 PHIL DIE I 3rd Class PHILADELPHIA
This cancel shows the interesting variety of 3rd Class use without the Philadelphia dial. Positive identification can be made by the Sub-Group 3 pin punctures on the letter. The unusual convex 10-bar canceller indicates Philadelphia.

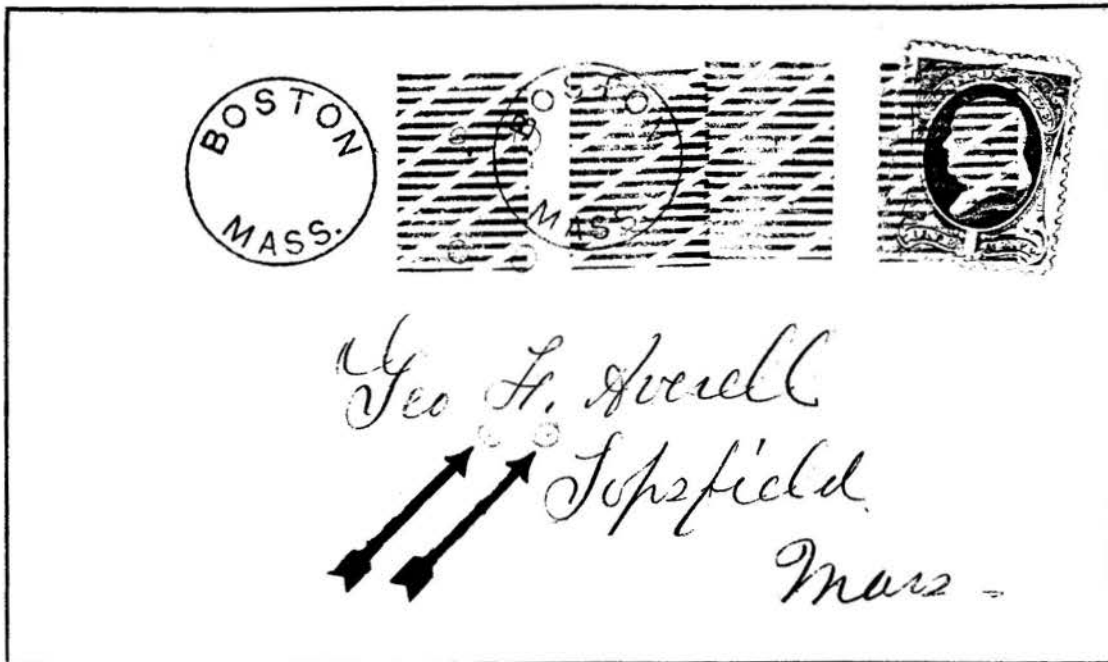


FIGURE 17 TYPE X3-2 DIE I 3rd Class (1882) BOSTON, MASS.

An interesting double strike confirms the experimental letter machine processed the letter endwise. The two rows of pin marks suggests the letter was cancelled twice and not from slippage.

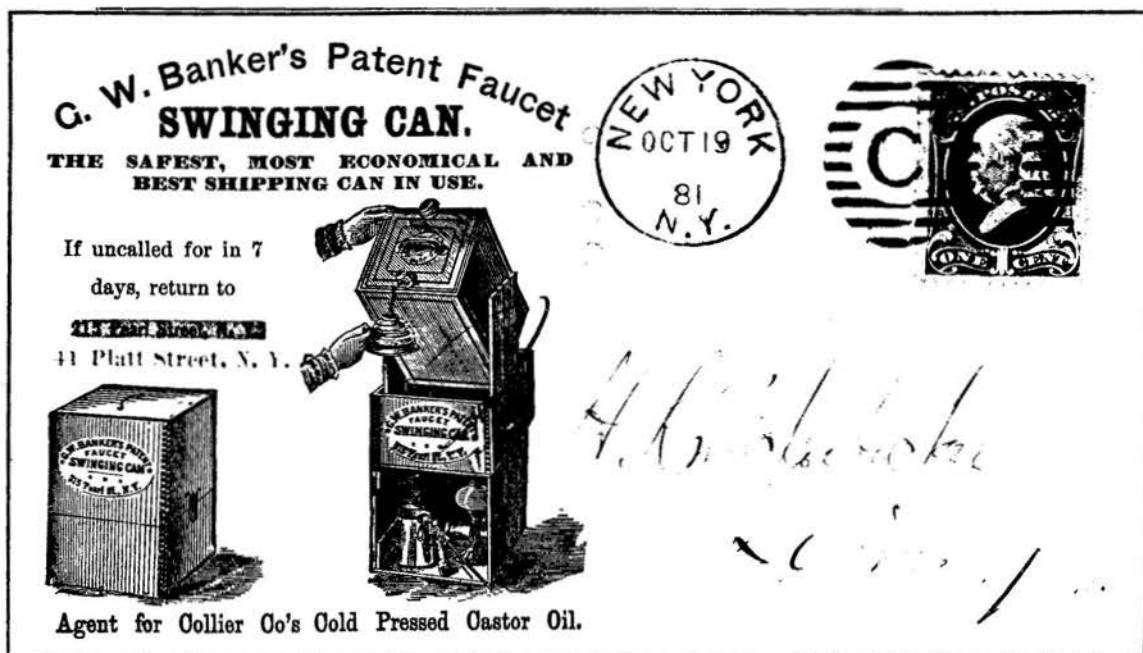


FIGURE 18 TYPE X1 NY II October 19, 1881 NEW YORK, N.Y.

This 3rd Class cancel is from the second test in New York using their experimental letter machine. Note that the time was removed.

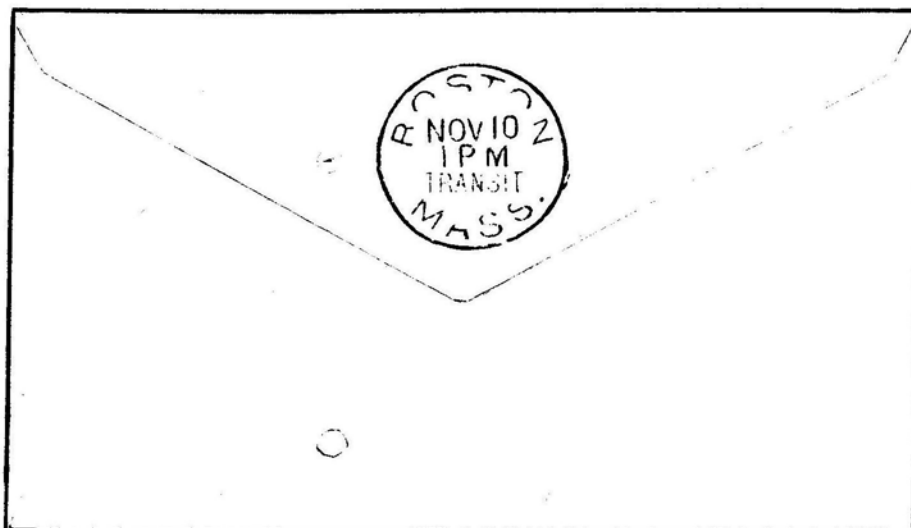


FIGURE 19 TYPE XT-DIE a November 10 (1882) BOSTON, MASS.
Boston conducted experimental use of a mechanical device to mark inbound transit mail for delivery to another destination for a period of seven weeks in 1882. A TRANSIT slug was inserted in the dial for use in their experimental letter stamping machine.

The TRANSIT slug was inserted in two positions in the Boston dial. For easier identification of the TRANSIT dies, we have

decided to reverse the dies: TYPE XT - Die a shows TRANSIT on the third line;. TYPE XT - Die b shows TRANSIT on the first line.

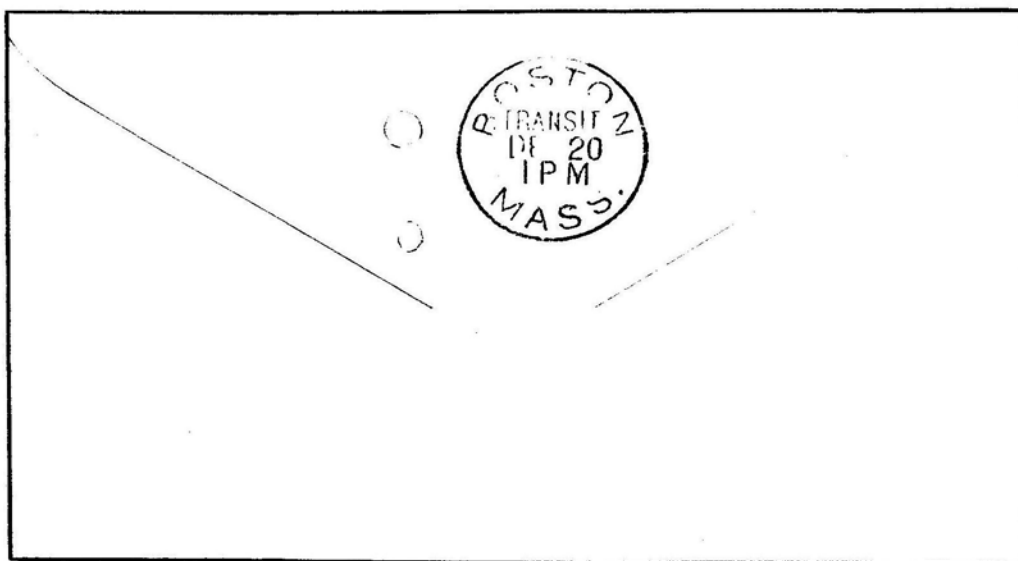


FIGURE 20 TYPE XT DIE b December 20 (1882) BOSTON, MASS.
The same basic experimental Boston dial is seen in both Die a and b. Difference is the TRANSIT position.

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CHAPTER III

How Successful were the Leavitt Machines?

by Reg G. Morris

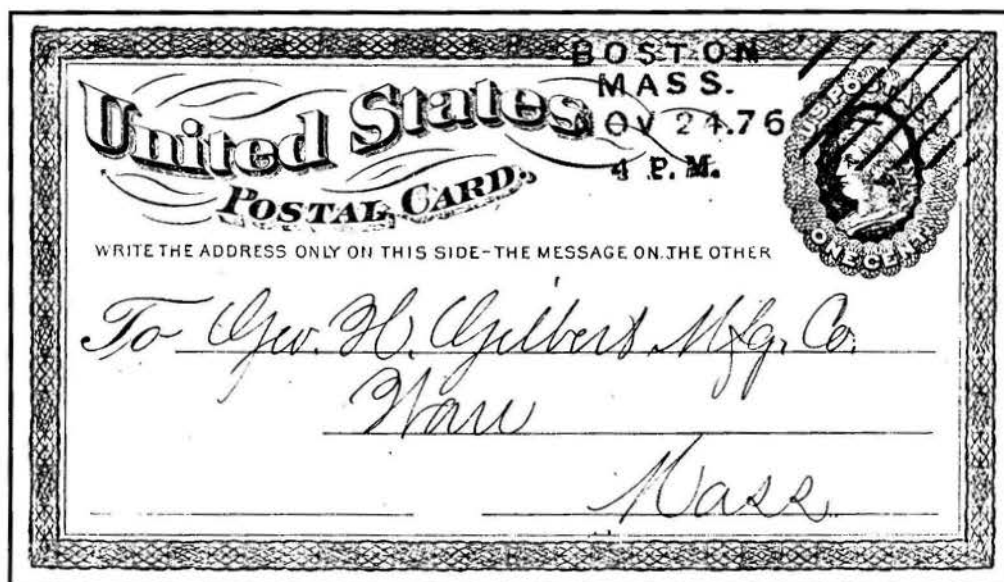
This material originally appeared in The Machine Cancel Forum, No. 74 of June 1980. It consists primarily of quotations from letters of Postmasters who provided their opinions of the Leavitt Machines and testimony of other individuals who testified at hearings in the House of Representatives. Mr. Morris does not offer any conclusions and leaves the decision to the reader. Nonetheless, it is fascinating reading.

For many years, the Leavitt machines were the only mail marking devices to be accepted by the United States Post Office. Accepted in the sense, having been tried and evaluated for their performance merited a special Congressional appropriation for their lease or purchase. And although many other devices were invented both in the United States and abroad during the period 1875-1886, only the Leavitt machines appear to have been used in many larger American Post Offices. To be sure, the first Leavitt machines were not perfect.

Thomas and Martin Leavitt filed their first patent on September 28, 1875, which was followed by another patent barely six months later but filed only by Thomas Leavitt, on April 17, 1876, addressing the problem of feeding postal cards from a stack rather than feeding them one by one by hand.

The second patent (No. 192,519) was for a device designed specifically for postal cards and again the known period of use and relative scarcity of Stratton Type A-2 Leavitt cancel below suggests they were the product of a stacked machine.

From early 1876 to 1878, there does not appear to have been any development of the Leavitt machine, either in terms of new models or a proliferation of the machines. But why? Were the machines unacceptable? Did Thomas lose interest in such devices when his eldest brother Martin died early in 1877? Perhaps we shall never know. We know that Henry Waite started to take an interest in mail marking devices at this time and particularly in the Leavitt machine(s) then being used in the Boston Post Office. Opinions from Postal Officials were sought by Leavitt and those that have come to light are illustrated herewith. From their opinions, the readers can judge for



TYPE A-2

November 24, 1876

BOSTON, MASS.

A specimen of Leavitt's Type A-2 on America's first postal card. Examples showing all nine oblique bars are not common.

themselves if the machines were successful or not.

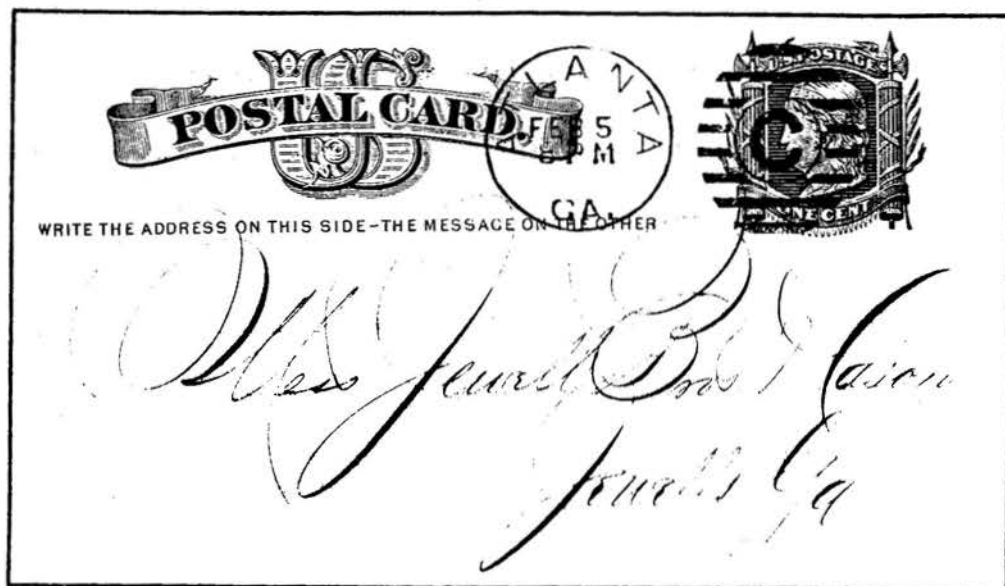
Partially from the strength of these reports, Henry Waite invested \$3,000 with Thomas Leavitt to develop his patents further and to improve the machine for commercial purposes.

Leavitt employed a young mechanic, Elijah Howard, to undertake the further development of his machine; indeed, Leavitt was granted a number of additional patents (#219,586, #219,587, and #235,952) based undoubtedly on Howard's work.

But by 1880 Howard had quit the employ of Leavitt to try and perfect such machines

privately. Leavitt did not obtain any further patents and readers interested in the subsequent activities of Howard are referred to Reference 1.

The acceptance of the Leavitt machines in 1879 can be gauged by official testimony that we have reproduced herewith. The dates and contents from the letters give interesting clues relating to the date of introduction of the Leavitt machine in various offices. We will see in the following section that all of the postmasters polled at the end of 1879, mentioned that the Leavitt machines were on loan or under trial, i.e., none had been leased or purchased as of that date!



TYPE B-ATL(C) February 5, 1881 ATLANTA, GA.
A unique copy of this recently discovered Leavitt cancel. Postmaster Conley's letter below says in his opinion the Leavitt machine "has given entire satisfaction" and "for the larger offices, I think it indispensable." Note 1879!

OPINIONS OF POSTMASTERS AND SUPERINTENDENTS OF MAILS ON THE
LEAVITT POSTMARKING AND CANCELLING MACHINES.

POST OFFICE, ATLANTA, GA.
September 22d, 1879

Thomas Leavitt, Esq.

Your Postal Card Postmarking and Cancelling Machine placed in this Office, has given entire satisfaction. For the larger offices, I think it indispensable. I trust you will be able to make such an arrangement with the Post Office Department, as will compensate you for so valuable an invention and which must prove such a labor-saving instrument in the postal service of the nation.

(Signed) Benj. Conley, Postmaster

POST OFFICE, BOSTON, MASS.
September 15th, 1876

MAILING DEPARTMENT:-

For several months past, we have used in this office Mr. Thomas Leavitt's Card Cancelling and Postmarking Machine, and find it to work accurately and with great rapidity, so that it has become quite indispensable to us. Such being the fact, in my judgement, the Department could use this Machine in all the larger Post Offices of the country, and thereby improve the character of the cancelling and postmarking, and lessen the cost of doing it.

(Signed) D.A. Holmes, Supt.

POST OFFICE, BOSTON, MASS.
January 15th, 1879

The Postmarking and Cancelling Machine for Postal Cards, offered by Thomas Leavitt, of Boston, Mass., has been in constant use in this Office for the past three years. During this time it has needed no repairs, and can be run by any intelligent person.

(Signed) D.A. Holmes, Supt.

POST OFFICE, BOSTON, MASS.
November 11th, 1879

The Leavitt Postal Card Cancelling Machines still remain in constant use in this Office. I do not see how we can well get along without them.

(Signed) D.A. Holmes, Supt.

The statement of Mr. D.A. Holmes, Supt. of the Mailing Division in this Office, as to the very satisfactory working of the Leavitt Postal Card Cancelling Machine, I regard as entitled to the fullest confidence, and have therefore no hesitation in hereby endorsing it.

The Machines referred to are still in use here (Dec.4th, 1879), and I regard them as effective and economical.

(Signed) E.S. Tobey, Postmaster

POST OFFICE, NEW YORK, N.Y.
August 4th, 1876

A machine for postmarking of Postal Cards has for some time been in operation at this office, the same having been introduced by Mr. Thomas Leavitt, for the purpose of obtaining an opinion as to its merits. A test appears to show a capacity for postmarking to a degree of considerable rapidity. The postmarking is accurately registered as clear as is possible by careful handstamping.

(Signed) H.G. Pearson, Asst. P.M.

POST OFFICE, NEW YORK, N.Y.
March 30th, 1878

MAILING DEPARTMENT:-

The Postal Card Postmarking and Cancelling Machines, of Mr. Thomas Leavitt, of Boston, Mass., has been thoroughly tested in this office, and I have to report that it serves its purpose excellently; it prints clearly and cancels every card perfect, is easily operated, and works rapidly. This machine, in my opinion, would be a valuable acquisition to any office where Postal Cards are received in large quantities.

(Signed) Wm. H. Wareing,
Asst. Gen. Supt.

Approved,
Thos. L. James, Postmaster

POST OFFICE, NEW YORK, N.Y.
December 20th, 1878

MAILING DEPARTMENT:-

The two Postal Card Stamping Machines in use in this office, are giving good satisfaction, and are labor saving machines.

(Signed) Chas. L. Steele, Supt.

Approved,
Thos. L. James, Postmaster

POST OFFICE, NEW YORK, N.Y.
November 14th, 1879

They know at the Post Office Department, in Washington, what I think of your machines.
I wish to retain those now in use in this office.

Thos. L. James, Postmaster

POST OFFICE, ST. LOUIS, MO.
September 12th, 1879

DIVISION of DISTRIBUTION and DESPATCH of MAILS:-

The Leavitt Postal Card Postmarking and Cancelling Machine, left on trial at this Office, has given entire satisfaction, and is in better running order at present date than when first placed here on trial.

(Signed) John B. Harlow, Supt.

POST OFFICE, ST. LOUIS, MO.
November 8th, 1879

The Leavitt Machine, for Postmarking and Cancelling Postal Cards, having been on trial at this office since last July, has become almost indispensable; doing the work of two energetic men, and making the Postmark certain and perfect.

Last month this Office sold over 700,000 Postal Cards. Most of those deposited for mailing are brought into the Office a short time before the closing of the mails, and if we had not the Machine a great many of them would have to remain over until the next morning.

I wish to retain the Machine in this Office.

(Signed) Samuel Hays, Postmaster

POST OFFICE, LOUISVILLE, KY.
November 11th, 1879

The Leavitt Postmarking and Cancelling Machine has been constantly used at this Office for several months, and has given entire satisfaction. It is a great labor-saver, and does its work with great rapidity. We regard it as a necessity, and request that it be furnished us for permanent use.

(Signed) Virginia C. Thompson, P.M.

(POST OFFICE) INDIANAPOLIS, IND.

November 10th, 1879

We have had the Leavitt Postmarking and Cancelling Machine in operation in this Office for several months. It has done all that was claimed for by its inventor, and I now request the Department to furnish this Office with one for its permanent use.

(Signed) W.R. Holloway,

Postmaster

POST OFFICE, ALBANY, N.Y.

December 4th, 1879

The Leavitt Postmarking and Cancelling Machine left with this Office about six weeks ago, we have used continuously since then, and find that it performs the work for which it is intended, in an unexceptionable manner, and is in as good order as the day it was left here. The rapidity and neatness with which it works make it very desirable; I may say a necessity, in all large Offices.

(Signed) William H. Craig, Postmaster

POST OFFICE, PHILADELPHIA, PA.

September 24th, 1879

We have had one of the Leavitt Postal Card Machines in use in this Office for more than three months. It has worked satisfactorily in every respect, and we regard it as a necessity to every large Office.

December 4th, 1879

After a thorough trial of the Leavitt Machine, for Postmarking and Cancelling Postal Cards, I am able to speak most highly of its merits. It is the best invention of the kind we have ever had, and this Office could not well do without it.

We can keep two of the Machines in constant use, and I have requested that they may be furnished for the use of this Office as soon as possible.

(Signed) J.F. Hartranft, Postmaster

POST OFFICE, NASHVILLE, TENN.

November 29th, 1879

This Office has had one of the Leavitt Postal Card Cancelling Machines for some time. It has proven both useful, ornamental, and convenient. If the Post Office Department determines to buy these Cancellers I would like to have one.

(Signed) W. P. Jones, Postmaster

POST OFFICE, PITTSBURGH, PA.
December 11th, 1879

The Leavitt Postal Card Machine has been in constant use in this Office for the past two months. It does good work and gives entire satisfaction. I am satisfied it is just the thing for large offices, and do not hesitate to recommend it.

(Signed) Geo. H. Anderson, Postmaster

POST OFFICE, BALTIMORE, MD.
June 5th, 1879

The Leavitt Postal Card Cancelling Machine placed in this Office some months ago on trial, is eminently satisfactory in its working and I do not know how we now could get along without it. It runs very smoothly, needs no repairs, and no matter how great the amount of labor required of it, the same is very quickly and neatly rendered, and it is easily managed.

(Signed) R.E. Boyd, Chief Clerk.

(POST OFFICE, BALTIMORE, MD.)
November 14th, 1879

The Leavitt Postmarking and Cancelling Machine has been in this Office since March 1st, 1879. It has cancelled 10,000 Postal Cards every day, and performed the work eminently satisfactory. It greatly facilitates the labor of this Office, and I have asked for authority to purchase the same.

(Signed) E. B. Tyler, Postmaster

POST OFFICE, CHICAGO, ILL
November 6th, 1879

MAILING DIVISION:-

The Leavitt Postal Card Postmarking and Cancelling Machine has been in use at this Office since June 15th, 1879, and during this period the Machine has performed its work in a most satisfactory manner.

I regard the Machine as an indispensable auxiliary to the clerical force at the Stamp table, and likewise more economical for the Post Office Department than hand-work.

I heartily endorse its adoption and use, and would respectfully recommend that two of the Machines be placed in this Office.

(Signed) M. J. McGrath, Supt.

The foregoing recommendation is approved.

(Signed) F. W. Palmer, Postmaster

POST OFFICE, DETROIT, MICH.
December 26th, 1879

The Leavitt Postal Card Cancelling Machine which has been in use in this office some eight weeks, performs its work in a perfect manner. I consider this machine a valuable acquisition to all the larger offices.

(Signed) Geo. C. Codd, Postmaster

POST OFFICE, BUFFALO, N.Y.
December 11th, 1879

The Leavitt Postal Card Cancelling Machine left in this Office about two months ago, has been freely made use of each day since that time; has worked to our entire satisfaction, and is still in good order.

I recommend the Machine in the strongest terms, for use in any large office.

(Signed) Jno. M. Bedford, Postmaster

POST OFFICE, CLEVELAND, OHIO
December 4th, 1879

The Leavitt Postmarking Machine, which has been in this Office for seven or eight weeks past, is in perfect order and doing excellent service. It is regarded here with great favor, being especially valuable as an economizer of time and labor. Its operation is in the highest degree successful, meeting efficiently every requirement. To the large offices it cannot fail to provide an invaluable acquisition.

(Signed) N.B. Sherwin, Postmaster

POST OFFICE, BROOKLYN, N.Y.
November 21st, 1879

In the month of July last, Mr. Thomas Leavitt placed one of his Postmarking and Cancelling Machines in this Office for trial. It has been in constant use ever since, and has proved itself a very useful adjunct to our service, enabling us many times to get out Postal Cards with much greater promptness than would have been possible by the hand process. The Machine has remained in good order during the whole time, seems simple in its construction, and likely to remain serviceable for a long time. I have asked for permission to purchase this Machine for the permanent use of the Office.

(Signed) James McLeer, Postmaster

machines . . . provided that in the event of a purchase the price of each machine shall not exceed the sum of eight hundred dollars."

The increase in appropriation was based on an evaluation report prepared in 1882 by D. M. Rhodes, Superintendent of the Blank and Stamp Agency and addressed to First Asst. Postmaster General James N. Tyner. The appropriation document has recently been discovered that sheds new light on the subject of the early machines and is shown in its entirety on pages 60-61.

The Superintendent reported that he had made a careful examination of the experimental use of the Leavitt machine in the Washington Post Office and from observation was of the opinion that it was well adopted for marking letters. The comments made by the various officials accords well with the Leavitt cancels in the author's collection. However, with any statement like this there are always exceptions to this type statement. Even the later high performance machines of the 19th century like American, Barry, Barr-Fyke, International and Pneumatic cancels, there are exceptions.

Are your Leavitt's clear, uniform, and perfectly registered ?

Perhaps not all but for this period in the 1870's and 1880's they may not register perfectly but we feel it was adequate for the time.

What we have noticed is that a great many of the Leavitt cancels are starved for ink leaving light impressions of the cancels. Readers of Machine Cancel Forum may recall the article we wrote and many excerpts we have presented here - asking ourselves the question "How successful were the Leavitt machines ?"

The article was intended to be provocative and to encourage readers to look at their Leavitt cancels from an unusual view point. Indeed look closely at the poor and mis-registered cancels rather than the perfect specimens. By the ensuing correspondence, we know a number of readers did indeed scrutinize their Leavitt Cancels. Thanks particularly to Joe McDonough of Ho Ho Kus, New Jersey, who checked over 600 specimens we now have data based on over 2000 specimens that reveal the following:

Quantity of Leavitt Cards

- 0 damaged.
- 1 mis-fed - no dial (see *Machine Cancel Forum* page 928.
- 2 with day slug inverted
- 5 with the year slug inverted.
- 1 with the month slug inverted.
- 1 with the month and time inverted.
- 49 showing the half hour 11:30 AM, 4.30 PM etc.
- 51 with offsets on the back of cards (only 3 with heavy ink). cancelled "AM"
- 30 indicating operator error (cards fed in wrong side first, upside down, etc.)
- 2000+ Cancelled "PM" of which significantly more than half are cancelled after normal working hours "5 PM" onwards, whereas of the 145 "AM" cancels only 37 are cancelled outside of normal working hours.

Dayton appears to have been the only town to have used the Leavitt machine for routine backstamping duties (marking inbound postal cards).

As Joe McDonough suggested, the high incidence of using the machine outside normal office hours could explain why Mr. Hey may not have seen the machines in operation if he

had visited the Post Offices during normal working hours.

While the foregoing statistic may be of interest to the collector and indeed may cause "AM" Leavitts to jump in price, it also suggests that if two of the three basic defects the machines were supposed to have had in the

early 1880's were not as severe as suggested by Henry Waite who financed their construction.

We are presenting herewith some of the high points in The House of Representatives Report No. 928 that shed new light on the subject of the Leavitt machine.

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES REPORT NO. 928

**The Leavitt Letter-cancelling And Postmarking Machine
(April 4, 1882)**

REPORT:

"The Committee on the Post-Office and Post-Roads, having had under consideration the bill (H. R. 2811) 'authorizing the Postmaster-General to purchase and adopt the Leavitt letter-cancelling and post-marking machines,' report as follows:

The bill (H. R. 2811) appropriates twenty-five thousand (\$25,000.) dollars, to be placed to the credit of the Post-Office Department ... by purchase, lease, or otherwise ... of the Leavitt letter-cancelling and post-marking machine.

... (a) report by D. M. Rhodes, Superintendent of the Blank and Stamp Agency, dated February 23, 1882, and addressed to Hon. James N. Tyner, First Asst. Postmaster-General. Mr. Rhodes reports that he made a tolerably careful examination of the experimental use of said machine in the post-office in this city (Washington) and from observations he was of the opinion that it was well adapted for marking and cancelling postal cards and letters (Leavitt Type X experimental machine) of the usual and of the exceptional rates, with a rapidity and completeness not equaled hitherto by any device or practice known to the postal service. He reports that one of the machines may be employed to perform the service of several clerks in post-marking letters and cancelling stamps simultaneously for out-going mails in large offices . . .

The Superintendent of mails, who operates the machine in the post-office of Washington City, says under date of February 15th (1881):

'The machine for post-marking and cancelling letters and circulars, which has been operated in this office for the past ten days, works with rapidity and ease, makes little noise, and produces very clear impressions. Its range is capable of various sizes and thickness; and for routine work, especially at large commercial centers, its merits recommend it as a useful and valuable acquisition. For postal cards it is superior to the machine specially made for that purpose.'

House of Representatives Report No. 928 - 47th Congress
The Leavitt Letter Cancelling and Postmarking Machine

superior to the machine specially made for that purpose.'

This opinion is approved by the postmaster of Washington City, and may be regarded as impartial and explicit.

'that the machine has been for a long time operated in this office. (since early 1881) That it is automatic in action, carry mixed letters of different sizes and thickness with great rapidity, making a perfect impression, and is capable of performing work at the table. The capacity for improving the character of the impression and for labor-saving makes it a valuable acquisition.'

William L. Burt, for ten years postmaster at Boston, states, under date of February 15th,

"that while in this office the inventor (Leavitt) developed this machine; that he has made it a great success, and with it is able to do for the department by machinery what can only be done by hands, at cost of great and very imperfect results.'

Mr. Rhodes ... recommends the adoption of the machine to be used at offices of State capitals and great commercial cities... officials who are experts ... believe by adopting it the Post Office Department would lessen, rather than increase, the expense of the department . ."

House of Representatives Report No.928 - 47th Congress
The Leavitt Letter-cancelling and Postmarking Machine

Wow!... what a glowing tribute for this Leavitt machine but what Leavitt machine are they speaking of ?

about February 5th in the Washington City Post Office. What are the earliest dates known for different types of Leavitt cancels ?

The clues are few but the testimony indicates the Leavitt machine was installed

CITY	TYPE	EARLIEST REPORTED	MACHINE REFERRED TO
WASHINGTON CITY	B	November 18, 1879	No
	C	March 31, 1882	No
	CT	November 16, 1885	No
	X1-I	February 8, 1881	Probably
	X1-II	October 29, 1881	No
	X1-III	Nov 27, 1881	No

The only possible machine that was described in the House of Representative Report No.928 would be the Leavitt machine that Mr. Rhodes describes as ...

"well adapted for marking and cancelling postal cards and letters" and he continues by saying ... "For postal cards it is superior to the machines specially made for that purpose."

With the statements and dates mentioned, the only logical conclusion would be the "February 15th" date quoted and "has been operated in this office for the past ten days" leaves us with an approximate date of February 5th. This accords well with the earliest reported use of the Type X1-I Washington cancel dated February 8, 1881!!

Our premise means the House of Representative Report No.928 is mis-leading. When reading the report, it leads one to believe the machine was tested in 1882 and not the actual date of 1881.

From the foregoing, one would come rapidly to the conclusion that the Leavitt series

of machines - from the earliest model to the experimental letter cancelling machine of 1881/82 - were a highly desirable acquisition, just what the Post Office needed in many of its offices.

But today - more than a 100 years after the event, we know that despite the strong recommendation and the large financial appropriation for Leavitt machines, large numbers of machines were not installed - quite the reverse in fact, the number of machines apparently in use in 1880 gradually dwindled to zero over the following decade.

And the comments made by various officials doesn't seem to accord well with the evidence of the known Leavitt cancels.

Whatever the shortcomings of the machines, Waite opted not to spend any more development time or dollars on them once Howard had perfected the marking mechanism and Ethridge had arrived on the scene with an improved 'drop' feed system (Reference 1).

Post Office Department.
Office of Third Ass't Postmaster General.
Division of Dead Letters.
Official Business.

A penalty of \$300 is fixed by law, for using this
Envelope for other than Official Business.



*Mr. J. A. Shepard
New Haven
Connecticut
St. Y.*

Courtesy of Louis Geschwindner

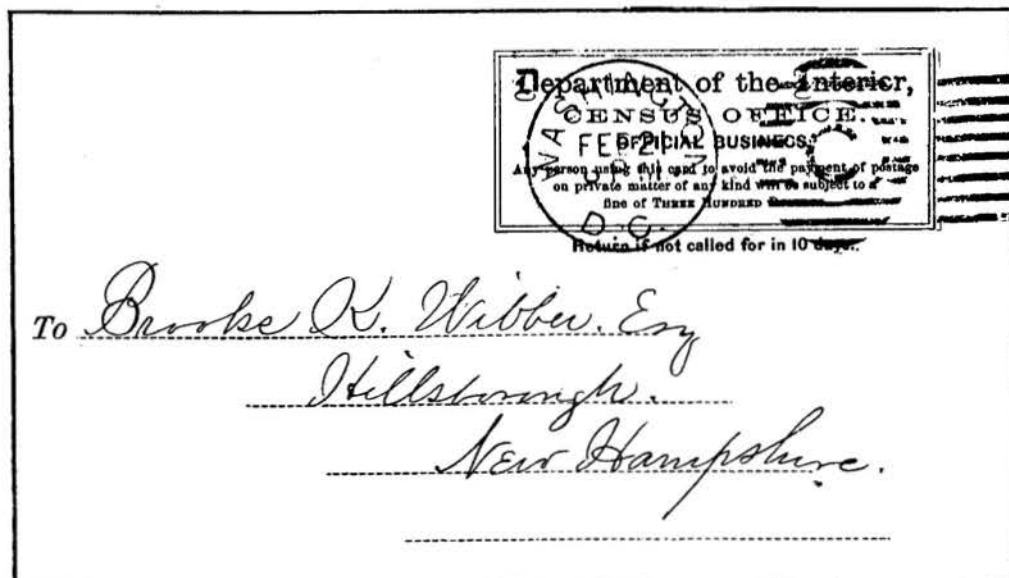
TYPE X1 DIE I

February 8(1881)

WASHINGTON, D. C.

The earliest Group X machine used in Washington was developed by Howard
and Leavitt for cancelling letters and cards by use of a needle feed system.

Cards were discontinued very quickly.



TYPE X1 DIE I

February 21, 1881

WASHINGTON, D. C.

Penalty and Postal Cards are known from the first trial but were shortly
thereafter discontinued because of the hard card stock causing the needles to
bend or to break.

But again on the evidence of one's collection, can we agree with Mr. Waite ? My cards are not inked on the back. I have yet to come across any postal cards that appear to have been damaged by passage through the machine, and I have found only one obvious example of mis-feeding with only a partial cancel. Waite certainly had a commercial interest in the Leavitt machine hence we have to respect his opinions.

A contemporary of his who also had a commercial interest - the success (or otherwise) of the machine for an entirely different reason was George Hey of Hey-Dolphin (International) fame. In the process of a lengthy litigation action between the International Postal Supply Co. and the American Postal Machines Co., Hey clearly expressed his opinion of the Leavitt machines.

In response to the question: "Do you know that prior to 1883, the Leavitt machine was used quite extensively in various large post offices throughout the United States?"

Hey replied: "I do not; but I know directly the contrary. It was tested in Baltimore and Washington - I mean the letter marking scheme, and was found to be a flat failure. And I know furthermore that a few of the postal cards machines were purchased by a special appropriation by Congress and that these few machines were distributed among the large cities like New York, Philadelphia, Washington, Baltimore, Chicago, and that these machines thrown aside for the reason that they would not operate successfully because they mutilated the postal cards, failed to mark them properly, and were generally inefficient. I saw those machines in three different offices, and at that time they had been relegated practically to the scrap heap; they were not in use and were not in condition for use, and were exhibited to me with the statement that they were flat failures and I

witnessed their operation and was informed that I ought to be able to appreciate the difficulty of a problem in which failure had resulted in attempting to make a machine to operate on uniform matter like postal cards, and that this was an easy proposition compared to making a machine that would operate on a miscellaneous mail."

When asked "who told you all these things?" Hey replied: "The Assistant Superintendent of Mails at New York; the Postmaster at Syracuse (sic); the official of the Post Office Department who had direct charge of the marking stamps in the Post Office Department; Mr. Dan Shepard, Deputy Postmaster of Chicago; the Superintendent of Mails of the City Post Office in Milwaukee (sic); and Mr. George Mott, who also told me about several machines that he had experience with as confidential clerk to Thomas L. James when he was Postmaster of the City of New York."

He (Mr. Hey) was then prodded to explain how he knew that the letter cancelling machine tested in Baltimore and Washington was found to be a 'flat failure'. He replied as follows: "I knew it in 1883 merely by hearsay and observation of the postal card machine and an inspection of the photographs of the letter machine which were shown to me in the Post Office Department in Washington. Later, I knew it was the result of my personal study of the subject and an examination of the Leavitt patents and from the evidence of Mr. Henry E. Waite and E.L. Howard and others. The said Howard having been my opponent in the interference of Howard vs. Hey; and furthermore from the fact that it is simply an impossibility to make a successful cancelling machine with a marking mechanism arranged so that the letters are fed with the broad or flat sides toward the printing couple. I personally conducted a long series of experiments in an endeavor to construct such a machine, and I

found that there is no possible way of guiding a letter into proper register; therefore I think I am safe in saying that I know the Leavitt letter machine was a flat failure; furthermore, I have carefully studied the construction of another cancelling machine known as the Löffelhardt, which was tested in New York and other cities and in which, although the letters were fed in the manner I described, there was an attempt made to provide a mechanism for squaring the letter before its engagement with the marking mechanism, but even that mechanism was not successful and that machine was also a flat failure."

Likewise he was asked how he knew that the Leavitt postal card machines in the New York, Philadelphia, Washington, Baltimore and Chicago Post Offices were "a flat failure." His reply was, "I saw the postal card machine which I have described in several of those of-

fices, and in each one of them found it was in disuse and in at least two of them saw an attempt made to operate the machines and was told in all of the offices that it was worse than useless for the purpose designed, and that it would not operate as rapidly and as unfailingly as the hand stamp, and that for the reason that no benefit was derived from its use, its use was discontinued."

George Hey's testimony was, of course, all hearsay and although he could have produced witnesses to substantiate these (and other claims) he elected not to. Thus it is difficult to really decide whether the machines were the boon to mankind as suggested by official Post Office Department records or the near disaster suggested by Hey.

What do you think ? What do your Leavitt cancels suggest to you ? Are they the product of successful machines ? Your opinions would be welcome by the authors.

REFERENCES:

1. American Machine Cancels - the History, Machinery and Postal Markings of the American Postal Machines Co., by Reg Morris 1978.
2. Descriptive Catalog of the Leavitt Machine Cancellations. by Frank B. Stratton U.P.S.S. 1985.
3. Machine Commats of Boston, Mass. 1876-1886, by Fred G. Floyd, *Billig Handbook, Volumes XII and XIII*, 1950
4. Appropriation Act for 1881 (21 Stat 177).
5. Congressional Bill H.r.7243 - Introduced February 28, 1881.
6. House Bills: Hr 2811 January 16, 1882; Hr 5133 March 13, 1882.
7. Philatelic Journal of Great Britain, March 1978.
8. House of Representatives Report No.928 - 47th Congress - April 4, 1882.

CHAPTER IV

LEAVITT MACHINE CANCELLATIONS

This book is arranged so that it provides the maximum amount of information about each cancel and dial. For this reason, we urge the reader to read the illustration captions associated with the markings. They contain a wealth of postal history that goes beyond the text itself.

We will examine the development of each city's small, hand driven machine and their period of use. The machines were used in the larger cities between 1876 and 1892. They were the first to be continuously used over an extended period.

INTRODUCTION/SUMMARY

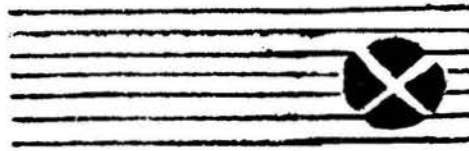
GROUP A(E)

PROTOTYPE EXPERIMENTALS.

Page 71

An experimental use known from Boston. Seven horizontal bars having one inset cork. Two copies reported for November 1875.

**BOSTON
MASS.
NOV. 15**



GROUP A

RECTILINEAR POSTMARKS.

Page 75

**BOSTON
MASS.
MAR. 7.76
11 A.M.**

Rectilinear postmark with three or four lines of type. Five types of cancellers were used. Known from Boston and New York between January 1876 and April 1878.

GROUP B

BARRED OVAL.

Page 103



A circular dial with the seven or eight barred oval canceller with a service letter C or D. One exception is a 13 horizontal bar canceller used in Norwalk, Ohio. There are 28 cities that used the type. Reported between March 1878 and September 1892.

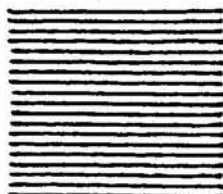
GROUP C - D

HORIZONTAL BAR TYPES.

Page 191



C - 12 or 14 bars, used only in Boston, Washington and Baltimore from March 1882 to April 1891.

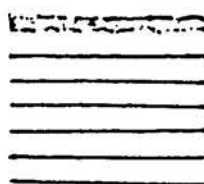


D - 18 or 19 bars, used only in Boston from February 1882 to August 1885.

GROUP CT

HORIZONTAL BAR TYPE.

Page 206



Six bars, Provisional type used briefly in two cities Washington and Indianapolis. Reported used between November 1885 and April 1886.

GROUP E

BARRED OVAL.

Page 221

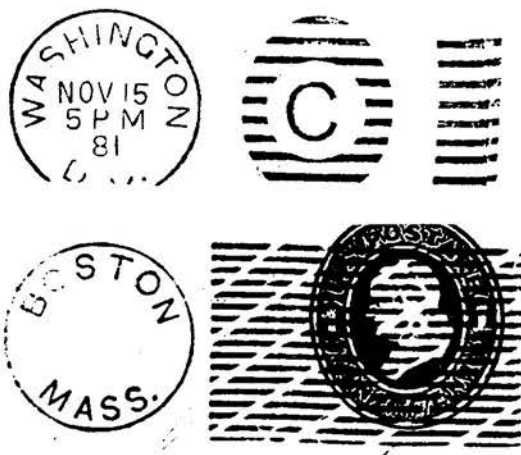


Circular dial and 8-bar oval canceller with service letter D. Used in Boston between August 1886 and July 1890.

GROUP X

EXPERIMENTAL LETTER MACHINE.

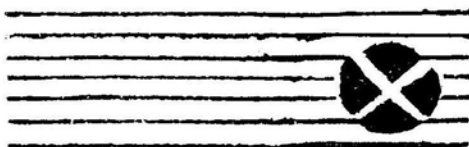
Page 229



Letters with five different Sub-Groups of needle marks. Needles were used for gripping the letters and pulling them into the cancelling cylinder. Used in five cities between 1881 and 1882.

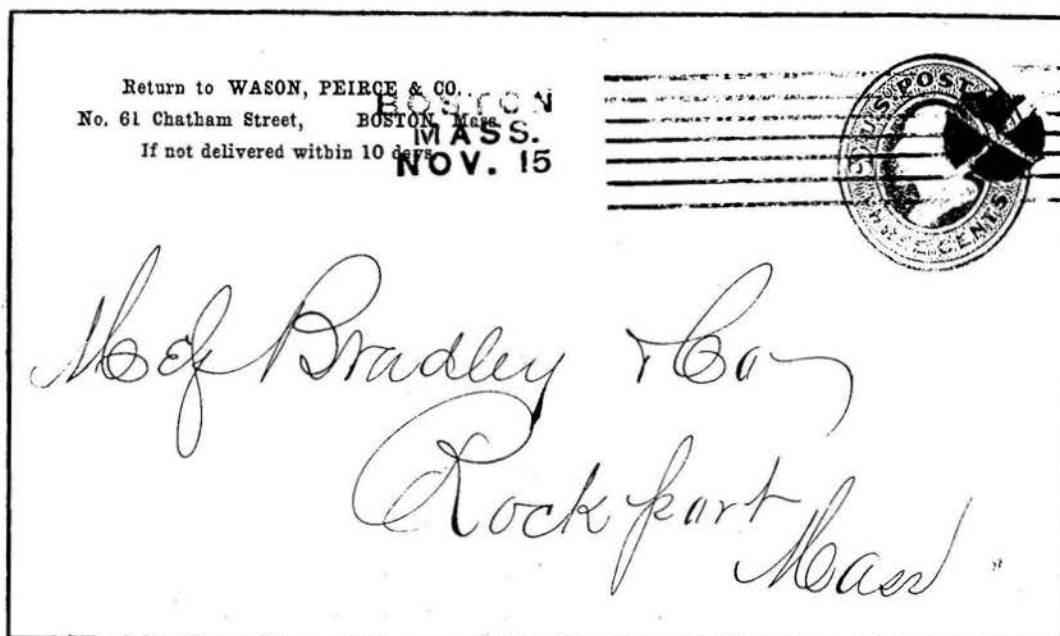
GROUP A(E)
PROTOTYPE EXPERIMENTALS
1875

BOSTON
MASS.
NOV. 15

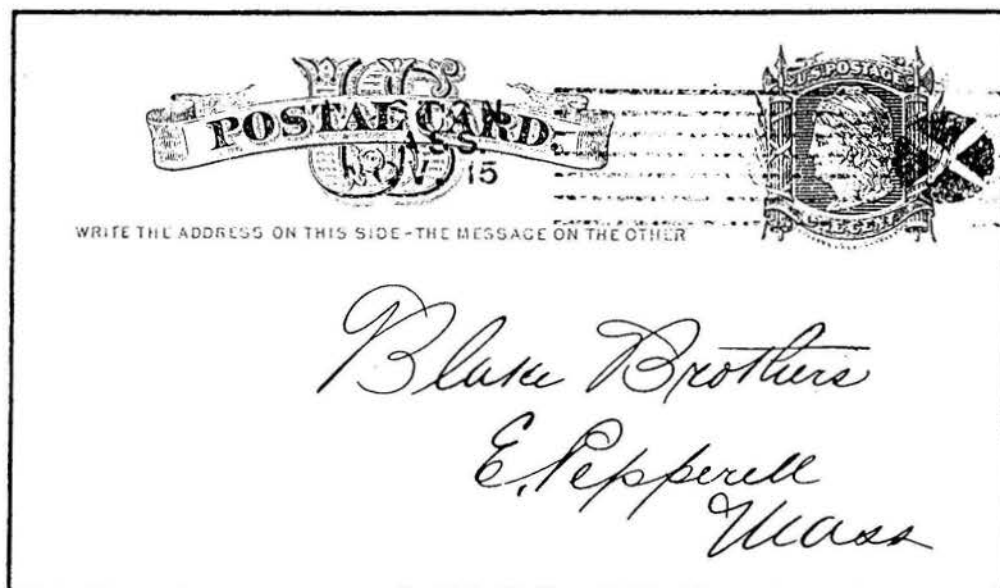


A prototype hand cranked rotary postmarking machine was developed by the Leavitt brothers and initially used in the Boston Post Office on November 15, 1875. Two specimens are known from this test with a rectilinear postmark and a seven horizontal bar canceller with one inserted cork showing a cross cut. The Type A-1(E) test cancels have no year date. It is our opinion and extracts from Leavitt patent 175,290 filed on September 23, 1875, that the test was conducted in 1875.

GROUP A(E)
 PROTOTYPE EXPERIMENTALS
 1875



TYPE A-1(E) November 15 (1875) BOSTON, MASS.
courtesy of Robert Patkin
 Only known use of the Leavitt prototype cancel on cover. The cancelling die has a three line rectilinear postmark; a seven horizontal bar canceller showing one 13 mm. cross cut cork; seven-bar height is 18 mm. and no year date in cancel.



TYPE A-1(E) November 15 (1875) BOSTON, MASS.
courtesy of Joe McDonough
 This is the only known use from the test on a postal card from Leavitt's experimental machine in the Boston Post Office.

**GROUP A
RECTILINEAR POSTMARKS
1876 - 1878**

**BOSTON
MASS.
MAR. 7.76
11 A.M.**

BOSTON
GROUP A
RECTILINEAR POSTMARKS
1876 - 1878

Their next machine was also a hand cranked rotary postmarking machine that could cancel both letters and cards that were hand fed one at a time against a guide plate. Operating this new and revolutionary device was a slow process and about as fast as hand cancelling.

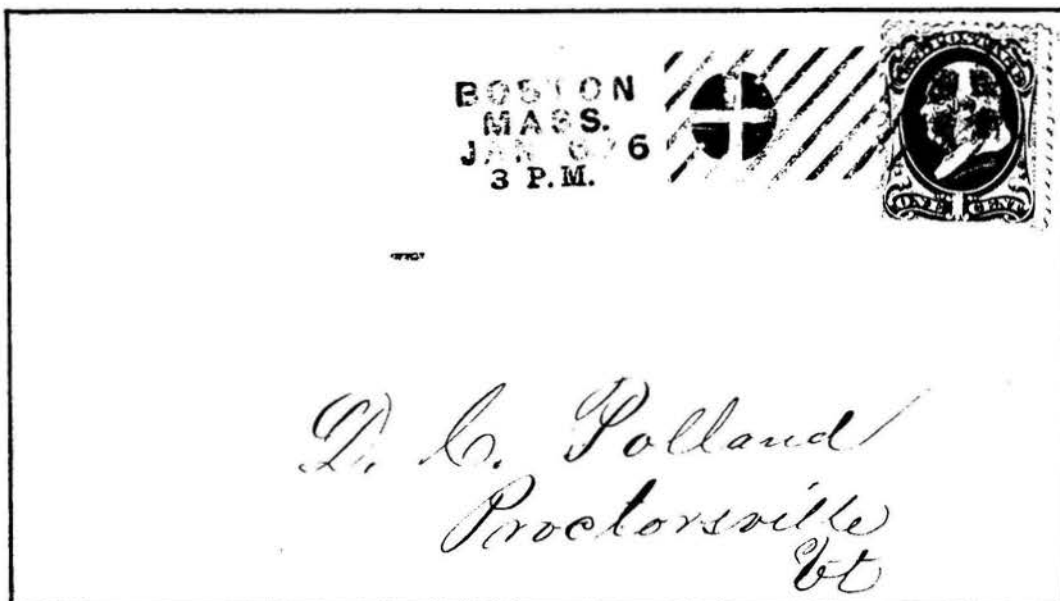
The second trial commenced January 6, 1876 in the Boston Post Office but not considered a success. It did show possibilities. Cancels from this first extended trial are designated Type A-1.

**BOSTON
MASS.**

POSTMARK
DIE I

Die I postmarks show BOSTON on the first line and MASS. on the 2nd line. A period is .5 mm. from the "S" in MASS. The third and fourth lines have movable type. Randomly used were 2.0 mm. spacer bars above and below the postmark. The height of the postmark without spacer bars is 14.0 mm. The height of the postmark with one spacer bar is 16.0 mm. or 18.0 mm. with two.

This postmark is designated as Die I as it was also used in the activities described on page 83, which involved a Die II for the Boston postmark.



TYPE A-1

January 6, 1876

BOSTON, MASS.

The earliest reported date for Boston's Type A-1 cancels.

BOSTON
GROUP A - CANCELS
1876 - 1878

The canceller used in the Type A-1 cancelling die was engraved on a steel plate having 14 oblique bars sloping down from right to left. The bars are 1.0 mm. thick and milled 2.5 mm. apart.

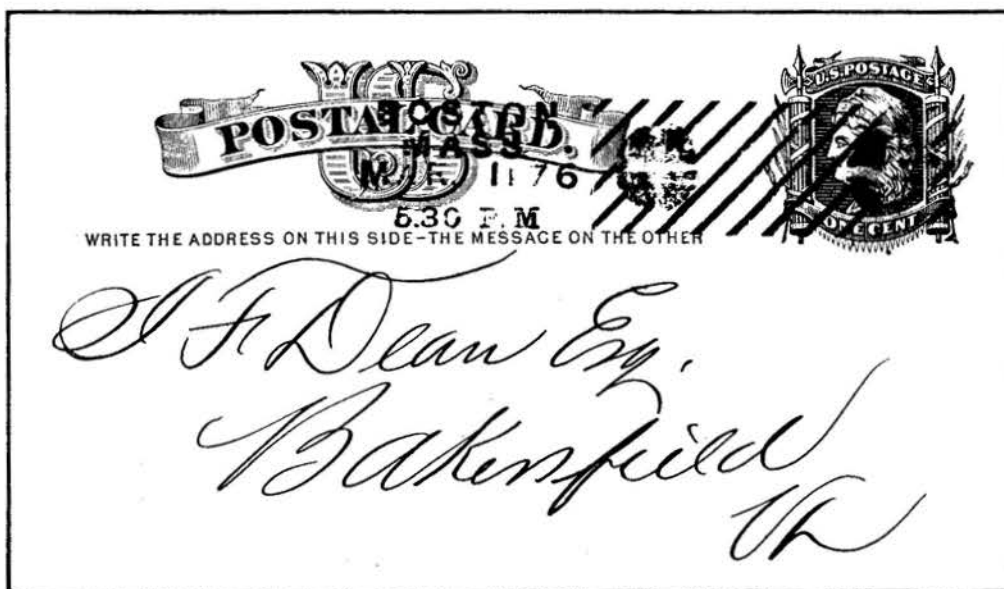
Two 10.0 mm. holes were drilled in the steel plate approximately 8.0 mm. over from each end. Two small, round 10.0 mm. corks were inserted, one in each drilled hole having a cross cut on each face. The method for

securing the corks securely in the steel plate has yet to be determined. The overall length of the canceller die is 47.0 mm. with a height of 17.0 mm.

In five months of sporadic use, only one cancelling die was used in the Type A-1 cancels. However, from known copies more than one set of corks were used in the canceller.



Canceller
TYPE A-1



TYPE A-1

March 11, 1876

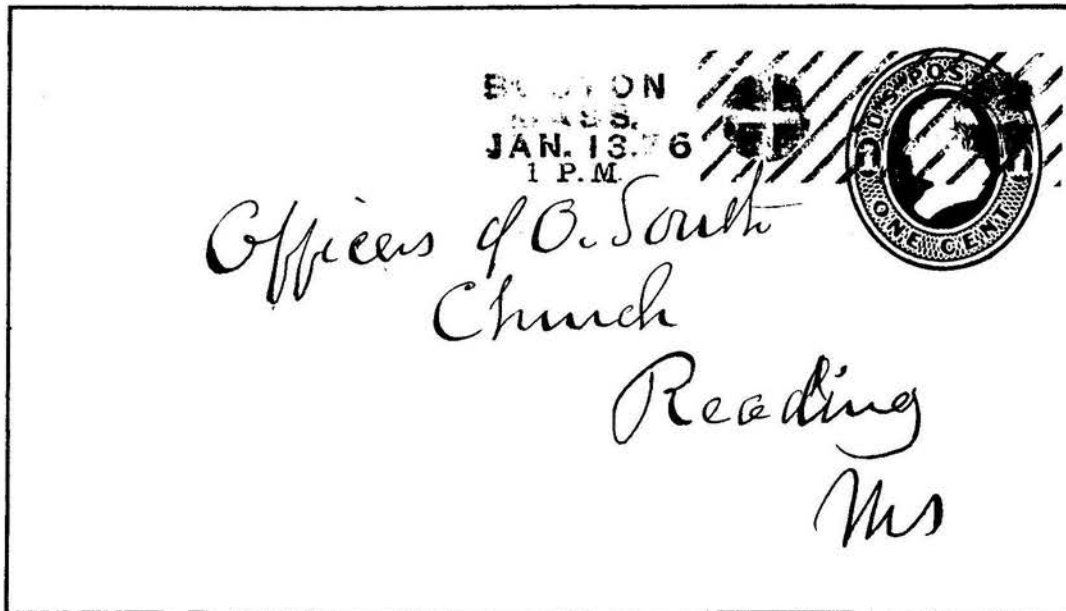
BOSTON, MASS.

This example is the latest known use on a postal card.

The cancelling die used in the Leavitt experimental machine was designed specifically to cancel two stamps on a letter. However, only two examples have been reported having more than one adhesive stamp.

We are not sure if the machine was designed to exclusively cancel letters or to cancel both letters and cards. The machine was used to cancel postal cards during the first five weeks in the Boston Post Office but these are extremely scarce.

BOSTON
GROUP A - CANCELS
1876 - 1878

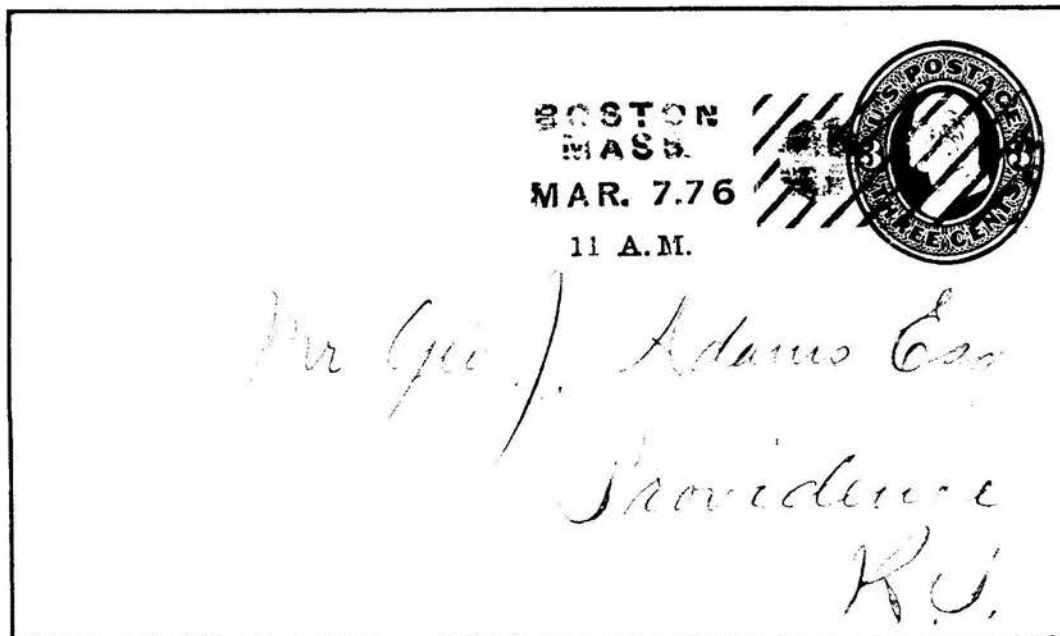


TYPE A-1

January 13, 1876

BOSTON, MASS.

An interesting Type A-1 Leavitt cancel showing 3rd Class use but also with the time and day on an unsealed letter.



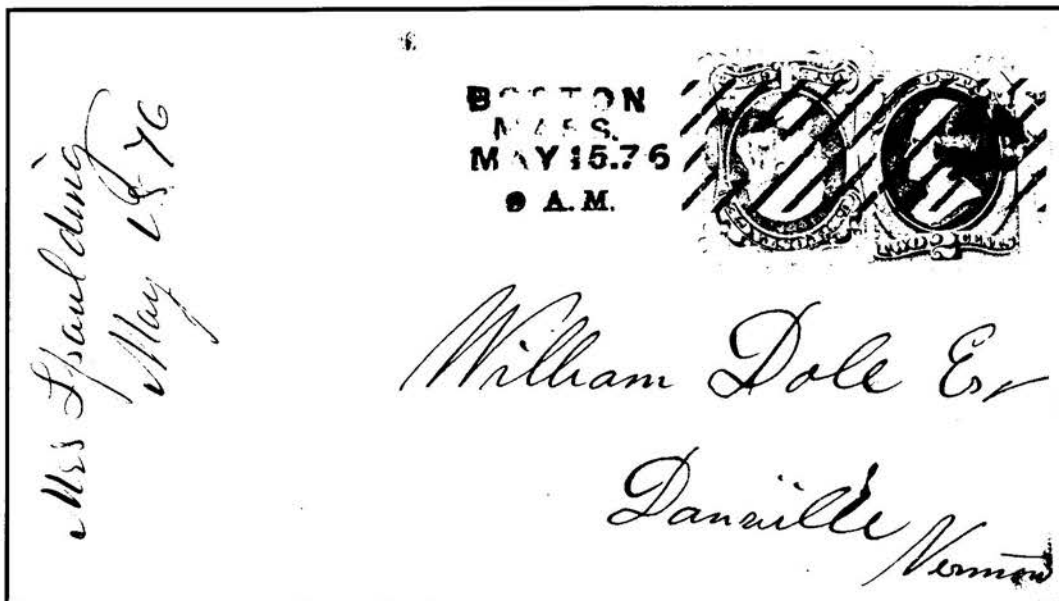
TYPE A-1

March 7, 1876

BOSTON, MASS.

Note the space under "MASS." and under "MAR. 7.76" which indicates that 2.0 mm. spacers were used in the postmark. In the uppermost Type A-1 cancel, no spacers were used.

BOSTON
GROUP A - CANCELS
1876 - 1878

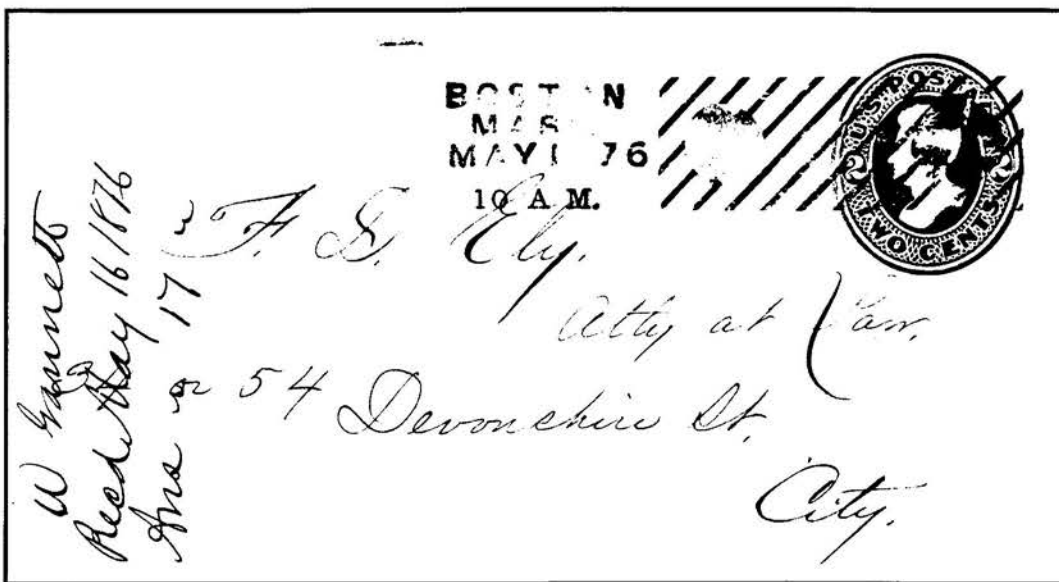


TYPE A-1

May 15, 1876

BOSTON, MASS.

The 14 oblique bar canceller that housed two small corks was specifically designed by Leavitt so the new rotary postmarking machine was capable of cancelling two stamps. Two examples have been reported.



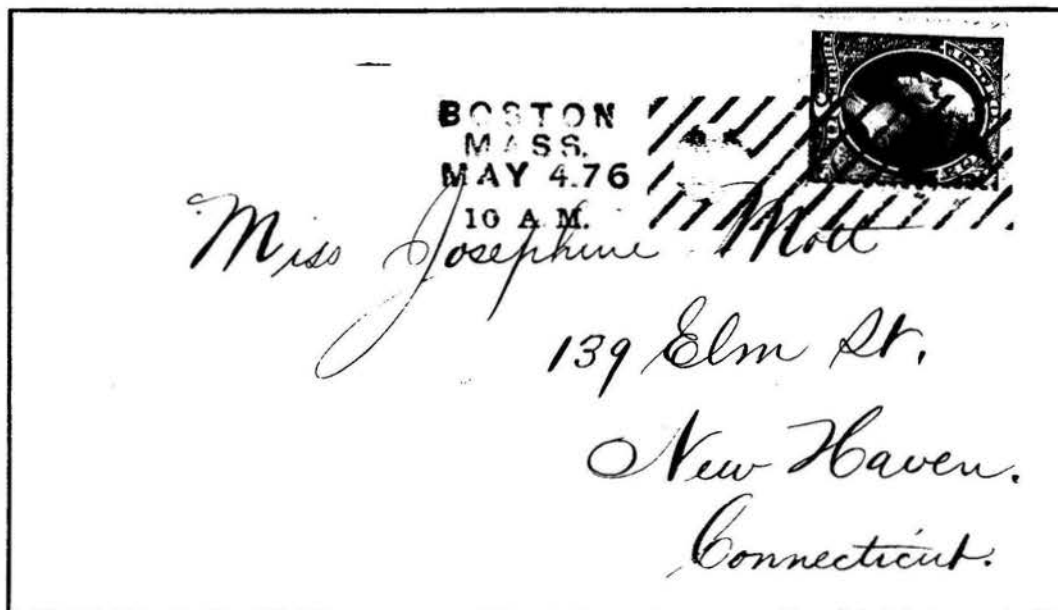
TYPE A-1

May 16, 1876

BOSTON, MASS.

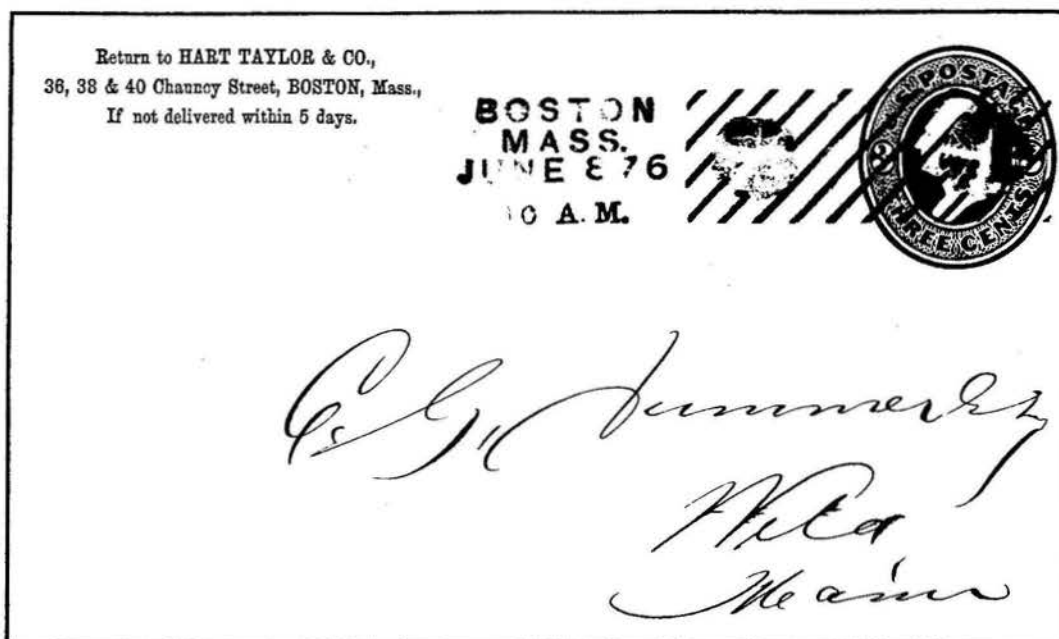
The two cent vermilion envelope was issued primarily for the local letter rate. The locally addressed letter is the only known A-1 cancel showing a two cent letter rate.

BOSTON
GROUP A - CANCELS
1876 - 1878



TYPE A-1 May 4, 1876 BOSTON, MASS.

Slightly above and 9 mm. to the left of the postmark an ink mark appears on some Type A-1 cancels. The mark was caused by the edge of the die retainer. Both cancels used a 2 mm. spacer bar under the date.



TYPE A-1 June 8, 1876 BOSTON, MASS.

The above cancel is from the latest known use of the Leavitt experimental machine with the Type A-1 cancelling die. After five months of sporadic use, this first operational cancelling machine used in Boston was no longer in use.

BOSTON
GROUP A - CANCELS
1876 - 1878

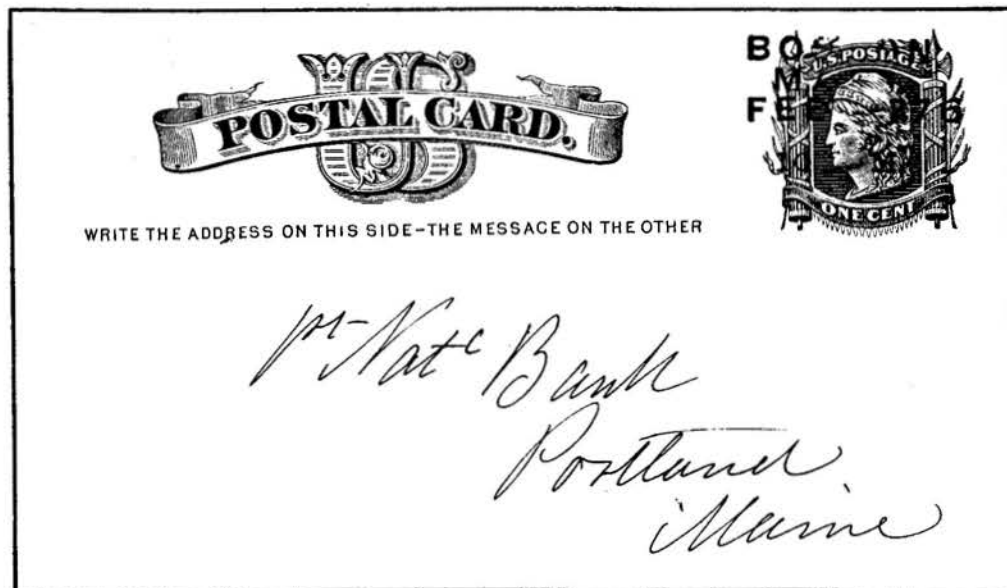
A new Leavitt rotary postmarking machine was installed in the Boston Post Office by early February 1876 while the Type A-1 machine was still in operation. A completely new cancelling die was designed for the exclusive use on postal cards. The machine had features that included a new stacking and feeding arrangement that allowed the operator more freedom.

Shortly after the installation of the new postal card machine, a brief test was conducted at 10 A.M. on February 2, 1876. Two specimens are known from this demonstration of the new machine using a new rectilinear postmark (Die I) but without a canceller die. One explanation for the Type A1-2 is the new shortened oblique 9-bar canceller had not arrived for the machine evaluation held February 2, 1876.

Postal cards from this February 2 test have been designated as Type A1-2 cancels. The distance between the right edge of the postmark and the card's edge is 7.0 mm. on one card and 8.0 mm. on the other. The normal distance between the postmark and the canceller bars is 3.0 mm. for Types A-1 and A-2 cancels. This does suggest the Type A1-2 was indeed used without a canceller.

Examining some of the Type A-1 cancels used in February 1876 and comparing them with the rectilinear postmarks used in the Type A1-2 test, it is our conclusion the two dies are different.

The new oblique 9-bar canceller die arrived shortly after the initial demonstration of the new machine in the Boston Post Office.



TYPE A1-2

February 2, 1876

BOSTON, MASS.

This unique style of cancel without the canceller was used in the first test of the new postal card machine. Two examples from this brief test in Boston are known.

BOSTON
GROUP A - CANCELS
1876 - 1878

The development of Leavitt's new machine raises some unanswered questions of the basic design of the postal card machine. If the machines configuration was based on a patent application dated April 17, 1876, this was ten weeks after the earliest use of the Leavitt's new machine and after the February 2, 1876, test. (patent #192519 was issued on June 26, 1877)

The Die I rectilinear postmark used in the February 2, 1876, test is the same postmark die used with Type A-2 cancels seven days later. The new, short oblique 7-bar canceller

designed for postal cards has a length of 23.0 mm. and a height of 17.5 mm.

The earliest reported use of the Die I rectilinear postmark with the new, short 9 oblique bar canceller is February 9, 1876. (its whereabouts today is unknown)

Two different rectilinear postmark dies were used in the Type A-2 cancelling die between February 9, 1876 and April 11, 1878. Shown here are the two dies: Note location of periods after "MASS" in the table below.

B O S T O N
M A S S .

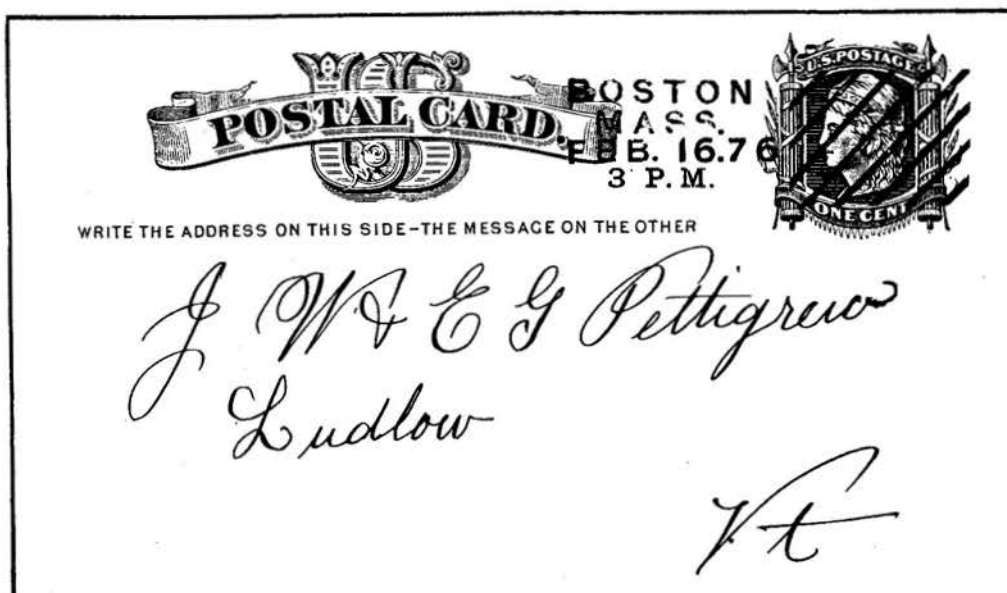
DIE I

B O S T O N
M A S S .

DIE II

DIE	DISTANCE FROM LAST "S" and "."	INK COLOR	KNOWN USAGE	
Ia	0.5 mm	Black	February 9, 1876 -	March 31, 1876
IIa	1.0 mm	Black	April 1, 1876 -	September 23, 1877
IIb	1.0 mm	Bluish-black	September 25, 1877 -	March 4, 1878
Ib	0.5 mm	Bluish-black	March 9, 1878 -	April 11, 1878

BOSTON
GROUP A - CANCELS
1876 - 1878

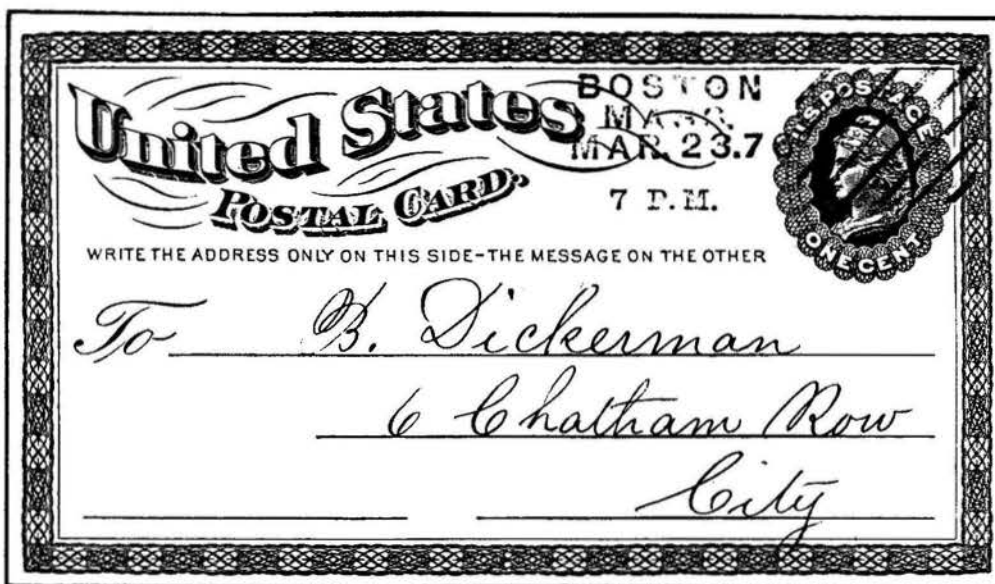


TYPE A-2 February 16, 1876 BOSTON, MASS.
This new Type A-2 cancel shows early use of a Die Ia.



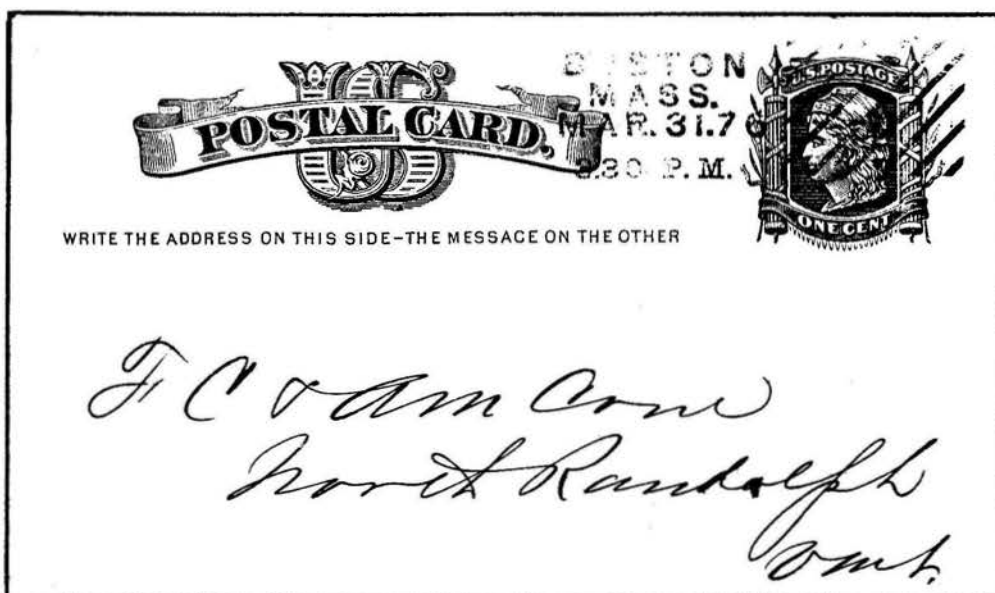
TYPE A-1 January 6, 1876 BOSTON, MASS.
The first American postal card (UPSS S-1) was issued on May 13, 1873, with a large watermark. Later, in July 1873, one cent Brown Liberty card was issued with a smaller watermark. This UPSS S-2 shows a rare combination; the first day of use for the Type A-1 cancel on America's first postal card!

BOSTON
GROUP A - CANCELS
1876 - 1878



TYPE A-2 March 23, 1876 BOSTON, MASS.

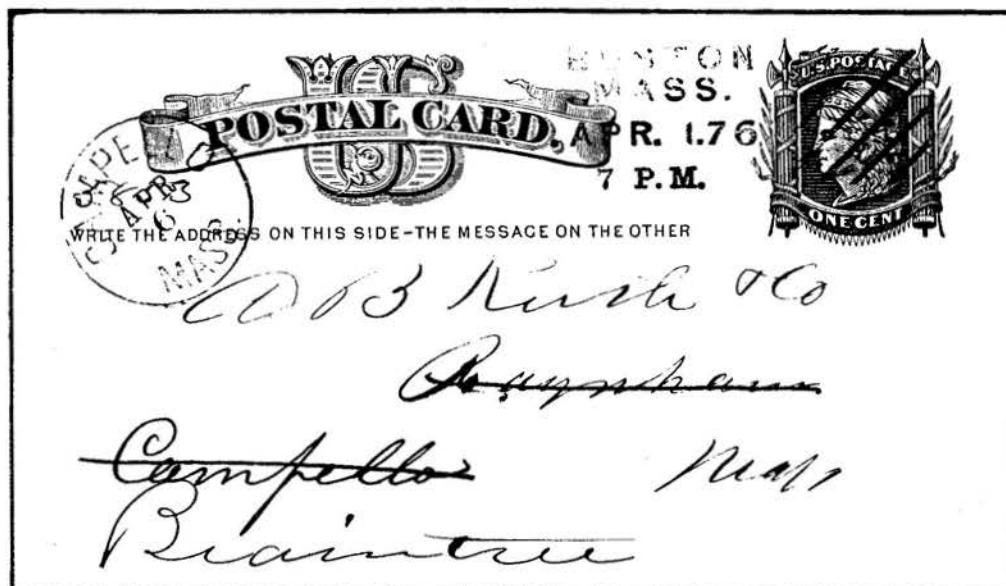
Leavitt cancels are not often seen on America's first postal card. Issued in 1873, both large and small watermark cards were replaced in 1875 by the card shown below.



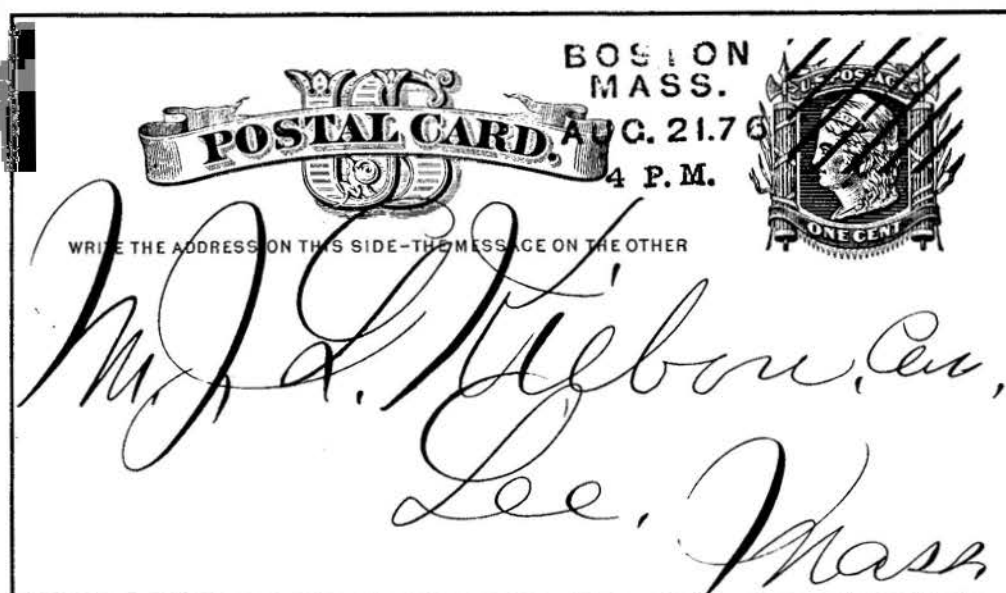
TYPE A-2 March 31, 1876 BOSTON, MASS.

Die 1a postmarks show use of black ink and a space of 0.5 mm. from the second "S" in "MASS" and the period. The Die 1a known used from February 9 to March 31, 1876. This Type A-2 is the latest known use for the Die 1a.

BOSTON
GROUP A - CANCELS
1876 - 1878

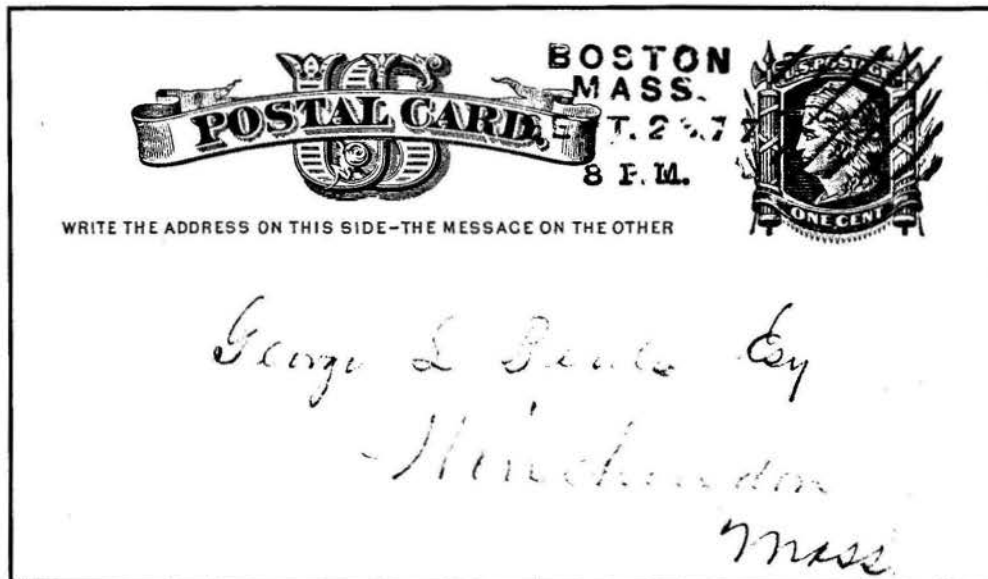


TYPE A-2 April 1, 1876 BOSTON, MASS.
Die IIa postmarks show the use of black ink but a space of 1 mm. between the second "S" in "MASS" and period. This example is the earliest reported use of the new Die IIa which was used from April 1, 1876 to September 23, 1877.

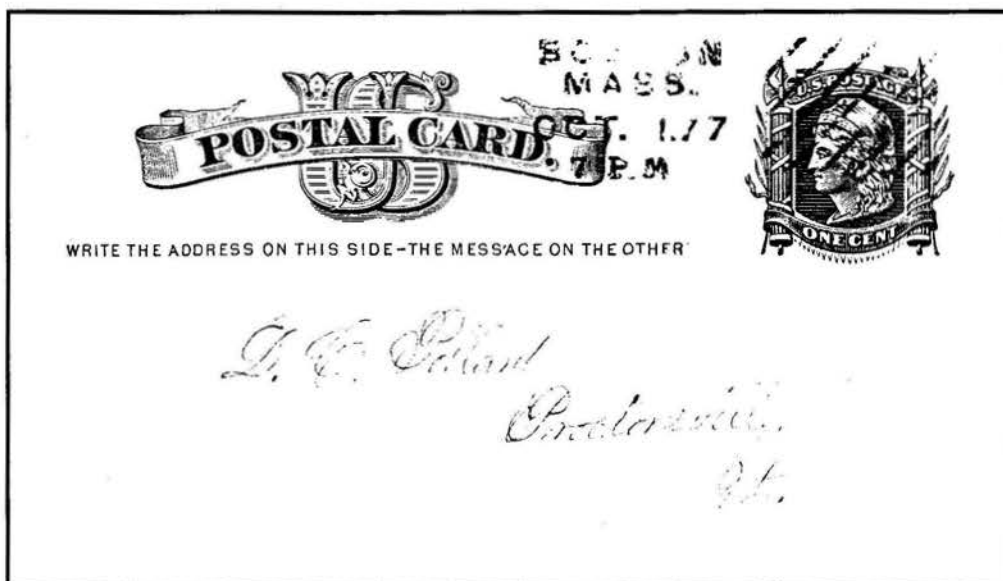


TYPE A-2 August 21, 1876 BOSTON, MASS.
Another example of a Die IIa postmark and the continued use of black ink. This oblique bar canceller shows it to be exceptional having nine complete and well inked bars.

BOSTON
GROUP A - CANCELS
1876 - 1878

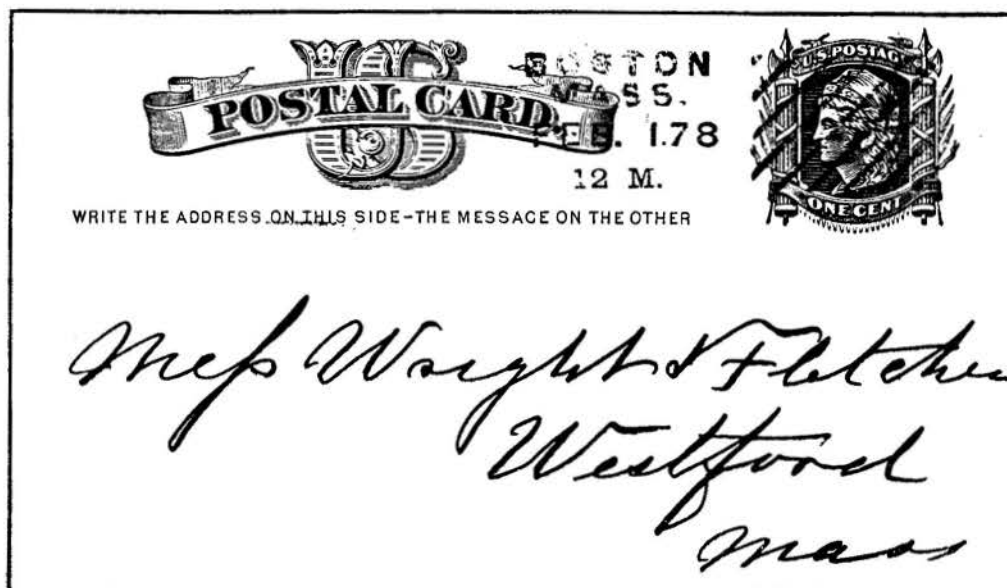


TYPE A-2 September 23, 1877 BOSTON, MASS.
This example of the Die IIa cancel is the latest known use for this variety with a black shade of ink. Poorly inked Type A-2 cancels are prevalent during this time.

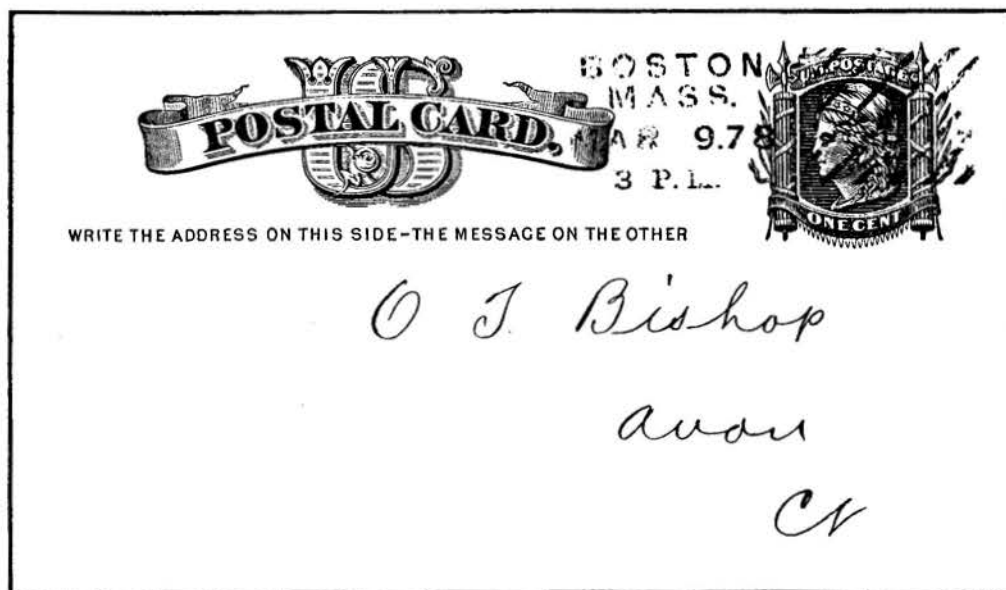


TYPE A-2 October 1, 1877 BOSTON, MASS.
This Die IIb cancel shows the ink has changed color to a bluish-black hue rather than the earlier black shade. This ink was in use September 25, 1877 to March 4, 1878.

BOSTON
GROUP A - CANCELS
1876 - 1878

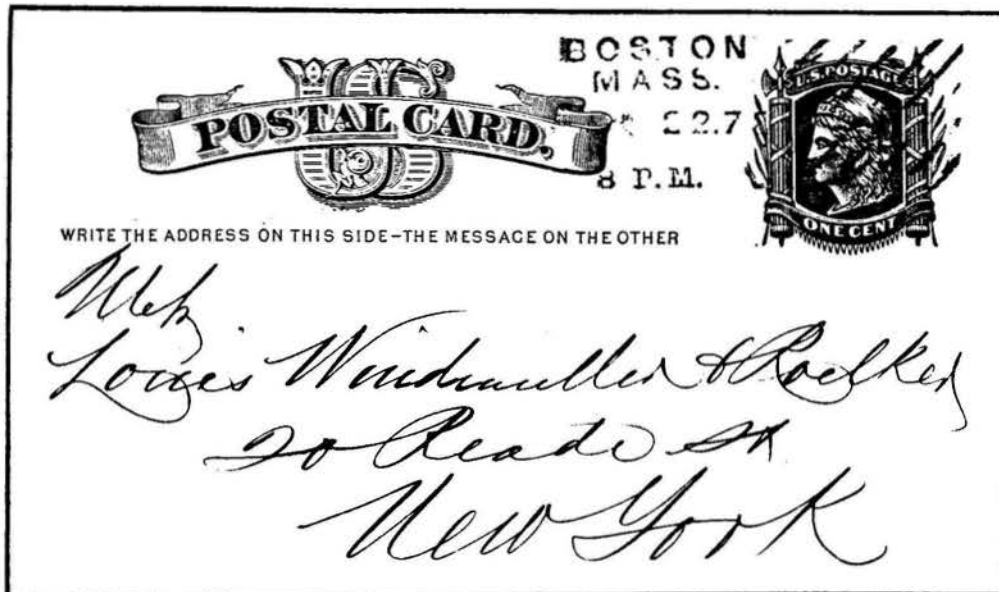


TYPE A-2 February 1, 1878 BOSTON, MASS.
Die IIb cancels with bluish-black ink continued to be used into 1878 with the latest use being March 4th. Complete and well inked cancels for 1878 are uncommon.



TYPE A-2 March 9, 1878 BOSTON, MASS.
This Die Ib with a .5 mm. space between the "S" of "MASS" and the period was back in service March 9, 1878. Cancels continue to show the bluish-black shade of ink. This cancel is the earliest reported use of the Die Ib.

BOSTON
GROUP A - CANCELS
1876 - 1878



TYPE A-2 March 22, 1878 BOSTON, MASS.

The cancel shows very late use of the Type A-2 Leavitt machine in Boston. Frank Stratton's 1985 catalog shows the latest date for this cancel as being April 11, 1878, but the latest date we have confirmed is March 23, 1878.

The new and improved Leavitt cancelling machine incorporated the Type 2 canceller designed with fewer diagonal bars because of the restriction in size for cancelling postal cards.

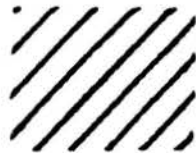
Three Type 2 canceller dies were cut and

milled from a steel bar. The finished dies have nine oblique bars with a 17.5 mm. height for the two Boston dies and the one New York die. The nine oblique bar canceller dies varied in length from 23.0 mm. for the Boston's two dies to a shorter 22.0 mm. for the New York die.

BOSTON
GROUP A - CANCELS
1876 - 1878

Identification points for the three canceller dies are seen here with the top left oblique bar

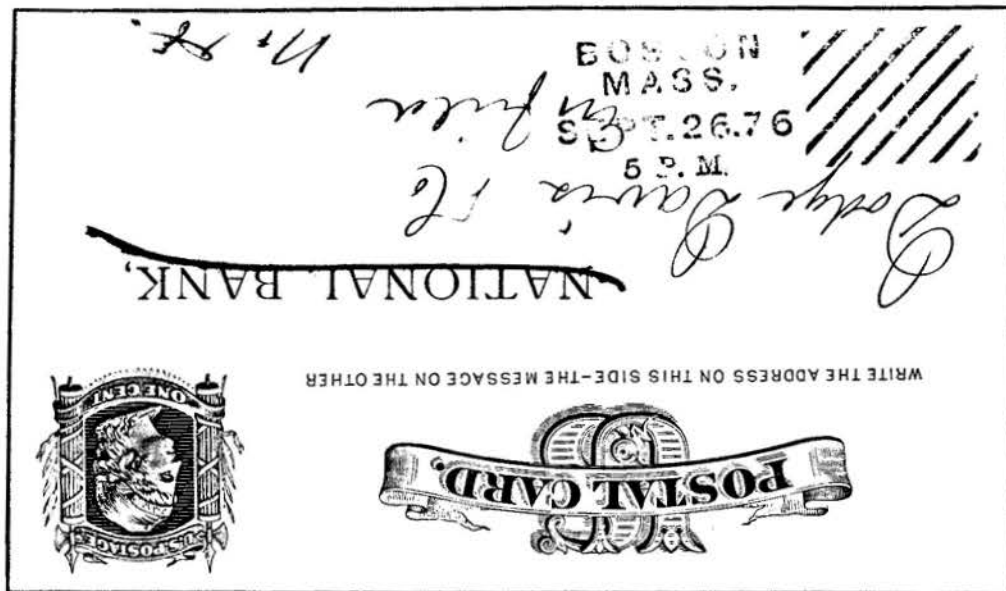
being the first bar:



TYPICAL
TYPE 2
CANCELLER

CANCELLER BAR LENGTHS (in millimeters) - READING DOWN FROM THE LEFT

CITY	DIE	1 st	2 nd	3 rd	4 th	5 th	6 th	7 th	8 th	9 th
BOSTON	I	0.5	7.0	14.0	21.0	25.0	25.0	18.5	12.0	6.0
BOSTON	II	1.0	8.0	15.0	23.0	25.5	22.5	16.5	9.5	3.5
NEW YORK	I	1.0	8.0	15.0	22.0	25.5	22.0	15.0	8.0	1.0



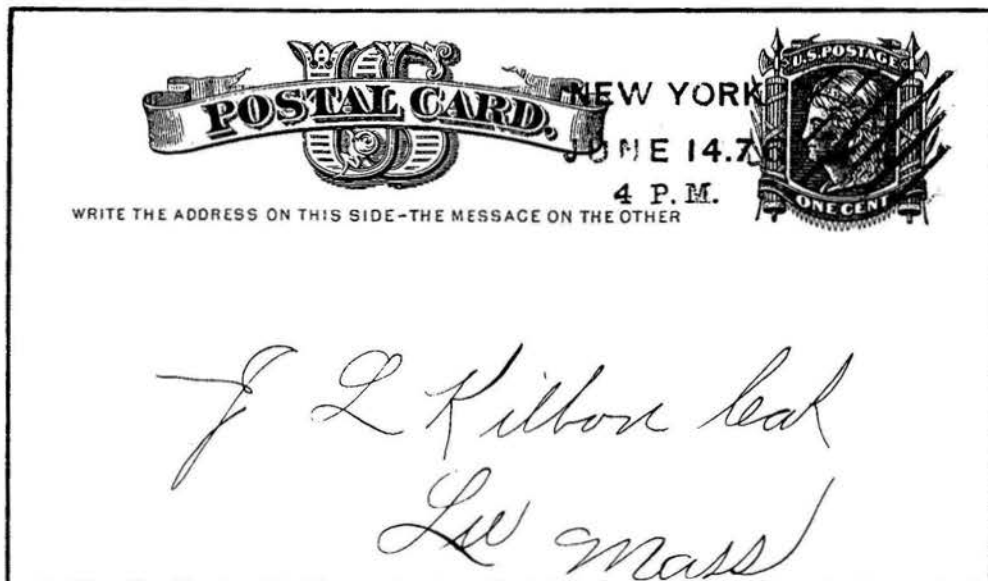
TYPE A-2

September 26, 1876

BOSTON, MASS.

These Type A-2 Boston cancels that show all nine oblique bars fully inked are scarce. The canceller is a Die II. Clerk facing error caused the inverted cancel.

NEW YORK
GROUP A - CANCELS
1876 - 1878



TYPE A-2 June 14, 1876 NEW YORK

The first Leavitt machine used in New York was in 1876 with a die similar to the ones used in Boston cancels. The first Leavitt machine was used in New York on June 10, 1876, with the majority of the cancels known in June. The machine was sporadically used until October 7, 1876. In 1876, the New York Post Office was evaluating other cancelling machines. The intermittent use could be the result of several comparison tests with other machines.

TYPE A-2
CANCELLING DIES USED IN BOSTON and NEW YORK

CITY	POSTMARK CANCELLER			OBLIQUE		KNOWN USAGE
	DIE	DIE	WIDTH	BARS		
BOSTON	I	I	23 mm	9	February 9, 1876 - March 31, 1876	
BOSTON	II	II	23 mm.	9	April 1, 1876 - March 4, 1878	
BOSTON	I	I	23 mm.	9	March 9, 1878 - April 11, 1878	
NEW YORK	I	I	22 mm.	9	June 10, 1876 - October 7, 1876	

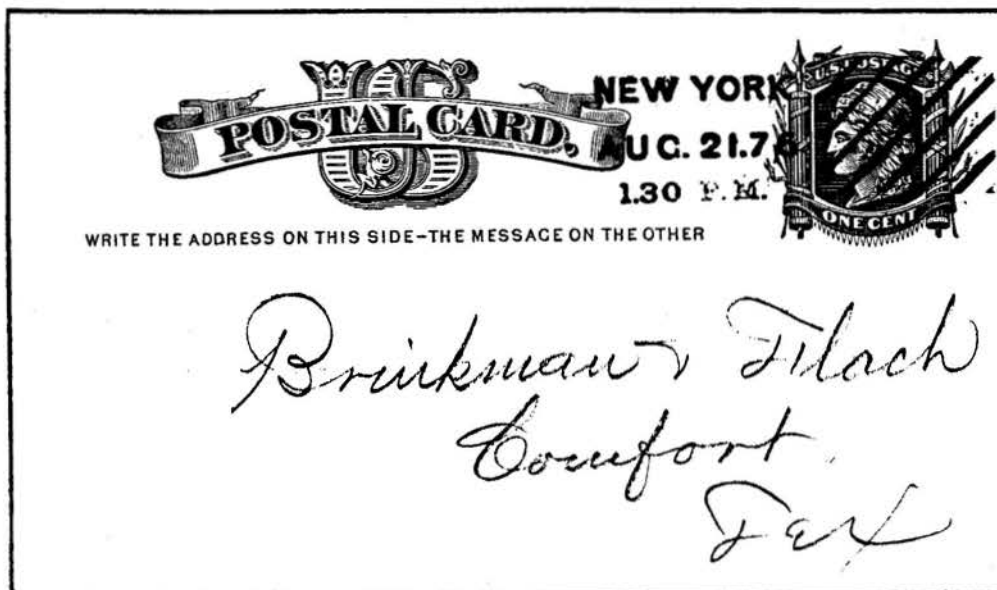
This study is a composite of the 9 oblique bar canceller used in Type A-2 cancelling dies in Boston and New York. It can be interpreted with several interesting facts.

The cancelling in Boston's Type A-2 cancels used two different oblique bar cancellers that

paralleled the same dates found in the Die I and Die II rectilinear postmarks.

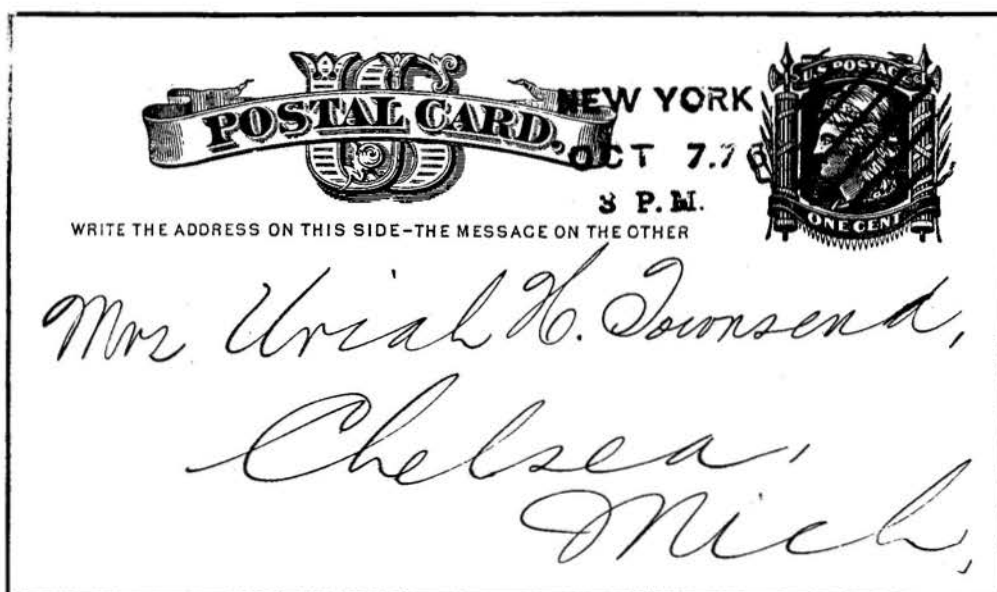
The cancelling dies in Type A-2 cancels were engraved and milled on two pieces of steel stock, one for a postmark die and the other for the canceller die.

NEW YORK
GROUP A - CANCELS
1876 - 1878



TYPE A-2 August 21, 1876 NEW YORK

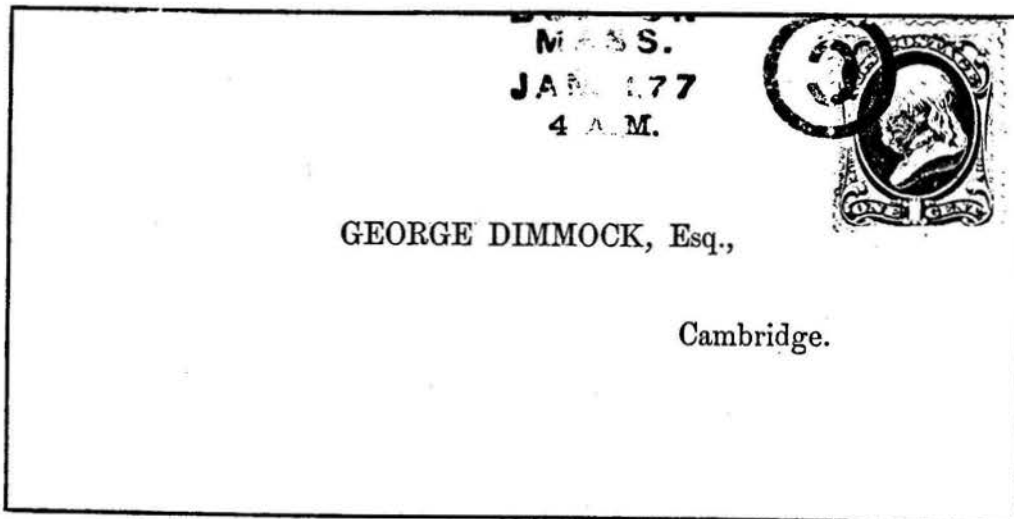
One will observe the A-2 cancels from New York do not show the state's name in the rectilinear postmark. The Myers machine was evaluated in New York during the same period and without the state name. It is possible a comparison test was conducted between the two machines.



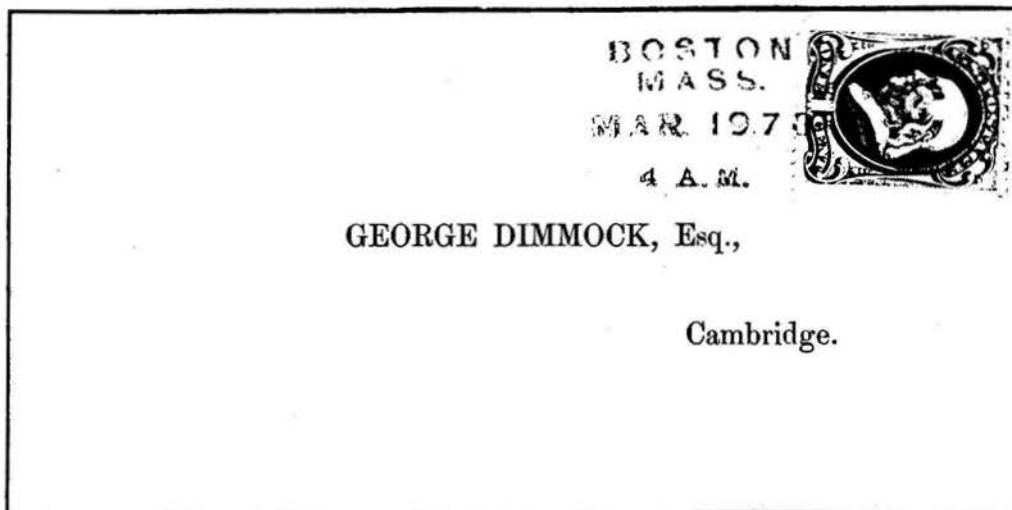
TYPE A-2 October 7, 1876 NEW YORK

The majority of Type A-2 cancels used in New York were used in June 1876. Several cancels are known in August, one copy for September 6 and this October 7 cancel.

BOSTON
GROUP A - CANCELS
1877 - 1878

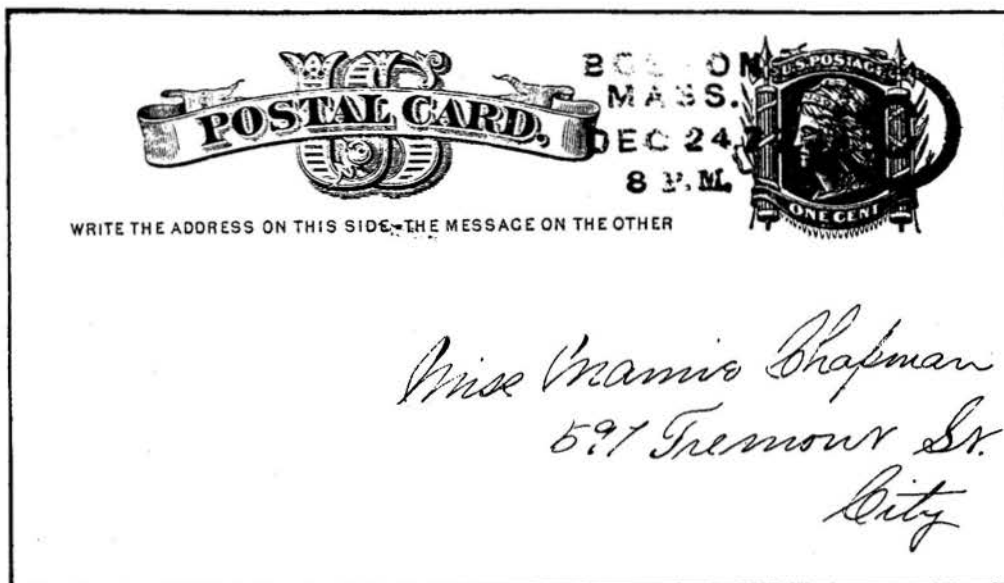


TYPE A-3 January 1, 1877 *courtesy of Robert Patkin* BOSTON, MASS.
This Boston cancel clearly shows the new canceller that was installed in late December 1877. The service letter "C" was used in a circle replacing the old diagonal bar canceller. The "C" has rotated to an inverted position. This 1878 postal card shows the year dated error of "77".



TYPE A-3 March 19, 1878 BOSTON, MASS.
To date, only three Leavitt cancels are known on post cards. This Die I postmark shows the period close to the last "S" in "MASS.". The Type A-3 cancels were in use for 14 weeks and during the same time as A-2 cancels.

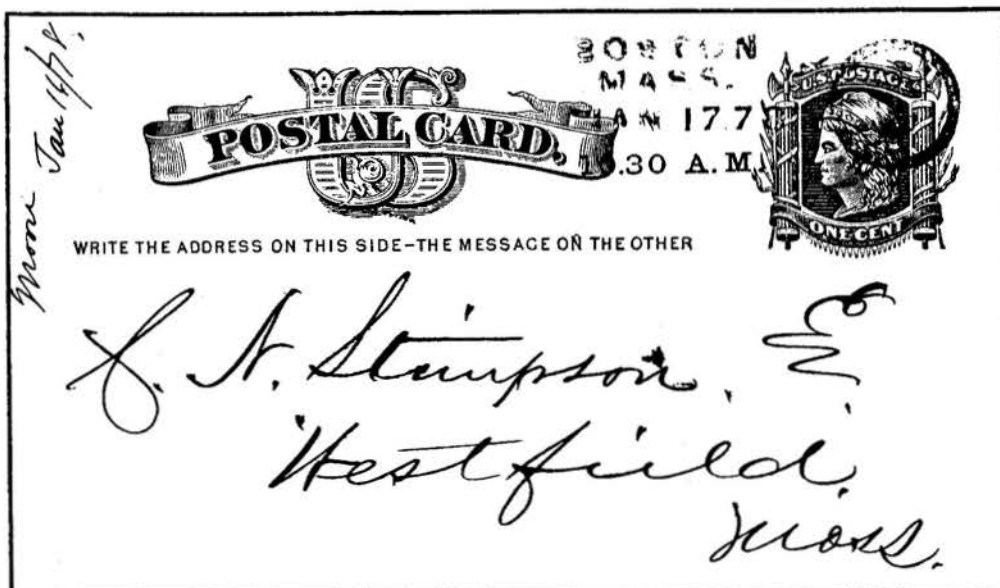
BOSTON
GROUP A - CANCELS
1877 - 1878



courtesy of Raymond Woodman

TYPE A-3 December 24, 1877 BOSTON, MASS.

The new style of canceller with a service letter was installed in the Leavitt machine on December 24, 1877. The Type A-3 cancelling die used the Die II postmark during the same time period as the Type A-2 cancels. This cancel is the earliest reported use of Type A-3.



TYPE A-3 January 17, 1878 BOSTON, MASS.

A new Type 3 canceller was composed of a thick 1.5 mm. circle 17 mm. in diameter housing, a large "C." The Leavitt machines were the pioneers in service letters. The "C" meant the "mail collected from mail boxes by carriers."

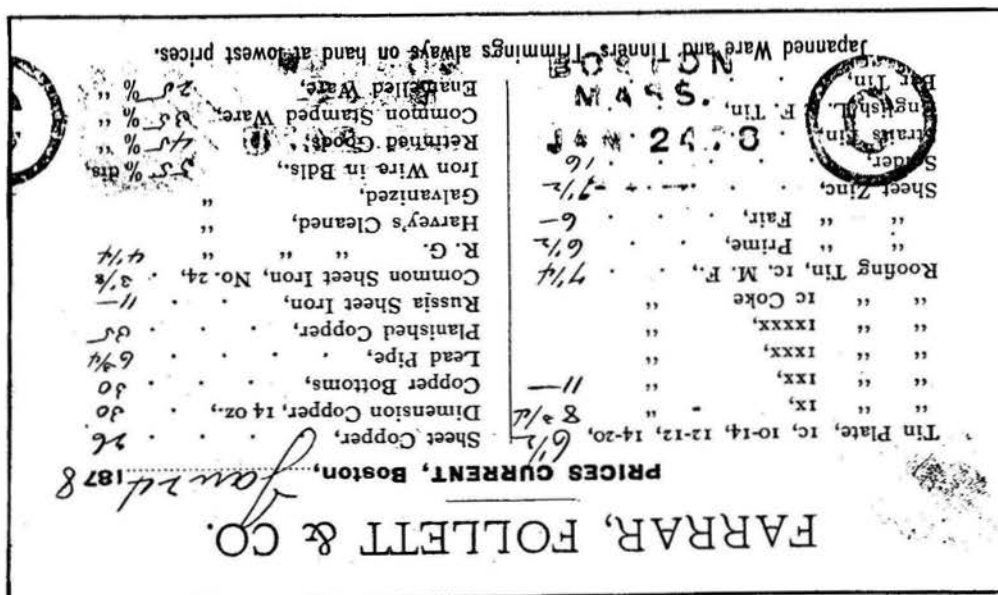
BOSTON
GROUP A - CANCELS
1877 - 1878



This card shows an inverted Type A-3 - Die II cancel in the lower left (clerks facing error) and a Type A-2 offset on its right, both showing a date and time of JAN 24.76 / 4 P.M., proving the same Leavitt machine used both dies.

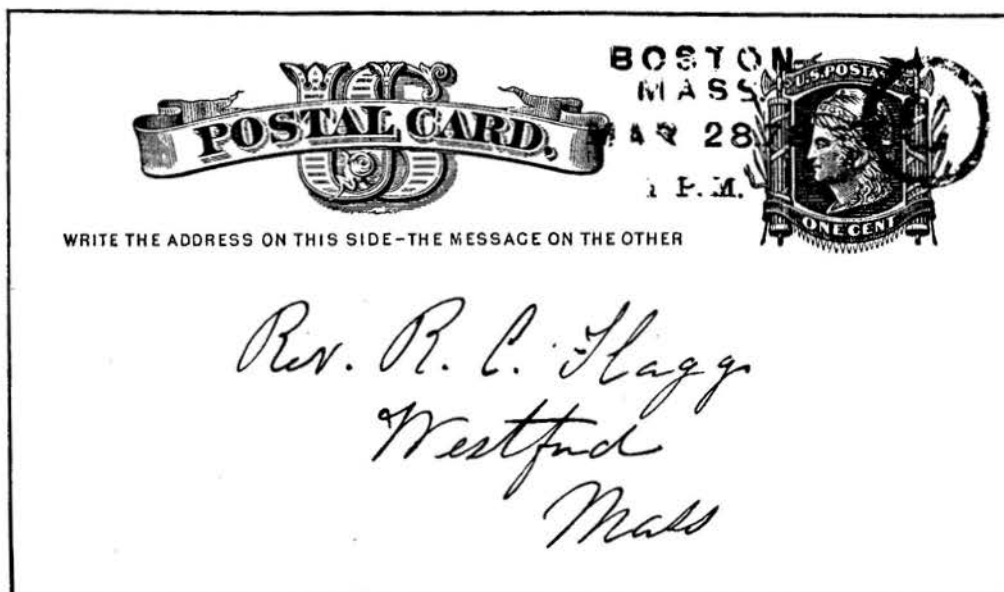
The Type A-2 offset suggests the card's reverse side was processed first when the platen was still wet with ink caused by a machine malfunction when no card was present on the platen to receive a cancel. The inked cancelling

die was impressed on the platen, hence the cards offset. This reverse side of the top card shows a full Type A-3 cancel and a partial rimmed "C." We believe this side of the card was processed first due to a clerks facing error.

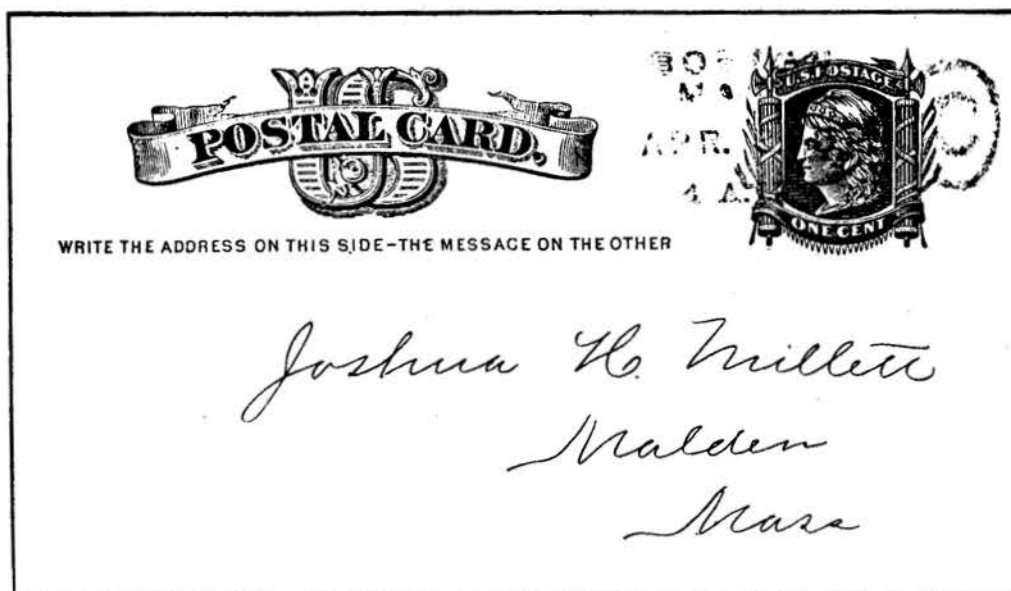


Reverse of above card.

BOSTON
GROUP A - CANCELS
1877 - 1878



TYPE A-3 March 28, 1878 BOSTON, MASS
The Die II postmark was used in Type A-3 cancels from December 24, 1877 to early March 1878. Die I postmarks are reported used from March 11, 1878 to April 3, 1878.



TYPE A-3 April 3, 1878 BOSTON, MASS.
The Type A-2 cancels were phased out by mid-April 1878 which is about the time the Type A-3 ceased to operate. This poorly inked April 3 cancel is the latest known.

NEW YORK
GROUP A - CANCELS
1878

The second cancelling die installed in New York was the Type A4-NY and used for two days, February 21, 1878 and February 23, 1878. (February 22nd unknown) The Die II rectilinear postmark was used with a seven horizontal bar canceller.

The second type was the Type AB-NY

cancelling die with the numeral "31" in the eight barred oval canceller first seen on February 26, 1878. Two New York cancelling dies, postmark and canceller, were used in the Type AB-NY cancels.

New York, like Boston, also used two postmark dies in their two machines.

NEW YORK

DIE I

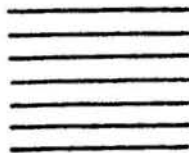
2.0 mm. between
NEW and YORK
No period after
YORK

NEW YORK.

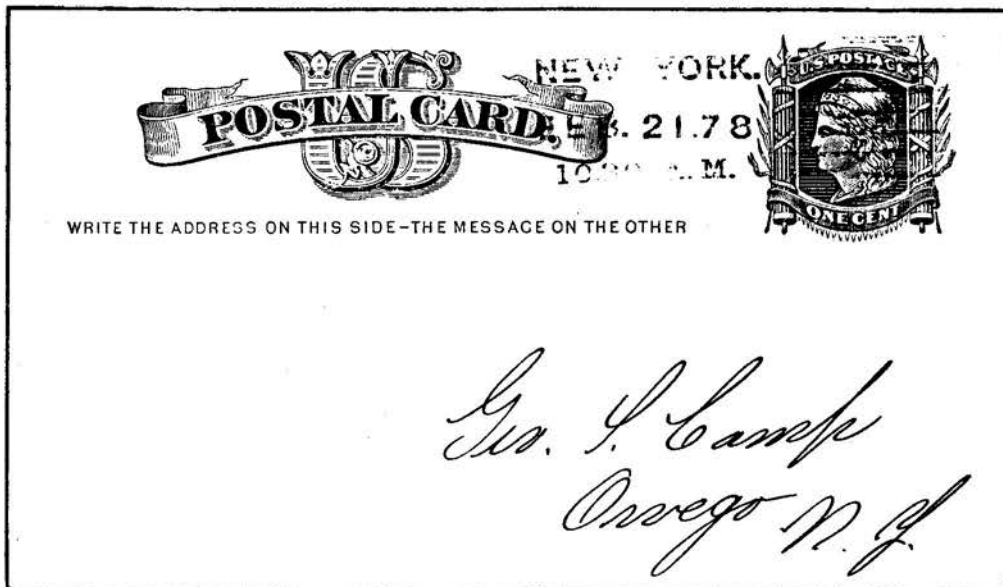
DIE II

4.0 mm. between
NEW and YORK
Period after
YORK.

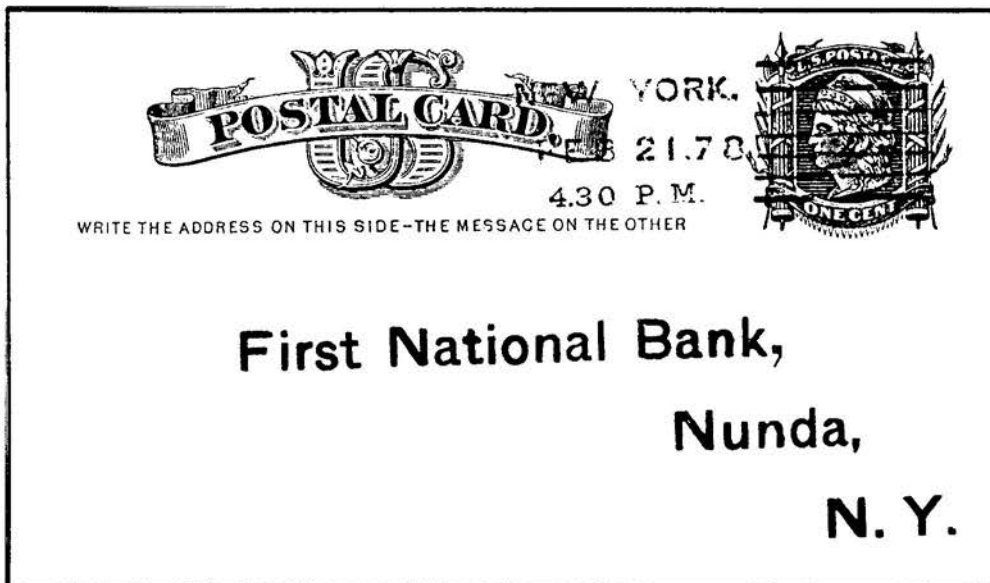
CANCELLER
TYPE A4-NY



NEW YORK
GROUP A - CANCELS
1878

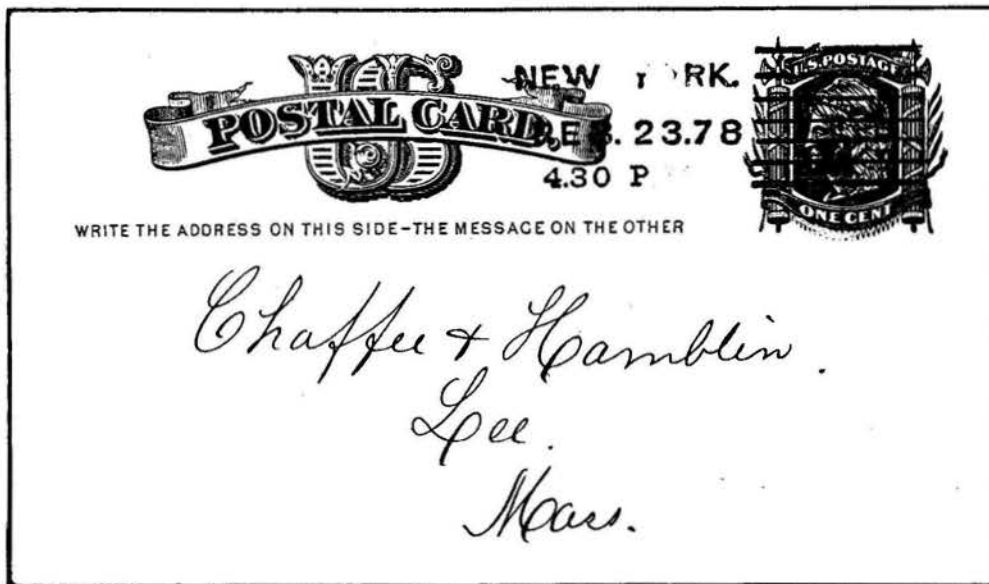


TYPE A4-NY February 21, 1878 NEW YORK.
In the three known examples of Type A4-NY, only the Die II postmark die has been reported. Its brief use suggests the seven bar canceller may have been a provisional and in temporary use until the new 8-barred oval "31" arrived.



TYPE A4-NY February 21, 1878 NEW YORK.
courtesy of Robert Stendel
The canceller seen in the Type A4-NY cancels is totally different from all Leavitt cancels and was used briefly. Length of the canceller is 23 mm. with a height of 18 mm.

NEW YORK
GROUP A - CANCELS
1878



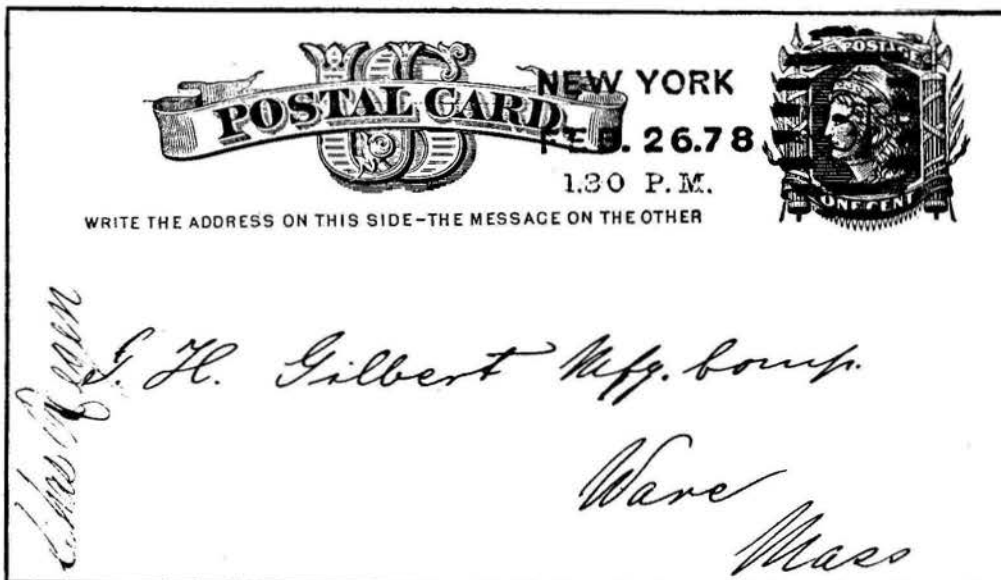
TYPE A4-NY

February 23, 1878

courtesy of Robert Patkin

NEW YORK

The Die II rectilinear postmark is easily recognized by the 4 mm. space between "NEW" and "YORK" and the period. Reported in use from February 21 to February 23, 1878.



TYPE AB-NY

February 26, 1878

NEW YORK

Type AB-NY cancels with a Die I postmark are easy to recognize having no period after "NEW YORK" and 2 mm. between "NEW" and "York". Die I was in use only four days.


NEW YORK GROUP A - CANCELS 1878

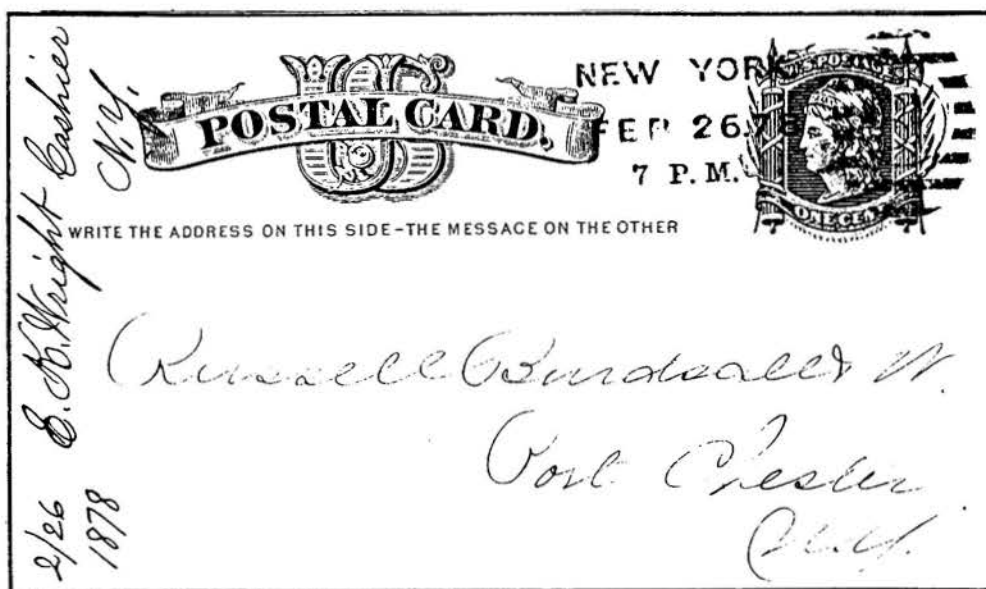
New York received two Leavitt machines in February 1878, the first by February 21, 1878, with a seven bar canceller die (provisional) and the Die II postmark. By February 26, 1878, the second machine with the Die I postmark and two 8-barred oval cancellers with "31" had arrived.

After the second machine had arrived, both machines were cancelling cards by February 26. During their use, both machines were using the same basic cancelling die. The canceller was oval with eight bars surrounding a thin ring containing the figure "31". This basic oval bar style would be used later in the majority of Group B cancels.

TYPE AB-NY DIES:

NEW YORK POSTMARK		NEW YORK CANCELLER	KNOWN USAGE
DIE	I	I	February 26, 1878 - March 1, 1878
DIE	II	II	February 26, 1878 - March 25, 1878

CANCELLER "31"	DIE I	DIE II	DIE IMPRESSION
Height	25.00 mm.	24.50 mm.	
Width	19.00 mm.	18.50 mm.	
Ring diameter	11.00 mm.	11.25 mm.	
Height of "3" in "31"	7.25 mm.	7.00 mm.	



TYPE AB-NY

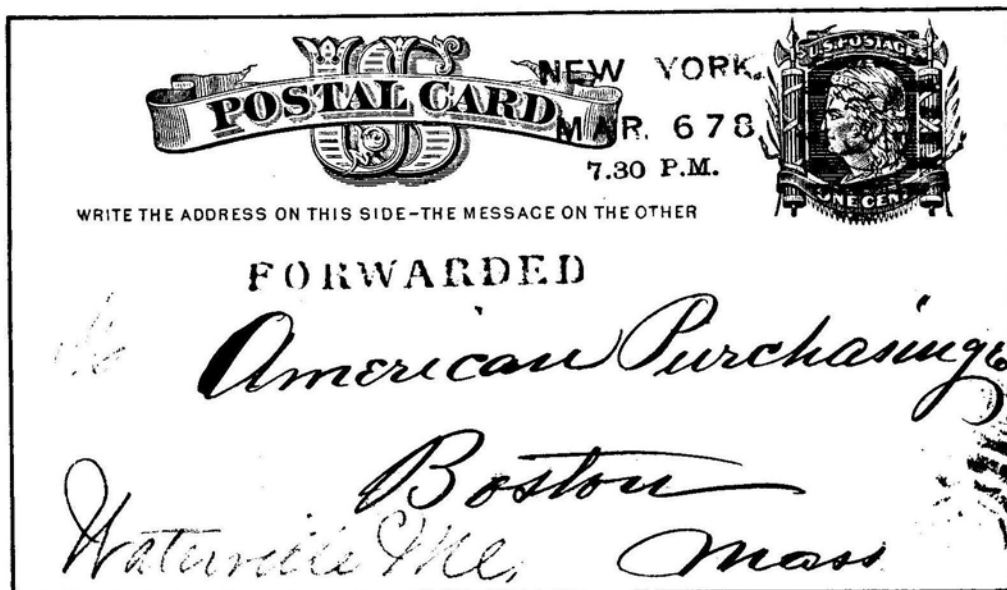
February 26, 1878

NEW YORK.

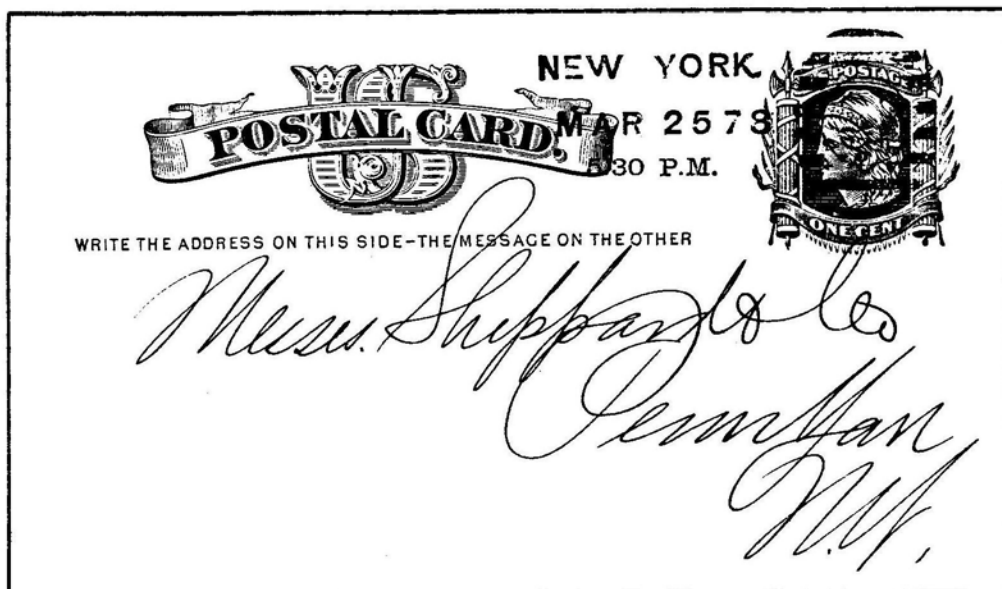
This February 26 postmark is the earliest reported Die II.

courtesy of Robert Stendel

NEW YORK
GROUP A - CANCELS
1876 - 1878

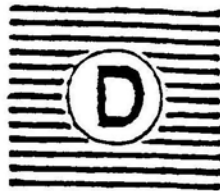
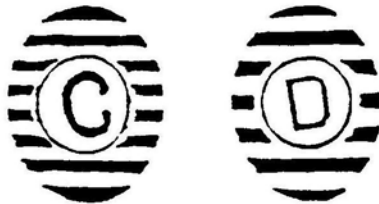


TYPE AB-NY March 6, 1878 NEW YORK.
The above Die II postmark has a 4.0 mm. space between "NEW" and "YORK" and a period after "NEW YORK.". This card was FORWARDED from Boston, Mass. to Waterville, Me.



TYPE AB-NY March 25, 1878 NEW YORK.
The eight barred oval canceller with the "31" is difficult to see on most cards as the numeral is usually struck on the Liberty head. This Die II is latest known date.

GROUP B
BARRED OVAL CANCELS
1878 - 1892



Page 104 blank in printed book and
deleted from eBook.

GROUP B - CANCELS

1878 - 1892

Some of most common and rarest of the Leavitt Rotary postmarking machine cancels fall within this designated Group B cancels. The Group B cancels were first introduced in New York as a Type B-NY(31) cancel on March 26, 1878. Group B cancels have a circular dial ranging in size from 23.0 to 26.5 mm. Generally, Group B have an 8-bar oval canceller with a wide range of dimensions. But there are two exceptions. These are a seven barred oval canceller that was used in

Boston and a unique 13-bar canceller used in Norwalk, Ohio.

Group B cancels used both the "C" and "D" service letters with "C" less often seen. Service letters were first adopted in Boston on the Type A-3 Leavitt machine using the "C" service letter. In addition, three cities used numerals in their canceller; "2" in Chicago; "31", "32" and "33" in New York and a "3" in Philadelphia.

Typical - Group B Bar Cancellers



7-BAR "D"
TYPE B-1
BOSTON
24.5 x 19 mm.



8-BAR "C"
TYPE B-NWK
NEWARK
24.5 x 20 mm.

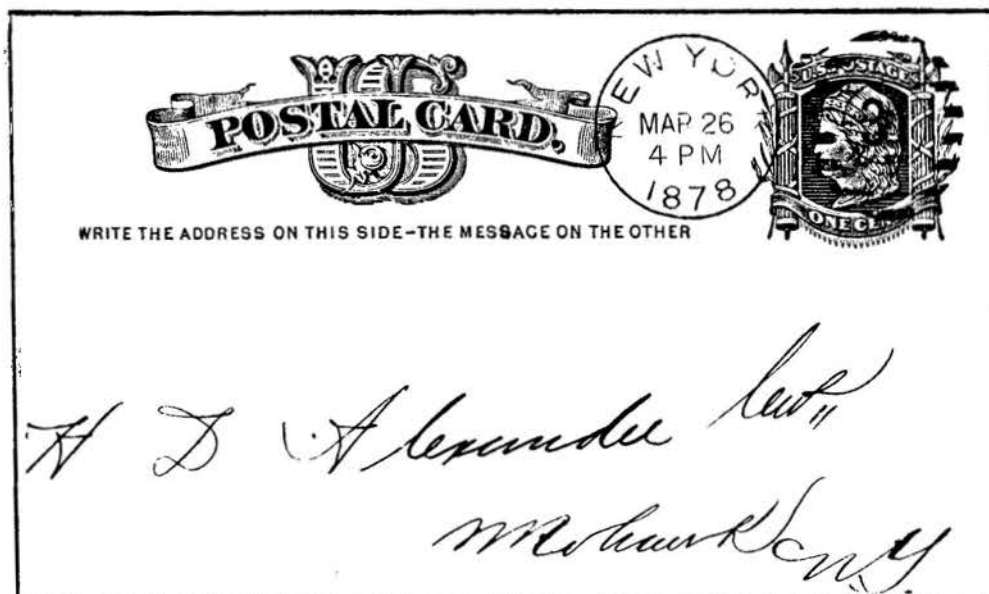


8-BAR "D"
TYPE B-2/B-3
BOSTON
24.5 x 21 mm.



13-BAR "D"
TYPE B-NOR
NORWALK
22 x 26 mm

NEW YORK
GROUP B - CANCELS
1878 - 1882



TYPE B-NY(31) DIE I March 26, 1878 NEW YORK
The above March 26, 1878. is the earliest Group B cancel.

Leavitt introduced his first barred oval canceller in New York in the Type AB-NY(31) cancelling die combined with a rectilinear postmark on February 26, 1878. One month

later on March 26, 1878, Leavitt introduced a new circular dial in the New York machine and continued to use the 8-bar oval canceller with a numeral "31".

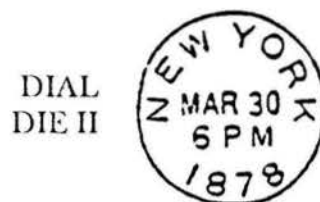
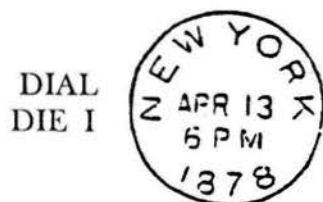
A December 20, 1878. testimonial letter states in part:-

"The two Postal Card Stamping Machines in use at this office are giving good satisfaction and are labor saving machines."

C.L. Steele, Supt.
Thos. L. James, Postmaster of New York."

NEW YORK
GROUP B - CANCELS
1878 - 1882

Below are the two dials used in Type B-NY(31) cancels:-

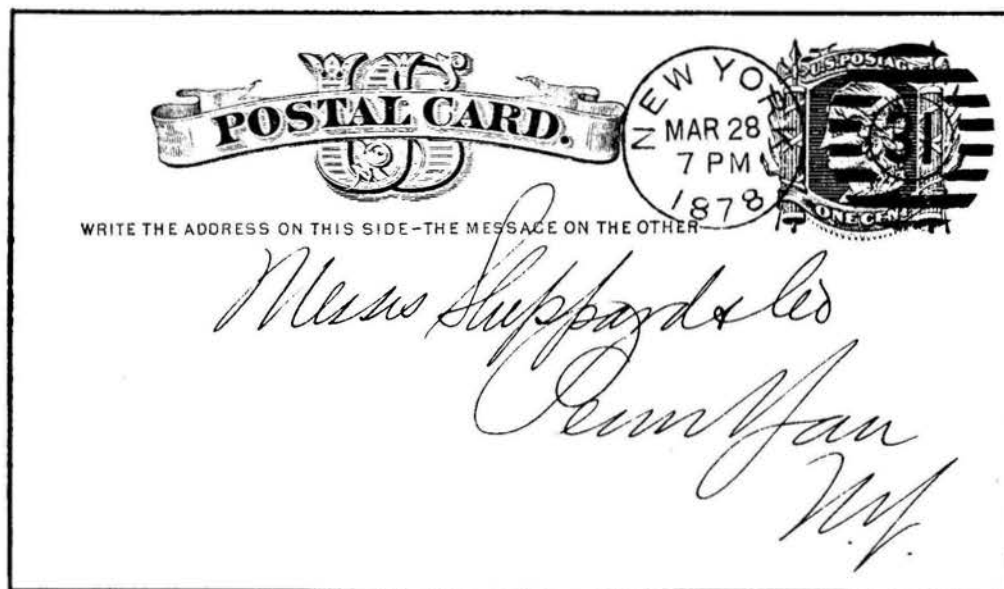


B-NY(31) DIAL / CANCELLER

DIE I

DIE II

* Dial diameter	23.8 mm.	23.5 mm.
* "1" in year date projects into...	"Y" of "YORK"	"YO" of "YORK"
* Top of 1878 "1" to second "8"	1.6 mm.	2.0 mm.
* Bottom of 1878 "1" to second "8"	2.0 mm.	2.3 mm.
* Height of 8-bar canceller (31)	25.0 mm.	24.0 mm.
* Width of 8-bar canceller (31)	20.0 mm.	21.5 mm.



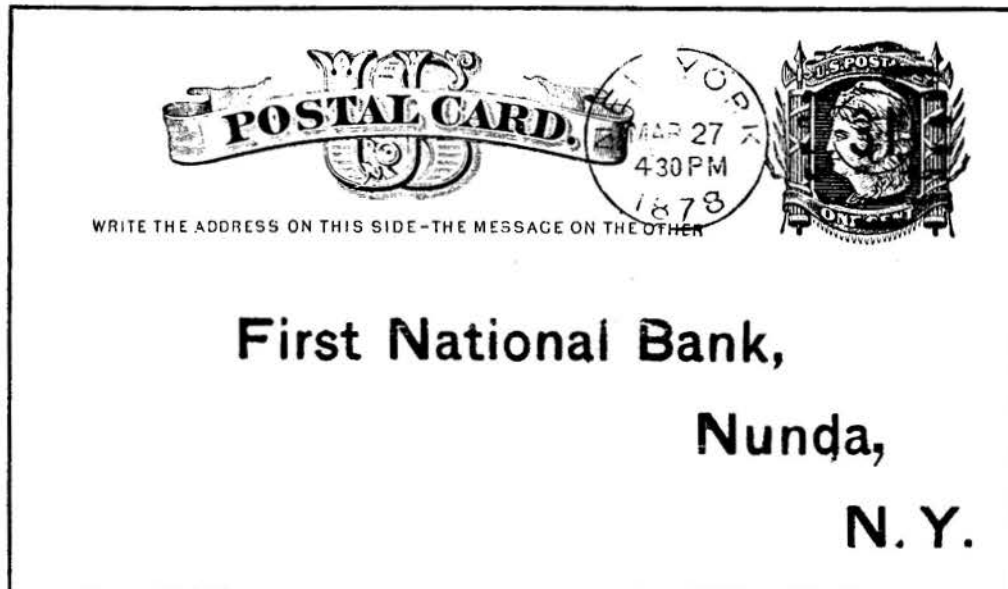
TYPE B-NY(31) DIE II

March 28, 1878

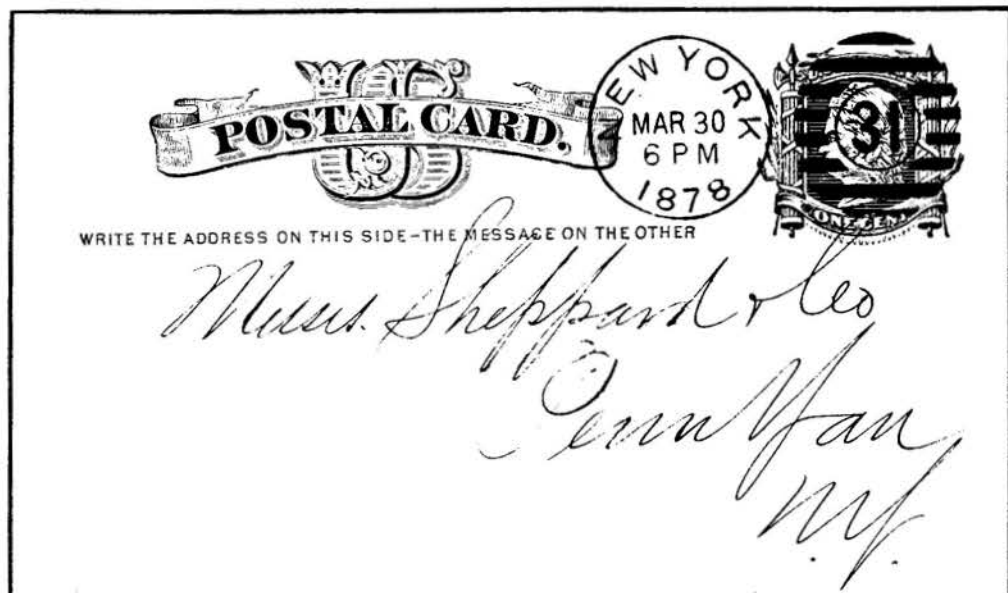
NEW YORK

An early use of the New York Die II dial and canceller.

NEW YORK
GROUP B - CANCELS
1878 - 1882

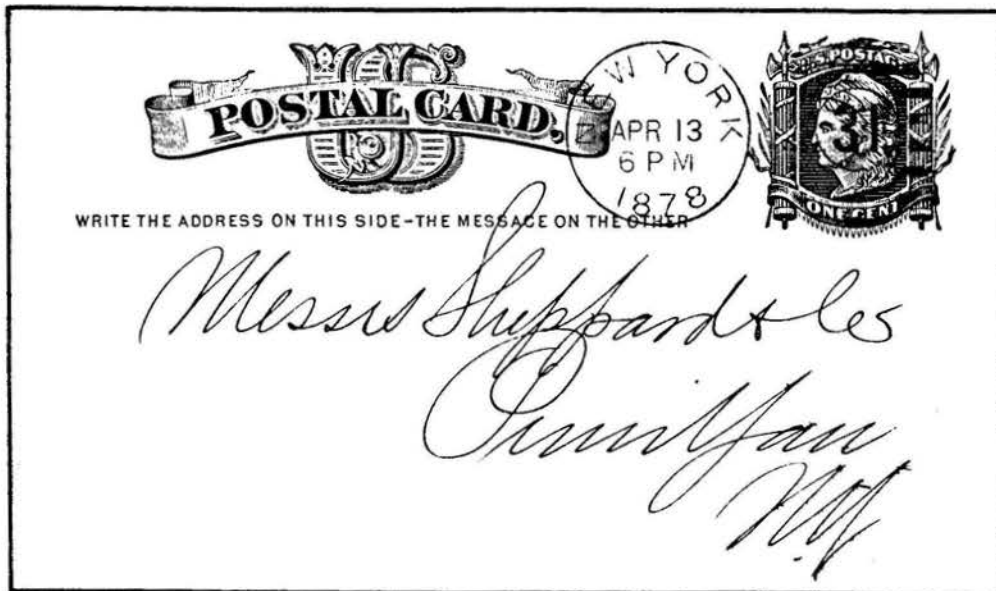


TYPE B-NY(31) DIE I March 27, 1878 NEW YORK
On consecutive days, two types of Leavitt cancels were used in New York. Latest use of the Type AB-NY(31) was March 25, 1878. On the next day, the new Type B-NY(31) Die I was used with the same or similar "31" canceller.

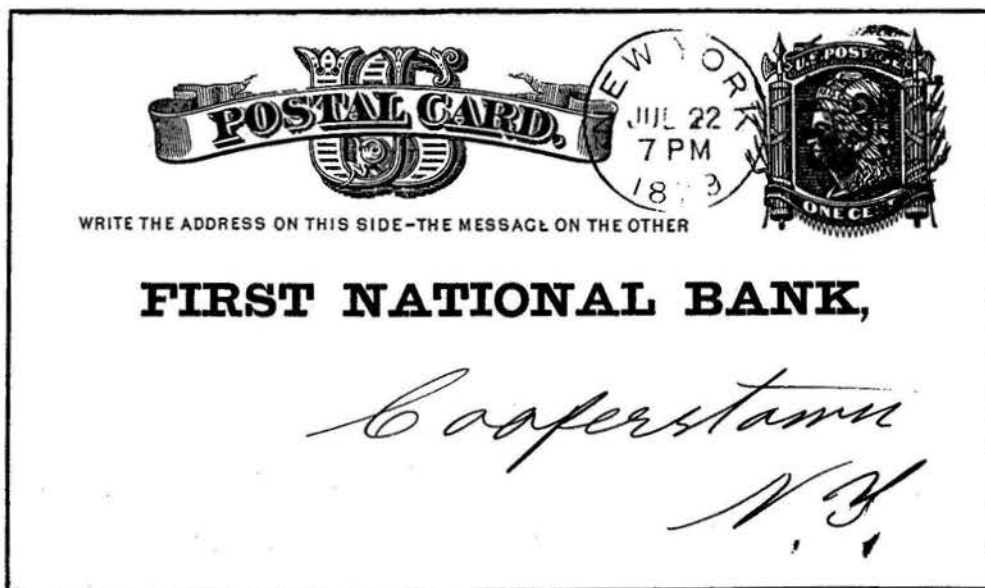


TYPE B-NY(31) DIE II March 30, 1878 NEW YORK
In the comparison of similar dials on the Type B-NY(31) The Die II dial can be typed by measuring the bottom of "1878" from the outer edge of the "1" to the outer edge of the second "8". Die II is 12.0 mm. and Die I is 11.5 mm.

NEW YORK
GROUP B - CANCELS
1878 - 1882



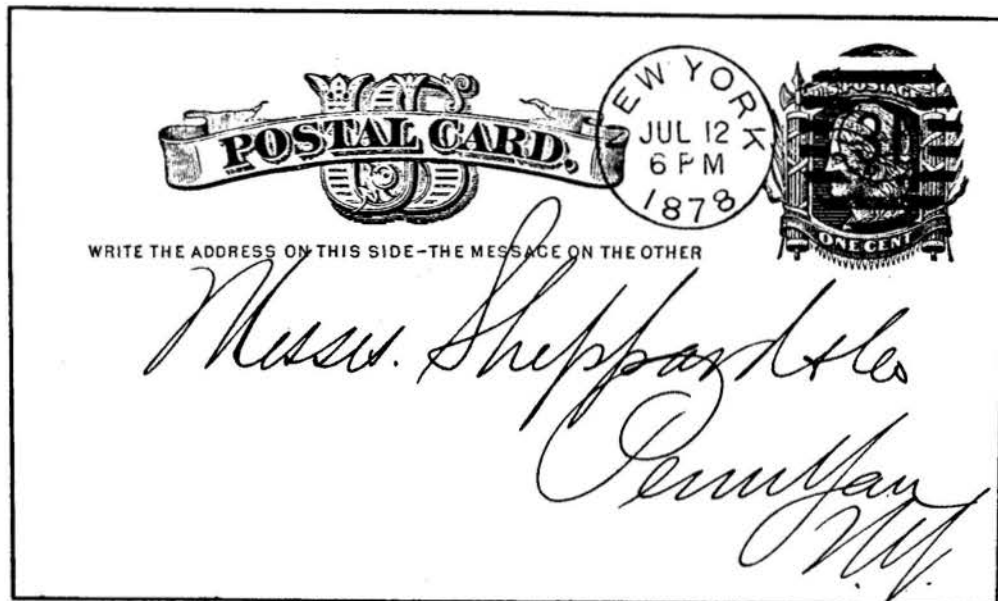
TYPE B-NY(31) DIE I April 13, 1878 NEW YORK
Two Leavitt machines were installed in 1878 in the New York Post Office each using a different dial and using a similar 8-bar oval canceller with a numeral "31". The Die I reported use is March 26, 1878, to July 22, 1879.



TYPE B-NY(31) DIE I July 22, 1879 NEW YORK
This Die I is the latest known use of the Type B-NY(31) and dated July 22, 1879. One other method of determining the die is with the first "8" in the year. For the Die I, the "8" is perpendicular but if it slants to the right, it's Die II.

courtesy of Robert Patkin

NEW YORK
GROUP B - CANCELS
1878 - 1882

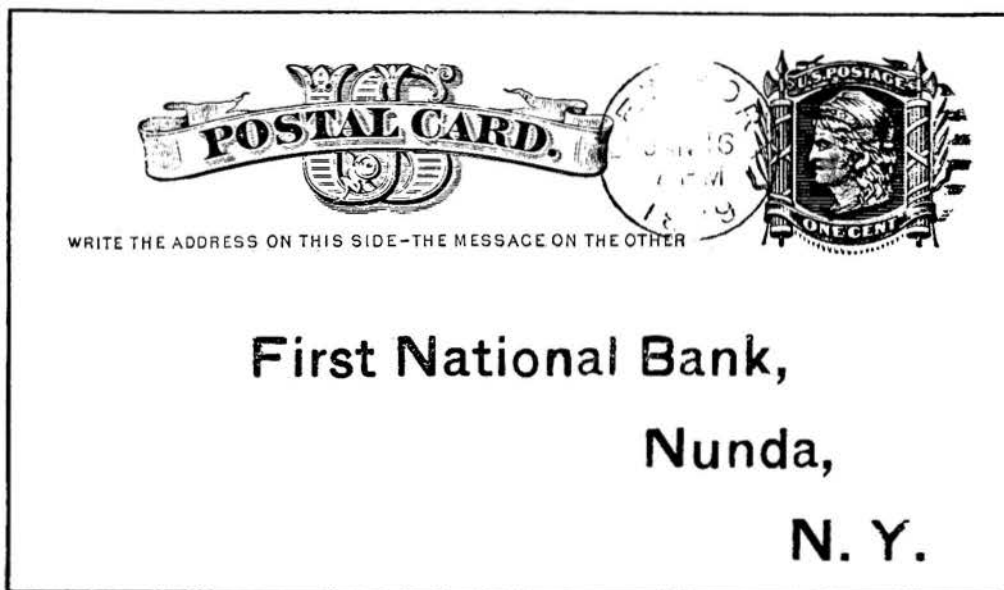


TYPE B-NY(31) DIE II

July 12, 1878

NEW YORK

It is the exception to see a well inked Type B-NY(31). The Type B-NY(31) cancel clearly shows the Die II dial with the first "8" in "1878" that slants to the right. The Die II was used March 27, 1878, to January 16, 1879.



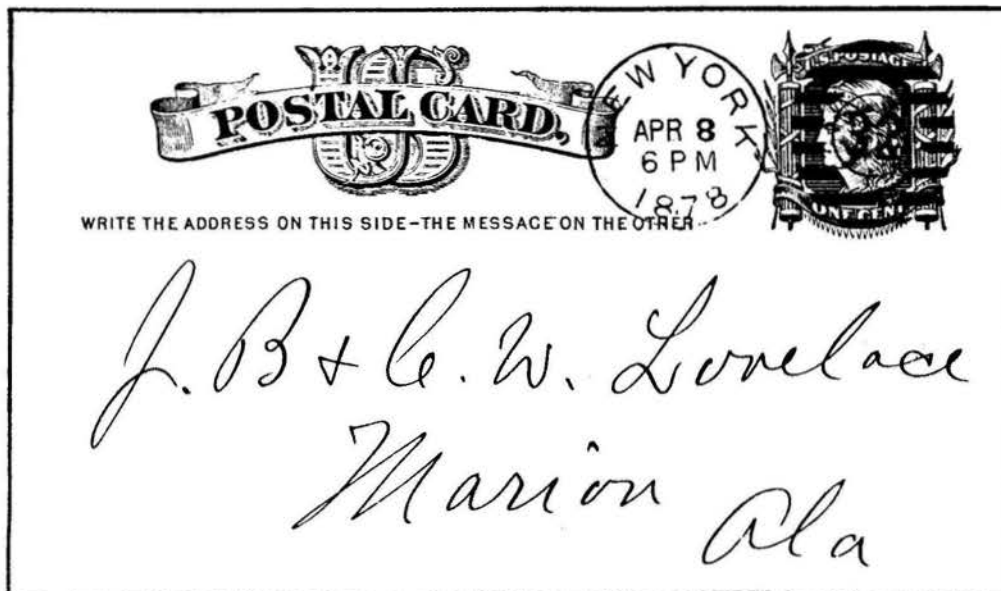
TYPE B-NY(31) DIE II

January 16, 1879

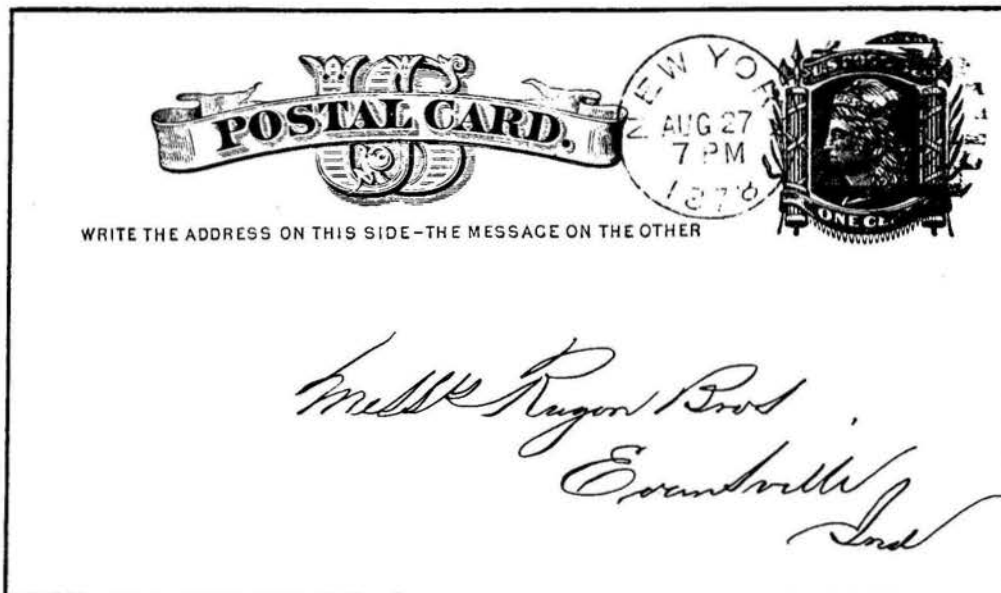
NEW YORK

This Type B-NY(31) cancel is the latest reported use of the Die II. The New York cancels are often poorly inked with the figure "31" in the canceller difficult to read.

NEW YORK
GROUP B - CANCELS
1878 - 1882



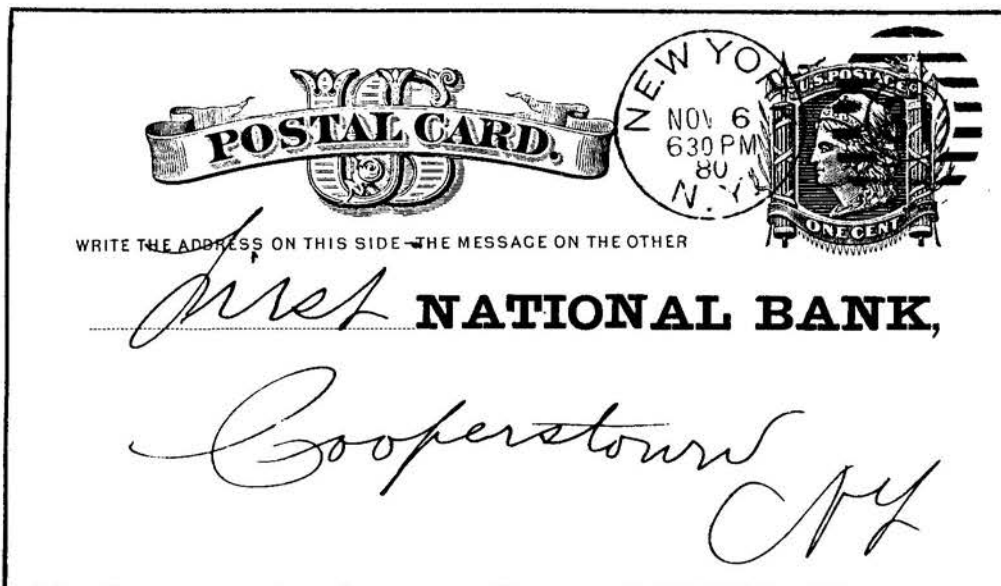
The "32" in the above 8-bar oval canceller is clear and easily seen in this possibly unique New York Leavitt cancel. The Die II dial in this cancel is the same die used in the "31" machine. The only difference being the numeral.



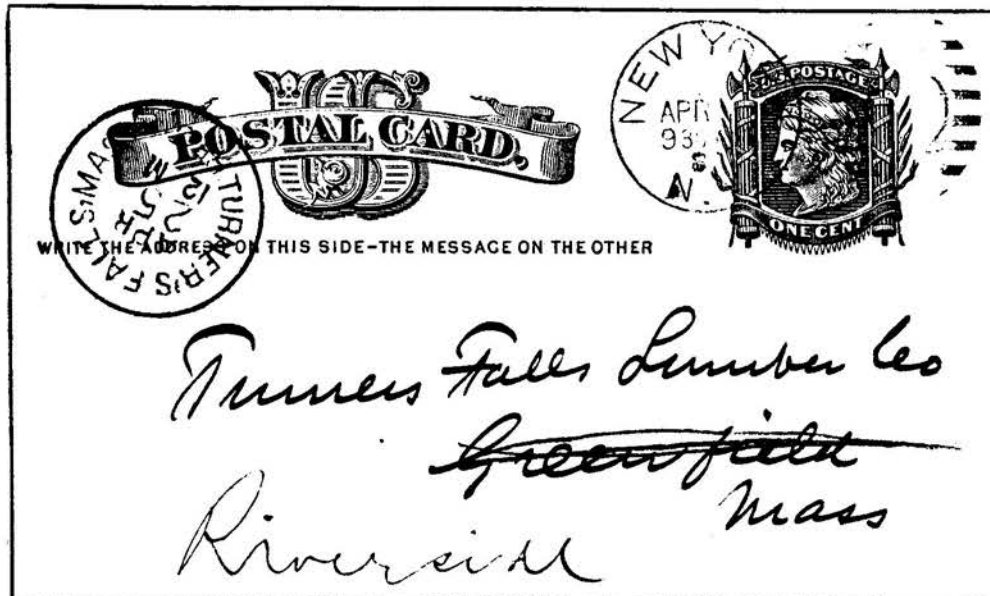
courtesy of Louis Geschwindner

The cancel showing "33" in the 8-bar oval canceller is legible and another unique example from the Leavitt machine in New York. There is no plausible explanation for two Leavitt machines to use the same "31" identity. Machine(s) 31 was likely used as machine "32" and "33".

NEW YORK
GROUP B - CANCELS
1878 - 1882

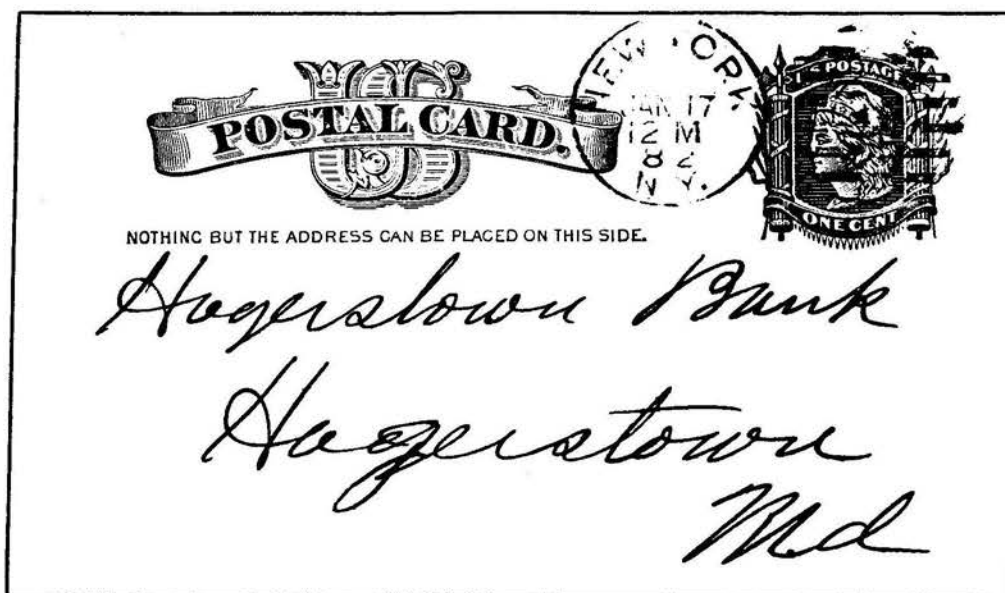


TYPE B-NY(31)-Q November 6, 1880 NEW YORK, N.Y.
The dial for this Type B-NY(31)-Q cancel is different from the earlier use in 1878. The dial shows NEW YORK curved along the upper rim with N.Y. curved along the bottom and a two digit year. There are no needle marks.



TYPE B-NY(31)-Q April 24, 1881 NEW YORK, N.Y.
The Type B-NY(31)-Q experimental cancel is known used in New York on three dates; November 6, 1880; April 4, 1881 and April 24, 1881. This is not a typical Leavitt dial but the 8-bar oval canceller is a typical Group B.

NEW YORK
GROUP B - CANCELS
1878 - 1882



TYPE B-NY(33)-A January 17, 1882 NEW YORK, N.Y.
The 8-bar oval canceller with a "33" is unique with a dial similar to that used in Type B-NY(31)-Q cancels. The New York office experimented with Leavitt machines between 1880 and 1882. This is probably the last Leavitt trial for New York.

SUMMARY OF
TYPE B - NEW YORK CANCELS

TYPE	DIE	KNOWN USAGE
B-NY(31) -	I	March 26, 1878 - July 22, 1879
B-NY(31) -	II	March 27, 1878 - January 16, 1879
B-NY(32) -	II	April 8, 1878 - - - -
B-NY(33) -	II	August 27, 1878 - - - -
B-NY(31) -	Q	November 6, 1880 -
B-NY(31) -	Q	April 4, 1881 / April 24, 1881
B-NY(33) -	A	January 17, 1882 - - - -

In the major post offices in America, including the New York office, numbers were assigned to cancelling machines in specific work areas. In some large offices, clerks were assigned a number for use in various functions including their use in handstamps.

It is unlikely that "31" is a clerk number with two Leavitt machines operating at the same time with the same number. It is also unlikely that two clerks would be assigned the same number "31".

BOSTON
GROUP B - CANCELS
1878 - 1892

The numbers probably reflect the assigned work area for each machine as they were small, hand operated and portable. This is the our only plausible explanation.

Three constant characteristics help in the identification of Leavitt machine cancels from a handstamp

1. Generally, all Leavitt cancels are parallel to the top edge of the postal card or the envelope.
2. Lettering in the dial is generally lightly inked with a clear and complete impression.

3. Barred oval cancellers have seven or eight bars, both dial and canceller are approximately the same height.

Several cities were supplied with ink having a bluish-black hue with their first machine but the majority of cities received jet black ink with their first Leavitt machine.

Boston was the first post office to receive the new and more conventional circular type dial by April 5, 1878. Over the next 13 years, Boston used seven different dial dies. Three Group B cancels were used in Boston over a four year period but only two dials were used between April 5, 1878 and February 23, 1882.



Small Size
Die Ca
23.5 mm.
"MASS" with
no period.

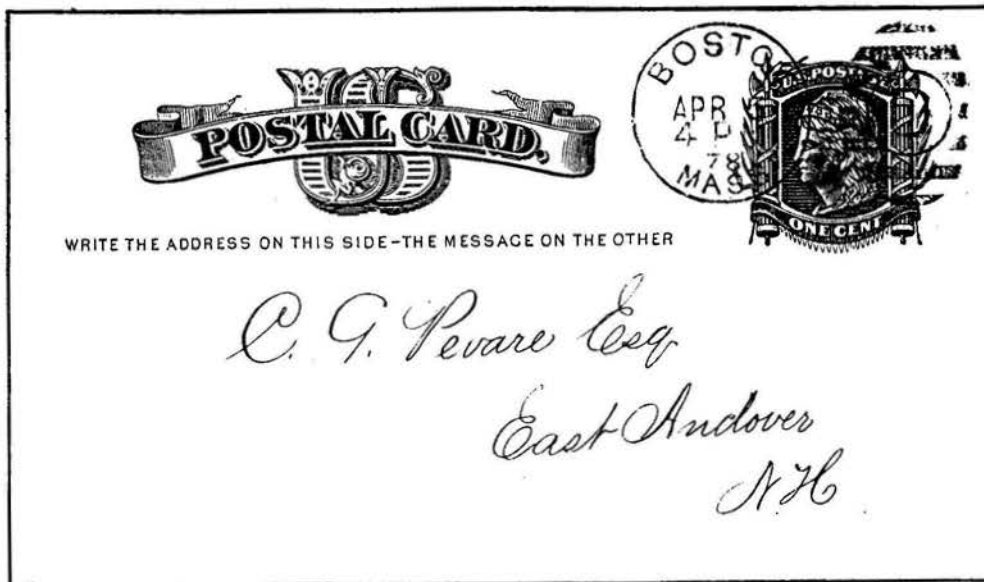
Type B-1
(Dial -- Cancellor)



Medium Size
Die Cb
25.5 mm.
"MASS." with
a period.

Types B-2 - B-3
(Dial -- Cancellor)

BOSTON
GROUP B - CANCELS
1878 - 1882



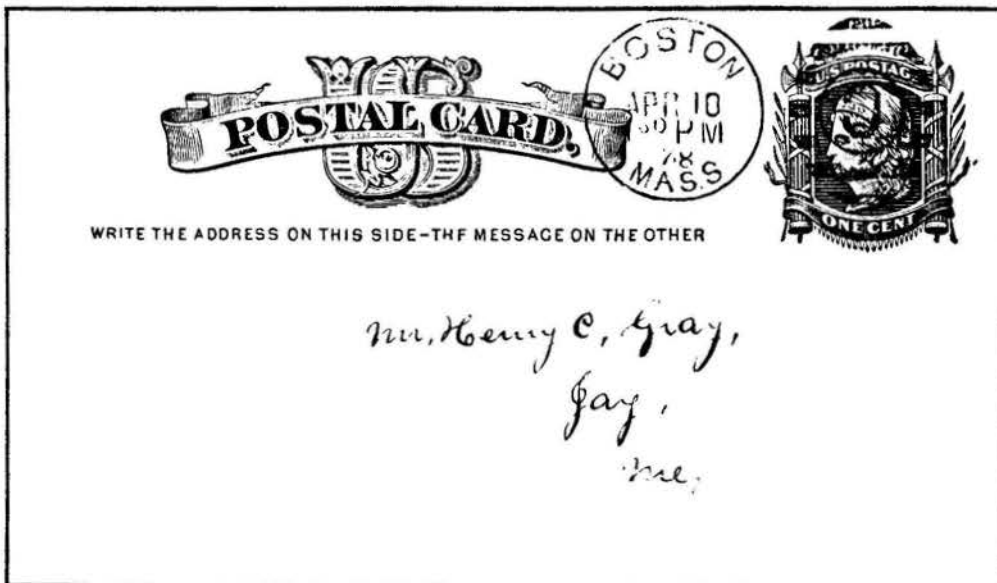
TYPE B-1(D)

April 5, 1878

courtesy of Robert Patkin

BOSTON, MASS.

Earliest reported Boston cancel with the new Type B-1 using the Die Ca dial with a 7-bar oval canceller.



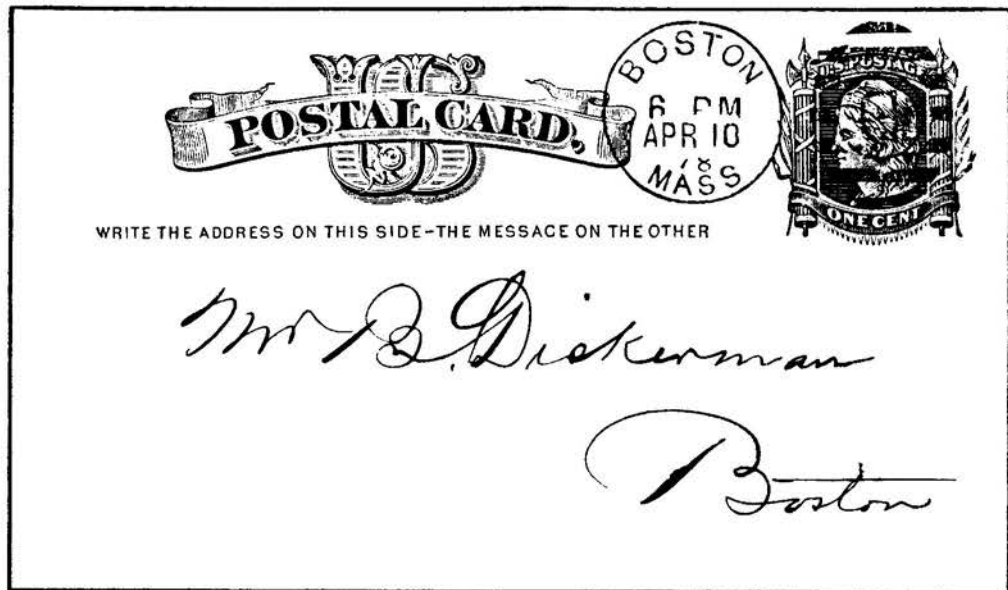
TYPE B-1(C)

April 10, 1878

BOSTON, MASS.

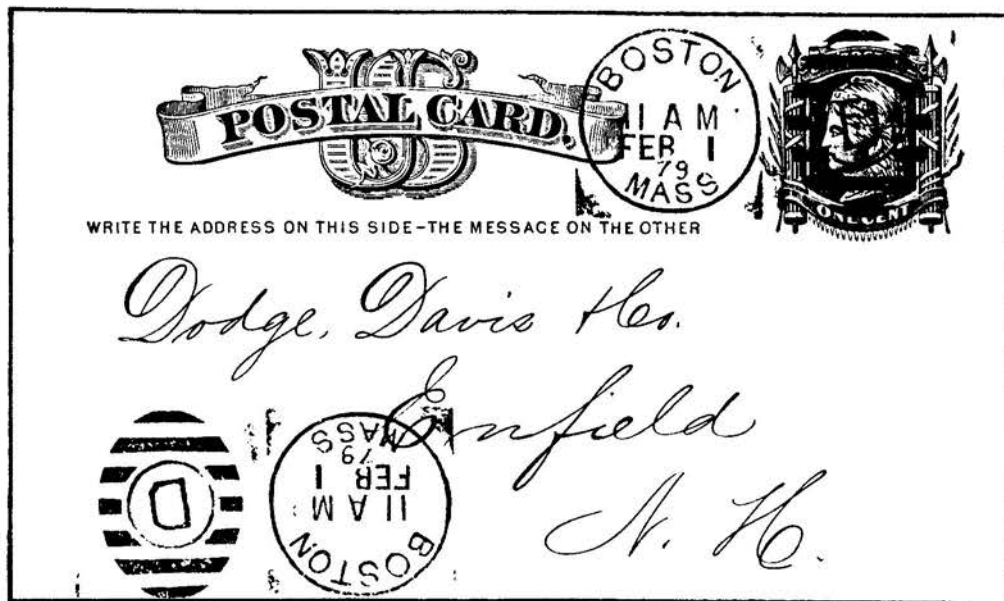
Early use of the new circular dial in Boston shows the month and day on the first line. This style of indicia used in Type B-1 known for three dates in 1878, April 5, April 10 and April 19. It is also seen in 1879 and 1880.

BOSTON
GROUP B - CANCELS
1878 - 1882



TYPE B-1(D) April 10, 1878 BOSTON, MASS.

This pair of April 10 cancels show the two different positions in which the indicia lines can be inserted in the Die Ca dial. Between 1:30 PM and 6 PM, the lines were switched. Usual placement for the time is the first line. It is not unusual to see service letters "C" or "D" inverted.



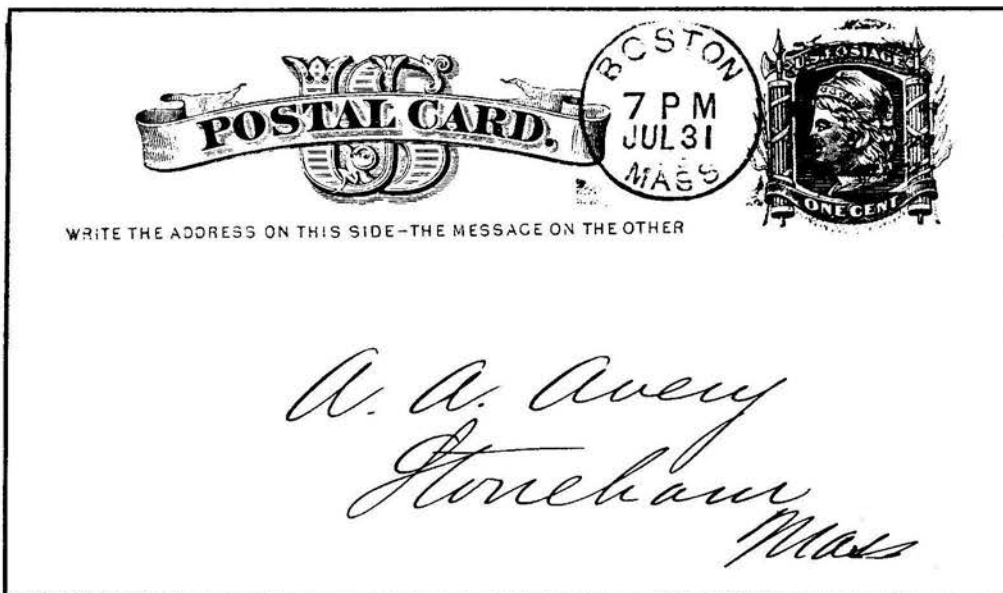
TYPE B-1(D) February 1, 1879 BOSTON, MASS.

The card was processed twice due to the facing error. The earliest use of Type B-1 is April 5, 1878 and the earliest Type B-2 is August 1, 1879. However the Type B-1 was however used sporadically after the B-2 introduction.

BOSTON
GROUP B - CANCELS
1878 - 1882

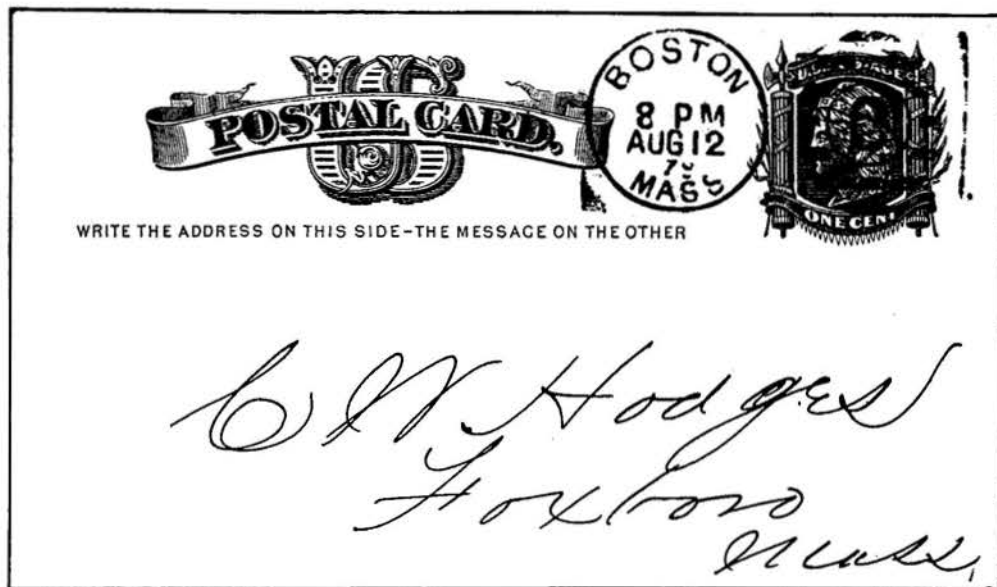


TYPE B-1(C) June 25, 1879 BOSTON, MASS.
The Type B-1 cancelling die had a small 23.5 mm. dial, designated as Ca, and a small seven bar oval canceller measuring 24.5 mm. x 19.0 mm. Service letters "C" & "D" were used about equally but the letter's position varies.



TYPE B-1(C) July 31, 1879 BOSTON, MASS.
This is the latest known use of the Type B-1 cancel prior to introduction of the Type B-2 cancels on August 1, 1879. Type B-2 dials show the month and day on the first line.

BOSTON
GROUP B - CANCELS
1878 - 1882

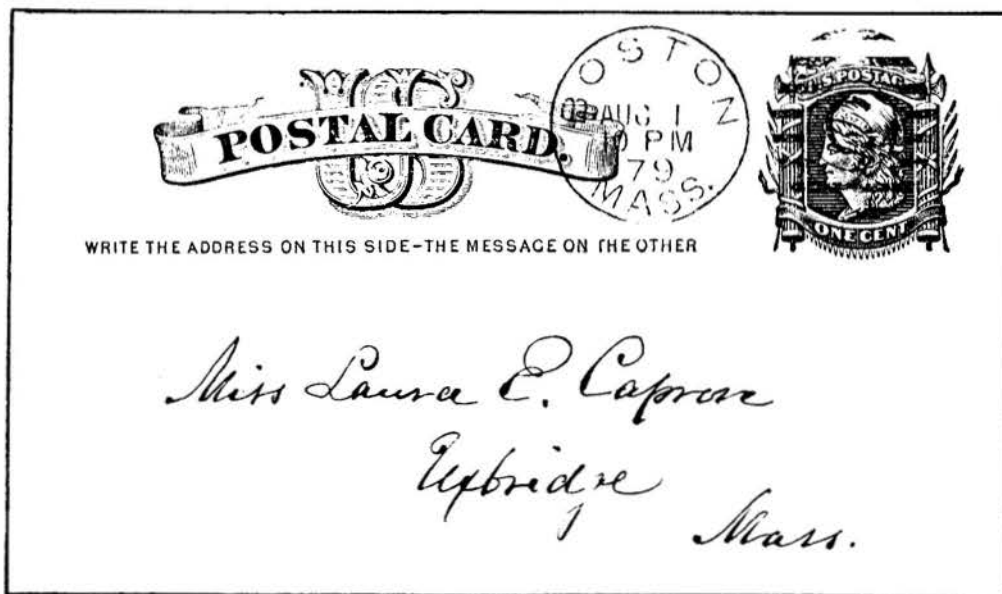


TYPE B-1(C)

August 12, 1879

courtesy of Robert Patkin
BOSTON, MASS.

This August 12, 1879, cancel shows the time on the first line and scarce use in the Type B-1 dial after July 31, 1879. Any B-1 cancel after this date is scarce.



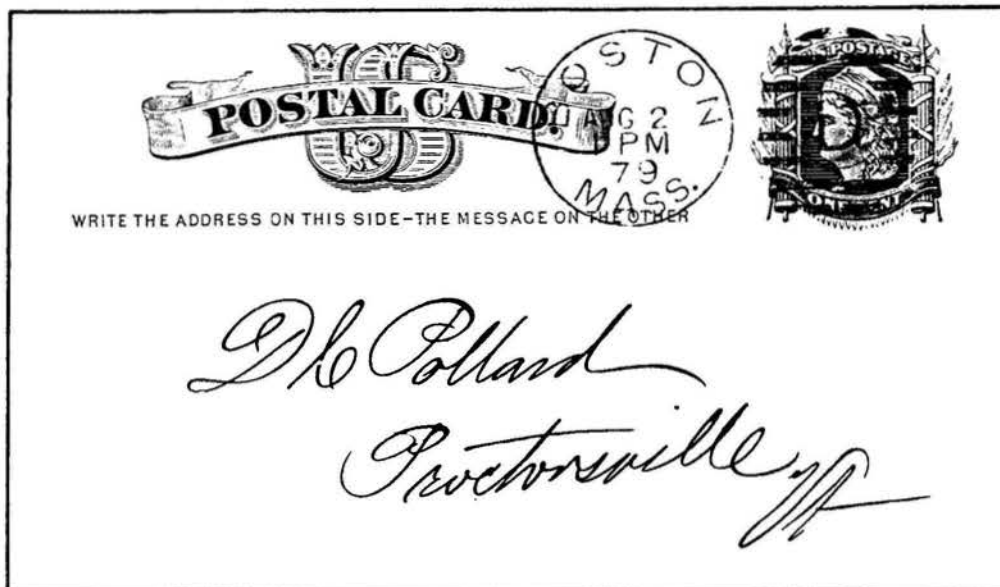
TYPE B-2(C)

August 1, 1879

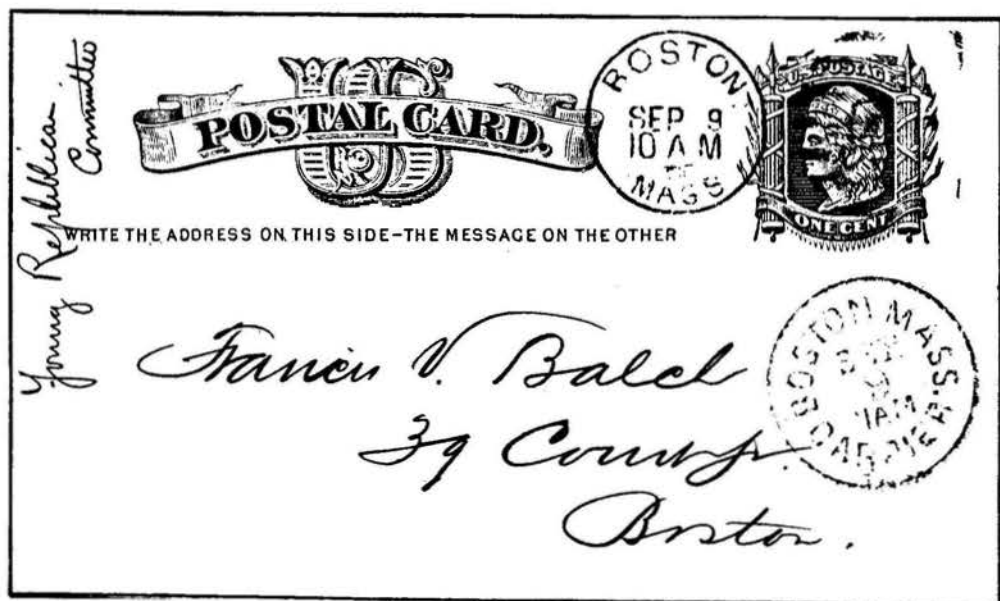
BOSTON, MASS.

This is the earliest confirmed use of the new Type B-2 cancel for Boston. The Type B-2 dial is designated as a Cb die with a 25.5 mm. diameter. Recall the Type B-1 dial has a diameter of only 23.5 mm. (2 mm. smaller).

BOSTON
GROUP B - CANCELS
1878 - 1882

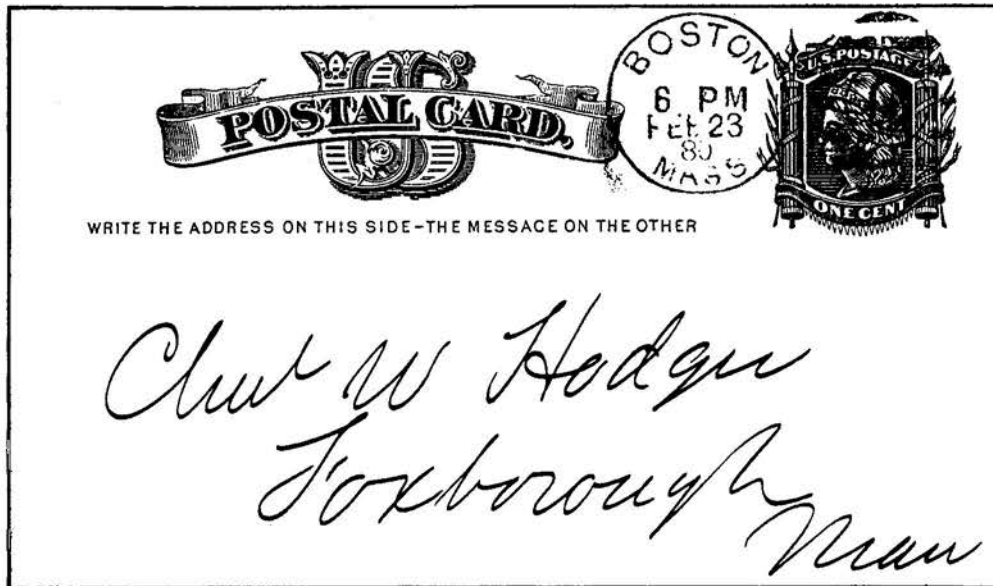


TYPE B-2(D) August 2, 1879 BOSTON, MASS.
This Type B-2 cancel is the earliest reported use of a "D" service letter. While both "C" and "D" letters are known, "D" is more common than "C". A large 3 mm. year "79" was used in Type B-2 as seen here but on Type B-1 cancels, a smaller 2.5 mm. year dater slug can be seen.



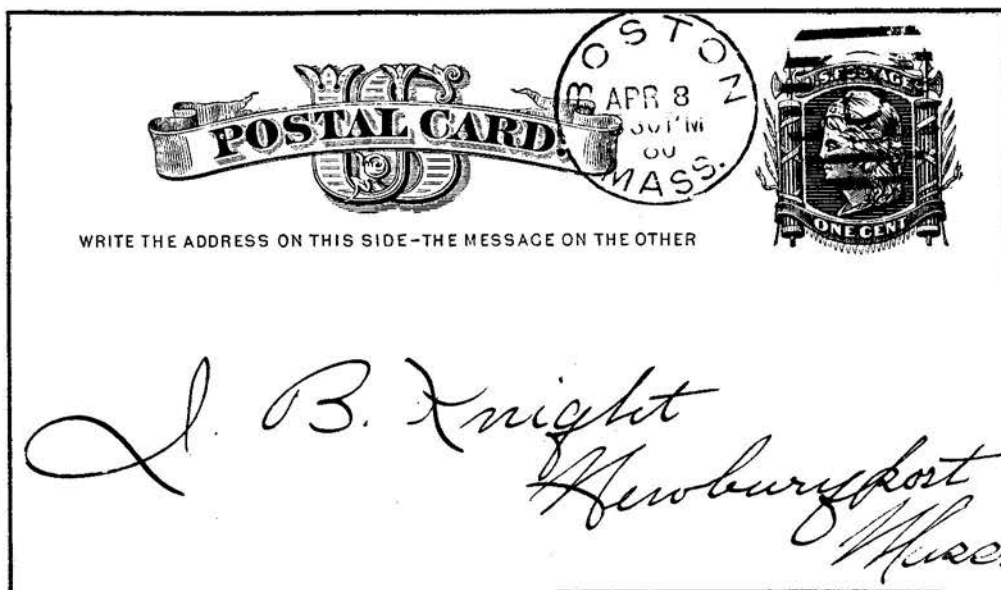
TYPE B-1(C) September 9, 1879 BOSTON, MASS.
Sporadic use of the Type B-1 cancel after July 31, 1879, in Boston suggests the new Type B-2 machine could have encountered a mechanical problem and was shut down for repairs or that the old machine was kept for occasional use.

BOSTON
GROUP B - CANCELS
1878 - 1882



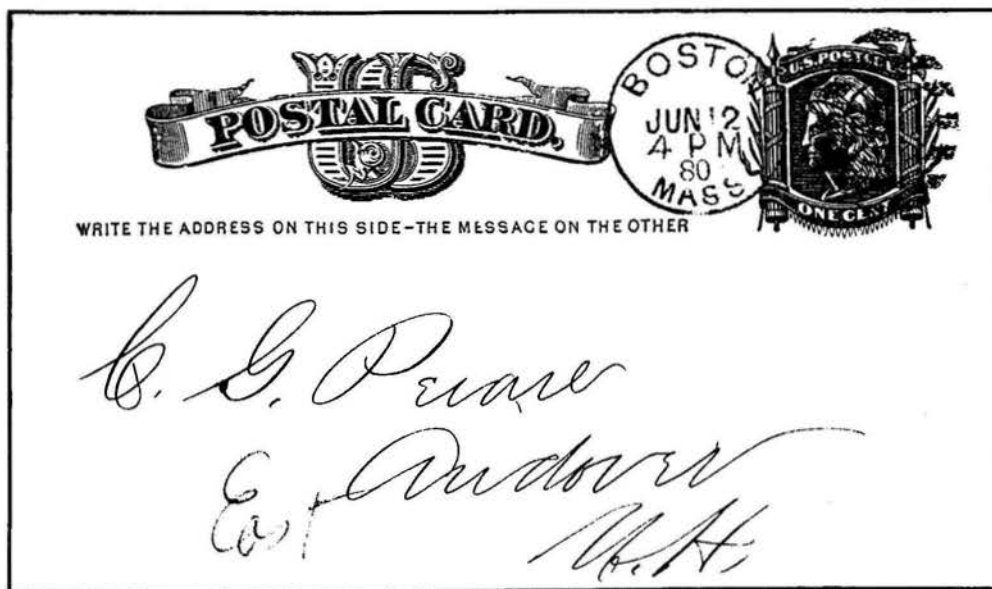
courtesy of Robert Patkin

TYPE B-1(C) February 23, 1880 BOSTON, MASS.
The B-1 cancels reported after July 31, 1879, generally show the time indicia on the second line in the dial. Only two examples of B-1 are known with the time on the dial's top line; August 12, 1879, and February 23, 1880.



TYPE B-2(D) April 8, 1880 BOSTON, MASS.
This Service letter "D" tilts left but it is not unusual to see tilted or inverted letters. A keeper was not used to keep the letter upright. In this first period, the Type B-2 were used from August 1, 1879, to April 8, 1880.

BOSTON
GROUP B - CANCELS
1878 - 1882



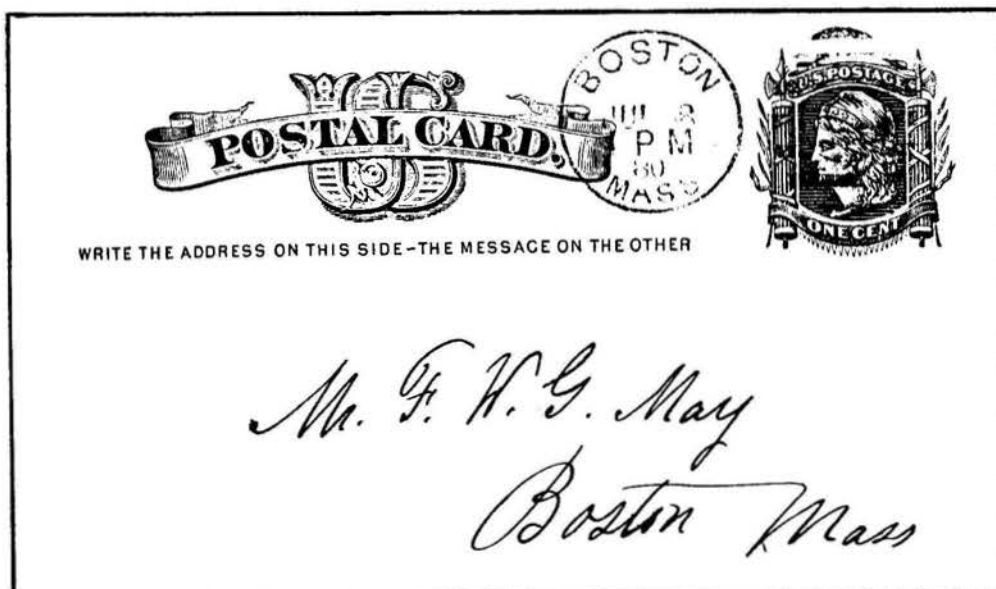
courtesy of Robert Patkin

TYPE B-1(C)

June 12, 1880

BOSTON, MASS.

This cancel has the month and day on the first line. It is also the position for all Type B-1 and B-2 cancels in 1880 except for the Type B-1 on the preceding page. The Type B-1 can be seen from February 23 to July 8, 1880.



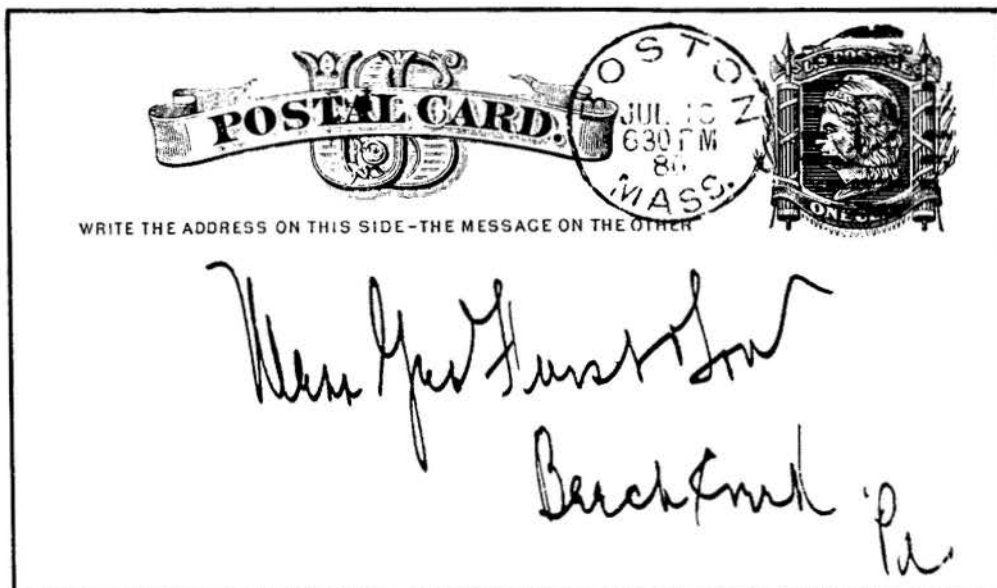
TYPE B-1(C)

July 8, 1880

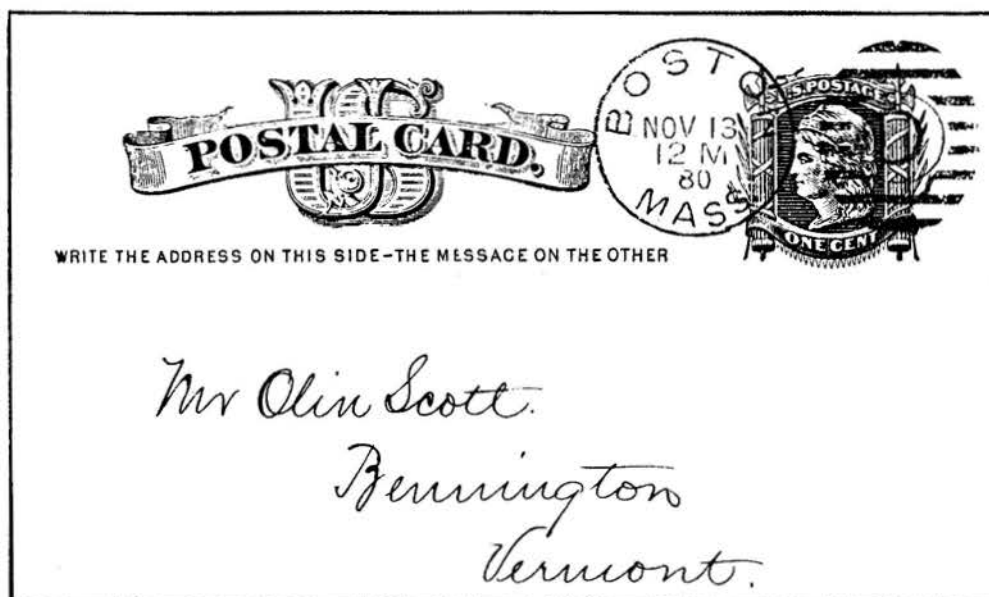
BOSTON, MASS.

During the eight week period between May 15, 1880, and July 8, 1880, only Type B-1 cancels have been reported from Boston. The variety having the month and day on the first line is the latest verified Type B-1 copy.

BOSTON
GROUP B - CANCELS
1878 - 1882

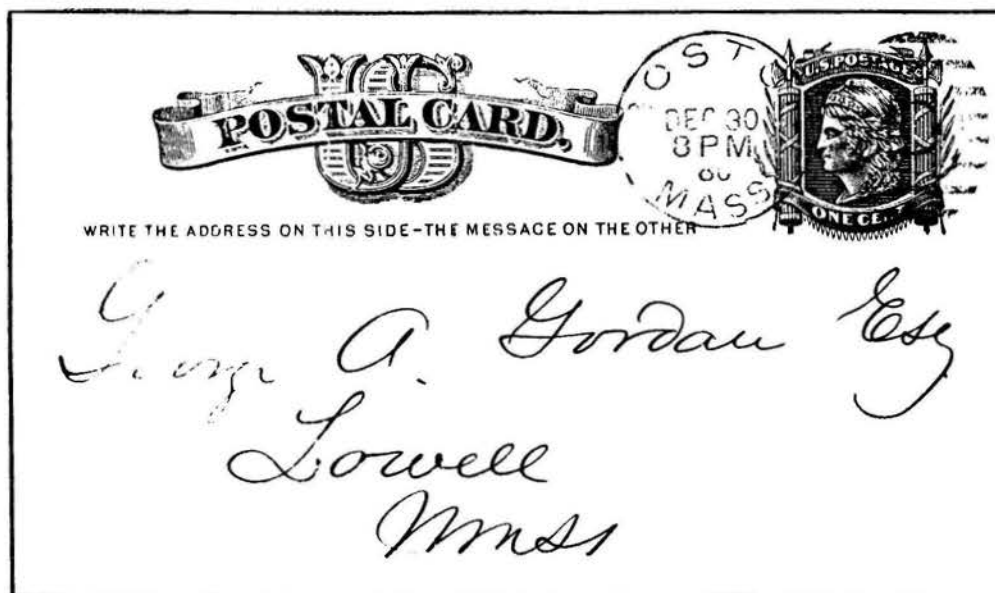


TYPE B-2(D) July 16, 1880 BOSTON, MASS.
This Boston cancel with the "80" year is the earliest known use of the Type B-2 during the second period after an absence of 15 weeks from a likely machine problem. The second period of use was July 16, 1880, to December 30, 1880.



TYPE B-2(D) November 13, 1880 BOSTON, MASS.
A small "v" notch shows in the small, curved top bar in the eight barred oval canceller. The "v" notch can be found on some cancellers but not all. It is possible a pick was inserted in the notch for removing the canceller.

BOSTON
GROUP B - CANCELS
1878 - 1882

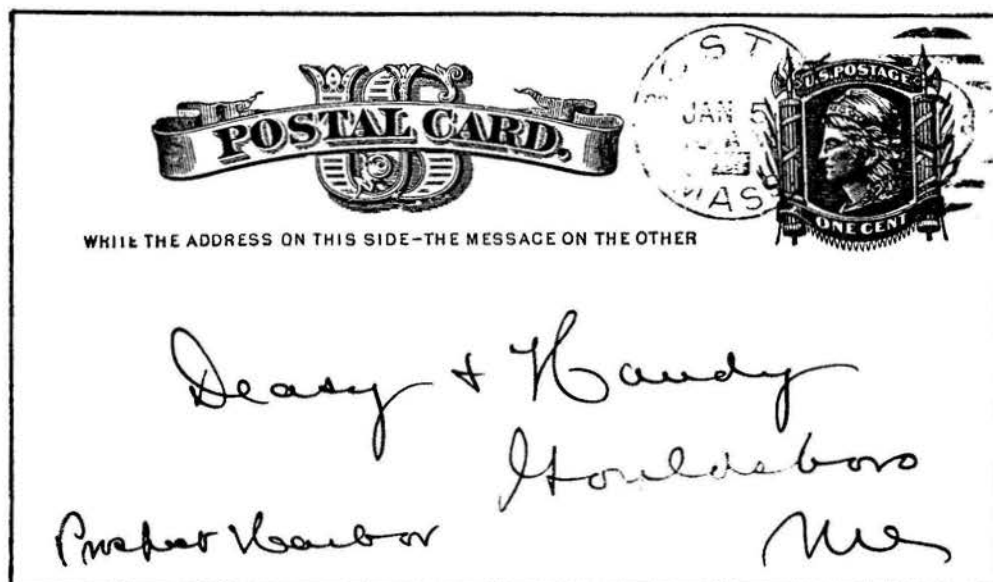


TYPE B-2(C)

December 30, 1880

BOSTON, MASS.

The latest use of the B-2 cancels with a two digit year is seen here dated December 30, 1880. After this date, the year date was not required on Leavitt cancels. In Boston, the old cancelling die continued without a year date.



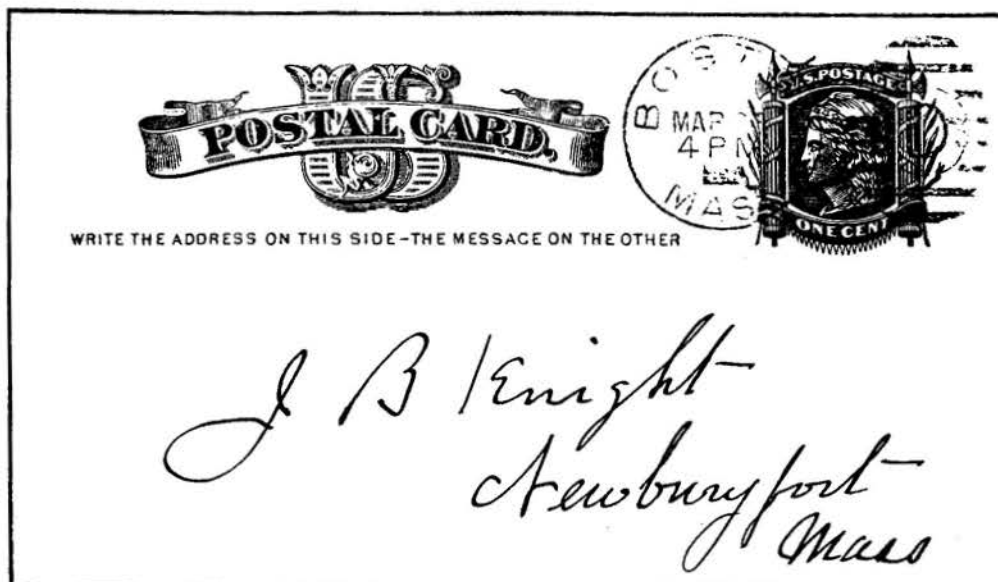
TYPE B-3(C)

January 5 (1881)

BOSTON, MASS.

The new yearless cancels are designated as the Type B-3. This same cancelling die used in Type B-2 cancels since 1879 was used in Type B-3. A bar slug replaced the year date in a variety known January 3, 1881, to March 23, 1881.

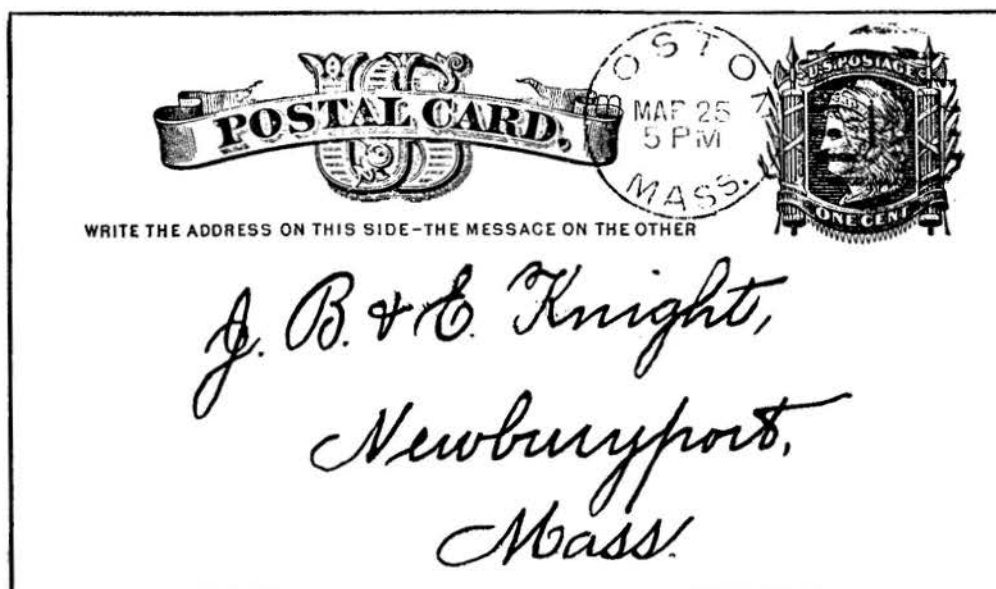
BOSTON
GROUP B - CANCELS
1878 - 1882



TYPE B-3(D) March 23 (1881) BOSTON, MASS.

This bar slug variety dated March 23, 1881, is the latest for the Type B-3.

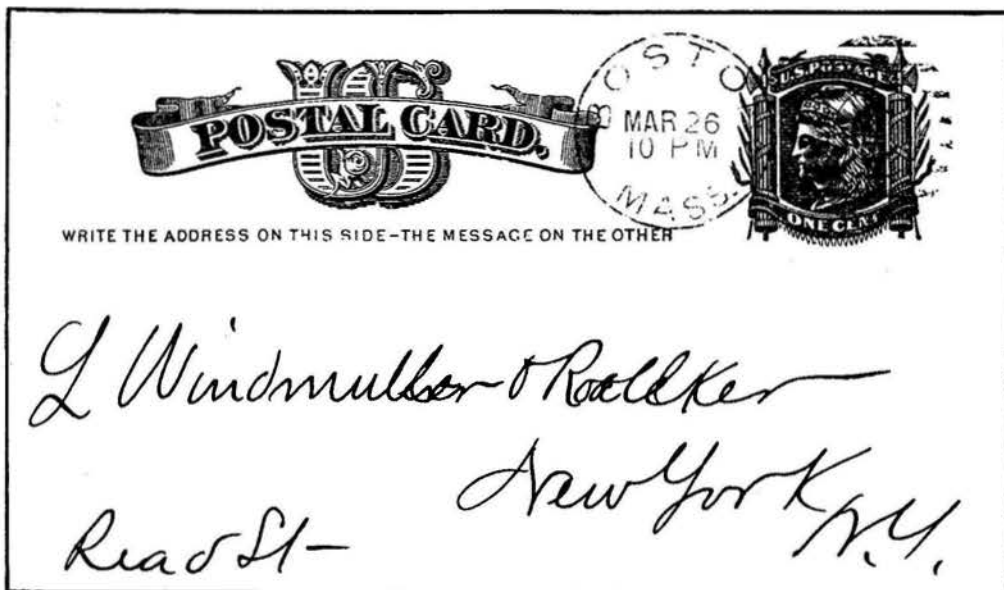
The bar slug type was originally B-3s but was eliminated because it was a minor variation. Compare Type B-2 and B-3 to verify that there was no change.



TYPE B-3(D) March 25 (1881) BOSTON, MASS.

With the year date no longer required, this March 25, 1881, is the earliest reported use with a blank third line and no year. It is designated as a Type B-3.

BOSTON
GROUP B - CANCELS
1878 - 1882



courtesy of Robert Patkin

TYPE B-3(C)

March 26 (1881)

BOSTON, MASS.

The use of a service letter "C" in Type B-3 cancels are scarce for 1881 and they are unknown for 1882. This "C" service letter is the earliest reported for a Type B-3.

When the registered letter or parcel accompanying this card is delivered, the Postmaster will require signature to the receipt on the other side, also on his record of registered deliveries, and mail this card without cover to address below.
A penalty of \$300 is fixed by law for using this card for other than official business.

Post Office Department. **Post Office at** MASS. Stamp here name of post office

OFFICIAL BUSINESS.

RETURN TO: Mr. A. Bari and date of delivery.

Name of Sender Mr. A. Bari

Street and Number, } Bradford
or Post Office Box. }

Post Office at MASS.

County of MASS. State of MASS.

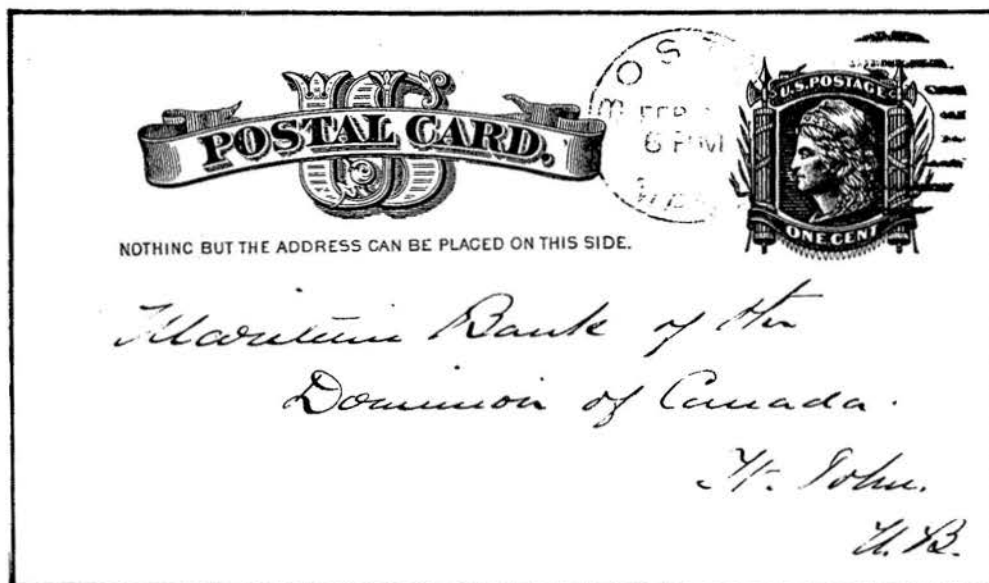
TYPE B-3(D)

November 25 (1881)

BOSTON, MASS.

The clear Type B-3 cancel shows a service letter "D" within the 11.5 mm. thin circular ring. In changing the service letter, a pick could be inserted in the "v" notch to remove the 8-bar oval canceller die.

BOSTON
GROUP B - CANCELS
1878 - 1882



TYPE B-3(D)

February 23 (1882)

courtesy of Robert Patkin

BOSTON, MASS.

The designated Type B-3 cancels with no year date are reported January 4, 1881, to February 23, 1882. The Type B-3 cancelling die used the Die Cb dial. On March 1, 1882, the dial was installed in the Type C-1 cancelling die.

ALBANY
GROUP B - CANCELS
1878 - 1881

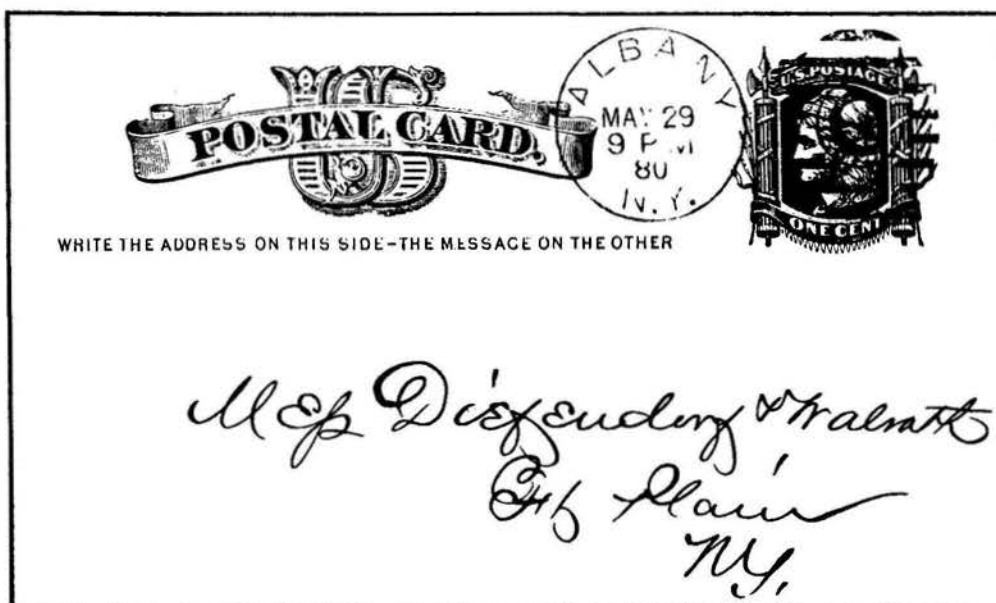


TYPE B-ALB(D)

October 25 1879

ALBANY, N.Y.

Type B cancels from Albany have a 25 mm. dial with an 8-bar oval canceller measuring 24.5 mm. x 20.5 mm. Service letters "C" and "D" were both used in Albany. The "D" service letter seen here is scarcer than "C".



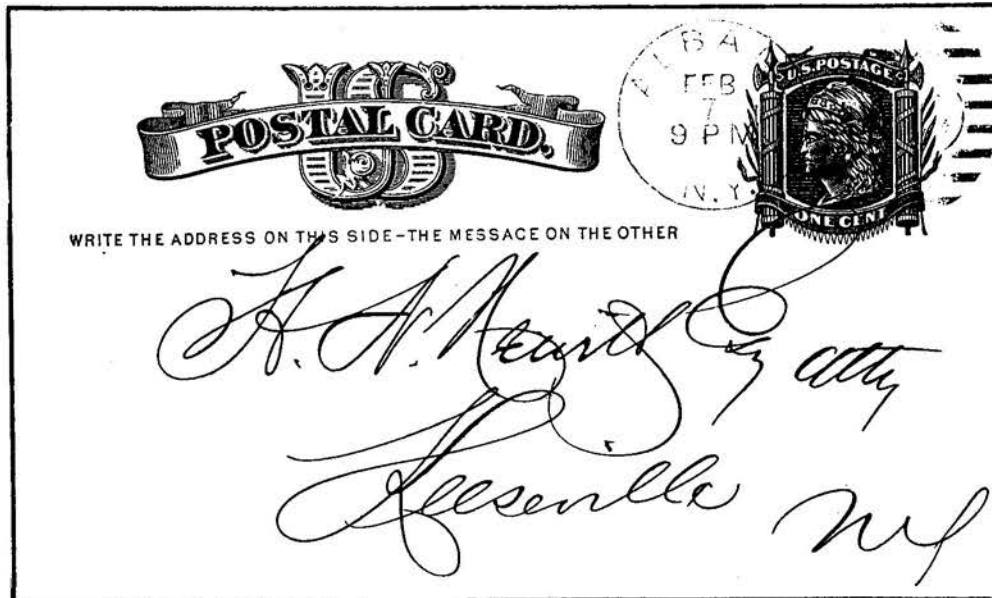
TYPE B-ALB(C)

May 29, 1880

ALBANY, N.Y.

Albany cancels show a "v" notch in the top bar of the eight bar oval canceller. As indicated earlier, possibly the "v" notch was an opening where a pick could be used to remove the canceller to change the service letter.

ALBANY
GROUP B - CANCELS
1878 - 1881



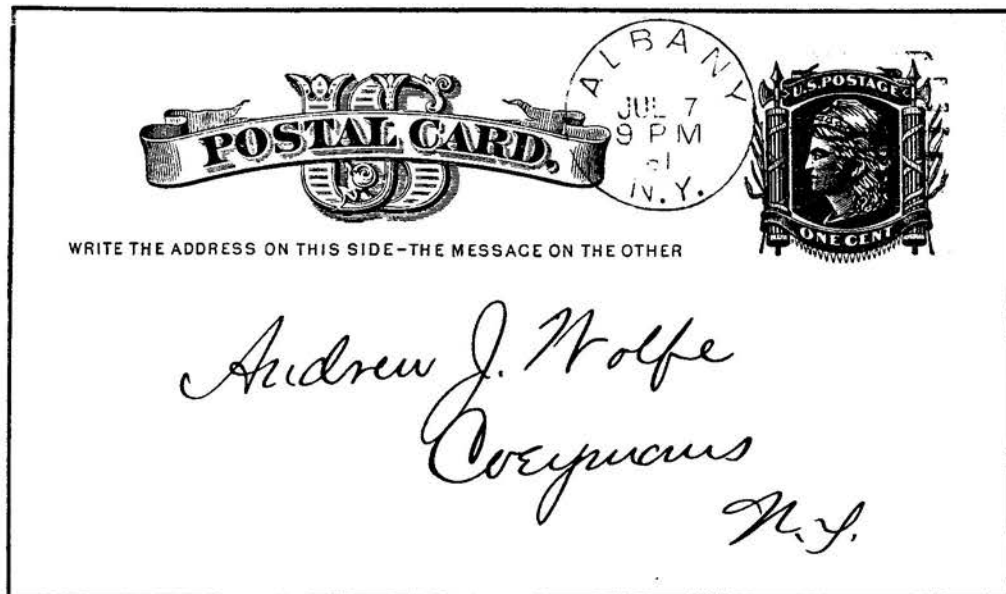
courtesy of Robert Patkin

TYPE B-ALB(C)

February 7 (1881)

ALBANY, N.Y.

The above Albany cancel shows an interesting indicia. With the month on the first line, day on the second line and time on the third. The two digit year date is reported for all Albany cancels except for this type.



TYPE B-ALB(C)

July 7, 1881

ALBANY, N.Y.

The majority of Albany cancels have a "9 PM" time that suggests that the time was not often changed or postal cards were left for the evening shift to cancel.

The latest known is seen here. Used from September 4, 1879, to July 7, 1881.

ATLANTA
GROUP B - CANCELS
1881

Very few new discoveries have been made in the realm of Leavitt machine cancels during the past decade. One discovery was a unique Boston experimental letter machine cancel Type X4-Dial B with pin punctures proving it was a new Group X cancel and is illustrated in the Group X section on page 263.

A decade ago, numerous testimonial letters were discovered that praised the Leavitt machines. One major surprise was the discovery of this testimonial letter written by the Atlanta postmaster in 1879 and quoted below:-

"Post Office, Atlanta, Ga.
September 22d, 1879

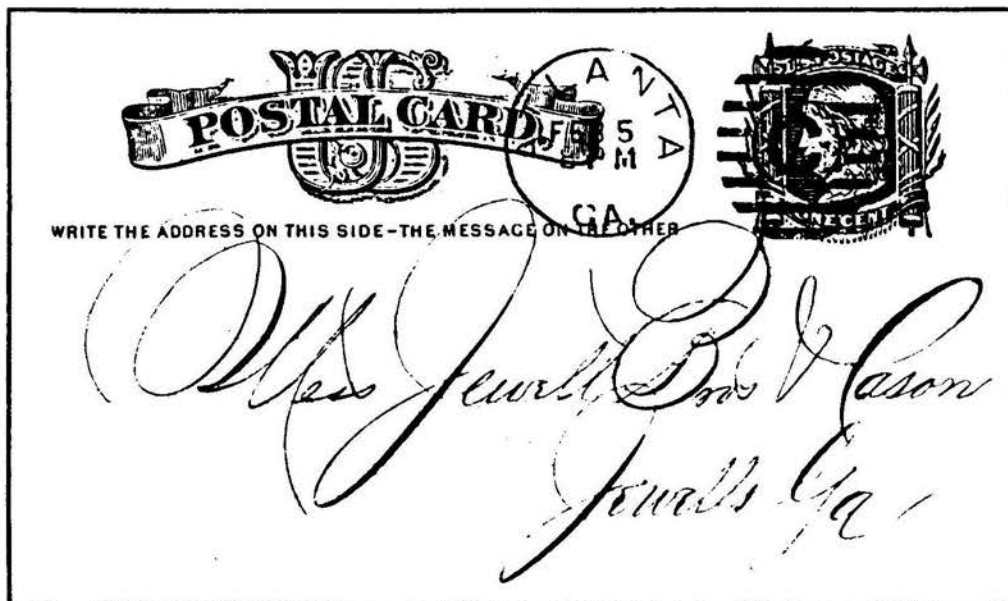
Thomas Leavitt, Esq.

Your Postal Card Postmarking and Cancelling Machine placed in this Office, has given entire satisfaction. For the larger offices, I think it indispensable. I trust you will be able to make such an arrangement with the Post Office Department, as will compensate you for so valuable an invention and which must prove such a labor-saving instrument in the postal service of the nation.

Benj. Conley, Postmaster"

Reproduced here is a card illustrating the Atlanta cancel from the Leavitt postal card

machine referred to in the letter.



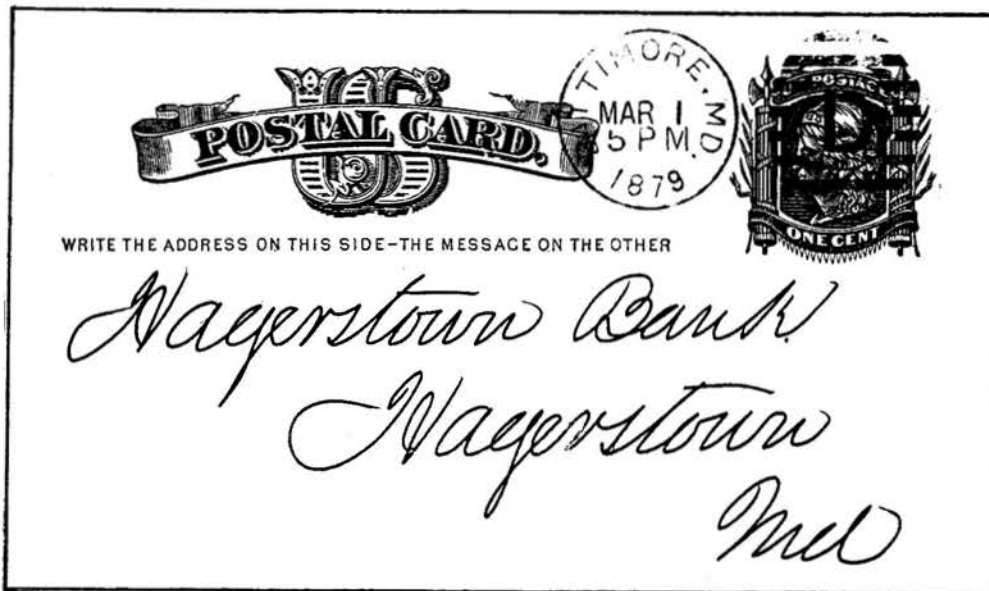
TYPE B-(C)

February 5 (1881)

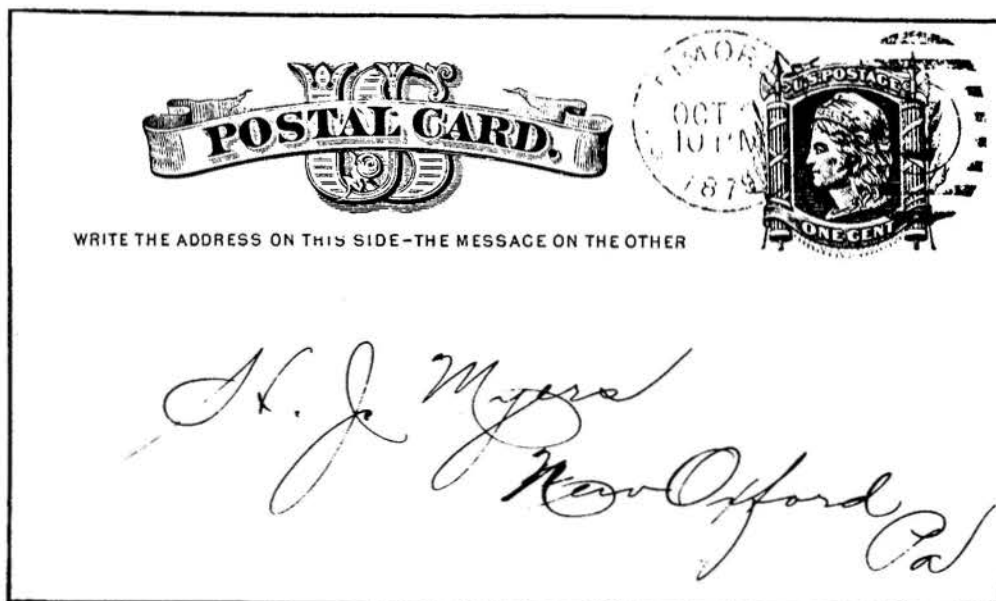
ATLANTA, GA.

This Atlanta cancel is unique and recently discovered. The postmaster's September 22, 1879, testimonial letter combined with the date of this card suggests 16 months use. The ink used in the Atlanta cancel has a bluish cast.

BALTIMORE
GROUP B - CANCELS
1879 - 1882

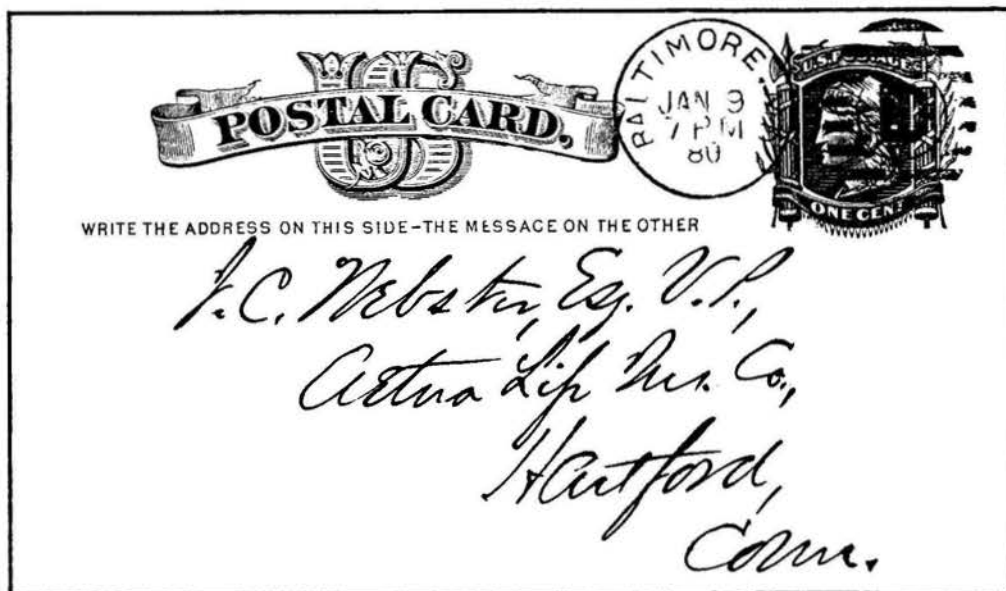


TYPE B-BALT(D) March 1, 1879 *courtesy of Robert Patkin*
BALTIMORE, MD.
Earliest known use of the Leavitt machine in Baltimore is March 1, 1879. The
Type B cancel has a small 23.5 mm dial with a small 25 x 20 mm. eight-
bar oval canceller. Baltimore cancels are seen only with a "D" service letter.



TYPE B-BALT(D) October 2, 1879 BALTIMORE, MD.
This example of the Baltimore cancel shows the ink to have a bluish cast and
is observed in several periods in 1879 - 1880. Note the inverted "D" service
letter.

BALTIMORE
GROUP B - CANCELS
1879 - 1882

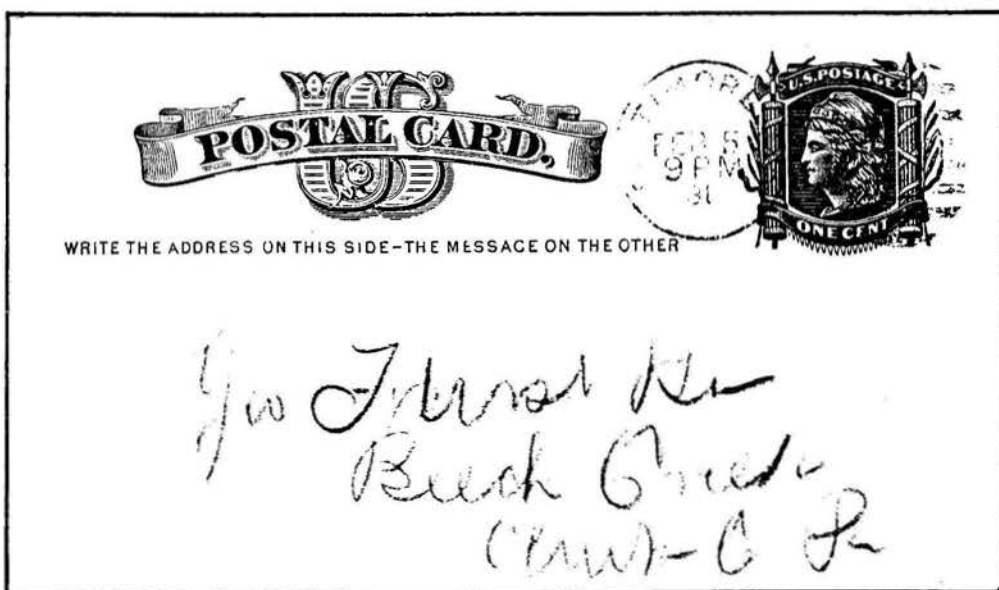


TYPE B-BALT(D)

January 9, 1880

BALTIMORE, MD.

Type B cancels from Baltimore are known using several forms of year dates, a four digit date in 1879, a two digit date in 1880 and 1881 and no year date in 1882.



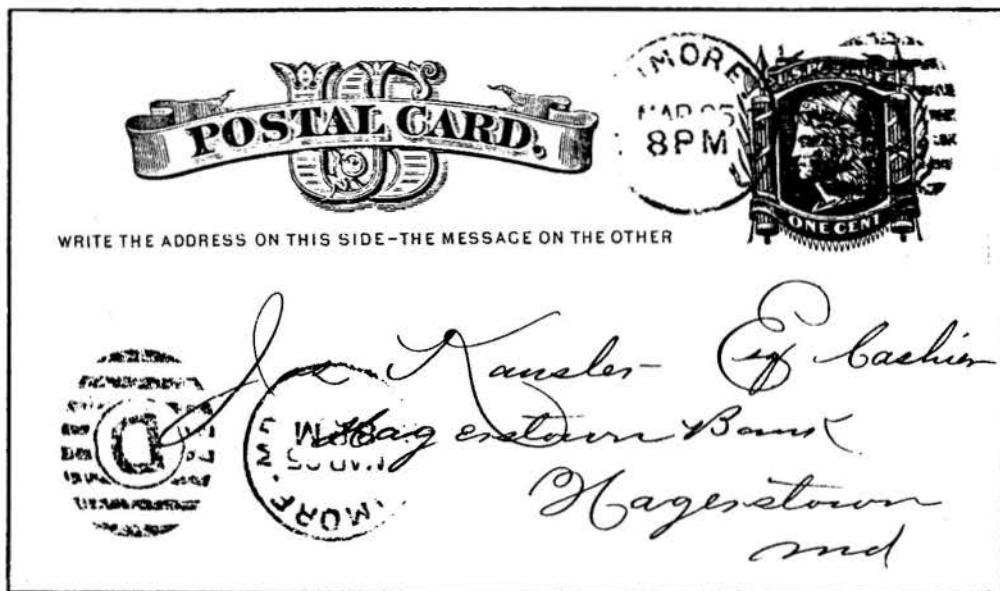
TYPE B-BALT(D)

February 5, 1881

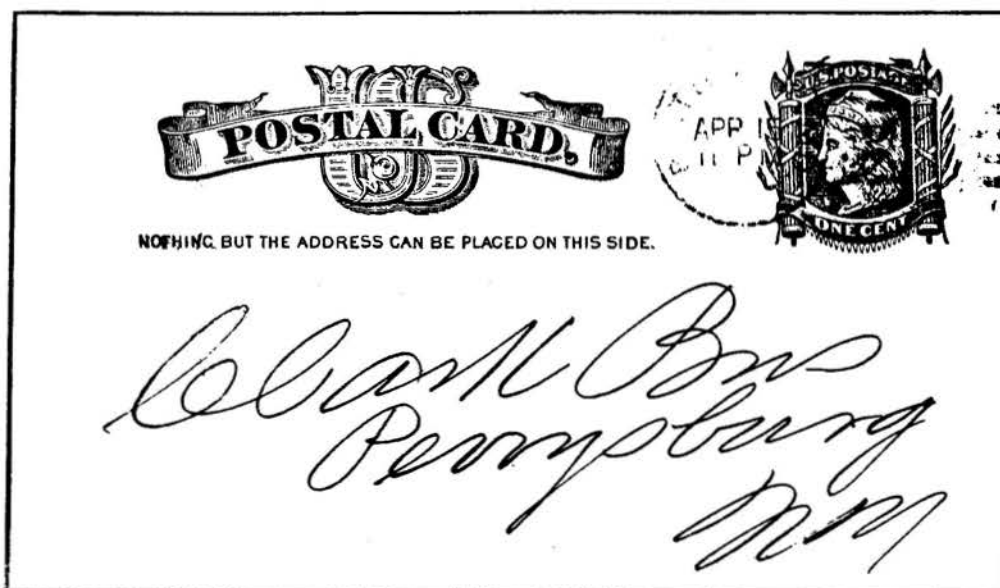
BALTIMORE, MD.

The majority of Baltimore cancels reported between the mid-1880's and April 15, 1882, are poorly inked. Cancels known from 1881 showing a two digit year date are scarce. Type B cancels are known from March 1, 1879, to April 15, 1882.

BALTIMORE
GROUP B - CANCELS
1879 - 1882



TYPE B-BALT(D) March 25 (1882) BALTIMORE, MD.
Two digit year dated cancels have not been reported in 1882 and generally, impressions are very lightly inked. Errors during the procedure of facing postal cards was the reason for cancels to be in this inverted position.



TYPE B-BALT(D) April 15 (1882) BALTIMORE, MD.
This is the latest known use of the Type B cancel from Baltimore. During its use in late 1881 and early 1882, the experimental Leavitt letter machine was also being used. The new Type C cancels were used by May 18, 1882.

BROOKLYN
GROUP B - CANCELS
1879 - 1881

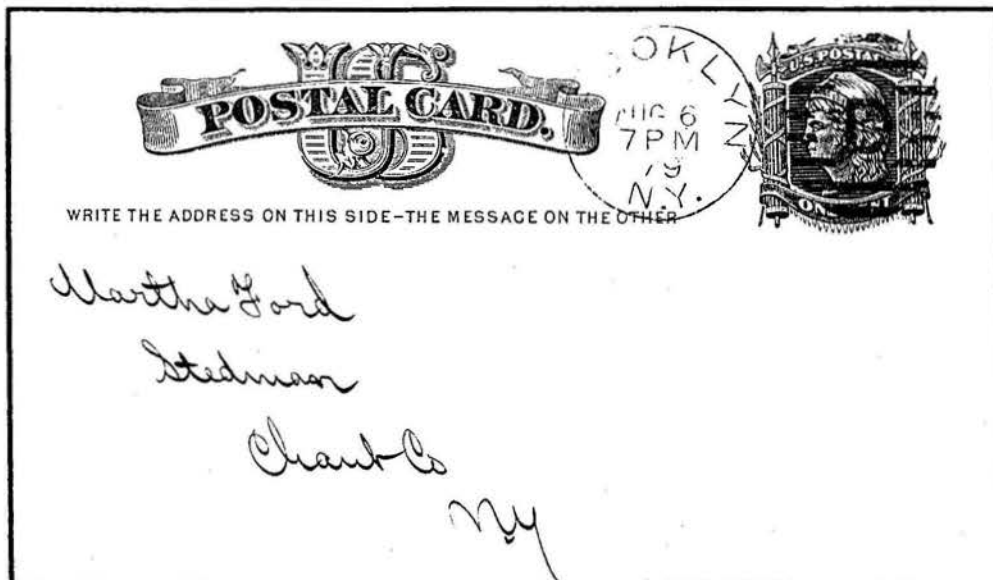
The testimonial letter below gives a glowing report on the Leavitt machine installed on trial in July 1879 in the Brooklyn Post Office. It is doubtful that Postmaster McLeer's request to purchase the small, hand powered machine was fulfilled.

While the postmaster reports that his machine was received in July, the earliest reported cancel is August 6, 1879. (as seen here)

"POST OFFICE, BROOKLYN, N.Y.
November 21st, 1879

In the month of July last, Mr. Thomas Leavitt placed one of his Postmarking and Cancelling Machines in this Office for trial. It has been in constant use ever since, and has proved itself a very useful adjunct to our service, enabling us many times to get out Postal Cards with much greater promptness than would have been possible by the hand process. The Machine has remained in good order during the whole time, seems simple in its construction, and likely to remain serviceable for a long time. I have asked for permission to purchase this Machine for the permanent use of the Office.

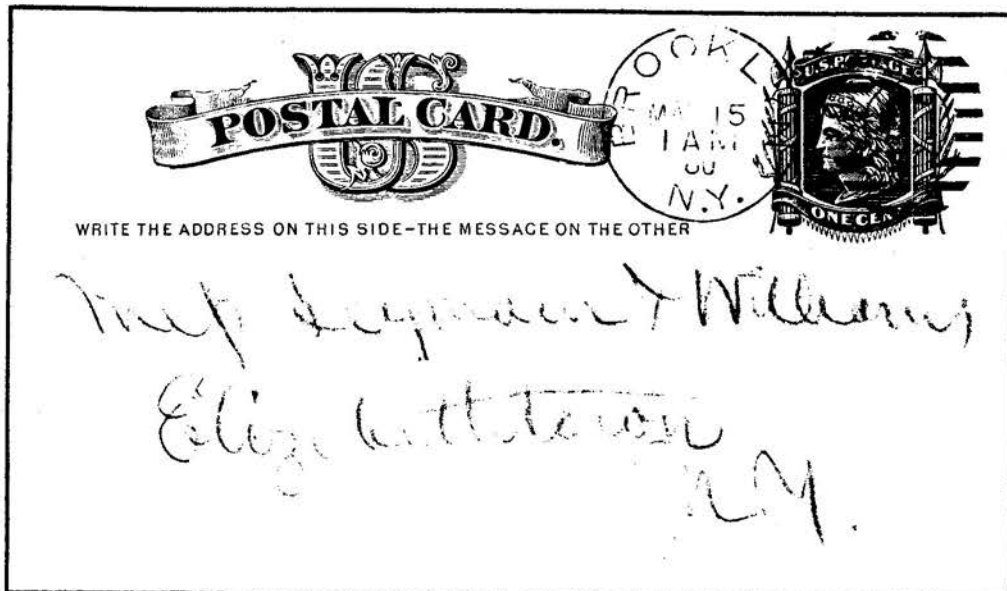
Signed) James McLeer, Postmaster"



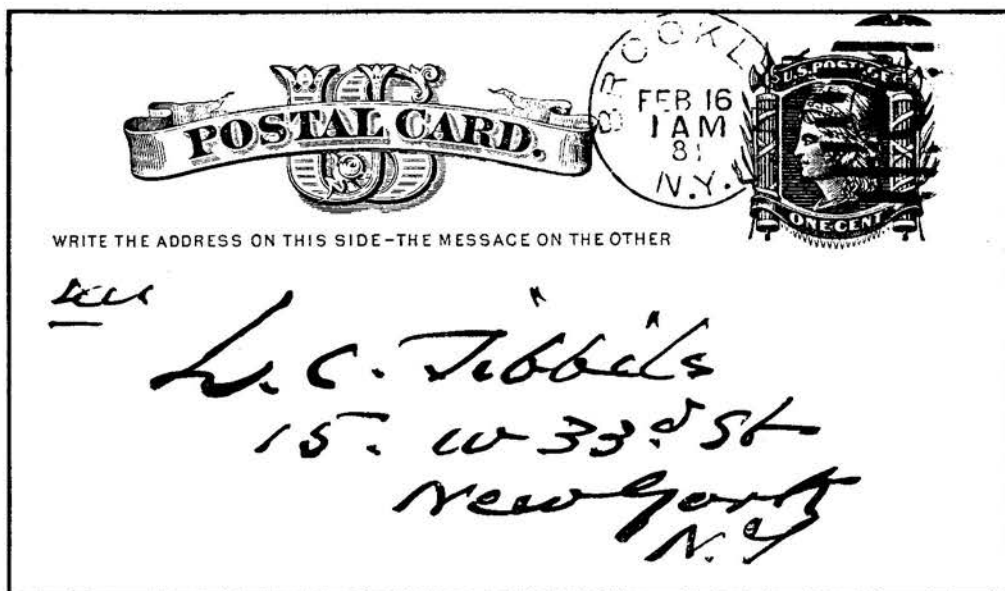
courtesy of Joe McDonough

TYPE B-BRK(D) August 6, 1879 BROOKLYN, N.Y.
While the postmaster's letter indicates the new Leavitt machine was received in July, the earliest known cancel from Brooklyn is August 6, 1879. The latest reported use is June 24, 1881. Note that this canceller shows the "v" notch.

BROOKLYN
GROUP B - CANCELS
1879 - 1881

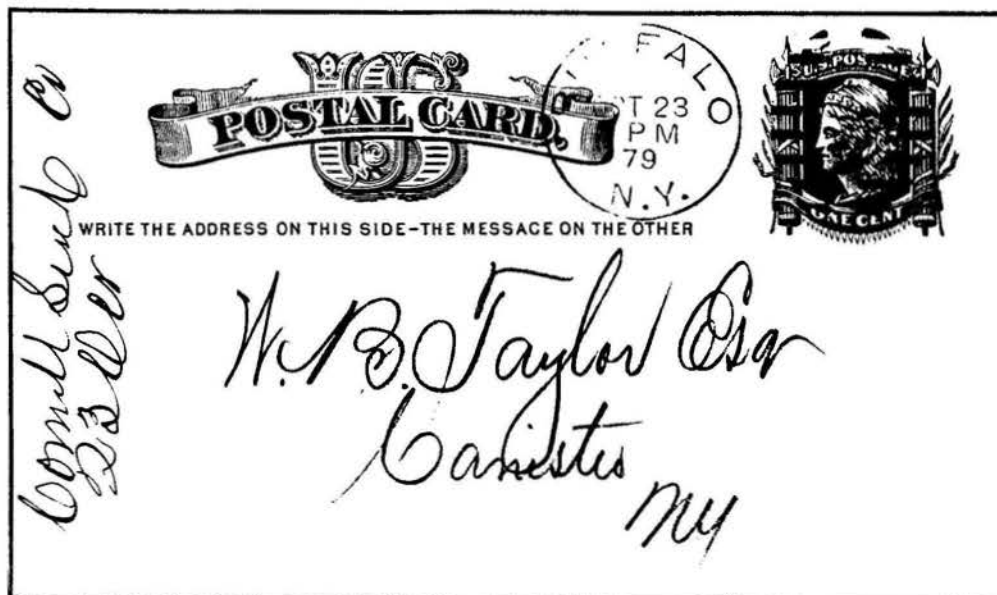


TYPE B-BRK(C) May 15, 1880 BROOKLYN, N.Y.
Brooklyn cancels with the service letter "C" have now been reported with at least five copies known in 1880. The machine was used for 22 months but cancels are not common.

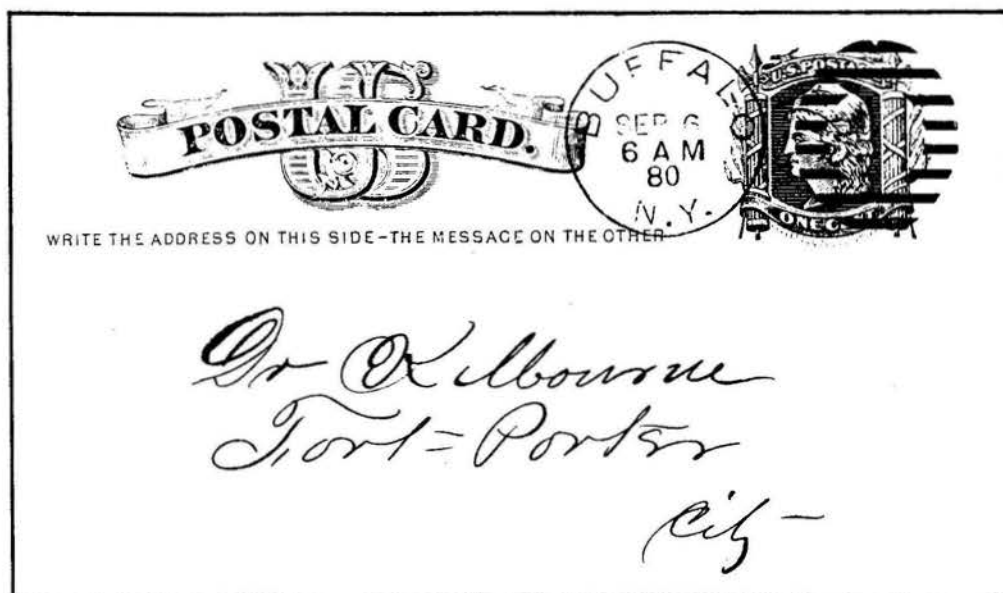


TYPE B-BRK(D) February 16, 1881 BROOKLYN, N.Y.
The Brooklyn cancelling die in the Leavitt machine used a 25.0 mm. dial and a 24.5 mm. x 20.5 mm. 8-bar oval canceller with a "v" notch. All reported Brooklyn cancels known used between 1879 and 1881 have a two digit year.

BUFFALO
GROUP B - CANCELS
1879 - 1892

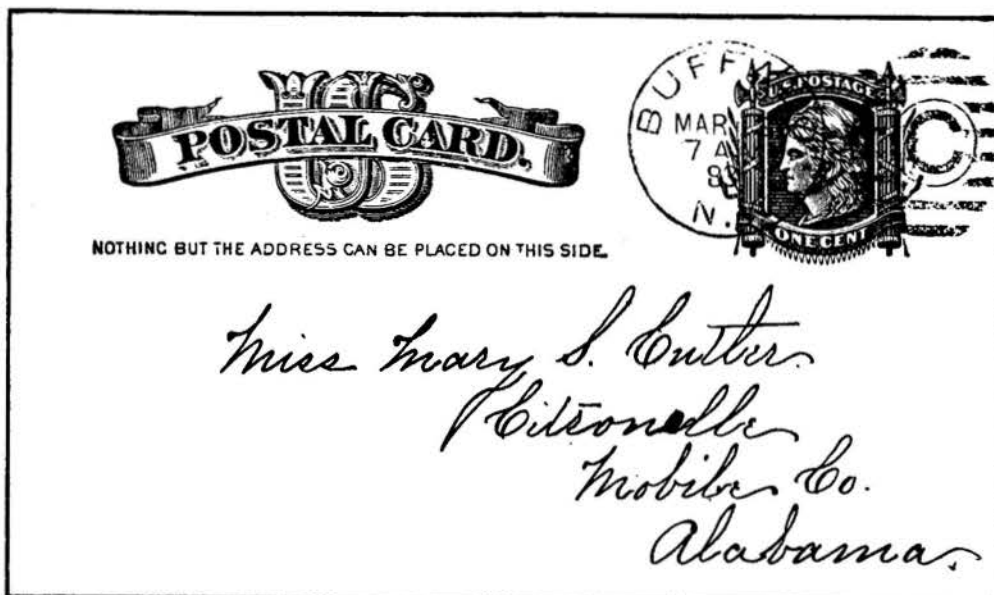


TYPE B-BUF() October 23, 1879 BUFFALO, N.Y.
The October 23, 1879, cancel is the earliest use of the new machine. On some early cancels, the canceller does not always print completely. It is typical for service letters to be illegible or non-existent in 1879 and 1880.



TYPE B-BUF() September 6, 1880 BUFFALO, N.Y.
Buffalo cancels from the Leavitt machine are reported used from October 23, 1879, to February 4, 1892. By late 1880, the complete canceller prints but copies appear with the inner 11 mm. ring and service letter missing.

BUFFALO
GROUP B - CANCELS
1879 - 1892

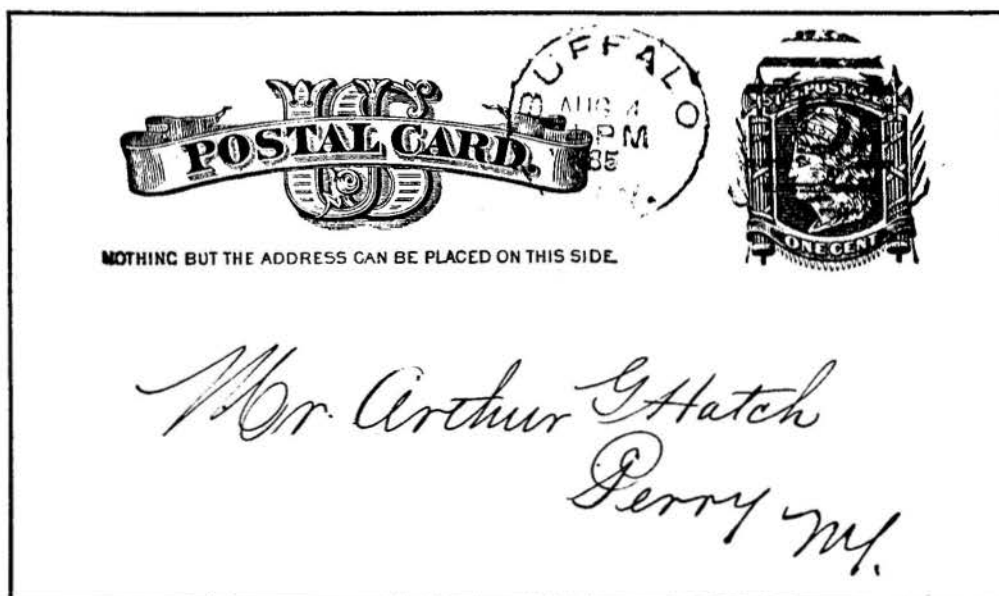


TYPE B-BUF(C)

March 13, 1883

BUFFALO, N.Y.

Buffalo cancels in 1879 and 1880 are seen with two digit year dates; no year dates are known for 1881 and 1882; year dates appear in 1883 to 1885 and 1887; no year dates for 1886 and 1888 to 1892. No year on some in 1884 to 1887.



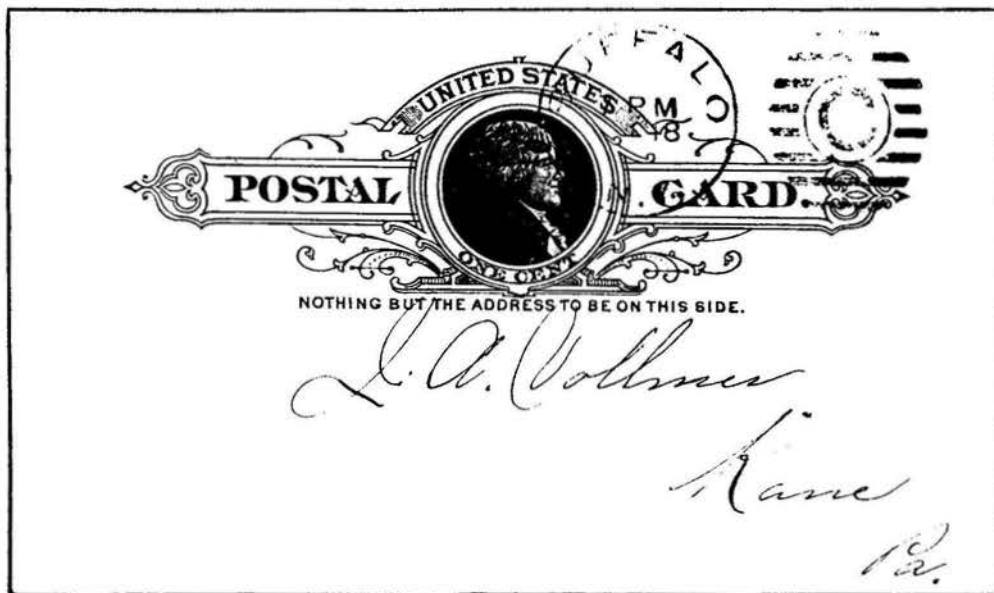
TYPE B-BUF(D)

August 4, 1885

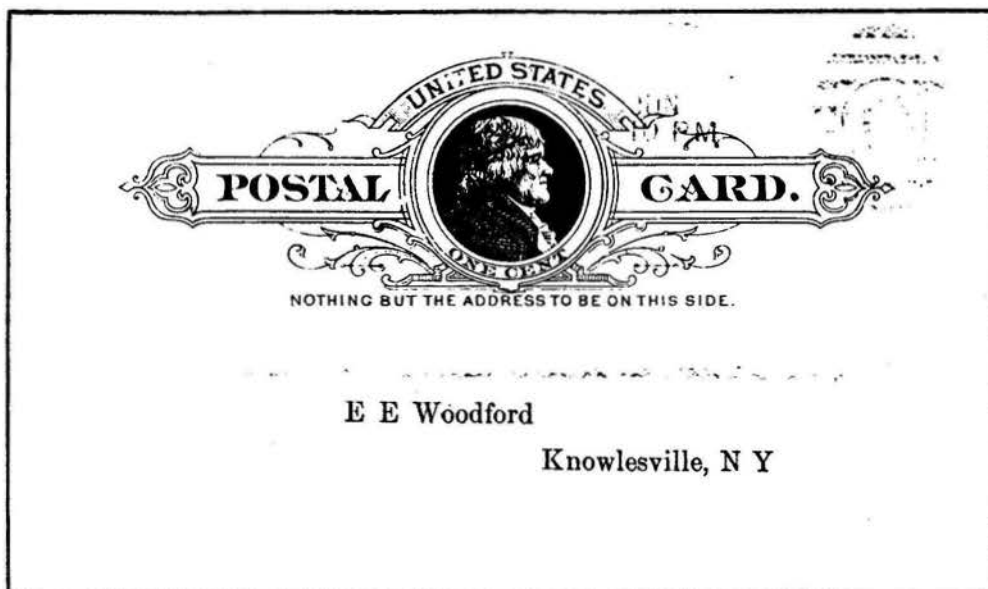
BUFFALO, N.Y.

The Buffalo cancelling die has a 25 mm. dial with an 8-bar oval canceller measuring 24.5 x 20.5 mm. A "v" notch is cut in the top bar. The service letter "C" is known by early 1881. Not until August 4, 1885, is the "D" seen.

BUFFALO
GROUP B - CANCELS
1879 - 1892

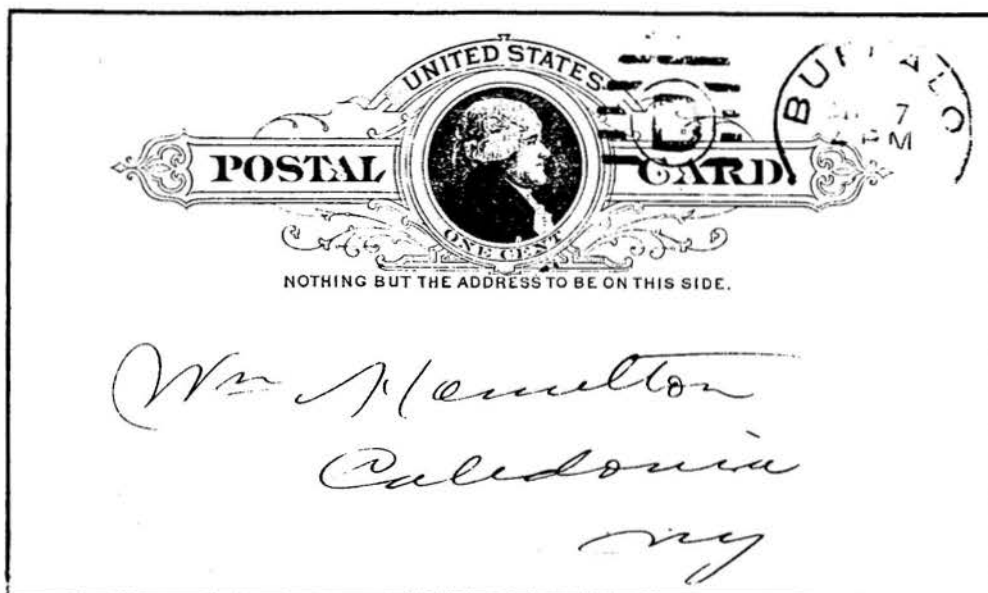


TYPE B-BUF(C) (April) 18 (1888) BUFFALO, N.Y.
The Buffalo cancel shows several errors in the indicia with 7 PM time on the first line and not on the second line. On the second indicia line, APRIL does not print and only day "18" printed. The two lines were reversed.

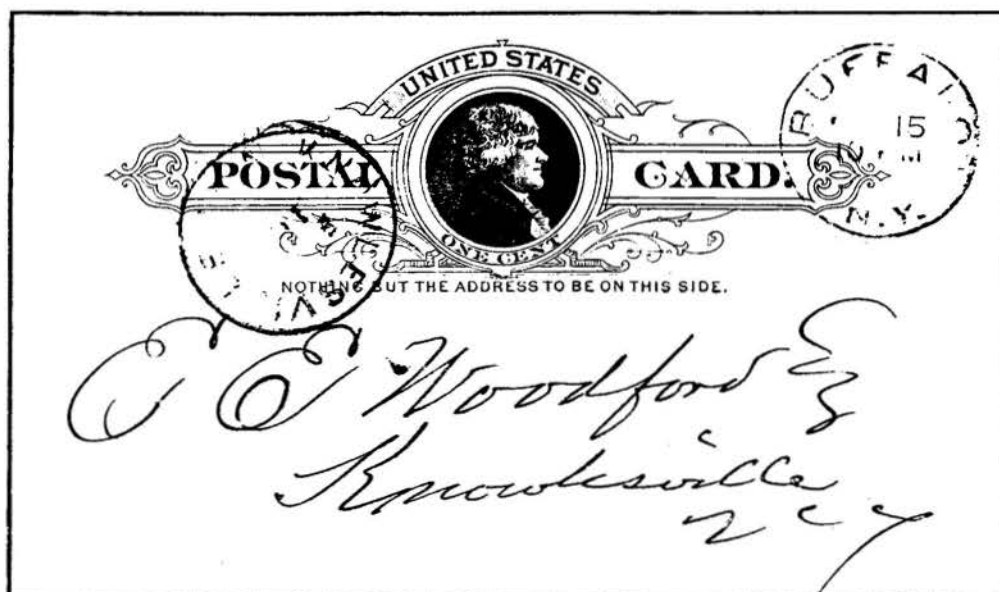


TYPE B-BUF(D) June (29, 1891) BUFFALO, N.Y.
As with this example, the Buffalo cancels appear to show an inking problem by 1889. This condition seems to gradually worsen to a point where cancels appear to be ink starved. Only a portion of the dial is seen by June 1891. This copy shows only JUN and a 10 PM time.

BUFFALO
GROUP B - CANCELS
1879 - 1892

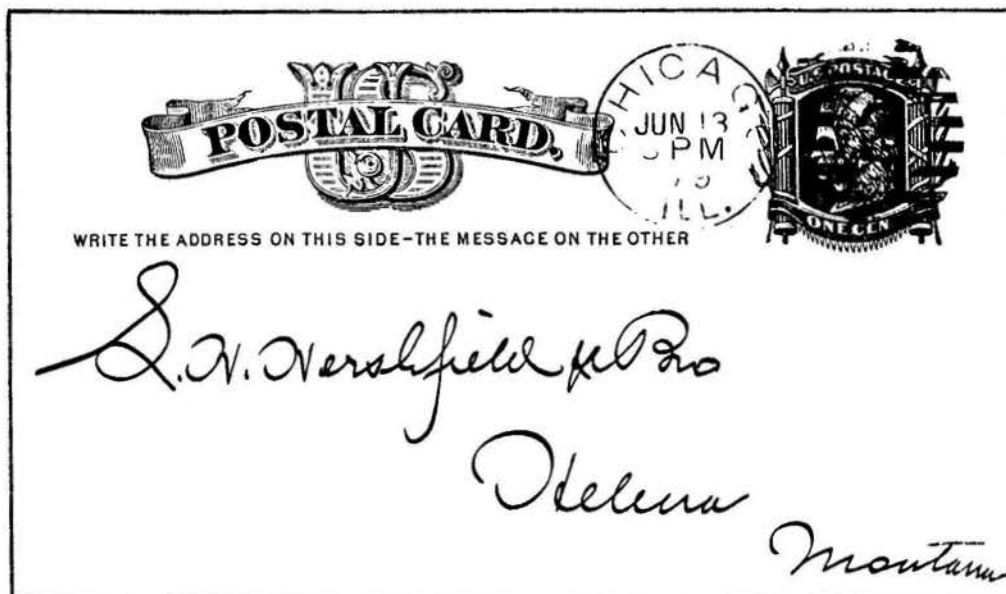


TYPE B-BUF(D) August 7 (1891) BUFFALO, N.Y.
We believe in an attempt to correct the inking problem the clerk transposed the dial and canceller dies. This unusual Leavitt type is known for two days, August 6, and 7, 1891, with three copies known.



TYPE B-BUFFALO (September) 15 (1891) BUFFALO, N.Y.
In addition to the transposed die cancels, this unusual cancel shows a dial only with the canceller die removed by at least September 1891. The cancel was used in this condition for six months. Latest known is February 4, 1892.

CHICAGO
GROUP B - CANCELS
1879



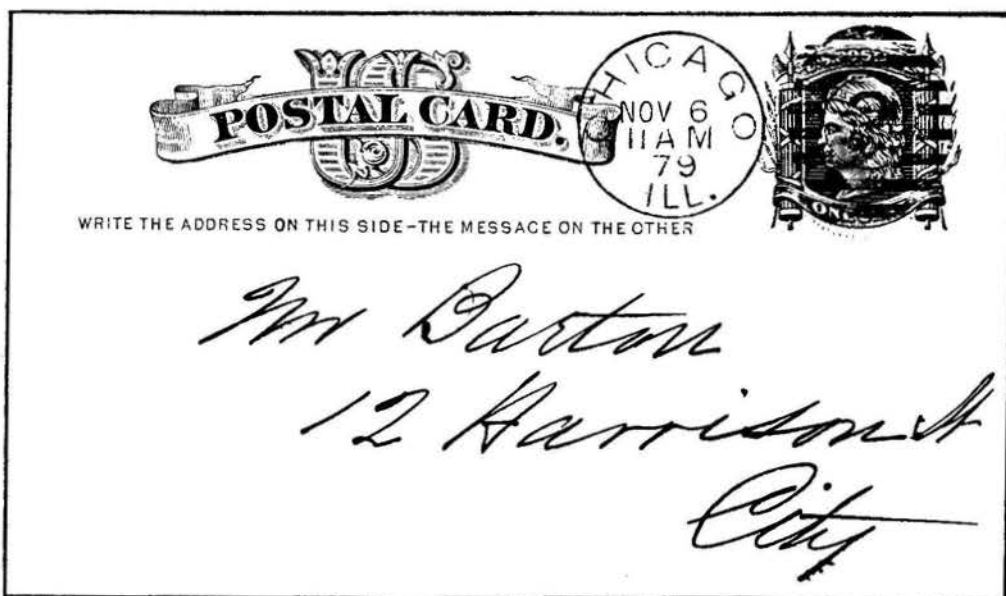
TYPE B-CHI(2)

June 13, 1879

CHICAGO, ILL.

This cancelling die was composed of a 24 mm. dial and an 8-barred canceller measuring 25 x 21 mm. A numeral "2" was used in place of a service letter.

Three other cities had numbers; Boston, New York and Philadelphia.



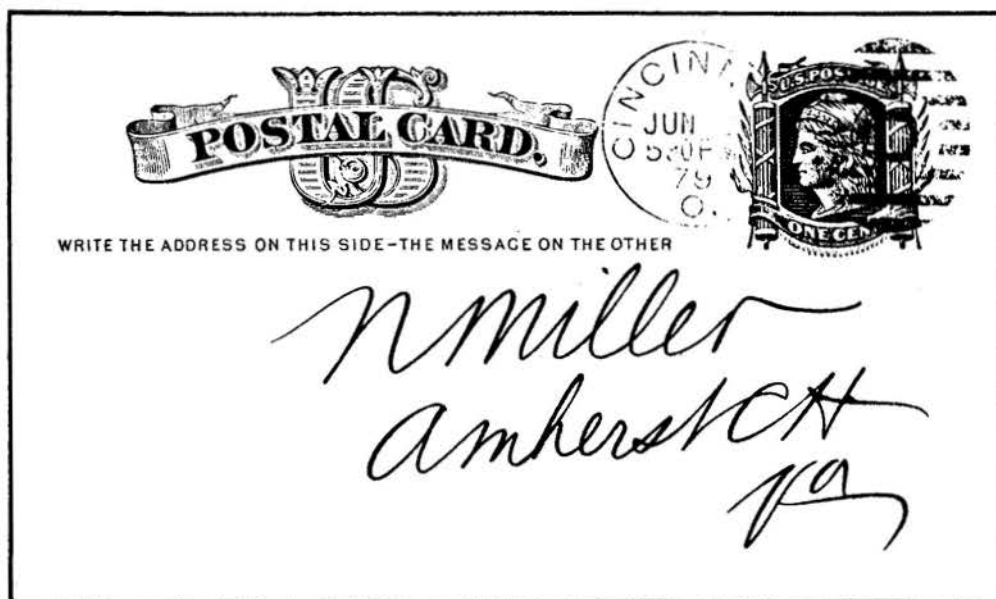
TYPE B-CHI(2)

November 6, 1879

CHICAGO, ILL.

The Chicago machine was used briefly for five months. The correct use is June 10, 1879, to November 7, 1879. A previous listing of use in 1880 was erroneous. Complete and well inked examples are very scarce like this late use.

CINCINNATI
GROUP B - CANCELS
1879

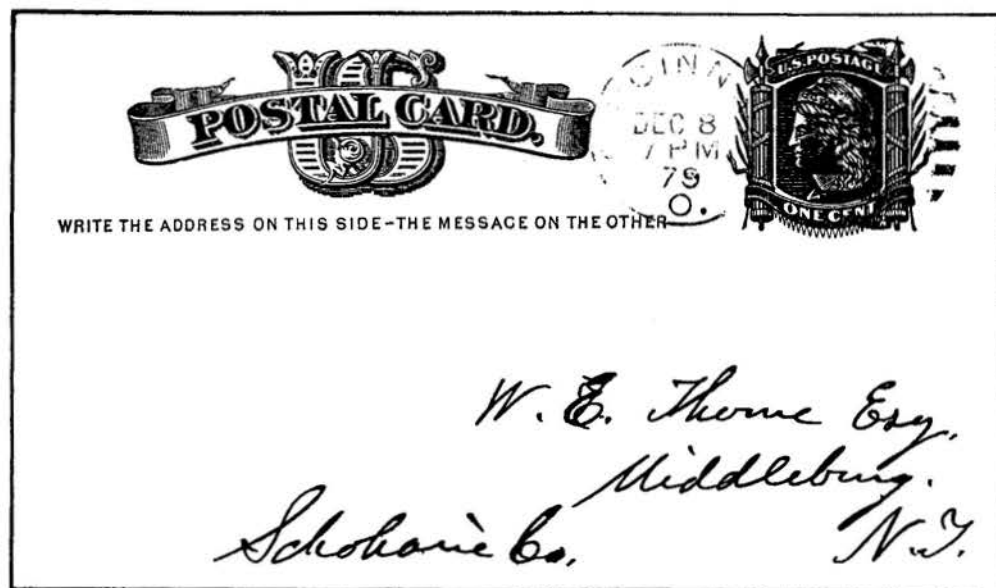


TYPE B-CIN(D)

June 12, 1879

CINCINNATI, O.

A dull bluish to bluish-black shade of ink was used on the Cincinnati cancel during its brief tenure of six months. Reported used between June 10, 1879, and December 8, 1879. To date, only the service letter "D" has been recorded.



TYPE B-CIN(D)

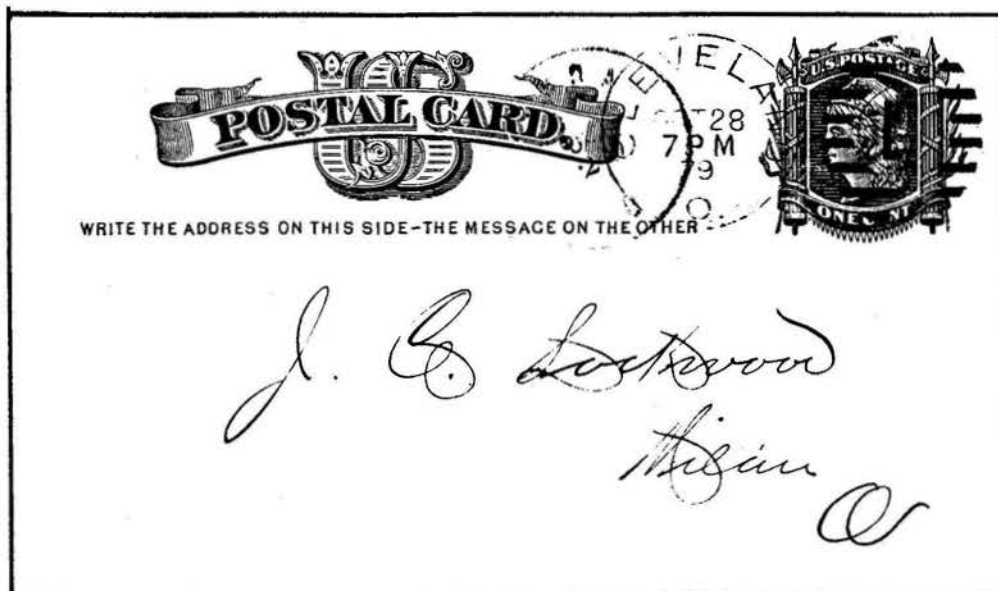
December 8, 1879

CINCINNATI, O.

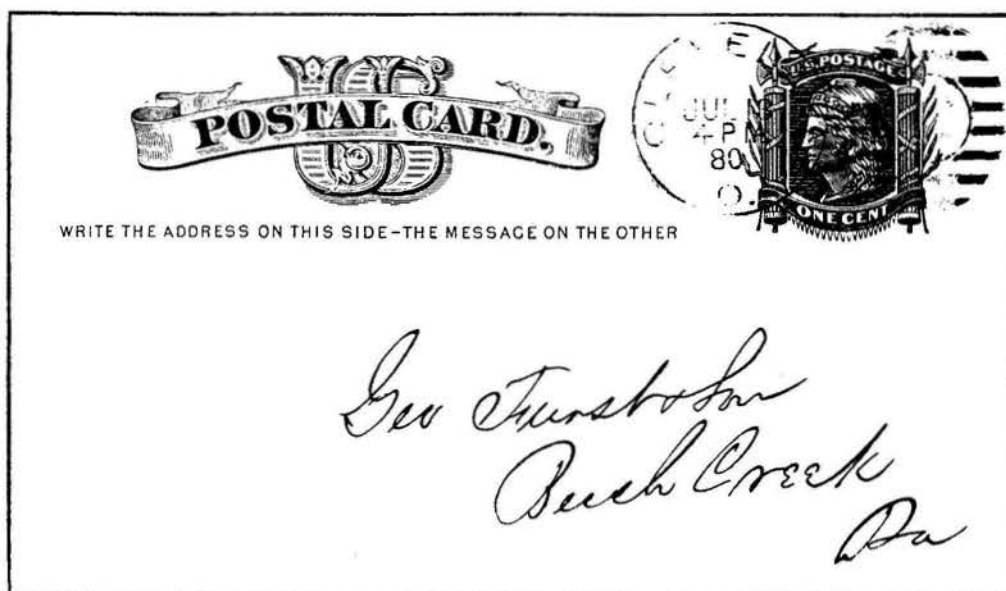
Cancelling die for Cincinnati used a small, 24 mm. dial with the canceller measuring 25 mm. x 20 mm. A bar slug replacing the year is listed in the 1985 Catalog (Stratton) but it needs verification. Bar slugs were mainly used early in the year when the new year date had not been received in time..

courtesy of Robert Patkin

CLEVELAND
GROUP B - CANCELS
1879 - 1885

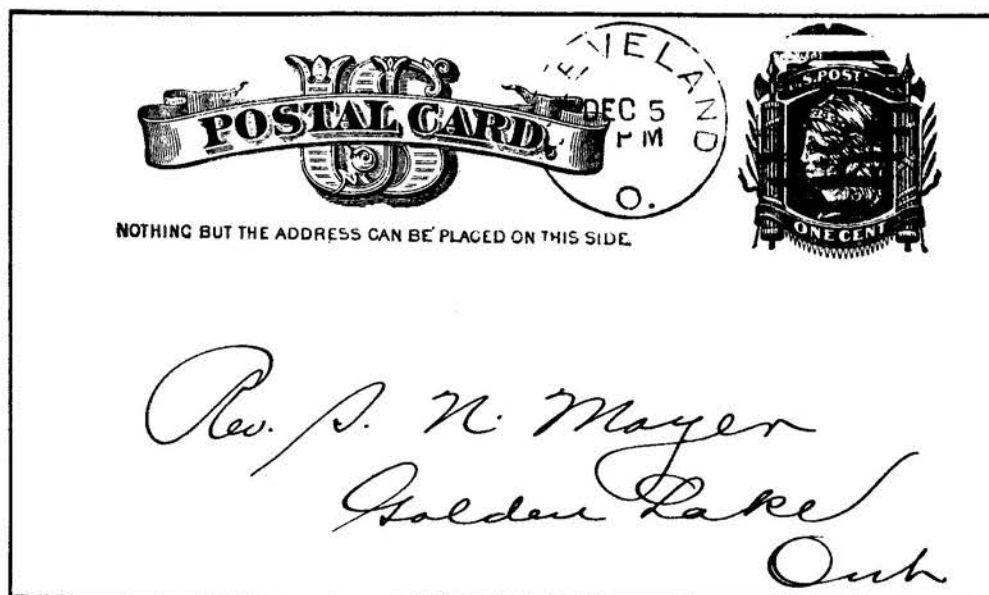


TYPE B-CLV(D) October 28, 1879 CLEVELAND, O.
The earliest use in Cleveland is dated October 28, 1879, and the latest known in the first period is July 13, 1880. Machine shut-down was probably from mechanical failure. This service letter "D" is unique from Cleveland.

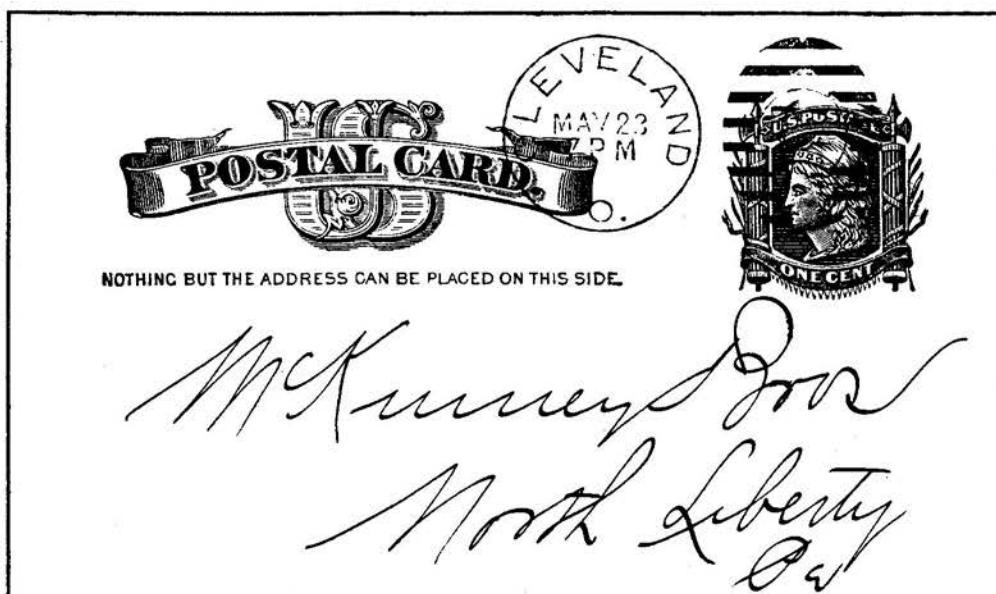


TYPE B-CLV(C) July 13, 1880 CLEVELAND, O.
Cleveland cancels are seen in two periods, 1879 to 1880 and again from 1884 to 1885. This July 13, 1880, cancel is the latest known use in the first period. There have been no Cleveland cancels seen for 1881, 1882 or 1883.

CLEVELAND
GROUP B - CANCELS
1879 - 1885

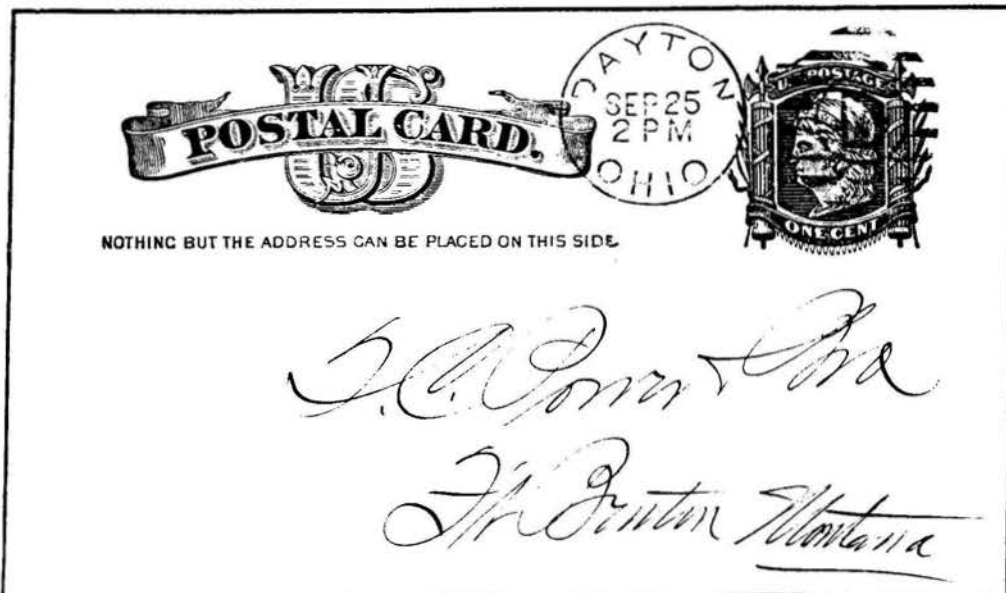


TYPE B-CLV(C) December 5 (1884) CLEVELAND, O.
The Type B cancels from Cleveland have a 24.5 mm. dial with a 24.5 x 20.5 mm. canceller with a "v" notch. Again, by November 5, 1884, the Cleveland machine is cancelling cards. No year dated cancels are known for this second period.

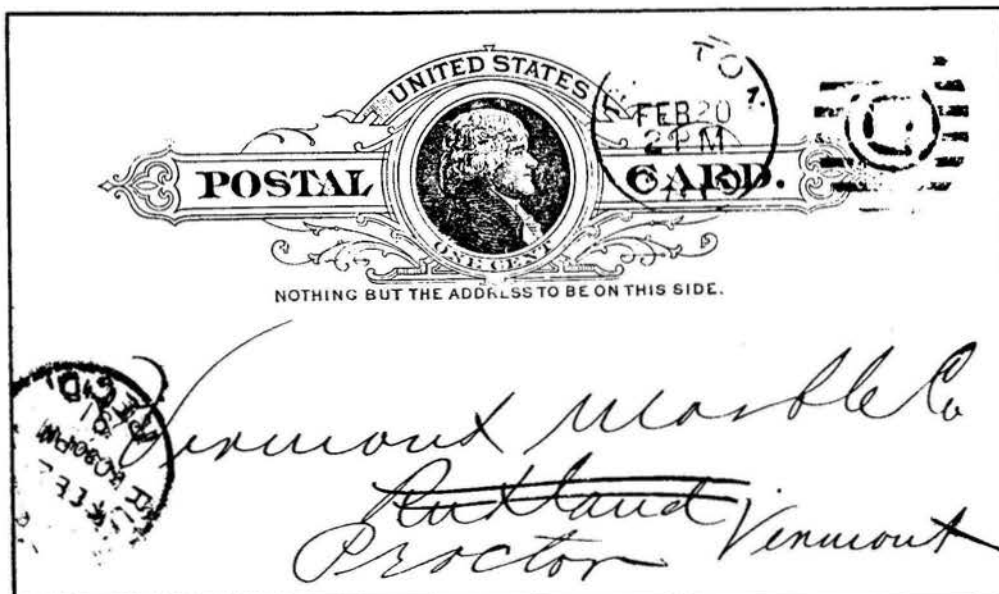


TYPE B-CLV(C) May 23 (1885) CLEVELAND, O.
After a long unexplained absence of four years, the machine was operating again in the Cleveland Post Office. The "C" is the only service letter known in the second period. This May 23, 1885, use is the latest known for Cleveland.

DAYTON
GROUP B - CANCELS
1880 - 1891



TYPE B-DAY(D) September 25 (1884) DAYTON, OHIO
The Dayton cancelling die incorporated a 23.5 mm. dial with a 24.5 mm. x 20.0 mm. 8-bar oval canceller. Known used between July 10, 1880, and February 20, 1891. During this 10½ year period, no year dated cancels are reported.



TYPE B-DAY(D) February 20 (1891) DAYTON, OHIO
The latest use of the Leavitt machine in Dayton is seen dated February 20, 1891. It is not uncommon to see an inverted service letter. The cancels from Dayton are very common.

DAYTON
GROUP B - CANCELS
1880 - 1891

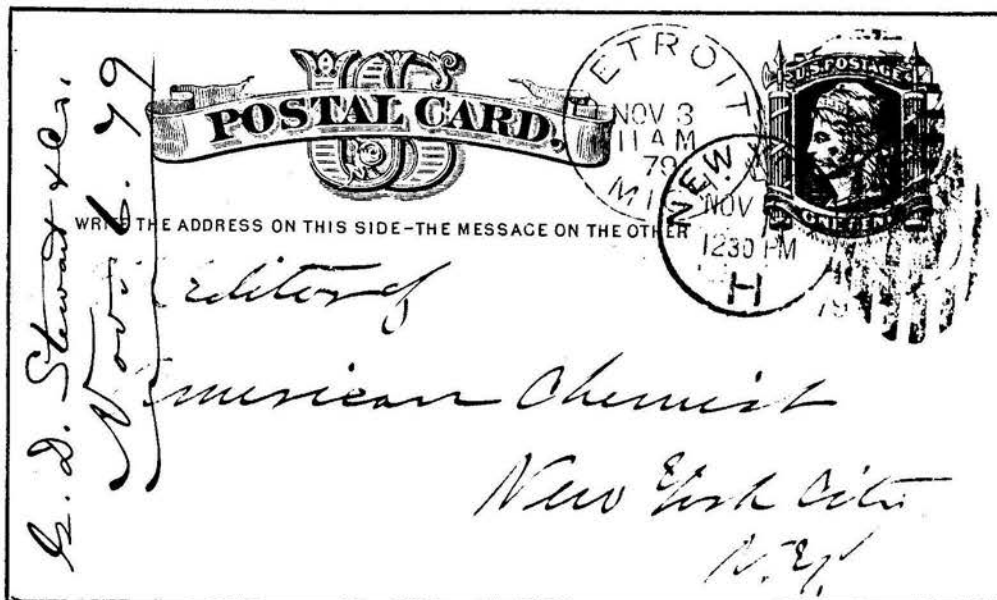


TYPE B-DAY(C) December 13 (1880) DAYTON, OHIO
The only post office to use a Leavitt machine to cancel their outgoing and mark their incoming cards was Dayton. These inbound postal cards received an inverted marking on its front. Cancellor's top bar shows no "v" notch.

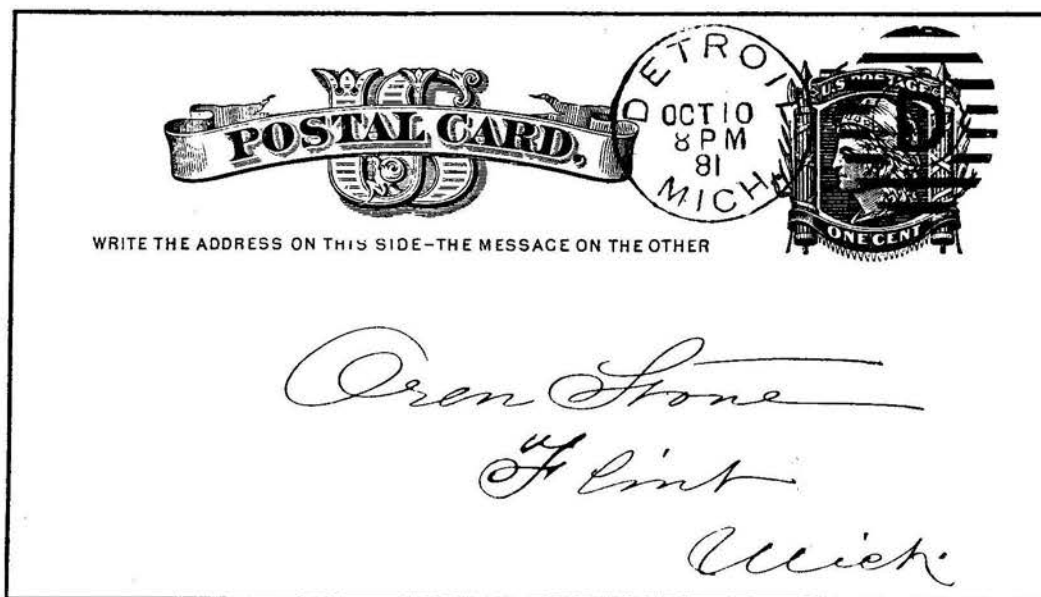


TYPE B-DAY(D) June 23 (1881) DAYTON, OHIO
Several inbound times are noted on cards with receiving marks into Dayton. The majority of these known markings have a "7 AM" time as seen here. The marking on this page shows the "D" service letter.

DETROIT
GROUP B - CANCELS
1879 - 1886

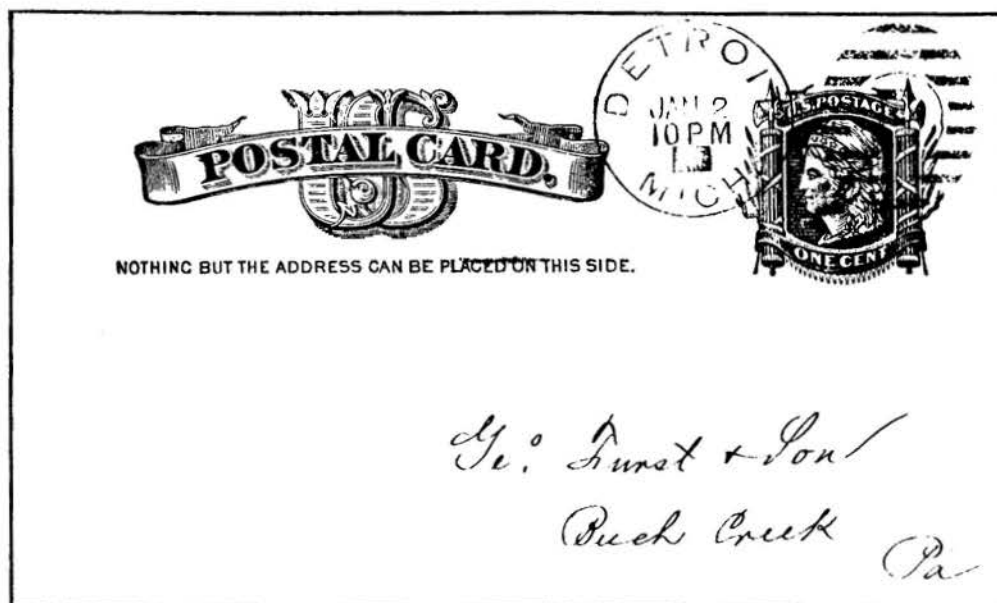


TYPE B-DET(D) November 3, 1879 DETROIT, MICH.
Postmaster Codd's December 26, 1879, testimonial letter says his Leavitt machine had been in use some eight weeks (installed late October). This November 3, 1879, cancel is the earliest known and was used until November 15, 1886.



TYPE B-DET(D) October 10, 1881 DETROIT, MICH.
The cancels have a 24.0 mm. dial and combined with an 8-barred oval canceller measuring 24.5 x 20.5 mm. A "v" notch is cut in the top bar. Cancels have a two digit year date for 1879 to 1883 but no year dates for 1884 to 1886.

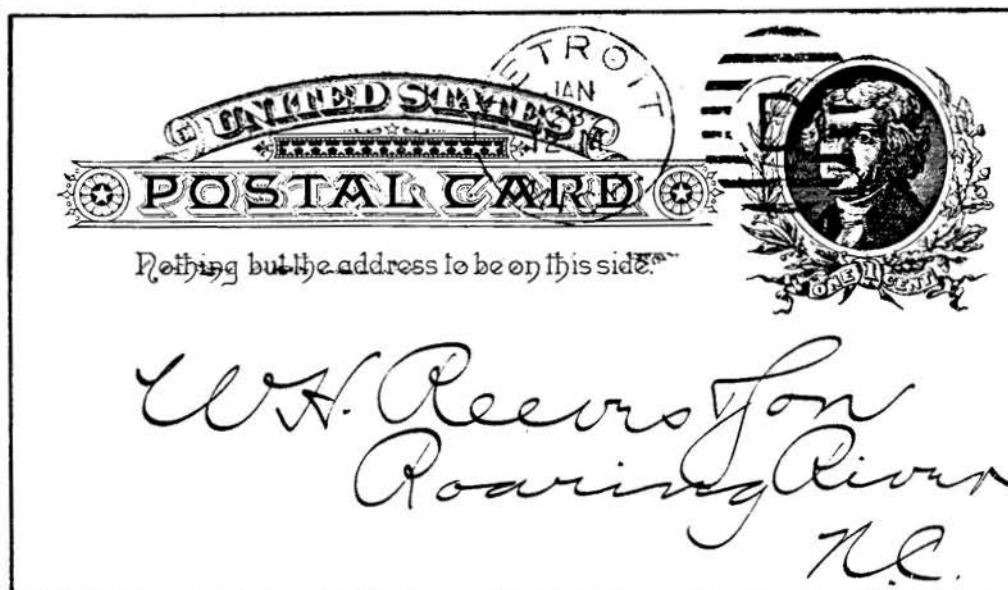
DETROIT
GROUP B - CANCELS
1879 - 1886



TYPE B-DET(D) January 2 (1884) DETROIT, MICH.

Sometime in January 1884, the Leavitt machine probably suffered mechanical problems. Cancels reappear in 1886 but the machine was used very sparingly.

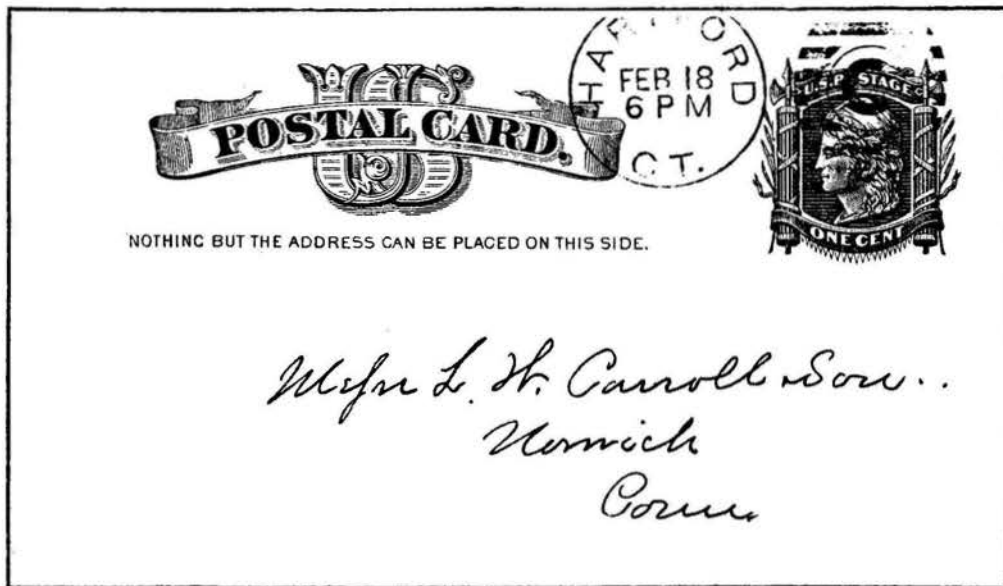
Early January 1884 cancels show the old (83) year date slug reversed so it printed a bar. Only service letter "D" reported.



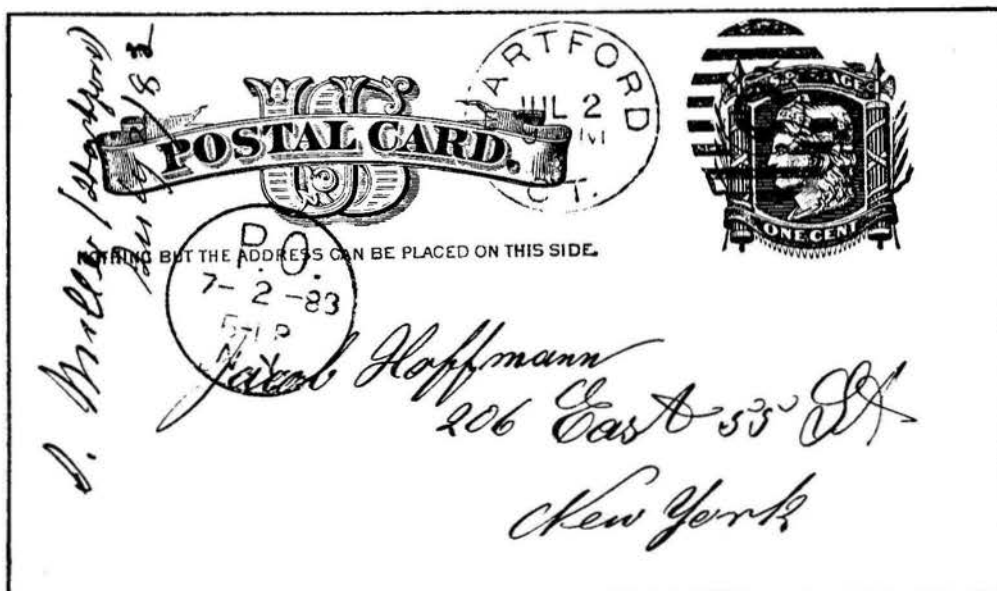
TYPE B-DET(D) January 23 (1886) DETROIT, MICH.

No Detroit cancels known after January 1884 and for all of 1885. A new or repaired machine was installed in January 1886 with sporadic use until November 15th. All 1886 dials show the three line indicia; month / day / time.

HARTFORD
GROUP B - CANCELS
1883 - 1889

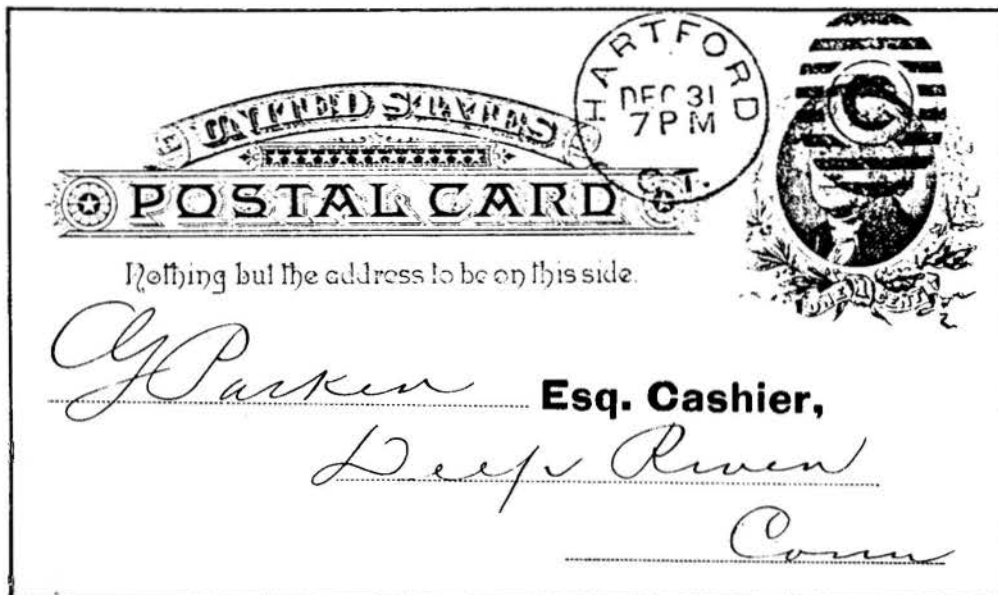


TYPE B-HART(D) February 18 (1883) HARTFORD, CT.
The cancelling die in this machine had a 25.0 mm. dial and a 24 x 19.5 mm. canceller with no "v" notch. Service letters "C" and "D" were used in the Hartford machine. This February 18 cancel shows the second day of use.



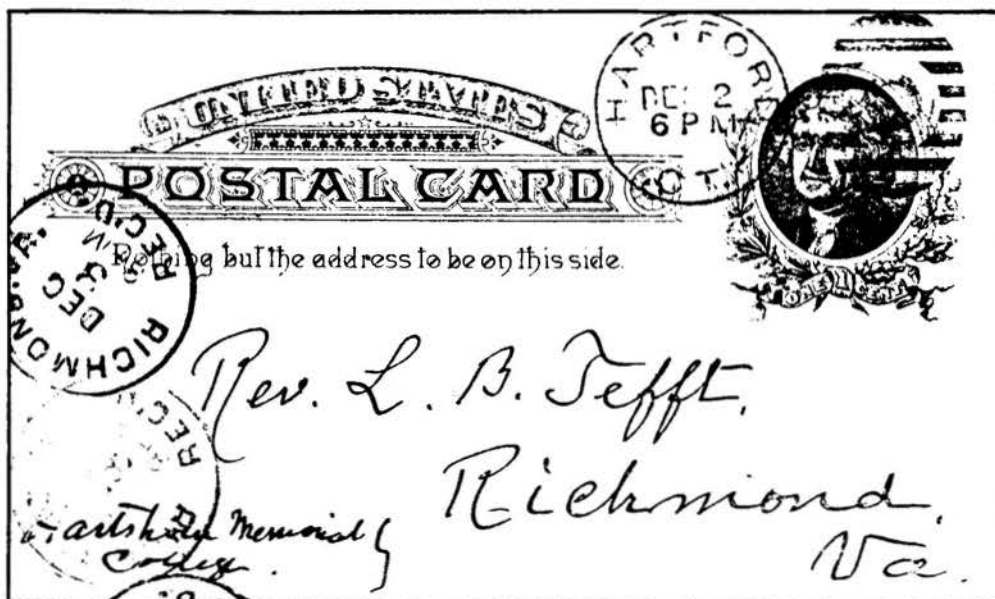
TYPE B-HART(C) July 2 (1883) HARTFORD, CT.
The majority of Hartford cancels overlap the top edge of the card. An adjustment to the Leavitt machine was necessary to prevent this overlapping from occurring. Hartford cancels that do not overlap are rarely seen.

HARTFORD
GROUP B - CANCELS
1883 - 1889



TYPE B-HART(C) December 31 (1885) HARTFORD, CT.

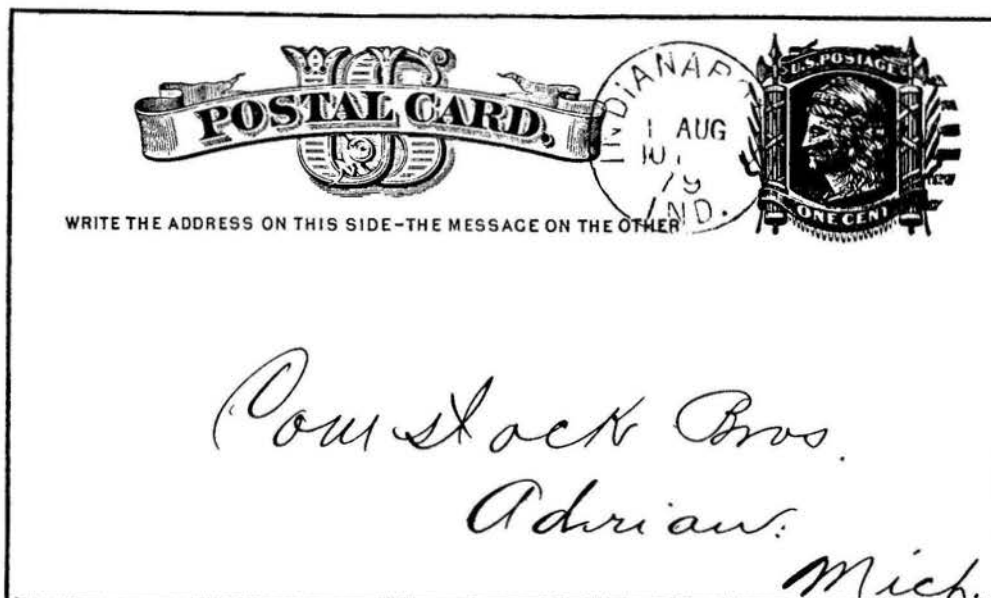
The Hartford cancels are generally well inked and show unusual clarity compared with other cities Leavitts. The majority of known examples have the service letter "C". Several of the cancels are reported showing a bluish-black ink.



TYPE B-HART(C) December 2 (1889) HARTFORD, CT.

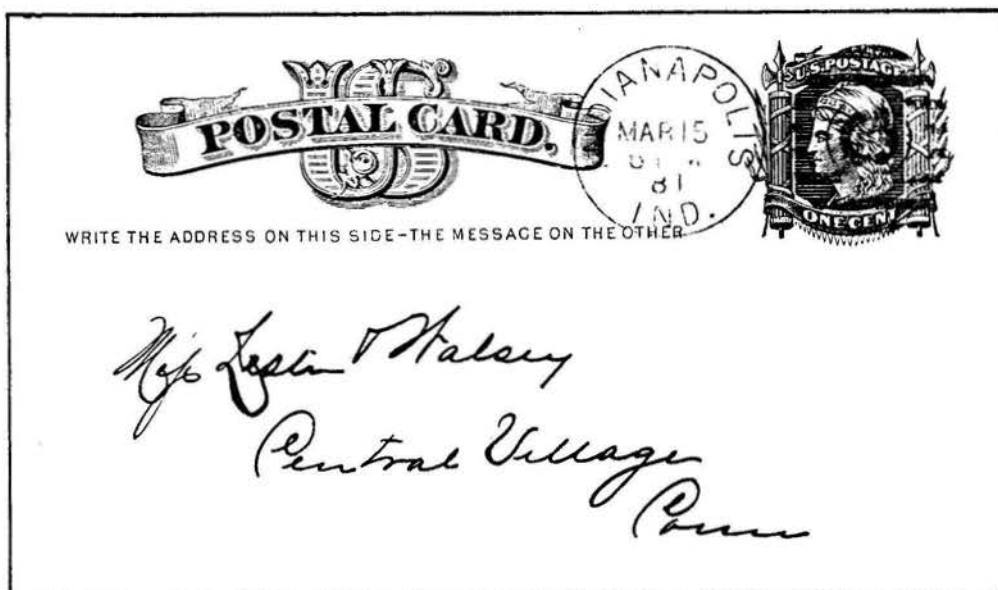
The latest reported example from the Hartford machine is this December 2, 1889, cancel. The machine saw daily use for 6½ years. Cancels were in use February 17, 1883, to December 2, 1889.

INDIANAPOLIS
GROUP B - CANCELS
1879 - 1892



TYPE B-IND(C) August 1, 1879 INDIANAPOLIS, IND.

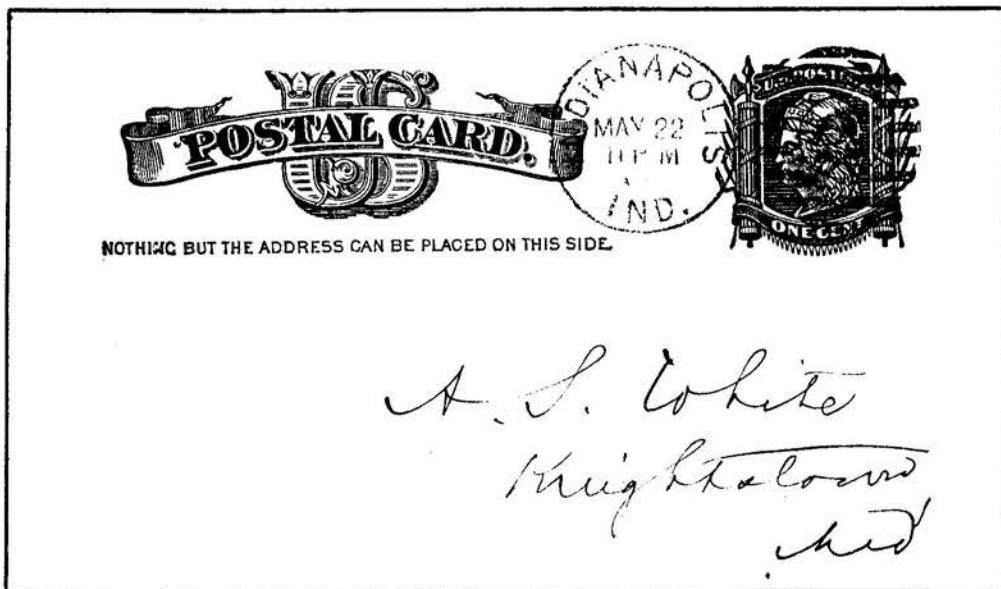
The Leavitt machine used two dies in Indianapolis. On June 30, 1879, the machine was installed with a 25 mm. dial and a 24.5 mm x 20.5 mm. 8-bar oval canceller. The cancel shows a European style date reading 1 AUG.



TYPE B-IND(C) March 15, 1881 INDIANAPOLIS, IND.

The smaller Die I dial (25.0 mm.) with a two digit year date is known from 1879 to 1881. Service letters "C" and "D" were both known in the Die I cancels. This cancel has the "C" lying on its left side.

INDIANAPOLIS
GROUP B - CANCELS
1879 - 1892



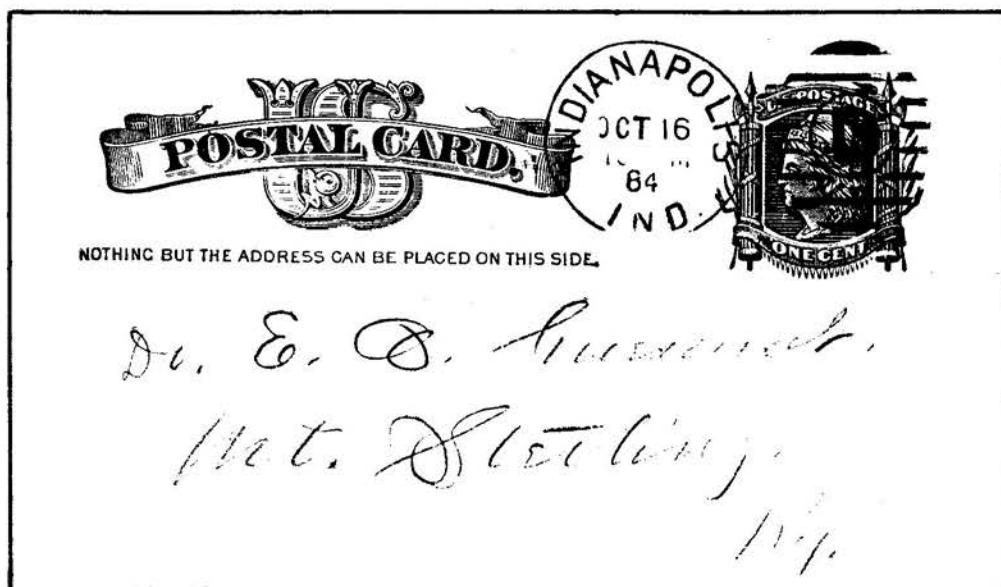
courtesy of Robert Patkin

TYPE B-IND(D)

May 22 (1884)

INDIANAPOLIS, IND.

The Die I cancels used from 1882 to 1884 have a small mark "." where the two digit year date is normally seen. This May 22, 1884, cancel is the latest reported use of Die I. This dial was used in Type CT cancels in 1886.



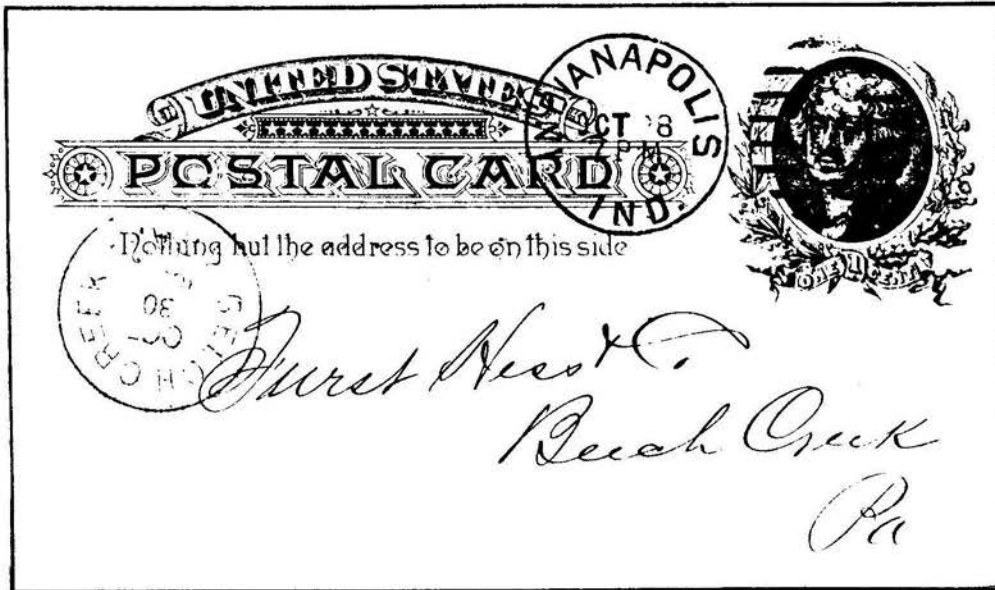
TYPE B-IND(D)

October 16, 1884

INDIANAPOLIS, IND.

For the next 4½ months, subsequent to about May 22, there appears to have been no Leavitt machine operating in Indianapolis. The new Die II cancelling die first appears on October 7, 1884 with a new 26.0 mm. dial and a two digit "84" year date.

INDIANAPOLIS
GROUP B - CANCELS
1879 - 1892

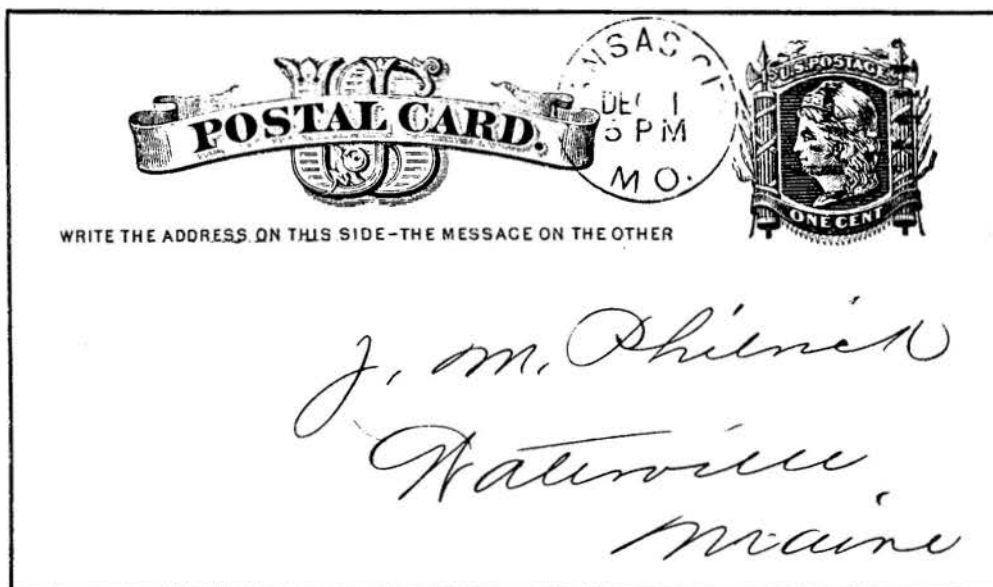


TYPE B-IND(C) October 28 (1885) INDIANAPOLIS, IND.
This new Indianapolis Die II canceller die was larger than the Die I. The 25.0 x 20.5 mm. canceller had no "v" notch in the top bar. Both service letters "C" and "D" were used. Die II cancels are reported from October 7, 1884, to September 1, 1892.



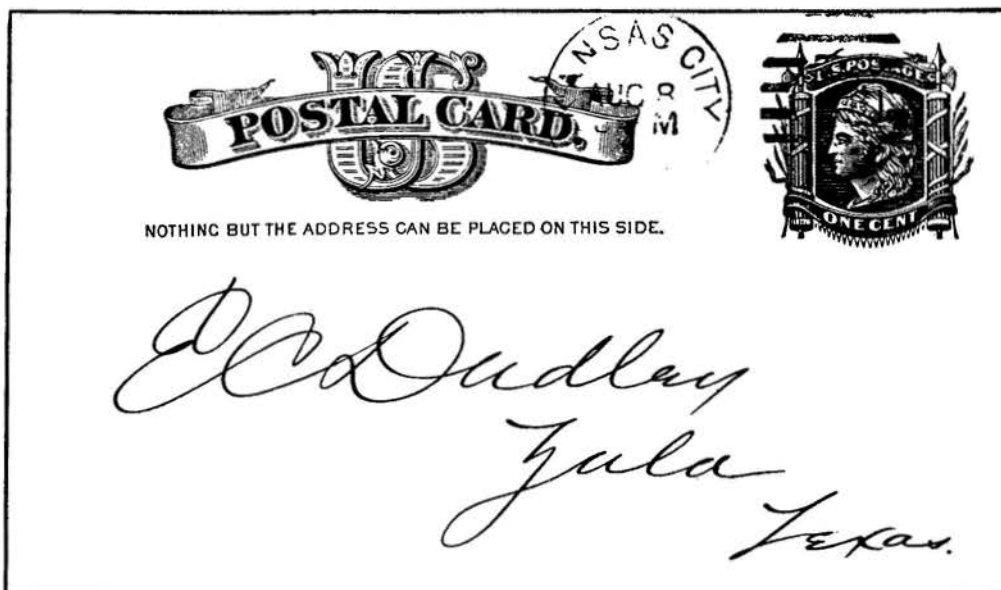
TYPE B-IND(D) May (5, 1892) INDIANAPOLIS, IND.
The indicia in Indianapolis dials are interesting as no year dates are shown after 1884; and no time after 1887. Only the month appears after 1889, with a few dials showing a bar slug. The indicia in this Die II dial has only a "May" slug.

KANSAS CITY
GROUP B - CANCELS
1880 - 1888



TYPE B-KC(C) December 1 (1880) KANSAS CITY, MO.

The Leavitt machine was installed in Kansas City later than other cities and may have been a transfer and not a new machine. The earliest use is the December 1, 1880, seen above. Both service letters "C" and "D" are known.



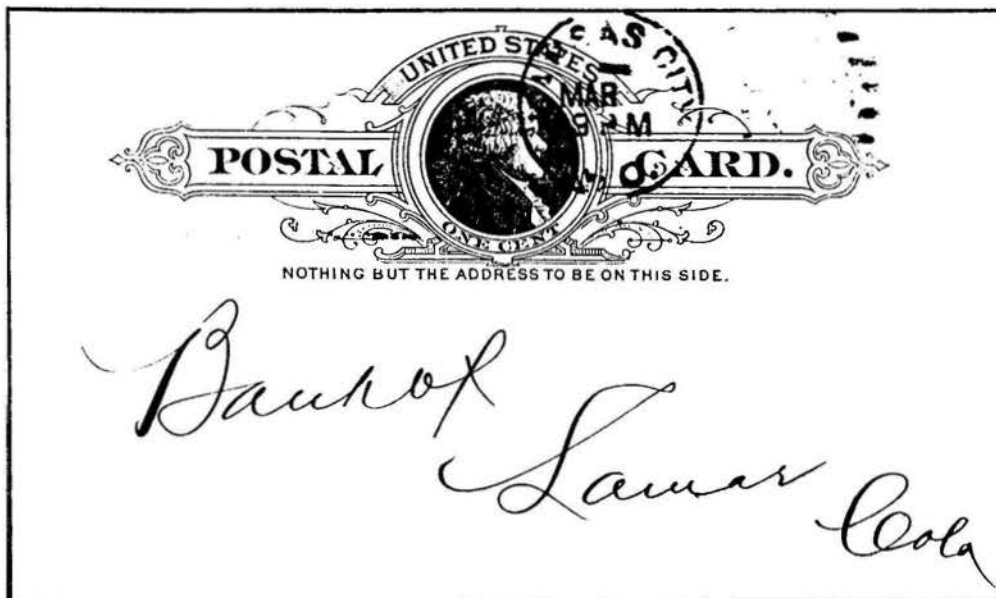
TYPE B-KC(D) August 8 (1883) KANSAS CITY, MO.

The Leavitt machine experienced inking problem briefly in Kansas City in 1883 and 1888. The cancels show only the top two-thirds. A similar ribbon problem seen for other cities. Bluish-black ink has been noted for 1883 and 1884.

KANSAS CITY
GROUP B - CANCELS
1880 - 1888

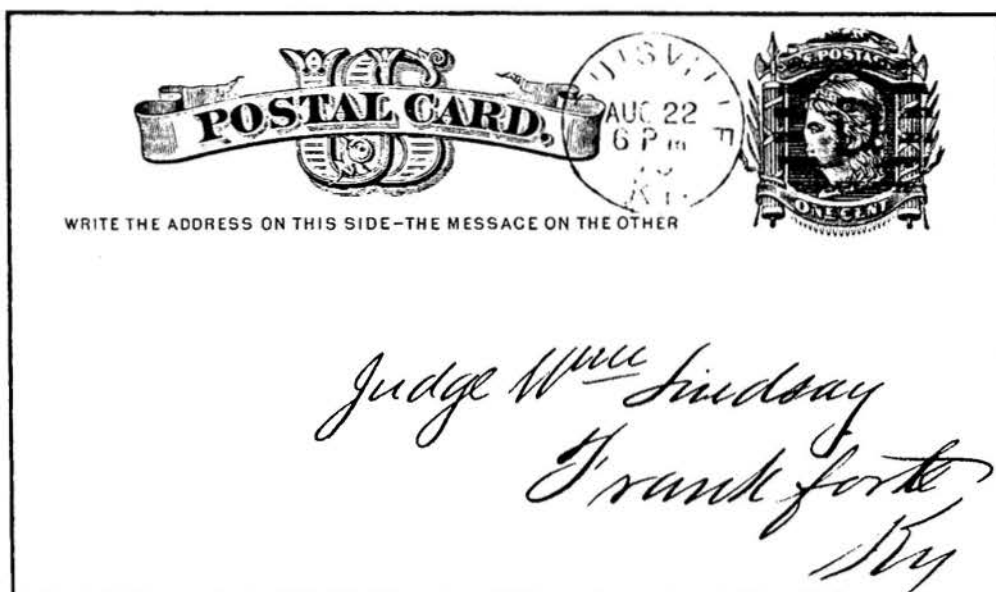


Type B-KC(C) April 22 (1885) KANSAS CITY, MO.
The Kansas City cancelling die used a combination of a 24 mm. dial and a 24.5 mm. x 19.5 8-bar oval canceller with no "v" notch. There have been no reports of any year dated cancels. Kansas City cancels are rated uncommon.

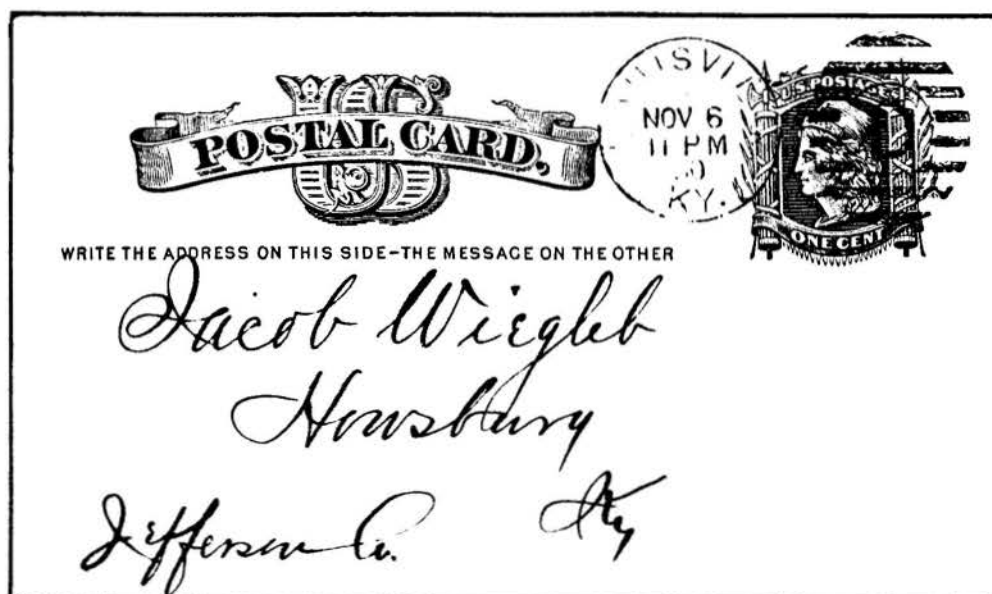


Type B-KC(-) March (15, 1888) KANSAS CITY, MO.
Note the odd dial in this Kansas City cancel. An inked appearing spacer bar has an unusual location above the month "MAR" and a lost day (15) slug or omitted slug. Cancels are known from December 1, 1880, to April 24, 1888.

LOUISVILLE
GROUP B - CANCELS
1879 - 1880

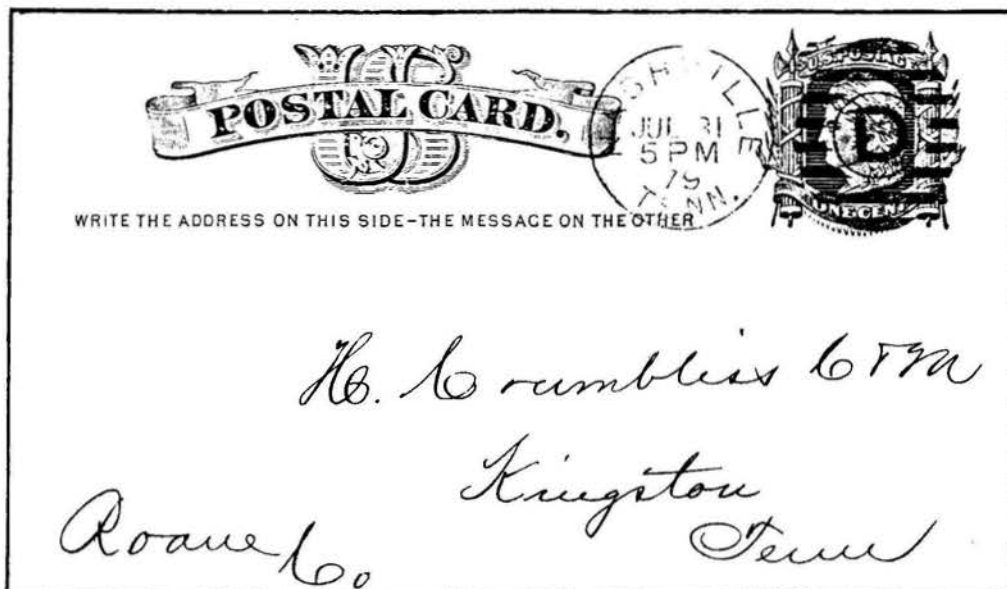


TYPE B-LOU(D) August 22, 1879 LOUISVILLE, KY.
The cancel shows early use for the Leavitt machine in Louisville. To date, only the service letter "D" seen for this city. Period of use for this city is between July 15, 1879, and November 6, 1880, or a brief 16 months.



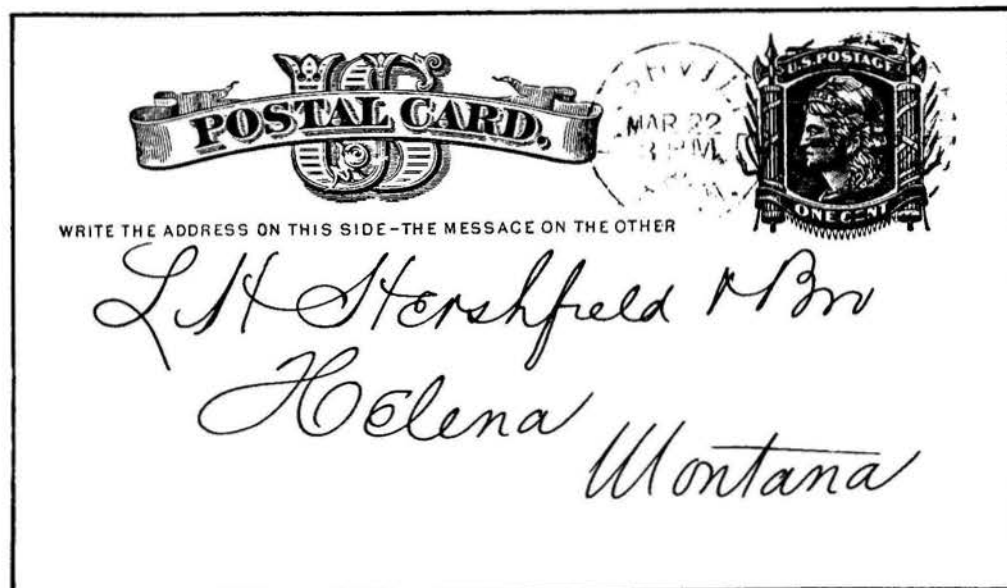
TYPE B-LOU(D) November 6, 1880 LOUISVILLE, KY.
The cancelling die for Louisville used a small 23.5 mm. dial and an 8-bar oval canceller measuring 25 mm. x 21 mm. Generally, the majority of reported cancels are lightly struck. All cancels show a two digit year date.

NASHVILLE
GROUP B - CANCELS
1879 - 1885



TYPE B-NSH(D) July 31, 1879 NASHVILLE, TENN.

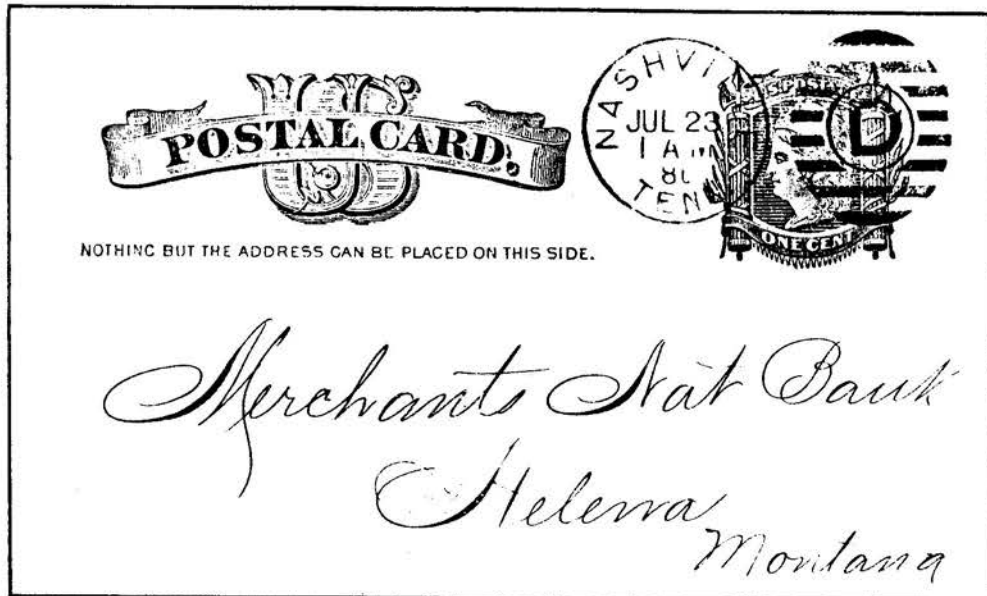
The Type B cancelling die for Nashville used a 24.0 mm. dial with an 8-bar oval canceller measuring 25.0 mm. x 21 mm. The above July 31, 1879, cancel is the earliest known. The only service letter reported to date is "D".



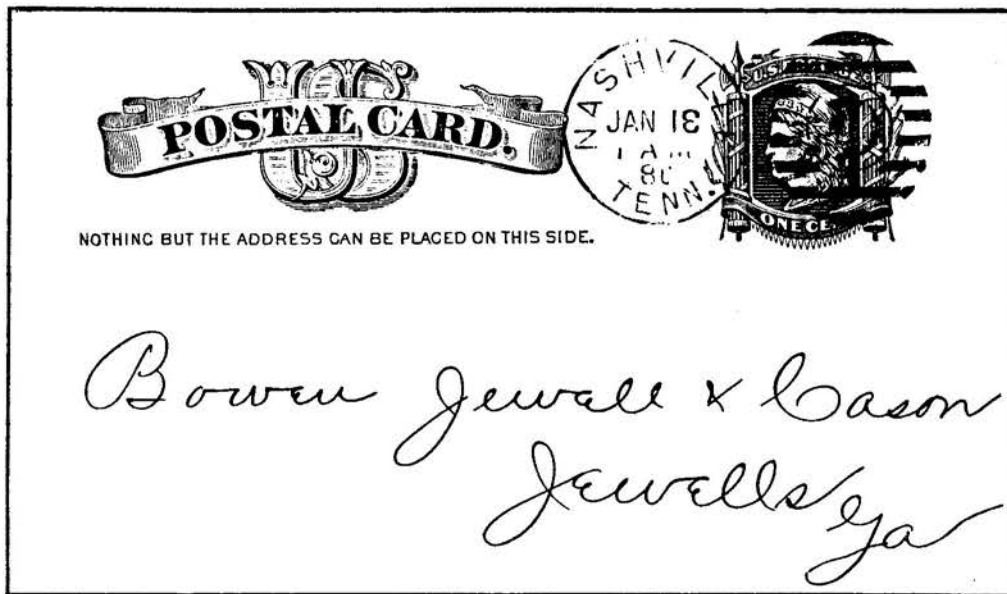
TYPE B-NSH(D) March 22, 1881 NASHVILLE, TENN.

Nashville cancels have a bluish shade of ink for 1881. The year dated cancels are known from July 31, 1879. to January 31, 1883. Year dated 80's have a major defect as described on the July 23, 1882 card on the next page.

NASHVILLE
GROUP B - CANCELS
1879 - 1885

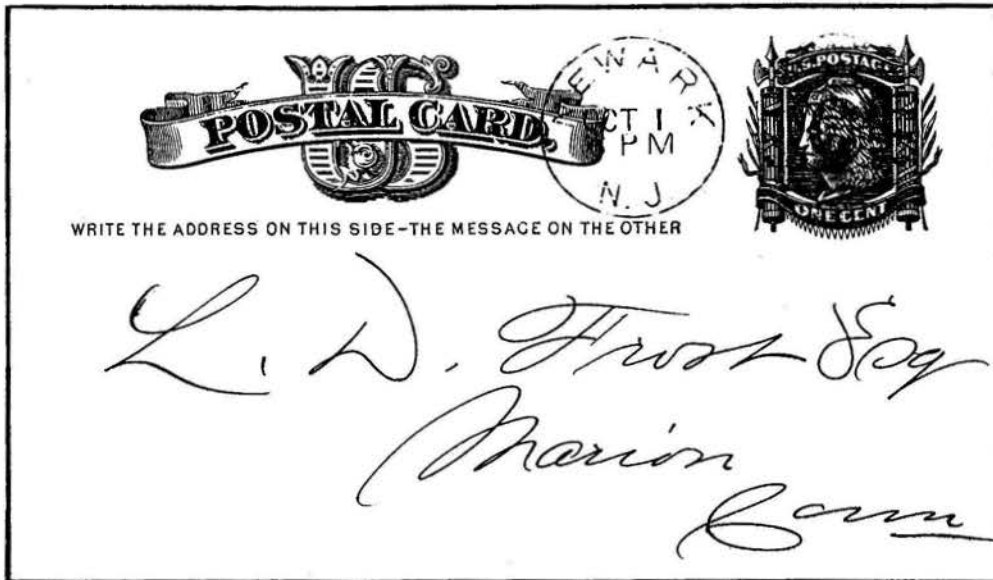


TYPE B-NSH(D) July 23, 1882 NASHVILLE, TENN.
A defective two digit year dated slug was used in 1880 and through January 1883. The original "80" year shows a normal "8" but the "0" has major damage to its right side and appears as "8C".



TYPE B-NSH(D) January 31, 1883 NASHVILLE, TENN.
This is the latest use of the defective year dated slug appearing as "8C". Shortly thereafter, the year date is removed and the die was used with no date from February 1883 until March 30, 1885, which is the latest known. Note the day slug "31" is inverted.

NEWARK
GROUP B - CANCELS
1880 - 1891

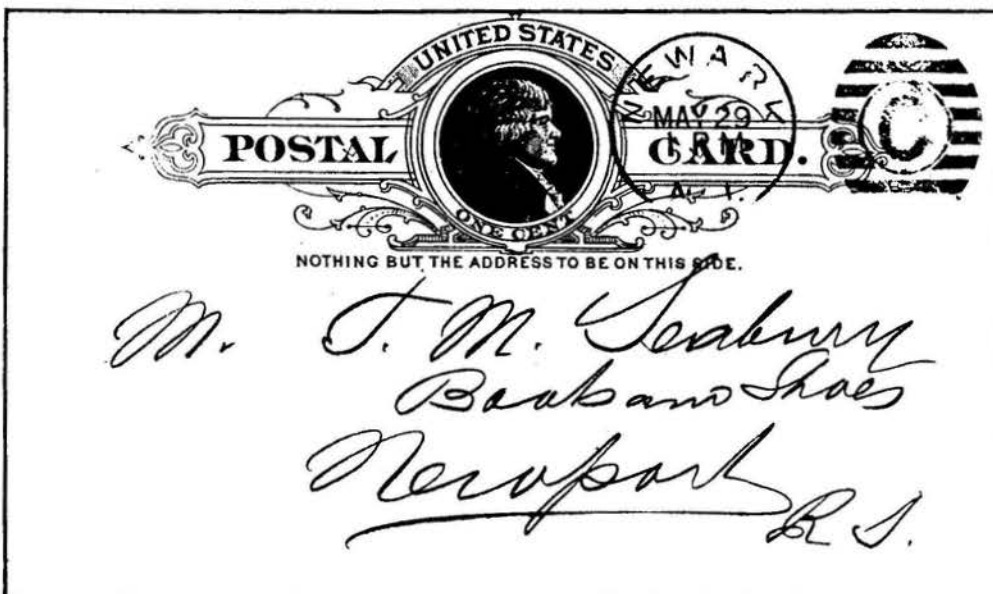


courtesy of Robert Patkin

TYPE B-NRK(C) October 1 (1880) NEWARK, N.J.

The earliest Leavitt cancel known from Newark is dated October 1, 1880.
The die had a combination of a 24.0 mm. dial and a 24.5 x 20.0 mm canceller.

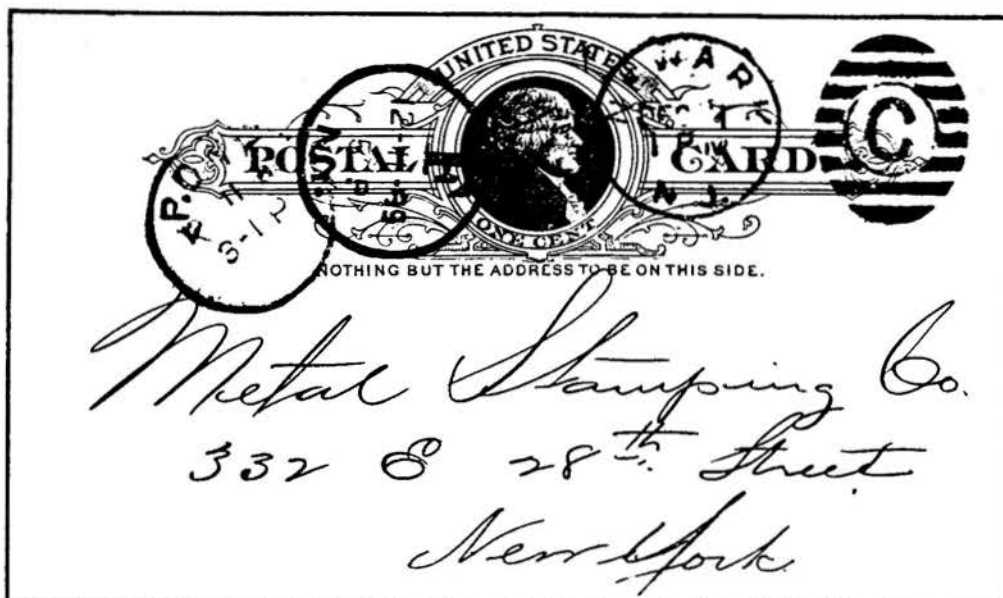
No "v" notch in the top bar. Known used October 1, 1880, to
December 28, 1891.



TYPE B-NRK(C) May 29 (1888) NEWARK, N.J.

The lower third of this Leavitt cancel is missing and only the top two-thirds prints. An inking problem with the ribbon is known from March to September 1885 and from March to July 1888. No year dated cancels have been reported from this city.

NEWARK
GROUP B - CANCELS
1880 - 1891



TYPE B-NRK(C) December 14 (1889) NEWARK, N.J.

Unlike this well inked example, the majority of Newark Leavitt cancels appear to be ink starved. To date, the only service letter reported has been the "C". Bars in the canceller are thick, much thicker than most cities.



TYPE B-NRK(C) December 28 (1891) NEWARK, N.J.

Newark's Leavitt machine was used extensively for over 11 years. This December 28, 1891, cancel is the latest use for Newark. Its Leavitt cancels are rated as common.

NEW ORLEANS
GROUP B - CANCELS
1879 - 1880

Earlier in this study, we quoted a testimonial letter to Thomas Leavitt from the Atlanta Postmaster in which he states that ... "For the larger offices, I think it indispensable."

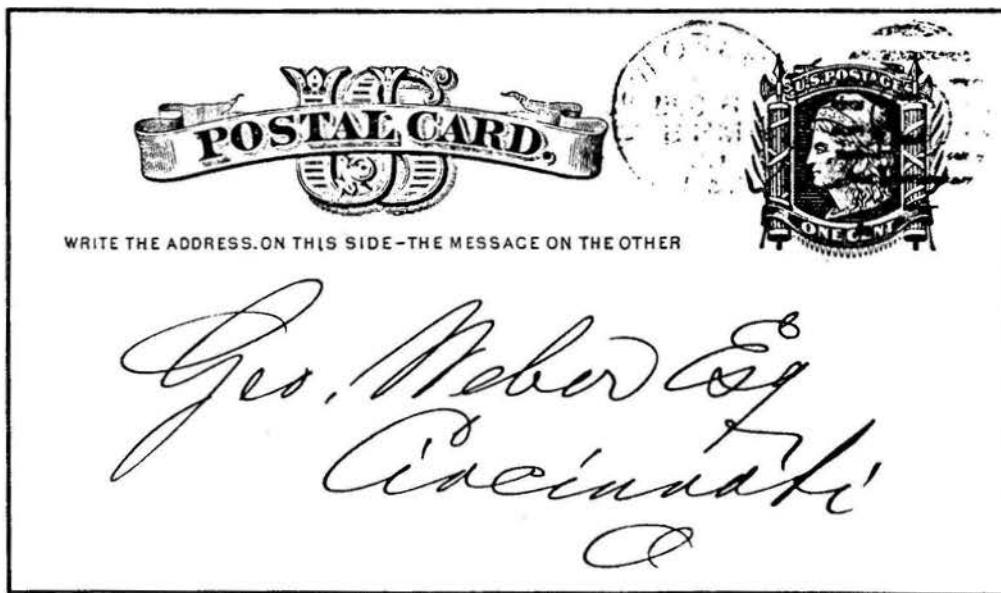
Another testimonial letter from the New Orleans Postmaster is quoted here in

full.. This is one of many postmaster letters that give a glowing report on the recently acquired Leavitt machines placed in their office for trial. We have quoted from 27 postmasters and post office officials.

"Post Office, New Orleans, La.
December 6th, 1879

I take pleasure in stating that the Leavitt Postal Card Postmarking and Cancelling Machine placed in this Office five months ago, has worked satisfactorily in every respect, and is now in good condition.
It seems to accomplish all that is claimed for it and is a desirable acquisition to a post office where a large amount of business is transacted.

W. L. McMILLEN,
Postmaster"



TYPE B-NO(D)

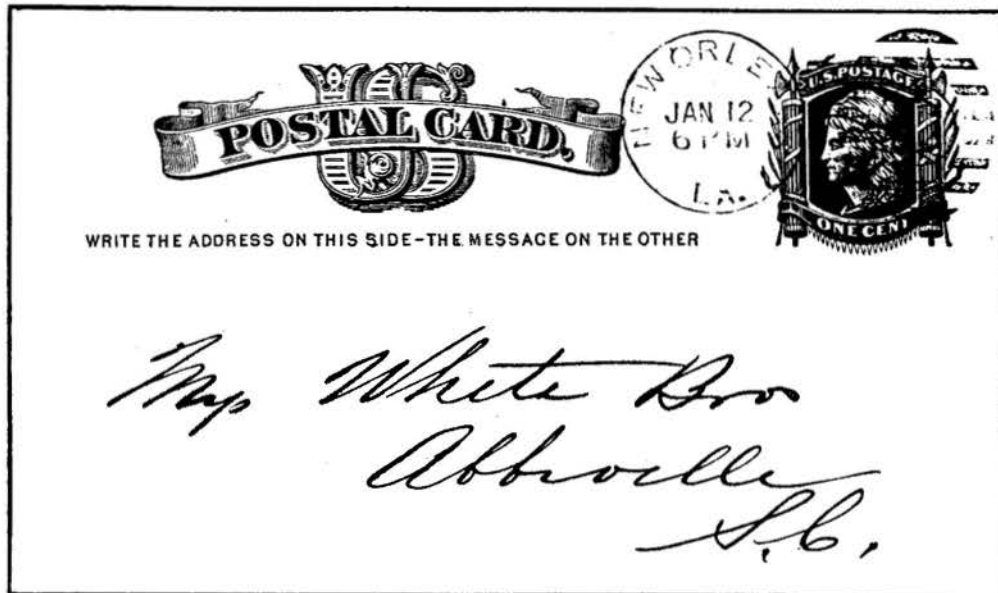
December 6, 1879

NEW ORLEANS, LA.

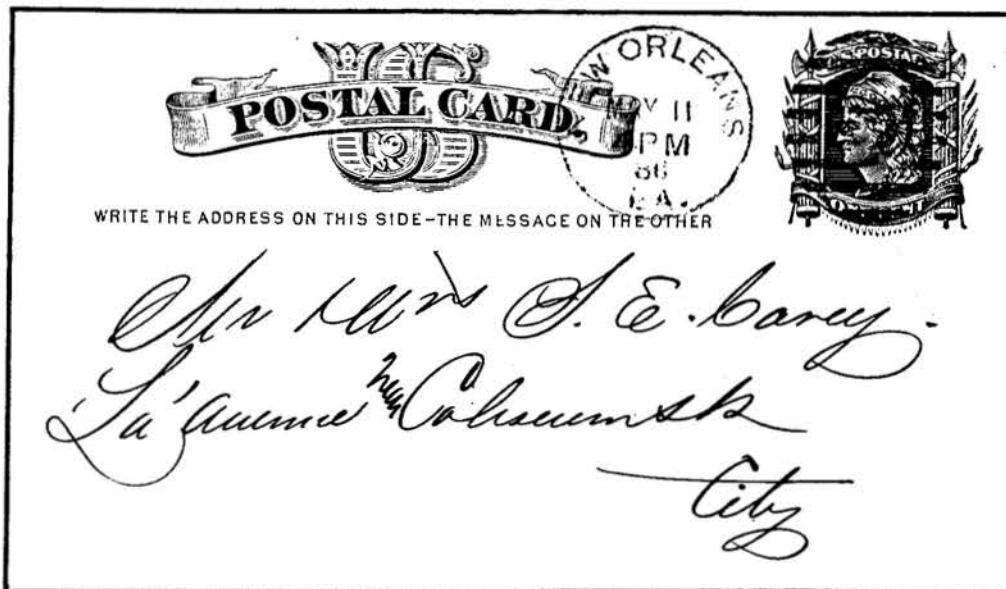
During the ten months that the Leavitt machine was used in New Orleans, two different dials were used. Apparently, major damage was suffered to the original and a new dial was ordered. This cancel shows a date of "Dec 6 / 8 PM / 79", the same day the testimonial letter quoted above was written.

Another interesting point, the cancel is in bluish-black ink.

NEW ORLEANS
GROUP B - CANCELS
1879 - 1880

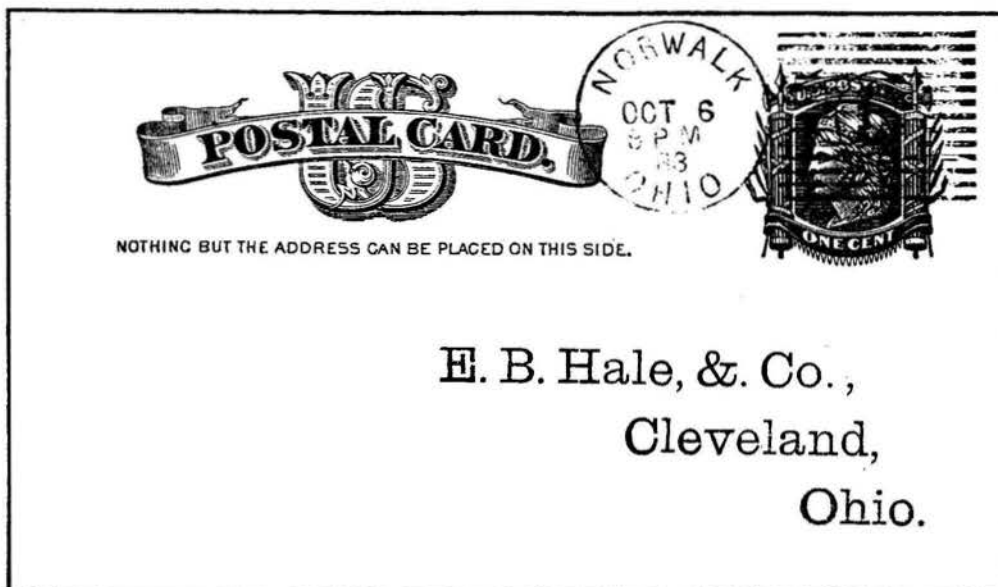


TYPE B-NO(C) January 12 (1880) NEW ORLEANS, LA.
Two dials were used in this Leavitt machine. The Die I dial above has a 23.5 mm. diameter in combination with a 25.0 x 20.5 mm. canceller. Die I was used from July 14, 1879, to January 12, 1880. Latest use of Die I is shown here.



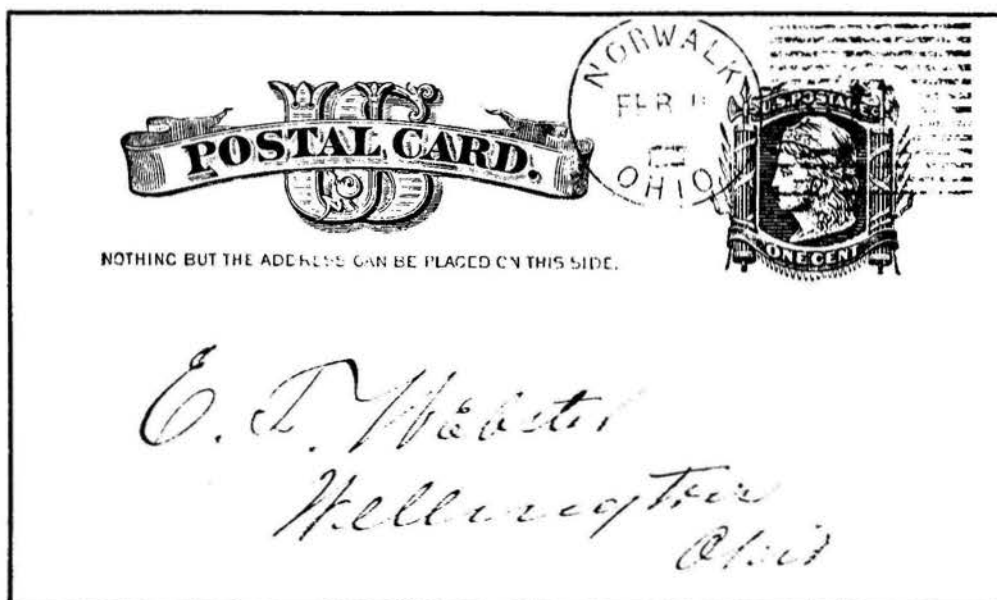
TYPE B-NO(C) May 11, 1880 NEW ORLEANS, LA.
The Die II cancelling die continued using the previous 8-bar canceller but added a new and larger 25 mm. dial. Seen only with service letter "C". Die II cancels used April 24, 1880, to May 11, 1880. This is the latest known.

NORWALK
GROUP B - CANCELS
1883 - 1888



TYPE B-NOR(D) October 6, 1883 NORWALK, OHIO

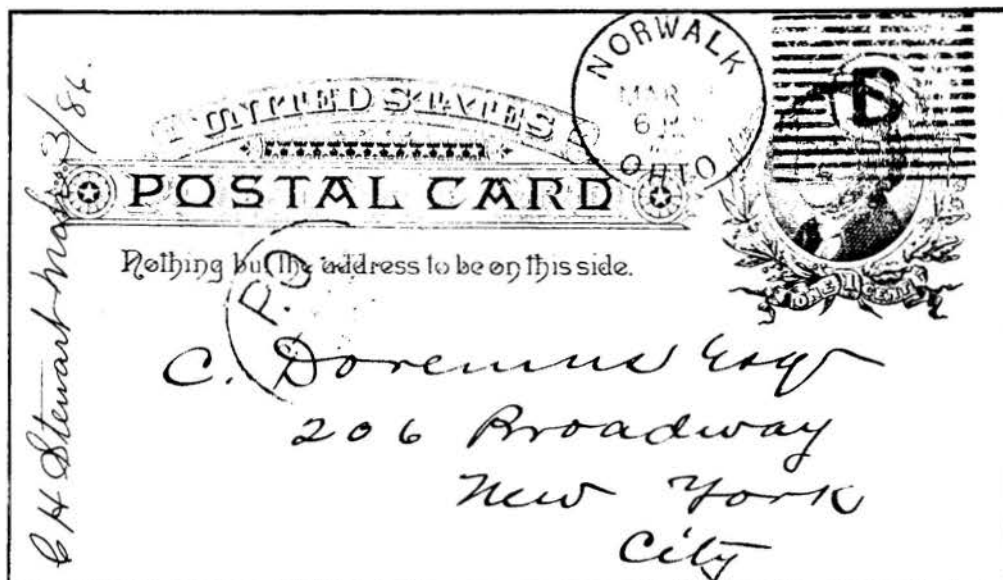
Norwalk's 13 horizontal bar canceller has a center die space unlike all other Group B cancels. It is similar to cancellers seen in Group D. It has a 22.0 mm. bar height with a length of 26.0 mm. Some cancels overlap the top edge.



TYPE B-NOR(D) February 19 (1884) NORWALK, OHIO

The Norwalk cancelling die used a 25.0 mm. dial with 13 horizontal bars. Known only with a "D" service letter. A 11 mm. die space was cut in the center seven bars for the service letter. A bar slug was used for the year date.

NORWALK
GROUP B - CANCELS
1883 - 1888



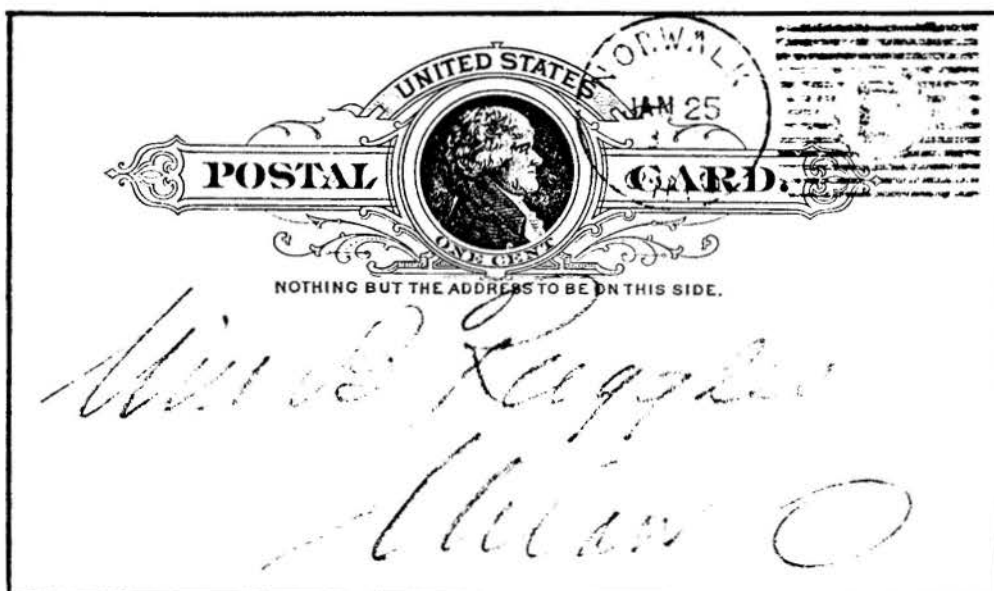
courtesy of Bart Billings

TYPE B-NOR(D)

March 1 (1886)

NORWALK, OHIO

A two digit year date is known for 1883 and a bar slug was used in 1884 as shown above. Since the 1985 catalog several new discoveries are known; an April 24, 1885, a March 1, 1886, and a January 25, 1888, cancel.



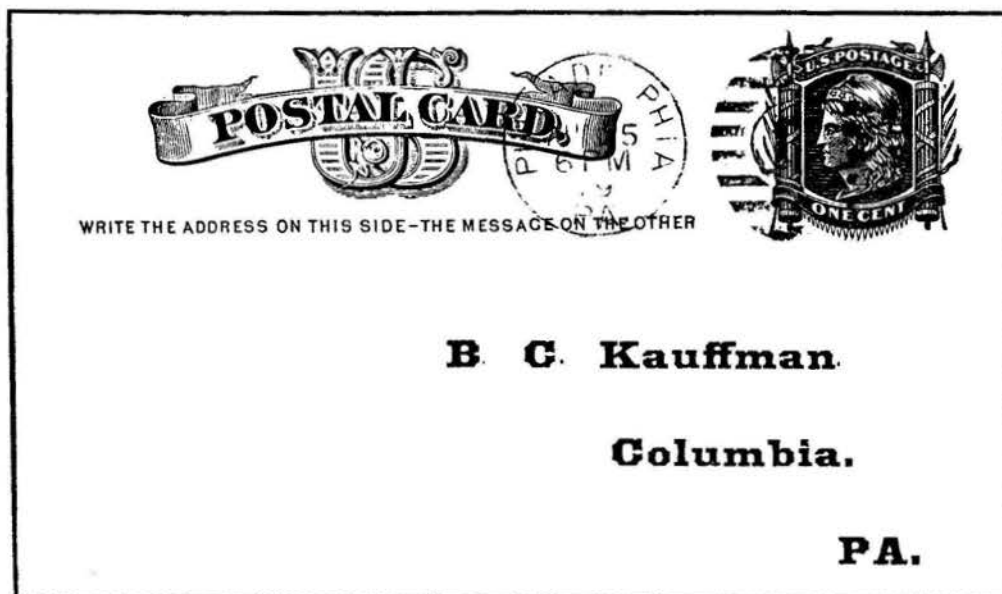
TYPE B-NOR(D)

January 25 (1888)

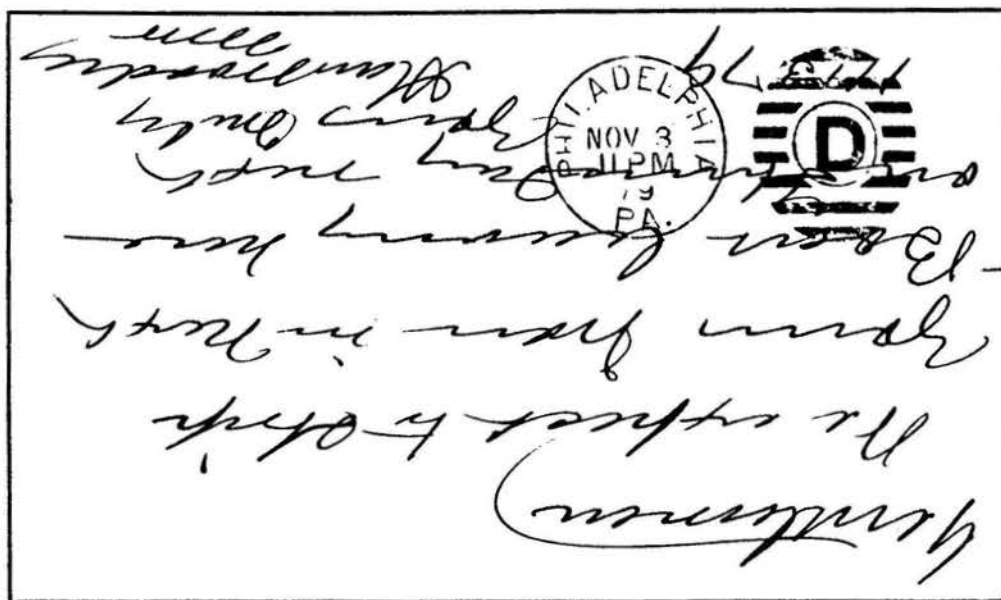
NORWALK, OHIO

A newly discovered January 25, 1888, cancel extends the use for Norwalk cancels by two years. The three new Norwalk cancels extend the period used from 1884 to 1888. The periods of no use are probably due to mechanical problems.

PHILADELPHIA
GROUP B - CANCELS
1879 - 1887

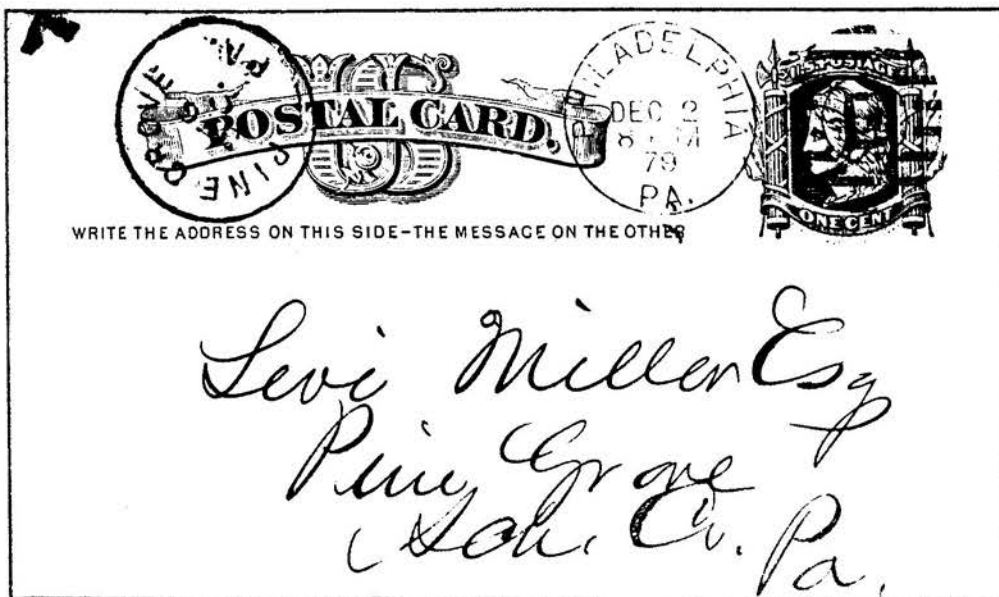


TYPE B-PHL(D) August 25, 1879 PHILADELPHIA, PA.
The Philadelphia machine used two dials. Die I has a small 23.5 mm. dial with a 25.0 x 21.0 mm. 8-bar oval canceller. The period of use for the Die I is June 6, 1879, to November 11, 1879.

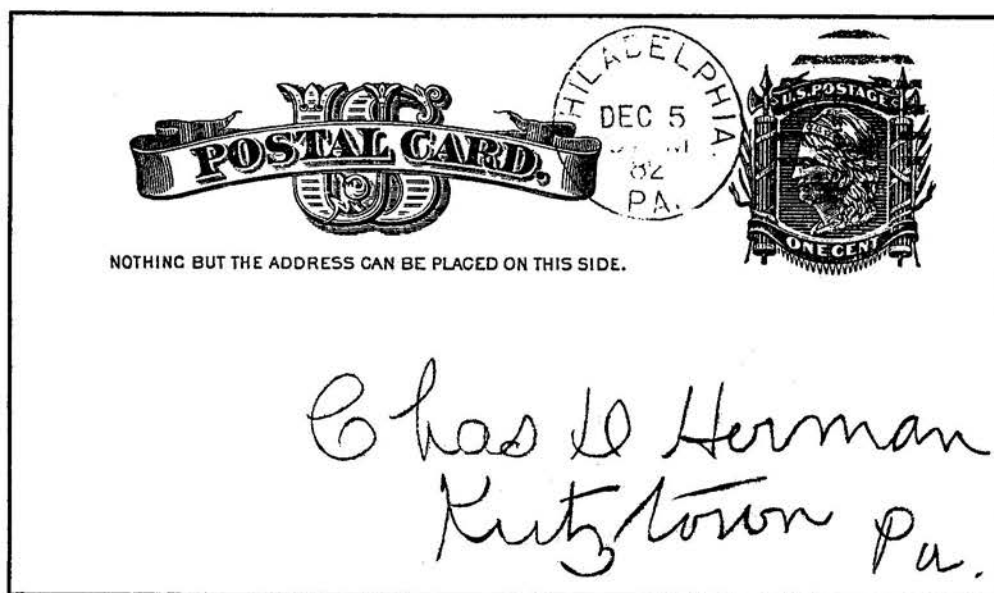


TYPE B-PHL(D) November 3, 1879 PHILADELPHIA, PA.
A clerk's error during the facing procedure caused the Die I cancel to be cancelled on the reverse side. This error shows a clear and complete impression of a Die I. Only service letter "D" is known for the Die I cancels.

PHILADELPHIA
GROUP B - CANCELS
1879 - 1887



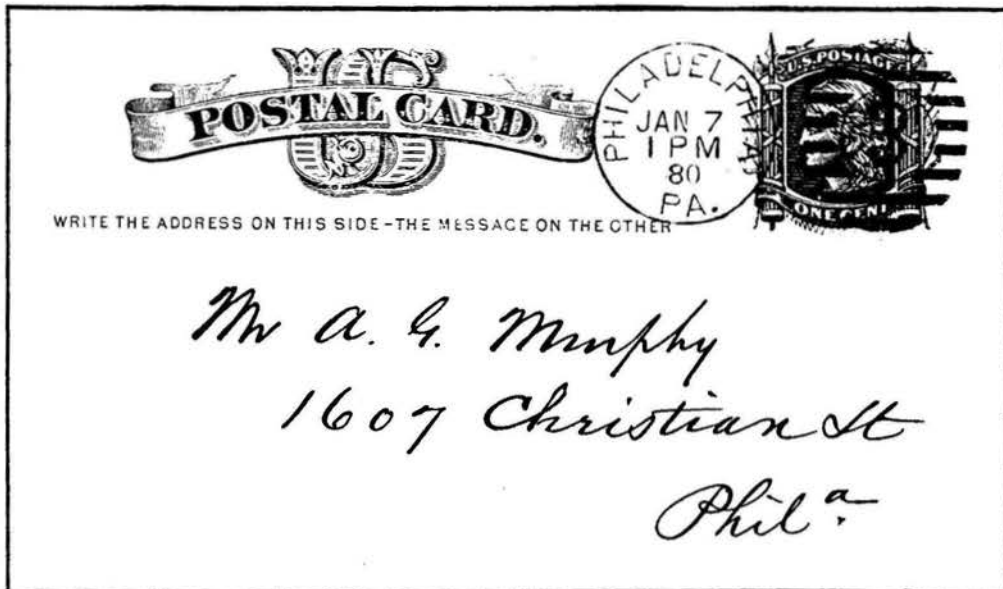
TYPE B-PHL(D) December 2, 1879 PHILADELPHIA, PA.
Earliest use of the new Die II cancelling die is shown above. The larger 25.0 mm. dial was installed and used with a new 24.5 x 20.5 mm. 8-bar oval canceller. In Die II cancels, only service letter "D" has been seen.



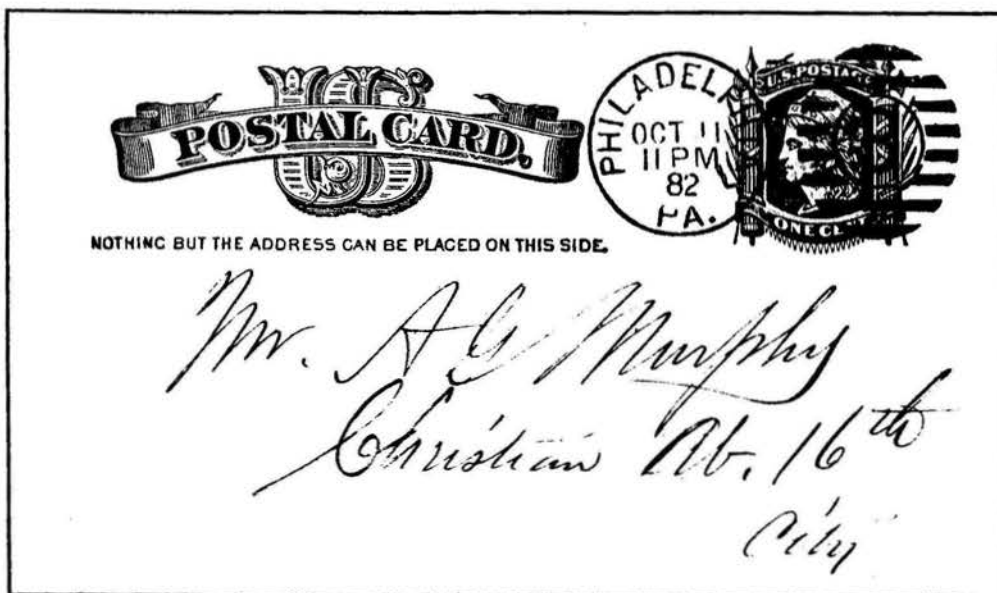
TYPE B-PHL(D) December 5, 1882 PHILADELPHIA, PA.
The Die II cancelling die was in use for three years, from December 2, 1879, to December 5, 1882. The two digit year date was used throughout 1879 but only the sporadic use of the year date has been reported from 1880 through 1882.

courtesy of Joe McDonough

PHILADELPHIA
GROUP B - CANCELS
1879 - 1887

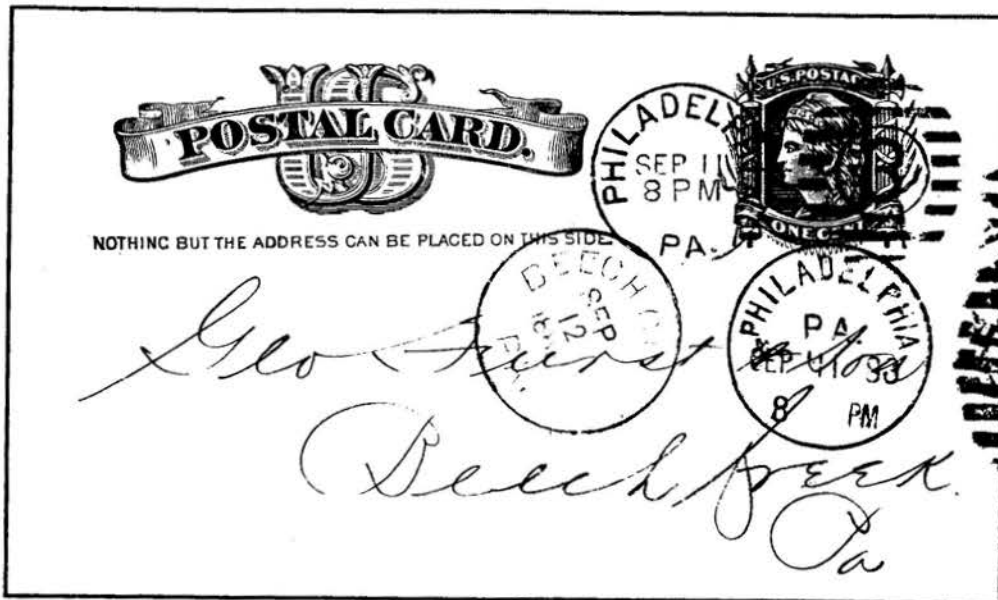


TYPE B-PHL(3) January 7, 1880 PHILADELPHIA, PA.
The earlier Die I cancelling die was placed in service again by November 21, 1879. The only difference between Type B-PHL(3) and Type B-PHL(D) cancelling dies is the "D" service letter removal and the numeral "3" insertion.



TYPE B-PHL(3) October 11, 1882 PHILADELPHIA, PA.
The cancel clearly shows an earlier Die I but with the new "3" replacing the earlier D service letter in Die I. Year dates are known between 1879 and 1881 but no year dates are seen from 1882 to 1888. This cancel is clear and well inked.

PHILADELPHIA
GROUP B - CANCELS
1879 - 1887



TYPE B-PHL(3) September 11 (1883) PHILADELPHIA, PA.
The cancels on this card both have the same "8 PM" time and date. The Wesson (TOB) handstamp touches only the bottom portion of the stamp imprint. Moments later the clerk probably felt the card needed the Leavitt cancel.

The Postmaster making up Registered Letters, &c., for dispatch, will fill up the other side of this Bill, and write the name of his Post Office, County, and State in the blank address on this side. The Postmaster receiving this Bill in Registered Package will at once compute entries with letters, &c., inclosed; make entries on record of registered matter received; stamp postmark below; sign this Bill on other side, noting any errors, and return it to the mailing Post Office without cover.

A penalty of \$300 is fixed by law for using this card on other than official business.

Post Office Department.
OFFICIAL BUSINESS. Post Office at

Stamp here name of Post Office

RETURN TO:

Postmaster at *Grand View*
County of *Washington*
State of *Ohio*

and date of receipt.

TYPE B-PHL(3) September 23, 1887 PHILADELPHIA, PA. *courtesy of Gilbert Levere*
The Type B-PHL(3) cancels do exist for 1887. Currently, dates are known from September 23 to November 3, 1887. The brief use of the Philadelphia machine in 1887 suggests a mechanical problem.

PHILADELPHIA
GROUP B - CANCELS
1879 - 1887

A panel of three Philadelphia citizens were on a Bicentennial committee formed in 1882 to commemorate the 200th Anniversary of William Penn's landing in America. He had sailed from England on September 5, 1682, with 100 emigrants and landed at New Castle, Delaware on October 24, 1682. From there Penn and the colonists proceeded on to Upland, Pennsylvania.

A special, semi-official card (page 168) was issued bearing a stamp-like portrait of William Penn and a large likeness of a post rider carrying the mails in colonial times. The card also honors Henry Waddy, first Postmaster for Philadelphia. (not Waddy as printed)

On the reverse is an illustrated likeness of an 1882 steam locomotive and mail car with the names of the committee members for this gala event. The name of the incumbent Philadelphia Postmaster Henry S. Huidekoper is inscribed on the ribbon similar to that on the 1881 issue postal cards.

The face of the card has a Philadelphia cancel, a Leavitt dial dated October 24, 1882, the same month and day that William Penn landed in America two hundred years earlier.

A special semi-official card was also issued at Philadelphia in 1887. It commemorated 100 years of progress in the U.S. Postal Department.

One hundred years earlier, a convention was held at Philadelphia from May 29th to September 17, 1787, to revise the Articles of Confederation.

The previously used plates engraved for the semi-official cards of 1882 were used again with several revisions. They continued to picture the post rider and the early steam locomotive with a mail car. The re-engraved plates now honored the Philadelphia born Postmaster General Ebenezer Hazard. They listed the 1787 post office statistics, comparing them with same statistics 100 years later.

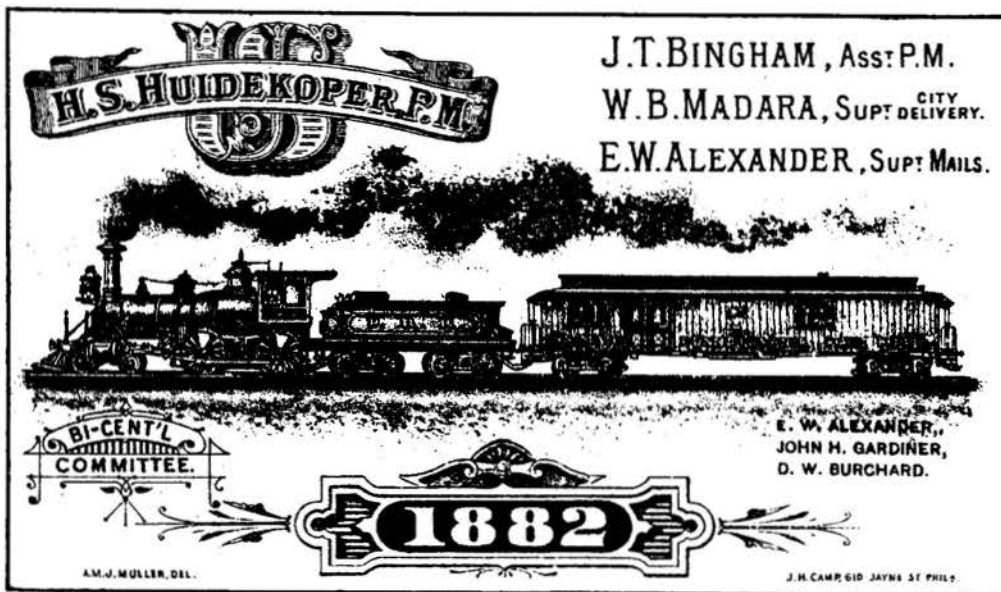
The face of the card shows a Philadelphia cancel, a Leavitt dial dated September 15, 1887, without the canceller die (page 169).

On this date, one hundred years earlier, 55 delegates were getting ready to adjourn from the historic 1787 Articles of Confederation Convention held in Philadelphia.

PHILADELPHIA
GROUP B - CANCELS
1879 - 1887



Face of special 1882 semi-official card

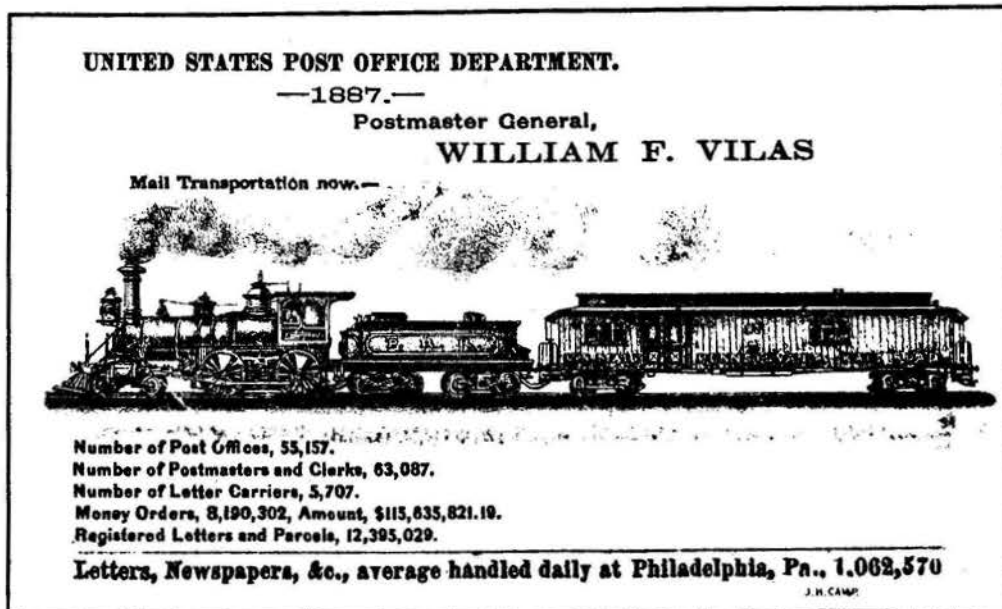


Reverse of 1882 card.

PHILADELPHIA
GROUP B - CANCELS
1879 - 1887

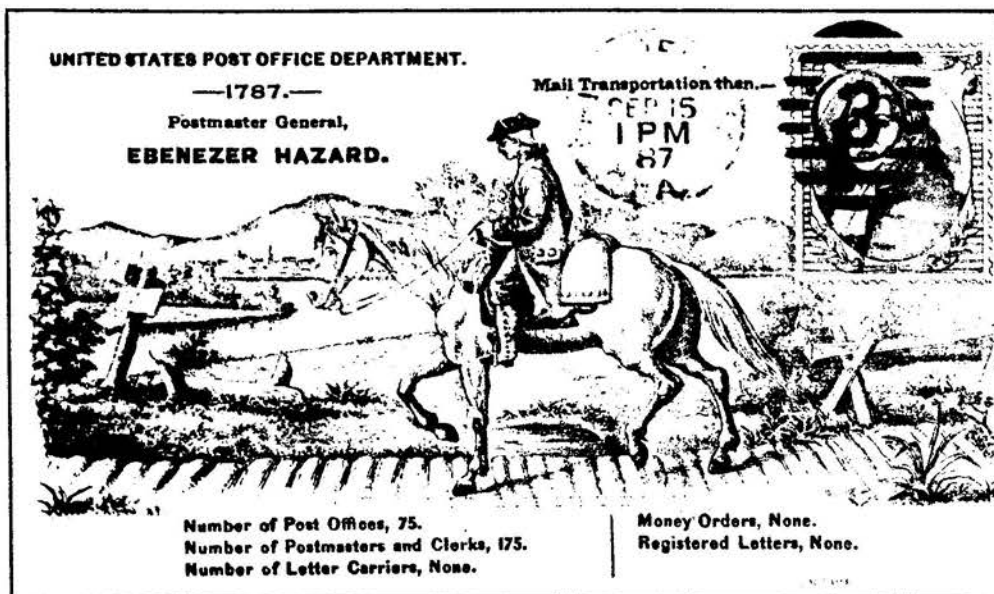


1887 Commemorative card.



Reverse of 1887 card

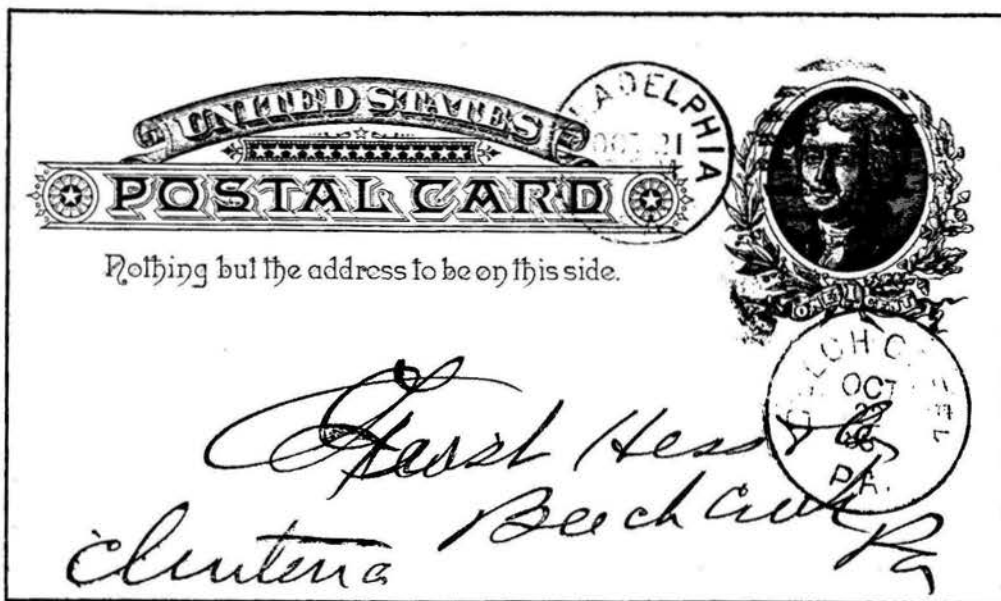
PHILADELPHIA
GROUP B - CANCELS
1879 - 1887



TYPE B-PHL(3) September 15, 1887 PHILADELPHIA, PA.

This 1887 Commemorative card shows the complete cancel with a 1 PM time dated September 15, 1887. Note the 8-bar oval canceller with a numeral 3. The dial only (Sept.15) 1887 Commemorative card has a 2 PM time.

PHILADELPHIA
GROUP B - CANCELS
1879 - 1887

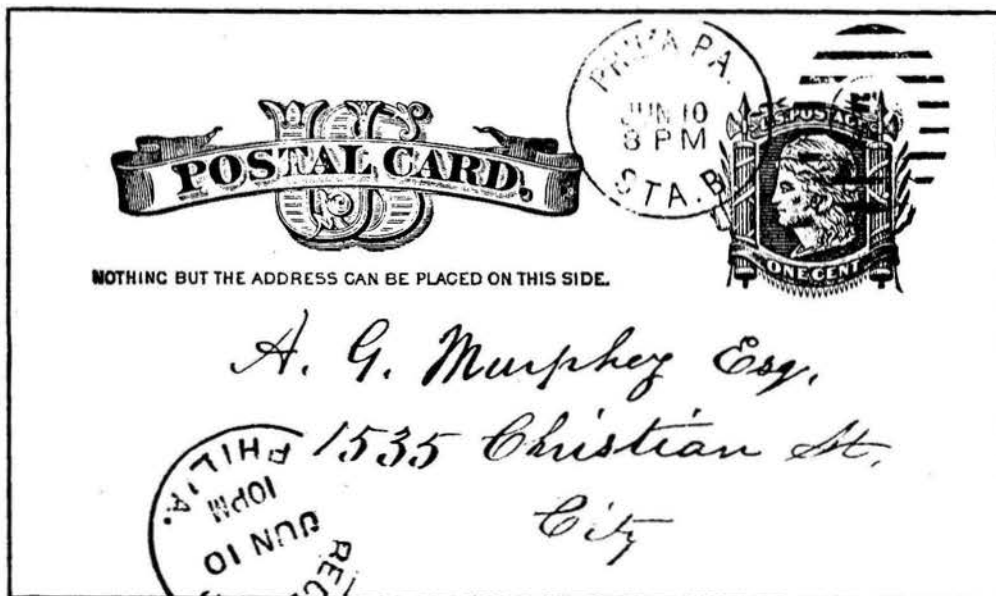


TYPE B-PHL(3)

October 21 (1888)

PHILADELPHIA, PA.

This Leavitt cancel is the latest reported use of the Type B-PHL(3) and the use of the Philadelphia machine. In use almost nine years, the die shows considerable amount of wear. Used from November 21, 1879, to October 21, 1888.



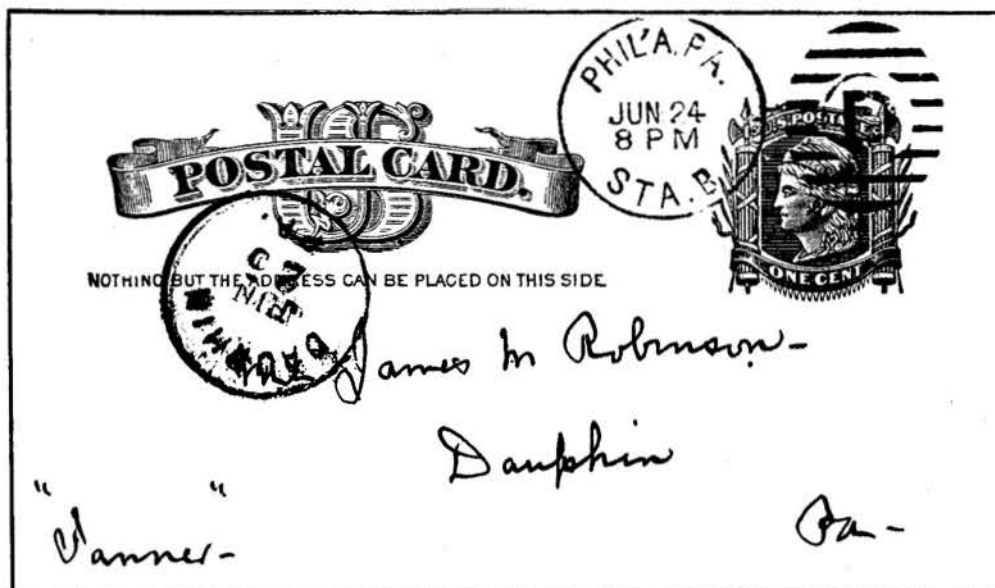
TYPE B-PHL(D)

June 10 (1885)

PHIL'A, PA. / STA. B

The Station B cancels have a large 26.5 mm. dial with an 8-bar canceller measuring 24.5 mm. x 20.5 mm. Used between April 18, 1885, and January 2, 1886. No reported year dated cancels. Only service letter "D" is known.

PHILADELPHIA
GROUP B - CANCELS
1878 - 1892



TYPE B-PHL(D) June 24 (1885) PHIL'A, PA. / STA. B

The Leavitt machine was used in Station B briefly for 8½ months. It was the only station using a Leavitt machine. Late use implies a machine was transferred to Station B. The station cancels are extremely rare.

PITTSBURGH
GROUP B - CANCELS
1879 - 1880



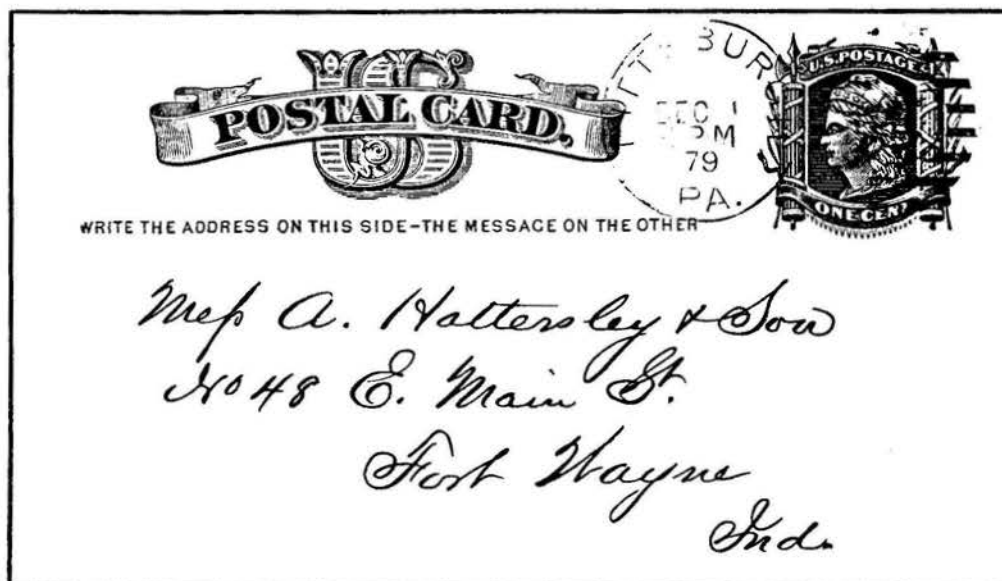
TYPE B-PBGH(D)

October 30, 1879

courtesy of Gilbert Levere

PITTSBURGH, PA.

The Type B cancelling die from Pittsburgh shows a large 26.0 mm. dial combined with a 24.5 x 20.5 mm. 8-bar oval canceller. Earliest known use of a Leavitt cancel from Pittsburgh and a "D" service letter is seen here.



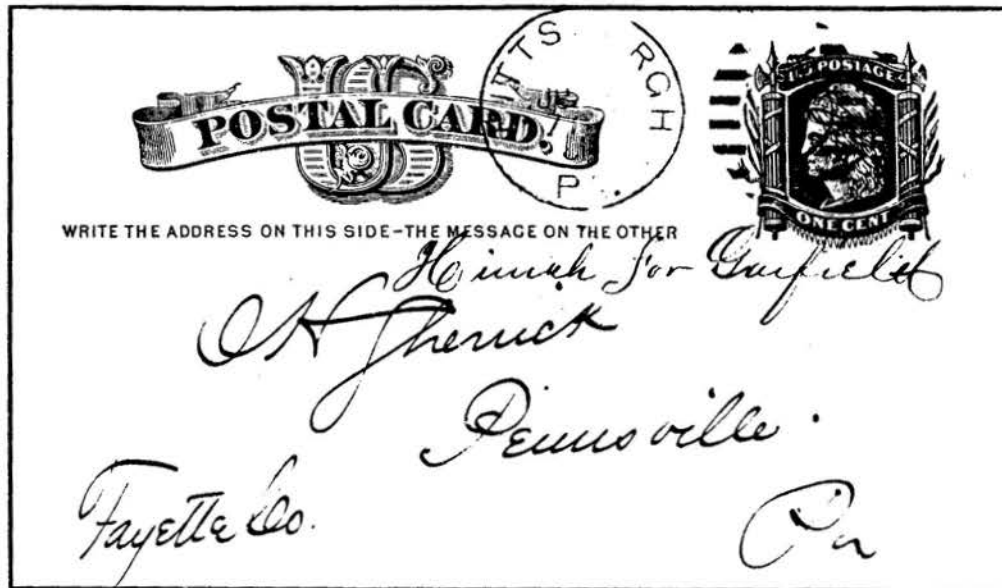
TYPE B-PBGH(C)

December 1, 1879

PITTSBURGH, PA.

Both service letters "C" and "D" are known but only a single specimen of a "D" has been seen. The machine is reported in use from October 30, 1879, to June 23, 1880. Specimens of this cancel have been rated as very rare.

PITTSBURGH
GROUP B - CANCELS
1879 - 1880



TYPE B-PBGH(-) June -, 1880 PITTSBURGH, PA.

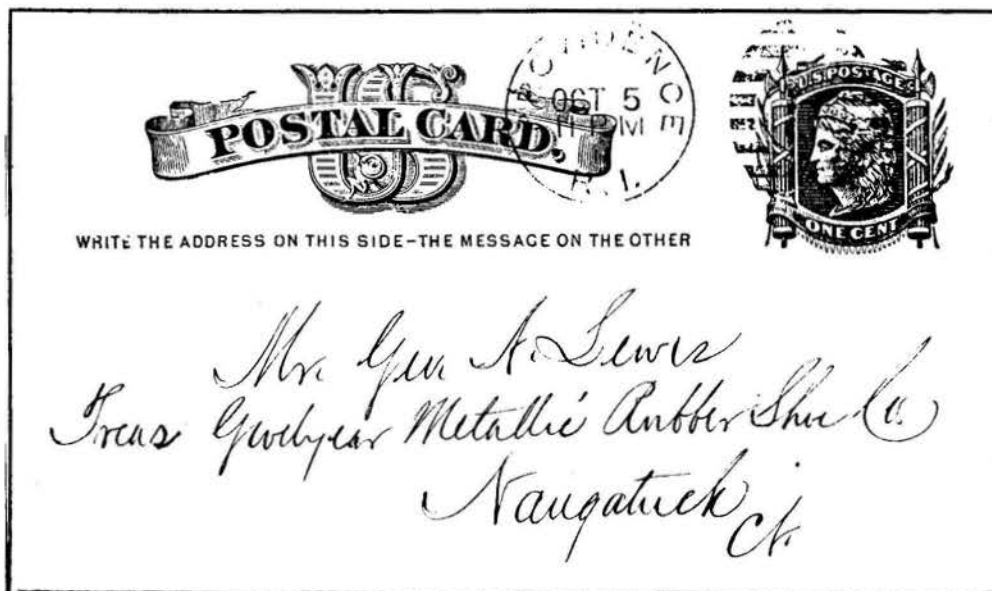
This poorly cancelled card shows no day slug but under the stamp there is the notation "Hurrah for Garfield". In Chicago, on June 8, 1880, the Republican Party nominated James A. Garfield for the Presidency. Later, he was elected in November 1880 as our 20th President.



TYPE B-PBGH(C) June 23, 1880 PITTSBURGH, PA.

Generally, Pittsburgh cancels were poorly cancelled by the Leavitt machine. Year dated cancels are known for 1879 and 1880. This is the latest known use for Pittsburgh.

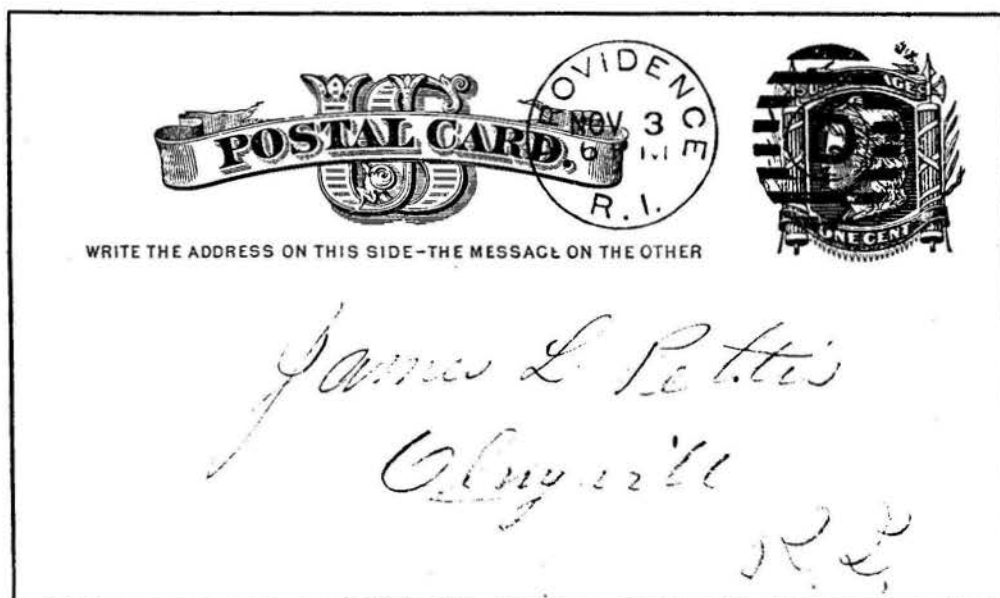
PROVIDENCE
GROUP B - CANCELS
1880 - 1882



TYPE B-PRV(D) October 5 (1880) PROVIDENCE, R.I.

The Type B cancelling die installed in Providence used a small 24.0 mm. dial in combination with the 8-bar oval canceller measuring 24.5 x 19.5 mm.

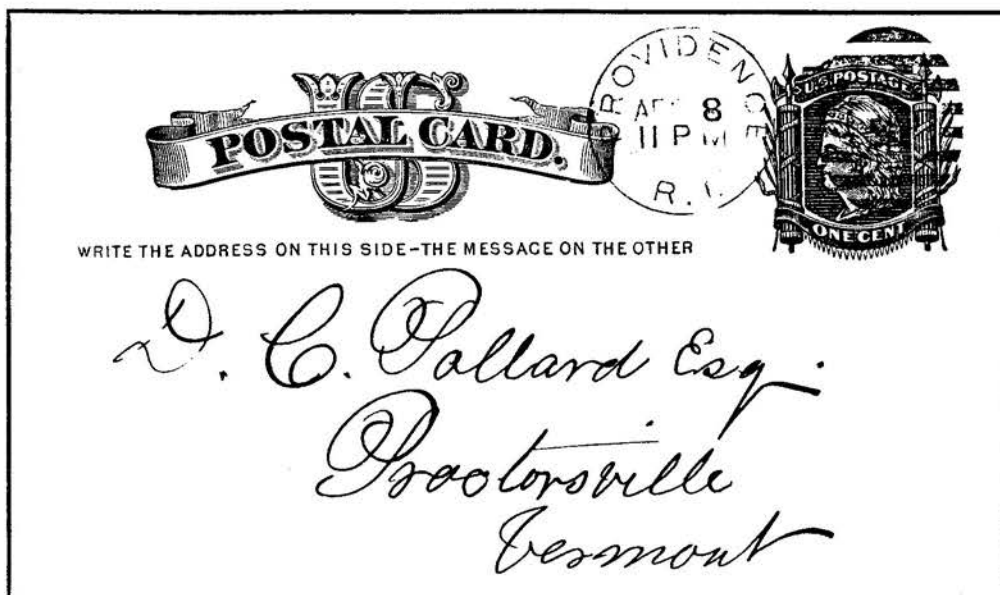
No "v" notch in the canceller. This October 5, 1880, is the earliest reported use.



TYPE B-PRV(D) November 3 (1880) PROVIDENCE, R.I.

Another early example of a Leavitt cancel used from the city of Providence. To date, only service letter "D" is known. The majority of cancels seen from this city have a clear impression and amply inked. Used for over 19 months.

PROVIDENCE
GROUP B - CANCELS
1880 - 1882

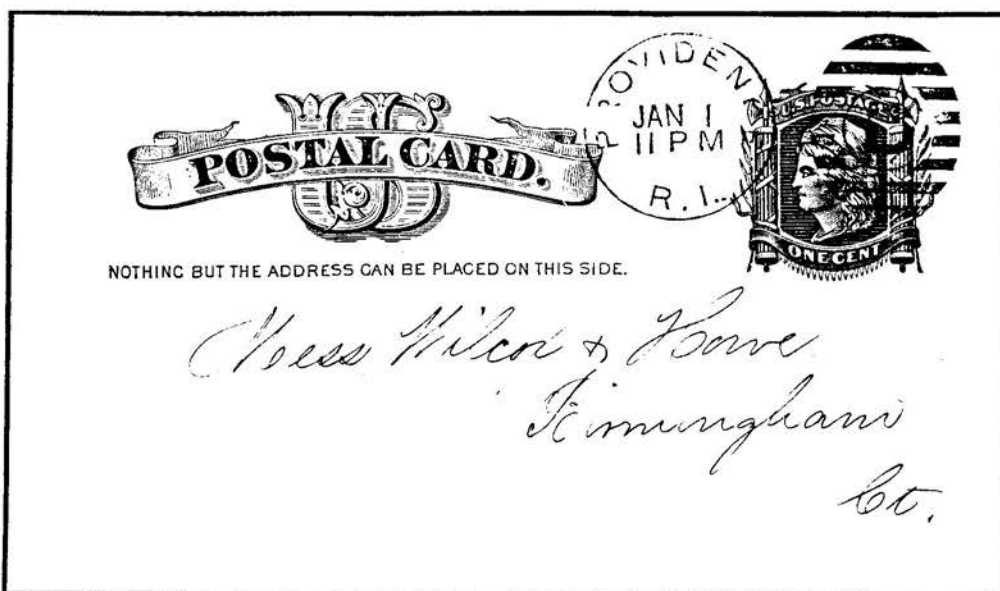


TYPE B-PRV(D)

April 8 (1881)

PROVIDENCE, R.I.

It is unusual to see this very late time of "11 PM" on Providence cancels. It does suggest that mail was cancelled and sorted for early morning outbound trains. Foreign matter under the day slug "8" caused the extra ink.



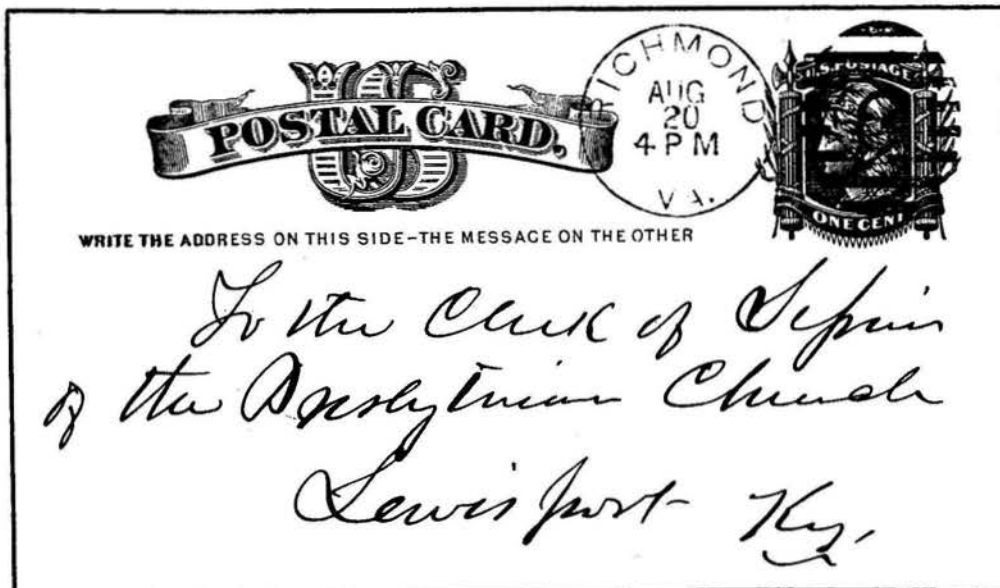
TYPE B-PRV(D)

January 1 (1882)

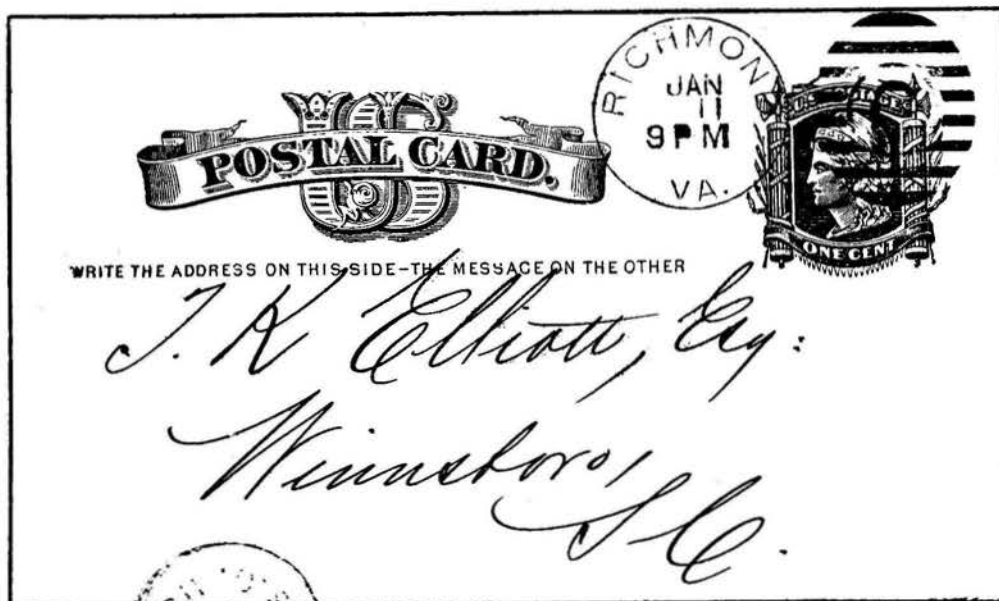
PROVIDENCE, R.I.

The canceller bars in the Providence die are unusually thick when compared with other Type B cancellers. Year date cancels are unknown. The cancels have been reported from October 5, 1880, to May 25, 1882.

RICHMOND
GROUP B - CANCELS
1880 - 1882

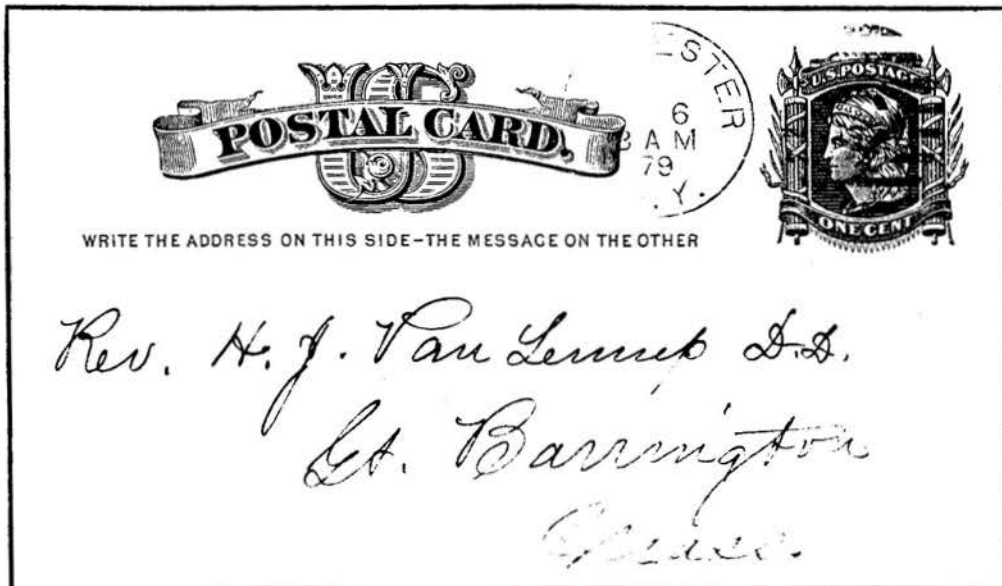


TYPE B-RCH(C) August 20 (1881) RICHMOND, VA.
Type B cancelling die was combined with a 25.0 mm. dial and a 25 x 21 mm. 8-bar oval canceller. The complete impression of the cancel is rare for most show only the partial right side. Only the service letter "C" is seen.



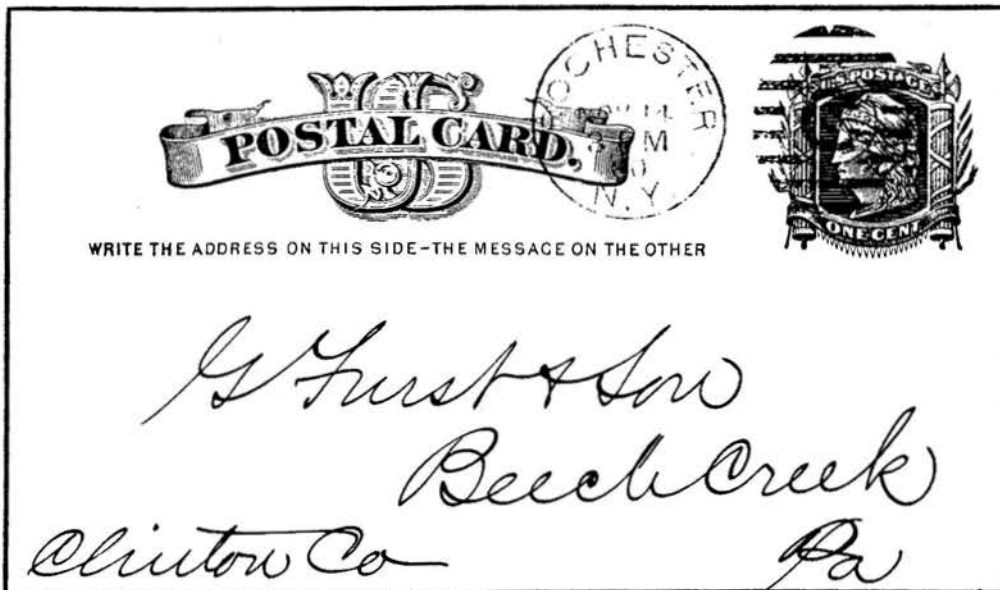
TYPE B-RCH(C) January 11 (1882) RICHMOND, VA.
In 1880, the month and day slugs are on one line. Later, in 1881 and 1882, the month and day slugs form two lines as shown here. No year dated cancels are known. Known in use from September 27, 1880, to January 13, 1882.

ROCHESTER
GROUP B - CANCELS
1880 - 1885



TYPE B-ROC(C) November 6, 1879 ROCHESTER, N.Y.

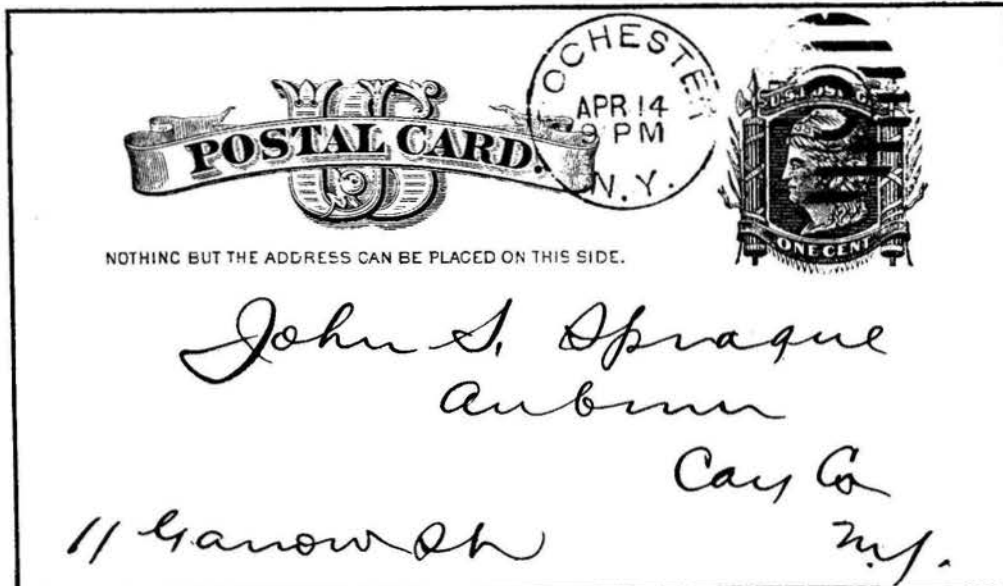
The lightly inked card shows early use of the Rochester machine with a faint "NOV" month slug. The reverse side message reads "Dear Papa, Winter, with 6 inches of snow upon us. Election returns are awaited anxiously. . ."



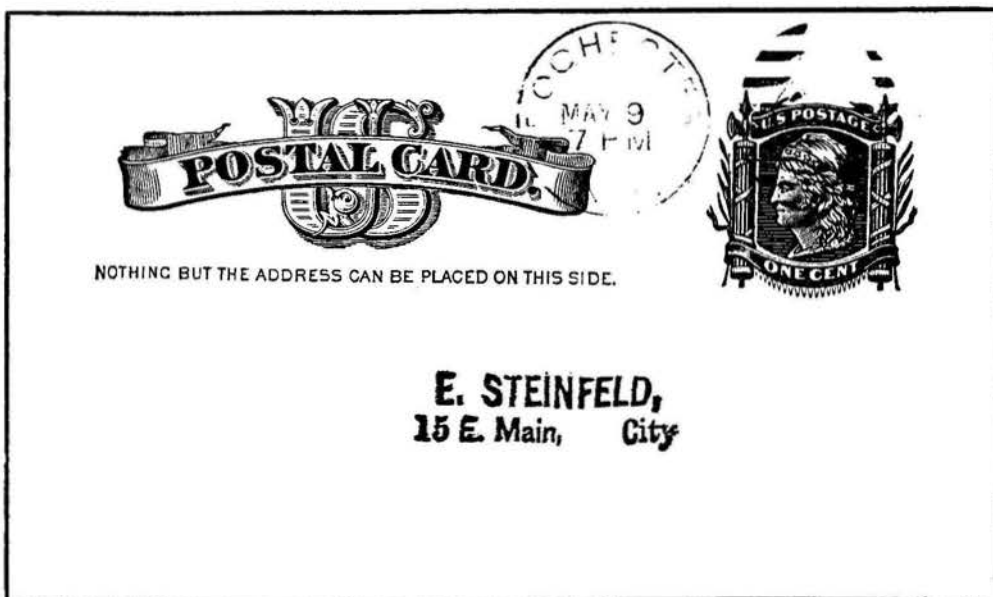
TYPE B-ROC(C) November 14, 1880 ROCHESTER, N.Y.

The Type B cancels from Rochester have a 25.0 mm. dial with an 8-bar canceller measuring 24.5 x 20.5 mm. Only the "C" service letter reported. The top bar shows the "v" notch. Rochester cancels usually appear ink starved.

ROCHESTER
GROUP B - CANCELS
1880 - 18825



TYPE B-ROC(C) April 14, 188- ROCHESTER, N.Y.
Year date cancels from Rochester are seen from 1879 to 1880 but none from 1881 to 1885. It is not unusual for Leavitt dials to show no year date and/or for cards to show no year on the reverse. The card has no year date.



TYPE B-ROC(C) May 9 (1885) ROCHESTER, N.Y.
This poorly inked Leavitt cancel shows the latest use for Rochester. The machine was in use for 6½ years but this does not reflect reported copies. It is rated as scarce. Known between November 2, 1879, and May 9, 1885.

ST. LOUIS
GROUP B - CANCELS
1879 - 1887



TYPE B-STL(D)

June 28, 1879

ST. LOUIS, MO.

The Type B cancelling die installed in St. Louis had a 23.5 mm. dial with a 25.0 x 21.0 mm. 8-bar canceller. Known used June 28, 1879, to May 28, 1887. This city was one of the earliest to receive a new Leavitt machine.



TYPE B-STL(D)

June 11 (1881)

ST. LOUIS, MO.

A unique combination with two different Leavitt cancels on one card. The card was posted in St. Louis, June 11, 1881, and received two days later in Dayton. A receiving mark dated June 13 is seen in the lower left corner.

ST. LOUIS
GROUP B - CANCELS
1879 - 1887



TYPE B-STL(D) June 15, (1886) ST. LOUIS, MO.

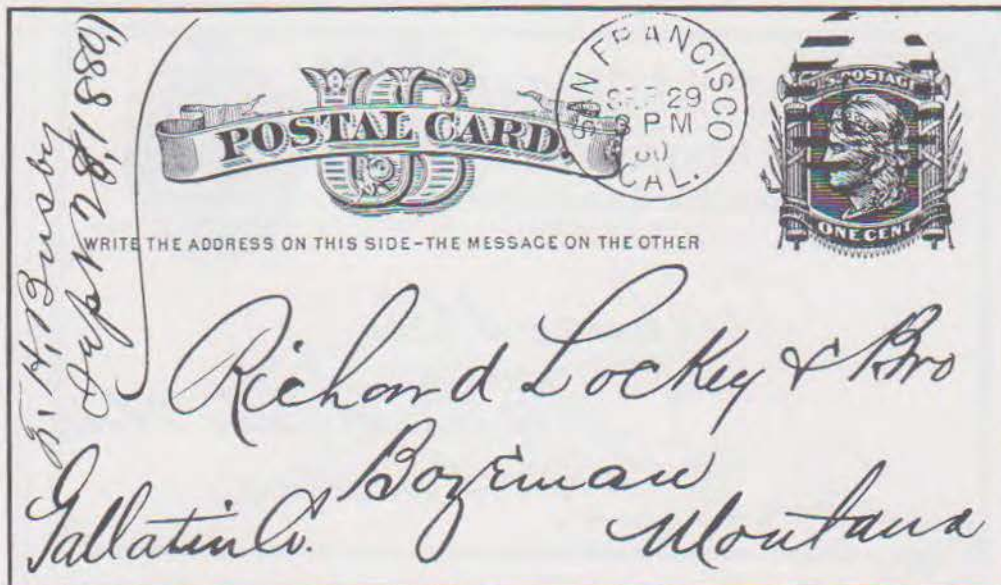
Leavitt cancels are seldom found on the International card. The card was posted overseas to London, England on June 15, 1886. It was in transit for 13 days. Year dated cancels were seen only in 1879.



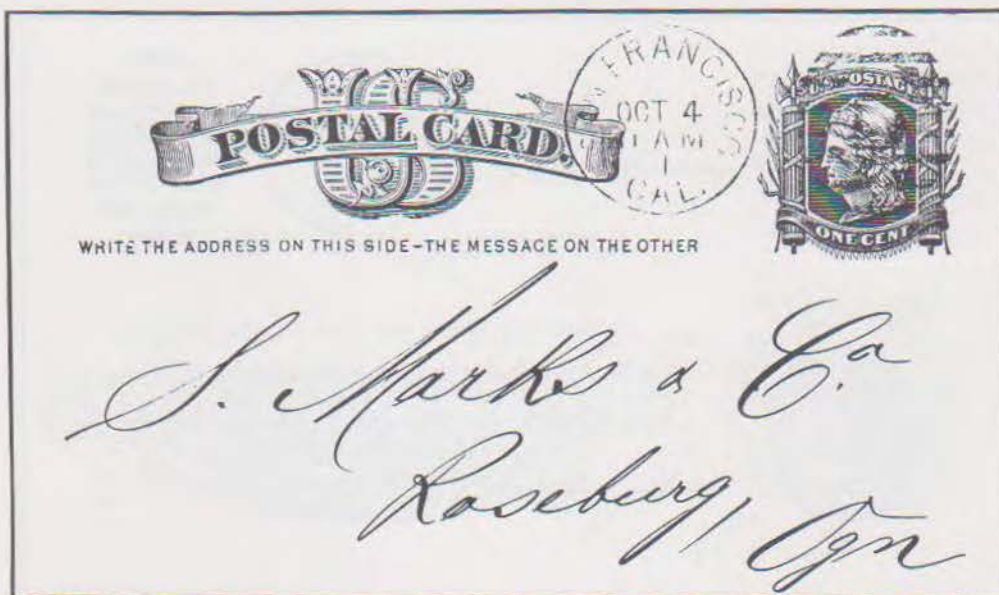
TYPE B-STL(D) April 13, (1887) ST. LOUIS, MO.

This example shows late use for the Leavitt machine in St. Louis with May 28, 1887, being the latest. During the facing, this card was not correctly faced resulting in a cancel error. St. Louis cancels are rated very common.

SAN FRANCISCO
GROUP B - CANCELS
1880 - 1890



TYPE B-SFR(D) September 29, 1880 SAN FRANCISCO, CAL.
The Leavitt cancelling die used a 24.5 mm. dial with a 24.5 x 20.5 mm. canceller. This cancel is an early use for San Francisco. Service letter "D" was used in 1880 and 1881. The next year letter "C" was used until 1890.



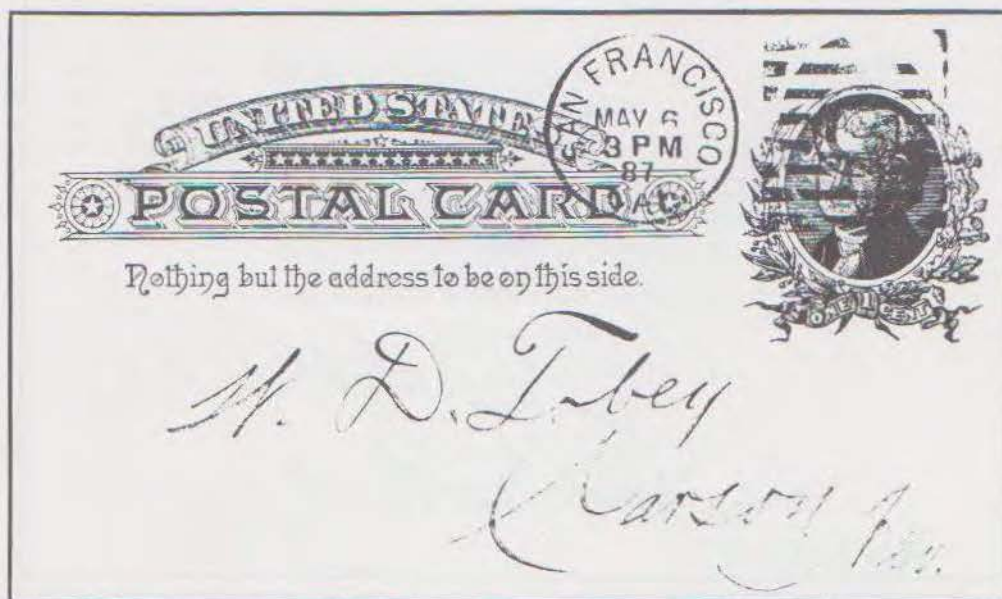
TYPE B-SFR(D) October 4, 1881 SAN FRANCISCO, CAL.
For 1881, the San Francisco cancels have no year date or show only a "1" probably from a damaged year dater slug. Year dated cancels have been reported from 1884 - 1886 - 1887 and 1888. Other year dates could exist.

SAN FRANCISCO
GROUP B - CANCELS
1880 - 1890



TYPE B-SFR(C) August 11, 1886 SAN FRANCISCO, CAL.

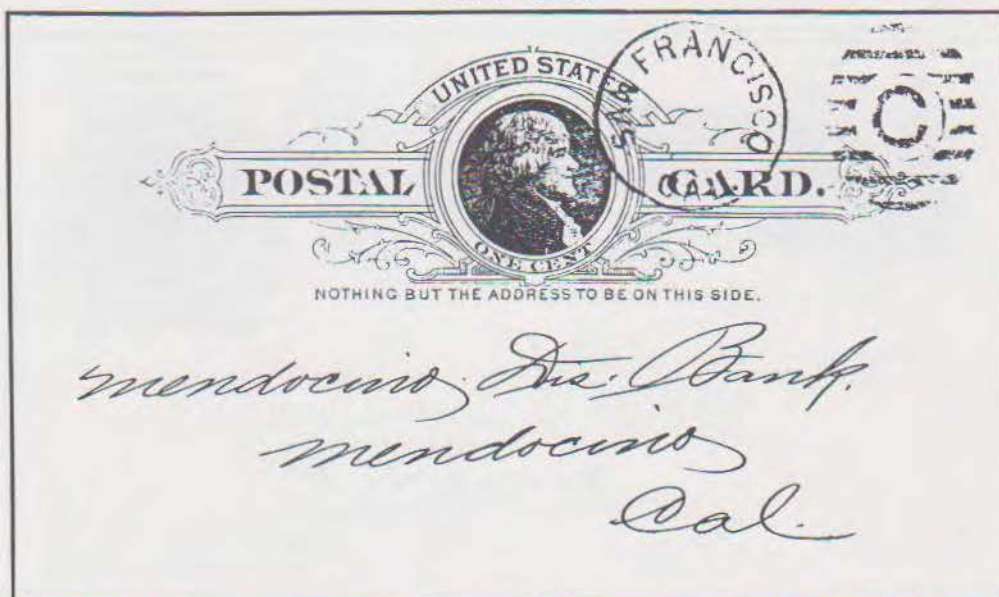
Note the "7 AM" time in this Leavitt cancel. The same early time is seen in other cancels that suggests an early train departure. Year dates were arbitrarily used in the San Francisco machine in its 11 year use.



TYPE B-SFR(C) May 6, 1887 SAN FRANCISCO, CAL.

Year dated cancels were used irregularly between 1880 and 1888 with no given pattern of use. Note the inked corners around the 8-barred canceller. A very unusual die cut is apparently the result of an unfinished die.

SAN FRANCISCO
GROUP B - CANCELS
1880 - 1890



TYPE B-SFR(C) (June 14, 1889) SAN FRANCISCO, CAL.

By the late 1880's, the San Francisco dials show many unusual aspects that are found in the indicia make-up. This cancel shows the complete absence of any indicia which is generally reserved for third class mail matter.



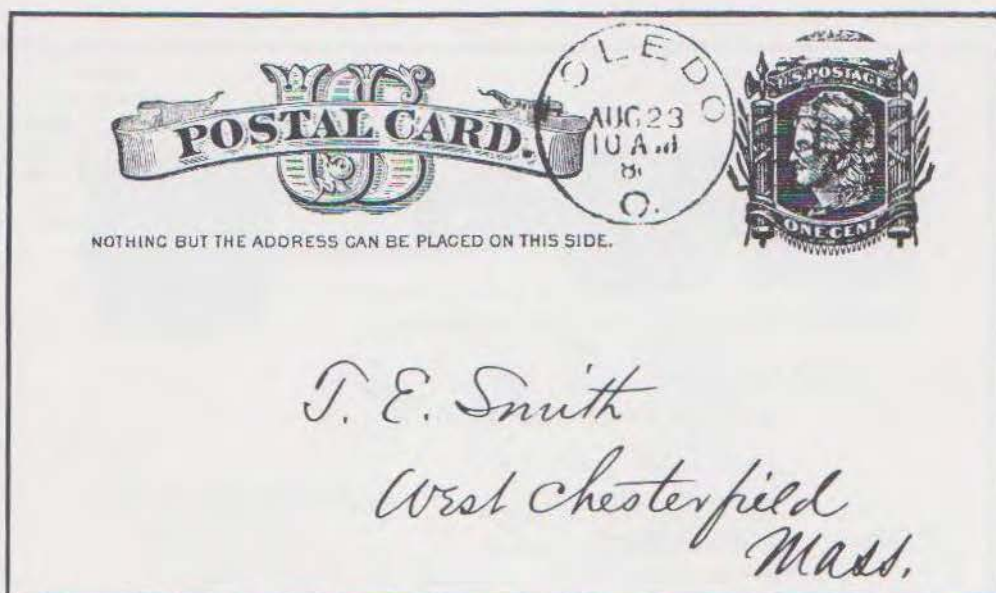
TYPE B-SFR(C) November (5), 1890 SAN FRANCISCO, CAL.

This dial has a partial spacer bar, only a month slug and no day, no time and the only known "90" year date. The cancel is known from September 24, 1880, to November 5, 1890. This is the latest reported.

TOLEDO
GROUP B - CANCELS
1879 - 1887

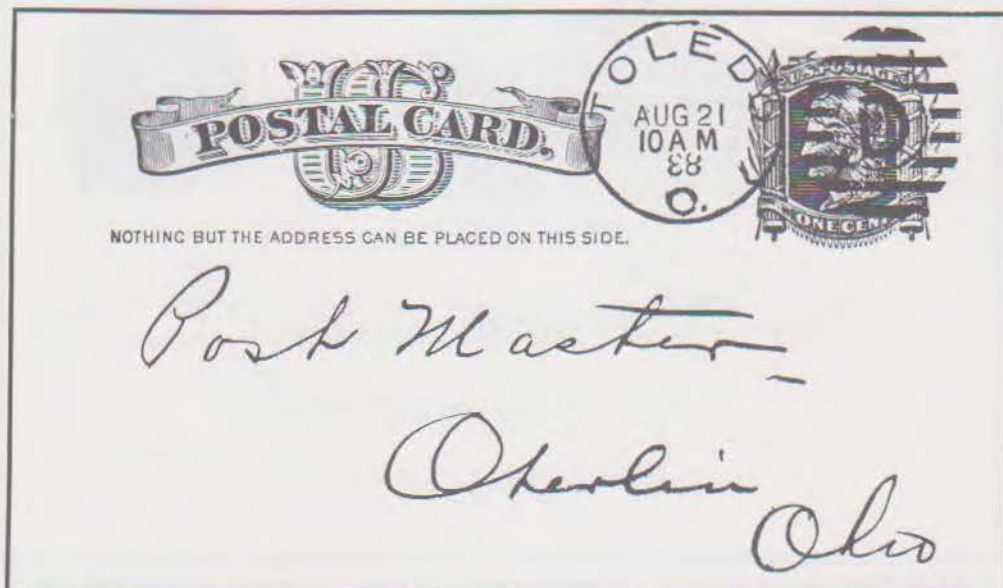


TYPE B-TOL(D) December 8, 1879 TOLEDO, O.
The cancelling die used in Toledo had a 26.0 mm. dial with a 24.5 x 20.5 mm. 8-bar oval canceller. There is a "v" notch cut in the top bar. Leavitt cancels used during the first year of installation (1879) are scarce.



TYPE B-TOL(D) August 23, 1882 TOLEDO, O.
No complete "81" year date is known but for April 18, 1881, a full "8" and partial "1" are known (a damaged "81" shown here). An April 11, 1881, is known with no year. The damaged "81" date has been seen for April 18, 1881, to April 26, 1883.

TOLEDO
GROUP B - CANCELS
1879 - 1887



TYPE B-TOL(D)

August 21, 1883

TOLEDO, O.

This specimen is an exceptionally clear and well inked copy of a Leavitt. An inverted year date is not scarce. Only the service letter "D" has been seen.

Known November 21, 1879, to September 27, 1887.



TYPE B-TOL(D)

June 22 (1885)

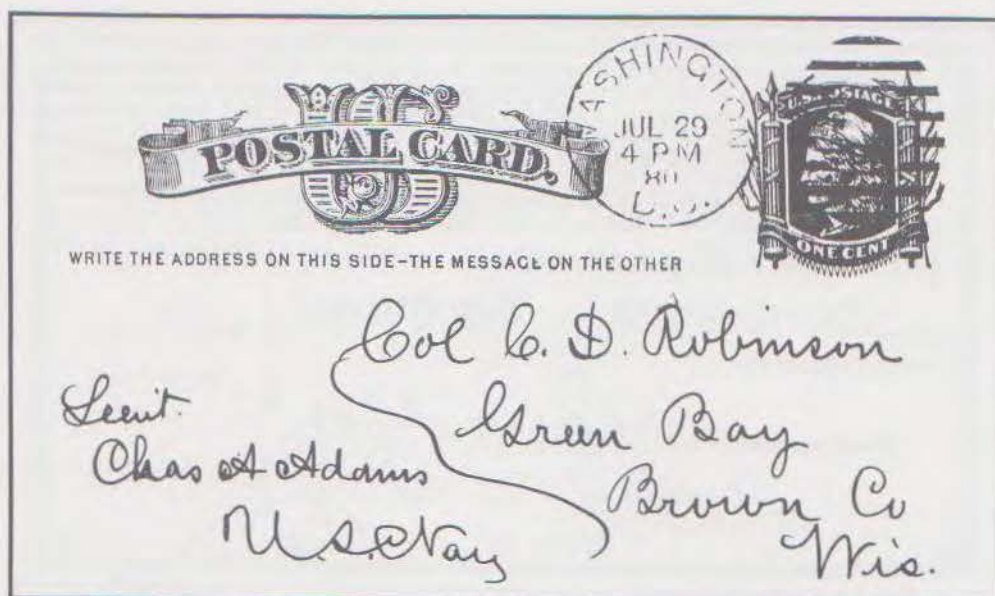
TOLEDO, O.

Note an unusual appearing 8 barred oval canceller with the reason being the 11.5 mm. outer ring around the "D" is missing. Perhaps lost during its periodic cleaning. No year dates known on some examples from 1881 to 1887.

WASHINGTON
GROUP B - CANCELS
1879 - 1882



TYPE B-WASH(D) November 18, 1879 WASHINGTON, D.C.
The earliest use of a Type B from Washington is shown above in bluish-black ink. Some other cities used the same ink that suggests it was sent with some machines. Known used between November 18, 1879 and March 24, 1882.



TYPE B-WASH(C) July 29, 1880 WASHINGTON, D.C.
Washington's new Type B cancelling die had a 25.0 mm. dial with an 8-barred oval canceller measuring 24.5 x 19.5 mm. The service letters "C" and "D" are reported. By 1880, Washington cancels show the ink as jet black.

WASHINGTON
GROUP B - CANCELS
1879 - 1882



TYPE B-WASH(C) April 7 (1881) WASHINGTON, D.C.
This card addressed to Fort Benton, Montana Territory shows the canceller with a "C" service letter leaning slightly left. Common phenomenon in a Leavitt service letter as no restraining pin was used for the letters.

The Postmaster making up Registered Letters, &c., for dispatch, will fill up the other side of this Bill, and write the name of his Post Office, County, and State in the blank address on this side. The Postmaster receiving this Bill in Registered Package will at once compare entries with letters, &c., inclosed; make entries on record of registered matter received; stamp postmark below; sign this Bill on other side, noting any errors, and return it to the mailing Post Office without cover. A penalty of \$300 is fixed by law for using this card on other than official business.

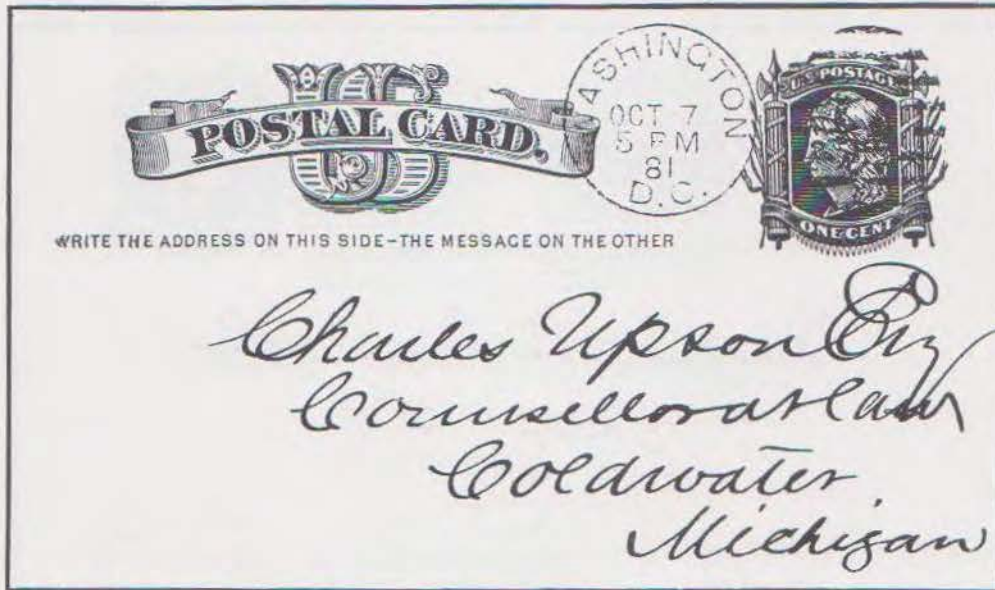
Post Office Department.
OFFICIAL BUSINESS. Post Office at _____
Stamp here name of Post Office

RETURN TO: _____
and date of receipt.

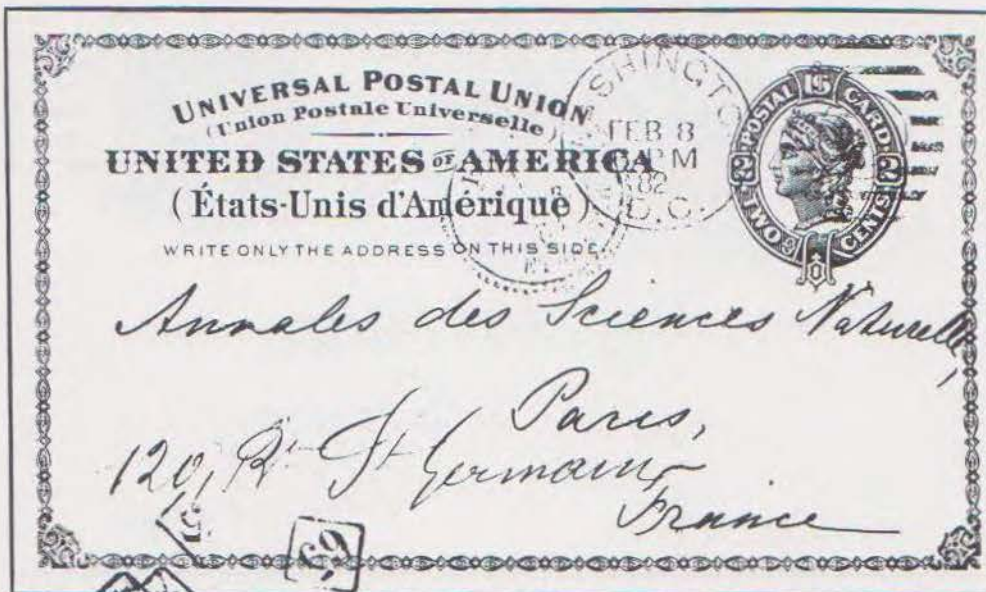
Postmaster at Bradford
County of _____
State of N.H.

TYPE B-WASH(C) May 1 (1881) WASHINGTON, D.C.
Facing procedure in offices with Leavitt machines was a daily task of placing all cards in the same upright position in stacks for the machine operator to process. Penalty cards having a Leavitt cancel are seldom seen.

WASHINGTON
GROUP B - CANCELS
1879 - 1882



TYPE B-WASH(C) October 7, 1881 WASHINGTON, D.C.
Between 1879 and 1882, year dated cancels are known for each year the Leavitt machine was used. Occasionally the year is absent or a bar slug was used early in the year. The Type B cancels are rated as scarce from Washington.



TYPE B-WASH(C) February 8, 1882 WASHINGTON, D.C.
This two cent International Postal Card to France is the correct rate for overseas mailing. Cards used overseas with Leavitt cancels are scarce. Message says a package was mailed by the Smithsonian Institution.

WASHINGTON
GROUP B - CANCELS
1879 - 1882



TYPE B-WASH(C) January 7 (1882) WASHINGTON, D.C.

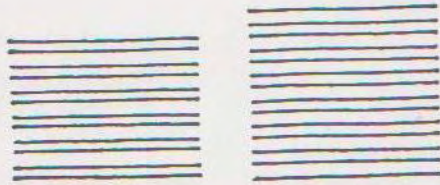
In January 1882, a bar slug was used briefly until the arrival of a new "82" year dater slug. On occasions, the new year slug would not arrive in time to be installed and the old "81" year was reversed, creating a bar print.



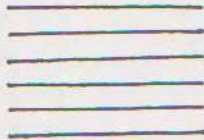
TYPE B-WASH(C) March 24, 1882 WASHINGTON, D.C.

The March 24, 1882, cancel is the latest reported use of the Type B for Washington. A new Type C cancelling die was installed seven days later with 14 horizontal bars in the canceller but they continued using the old dial.

GROUP C - CT- D
HORIZONTAL BAR CANCELLERS
1882 - 1891



GROUP C - 12 or 14 horizontal bars in 6 pairs.



GROUP CT - 6 horizontal bars. A brief period of use for a provisional die.



GROUP D - 18 or 19 horizontal bars equally spaced.

GROUP C CANCELS

A new style of canceller with 18 horizontal bars was used in Boston by February 25, 1882. During this same year, Baltimore and Washington received a similar horizontal bar canceller.

A provisional canceller die was used briefly in Washington and Indianapolis for unknown reasons in 1885 and 1886.

Boston's new six paired horizontal bar canceller designated as Type C-1 was placed in service on March 1, 1882. The designated Die Cb dial was used in the new cancelling die.

The same six paired bar canceller was used with the Die Cc dial in Boston and designated as a Type C-2 cancel. Again, the previous six paired bar canceller die was used

in Type C-3 cancels but now with the Die D dial.

In Washington, a new 14 horizontal bar canceller (six paired bars with a single bar above and below) designated as Type C was in use from March 31, 1882, until April 2, 1891.

Baltimore used a similar six paired bar canceller designated as Type C. Known used from May 18, 1882, to April 30, 1887.

The Die Cb, Die D and Die Cc dials were used in five combinations with three cancellers in Group C and Group D cancels. These different combinations were used on two machines in Boston from February 25, 1882, to July 19, 1886. The three Boston dial dies are illustrated here:-



DIAL DIE Cb

25.5 mm.
Medium "MASS."

Dial used in
Types B-2, B-3
and C-1.



DIAL DIE D

25.0 mm.
Small "MASS."

Dial used in
Types D-1, D-2
C-3 and X-D

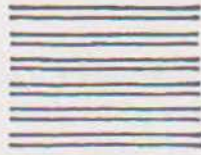


DIAL DIE Cc

26.5 mm.
Large "MASS."

Dial used in
Type C-2.

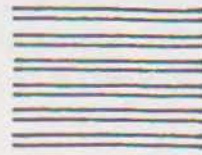
GROUP C CANCELS
1882 - 1891



BOSTON
C-1; C-2; C-3
12 Horizontal Bars
6 pairs
23 mm. width
17 mm. height



WASHINGTON
TYPE C
14 Horizontal Bars
6 pairs + 2
23 mm. width
21 mm. height

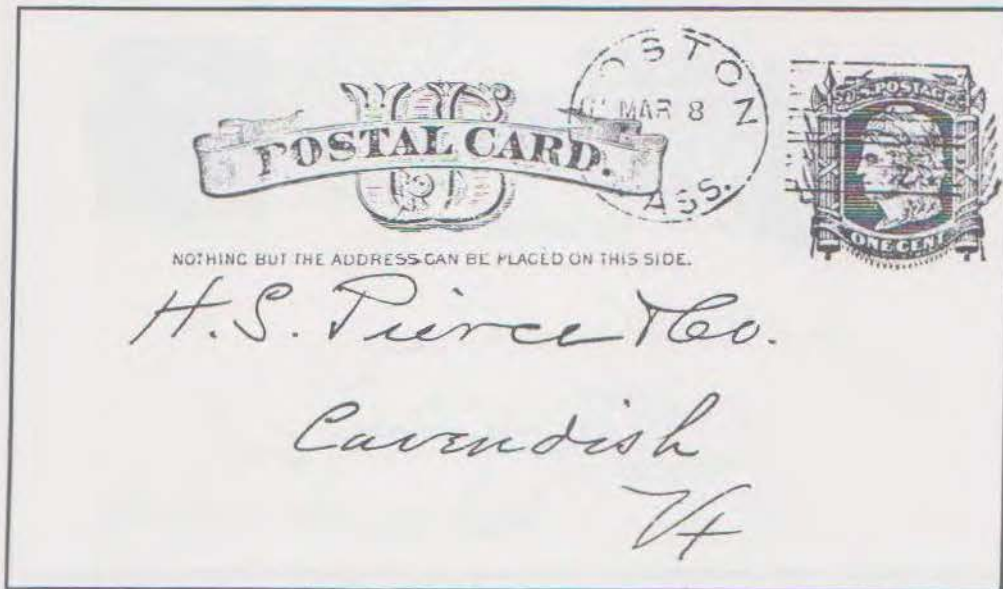


BALTIMORE
TYPE C
12 Horizontal Bars
6 pairs
24 mm. width
17 mm. height



TYPE C-1 March 2 (1882) BOSTON, MASS.
The new Type C-1 cancelling die was installed with a Die Cb dial used earlier in Type B-2 and B-3 cancels. This new six paired bar canceller was used for 23 days. The earliest known Type C-1 is March 1, 1882.

BOSTON
GROUP C - CANCELS
1882 - 1886



TYPE C-1 March 8 (1882) BOSTON, MASS.
Cancelling die in Type C-1 used the previous 25.5 mm. Die Cb dial with six paired horizontal bar canceller. The canceller bars have a 23 mm. width and height of 17.0 mm. Year dated cancels are unknown for Type C-1.

When the registered letter or parcel accompanying this card is delivered, the Postmaster will require signature to the receipt on the other side, also on the record of registered deliveries, and mail this card without cover to address below. A penalty of \$300 is fixed by law for using this card for other than official business.

Post Office Department.

OFFICIAL BUSINESS. Post Office at

RETURN TO: *Tom* and date of delivery.

Name of Sender _____

Street and Number, } **BRADFORD, N. H.**
or Post Office Box. }

Post Office at _____

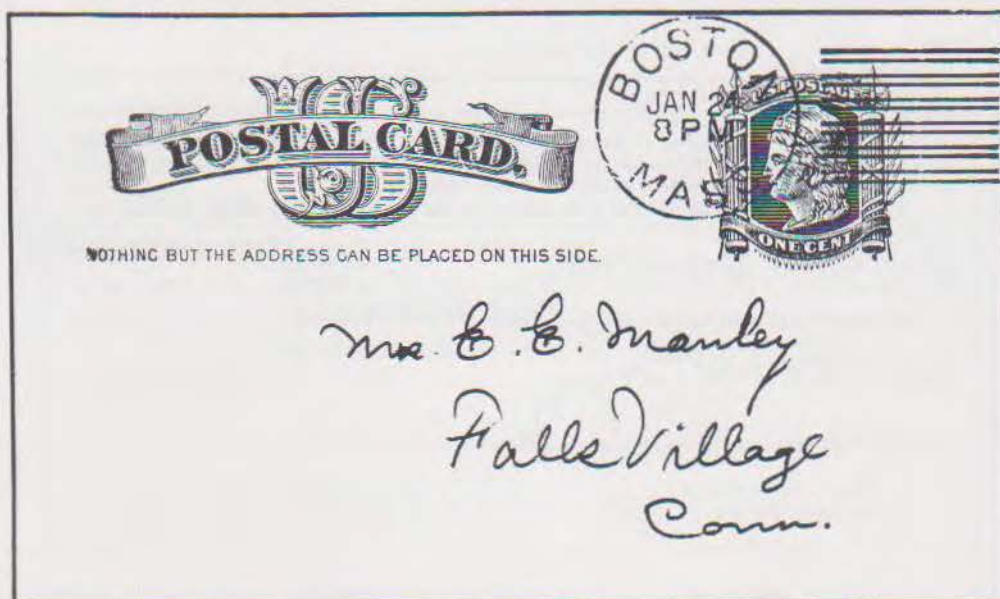
County of _____ State of _____

TYPE C-1 March 22 (1882) BOSTON, MASS.
The period of use of the combination of a Die Cb dial and the six paired bar canceller was from March 1 to March 23, 1882. The cancel shows late use for Type C-1. The penalty cards with Leavitt cancels are not common.

BOSTON
GROUP C - CANCELS
1882 - 1886



TYPE C-2 March 31 (1882) BOSTON, MASS.
The Type C-2 cancelling die continued to use the same six paired bar canceller used earlier in the Type C-1. The new Die Cc (26.5 mm.) dial with large letters was installed March 30, 1882. This card shows the second day of use.



TYPE C-2 January 24 (1884) BOSTON, MASS.
The Type C-2 cancels seen from Boston are very common. Known March 30, 1882, to January 25, 1885, except for January 26, 1884, to April 24, 1884, when Type D-1 was in use. The cancel shows late use for this first period.

BOSTON
GROUP C - CANCELS
1882 - 1886

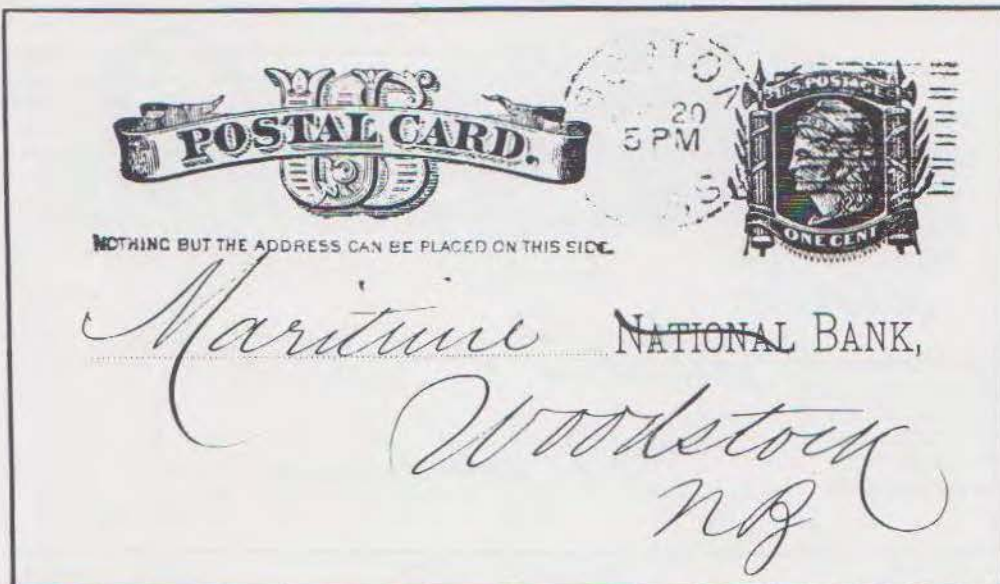


TYPE C-2

April 25 (1884)

BOSTON, MASS.

Type C-2 cancels are once again seen by April 25, 1884, with lightly inked impressions. The earliest seen use for the second period is shown here. The absence of Type C-2 for the previous three months was possibly due to machine problems.



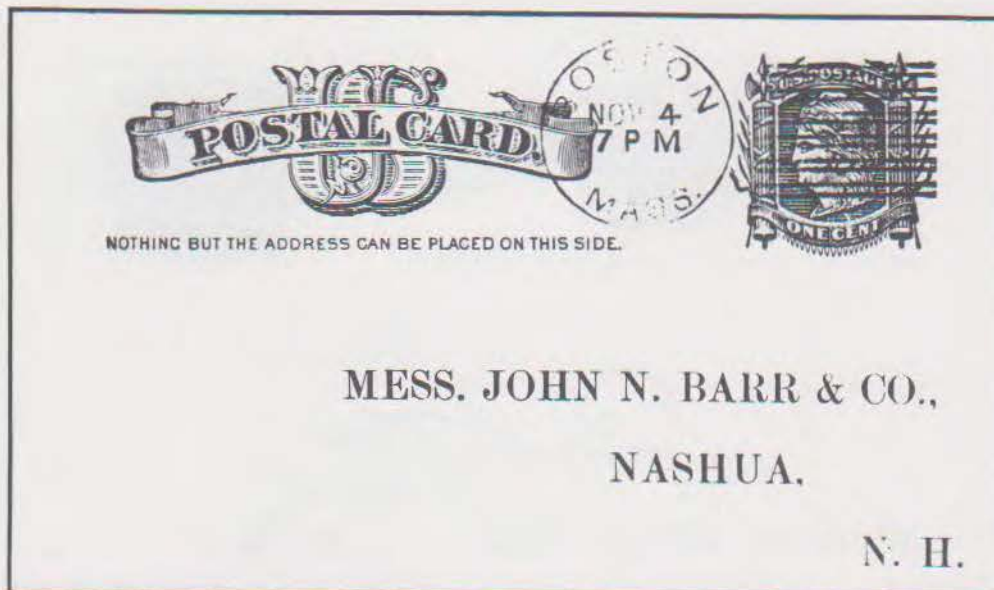
TYPE C-2

January 20 (1885)

BOSTON, MASS.

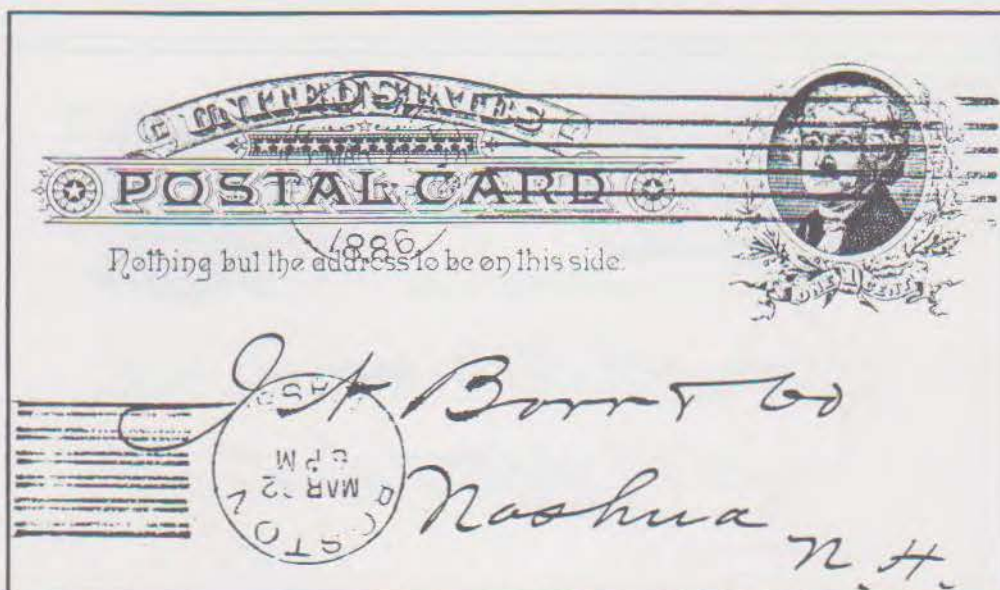
Like most examples, these two "Leavitts" appear to be inked starved in the second period due to an ineffective inking system. During the second period of use, the Type C-2 cancels are seen from April 25, 1884, to January 26, 1885.

BOSTON
GROUP C - CANCELS
1882 - 1886



TYPE C-3 November 4 (1885) BOSTON, MASS.

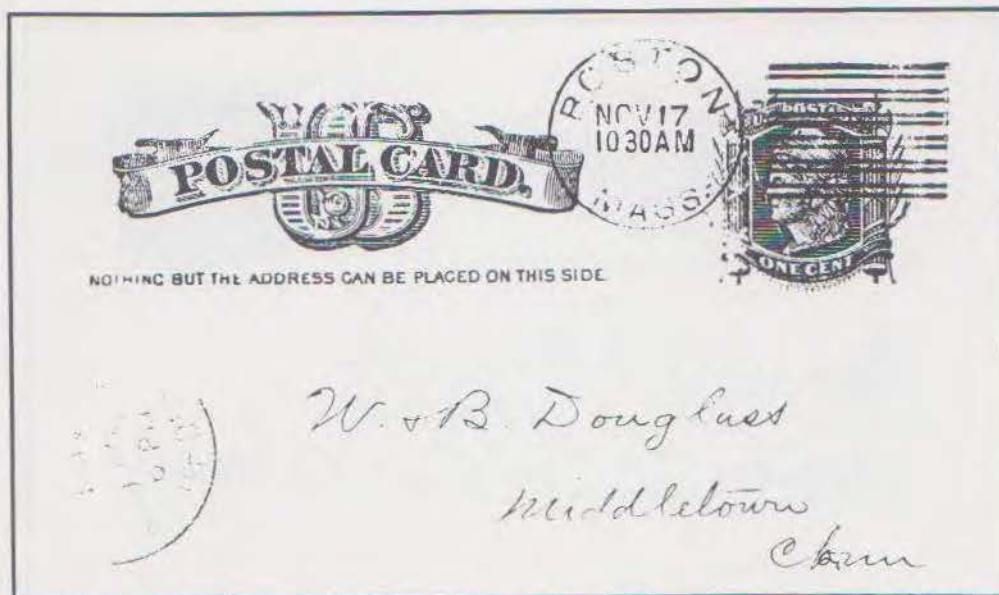
The cancelling die used in the Type C-3 appears to be made up of two previously used dies; the six paired bar canceller die found in Types C-1 and C-2 cancels and the Die D dial seen used in Type D-1, D-2 and X-D cancels.



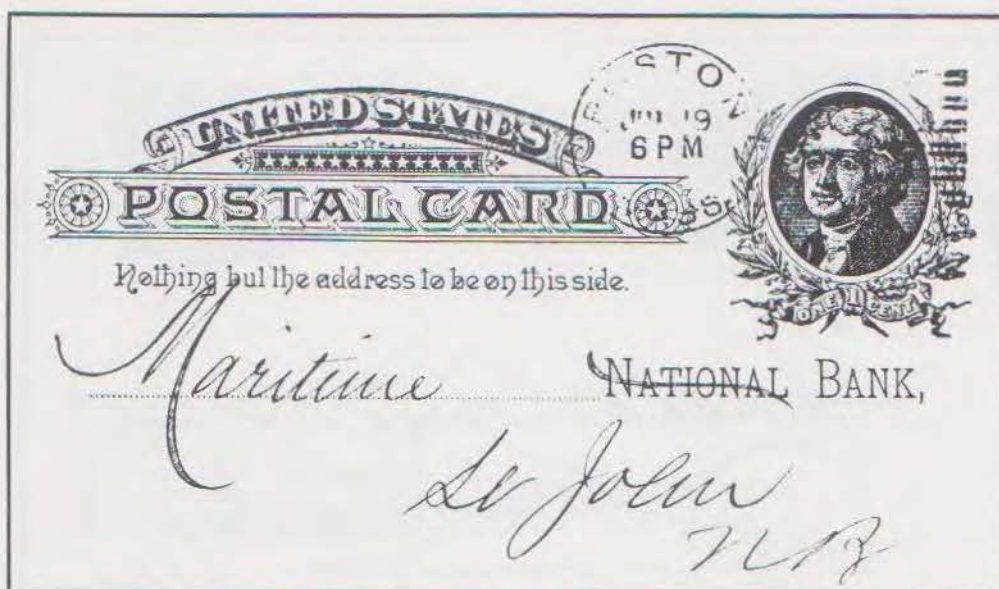
TYPE C-3 March 22 (1886) BOSTON, MASS.

Note the unusual combination with an inverted cancel showing in the lower left corner from a clerks error and a corrected "American" cancel used a half hour later. Type C-3 is known from November 4, 1885, to July 19, 1886.

BOSTON
GROUP C - CANCELS
1882 - 1886



TYPE C-3 November 17 (1885) BOSTON, MASS.
The Type C-3 cancelling die was used for over eight months on this machine.
The above card shows a 10:30 AM posted time. The cancels with the half-hour time are scarce. However, due to quantities, Type C-3's have been rated as common.



TYPE C-3 July 19 (1886) BOSTON, MASS.
On June 27, 1885, the top of the Type D-2 cancelling die suffered damage and was re-engraved for continued use. The same Die D dial was used again in Type C-3 cancels. July 19, 1886, is the latest use of this die.

BALTIMORE
GROUP C - CANCELS
1882 - 1887



TYPE C-BALT May 12 (1882) *courtesy of Joe McDonough* BALTIMORE, MD.
The new machine was installed by May 12, 1882, with the Type C cancelling die. The city's Type B cancels were used for three years or until April 15, 1882. During the following four weeks, no Baltimore cancels are seen.

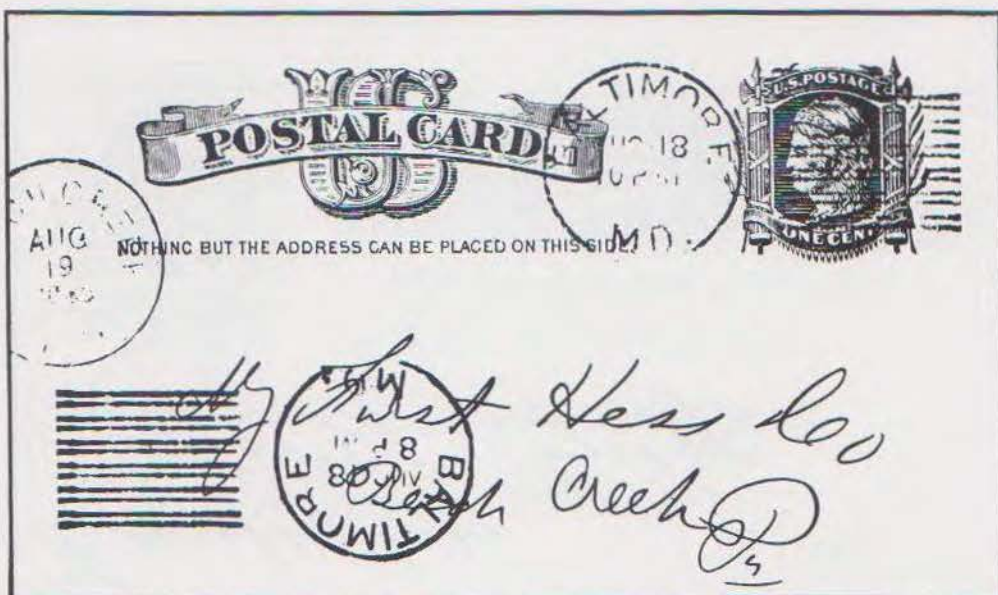


TYPE C-BALT February 5 (1883) BALTIMORE, MD.
The Type C cancelling die was combined with a 26.0 mm. dial and a six pair bar canceller. The card shows a time of 10 PM on February 5; was received in Boston at 9 PM; and FORWARDED to Gloucester at 9 AM the next day.

BALTIMORE
GROUP C - CANCELS
1882 - 1887



TYPE C-BALT September 24 (1884) BALTIMORE, MD.
This unusual six paired bar canceller appears to have had the bars serrated but in checking other Baltimore cancellers this serration does not appear on Type C's. An oily rag for die cleaning was the probable culprit.



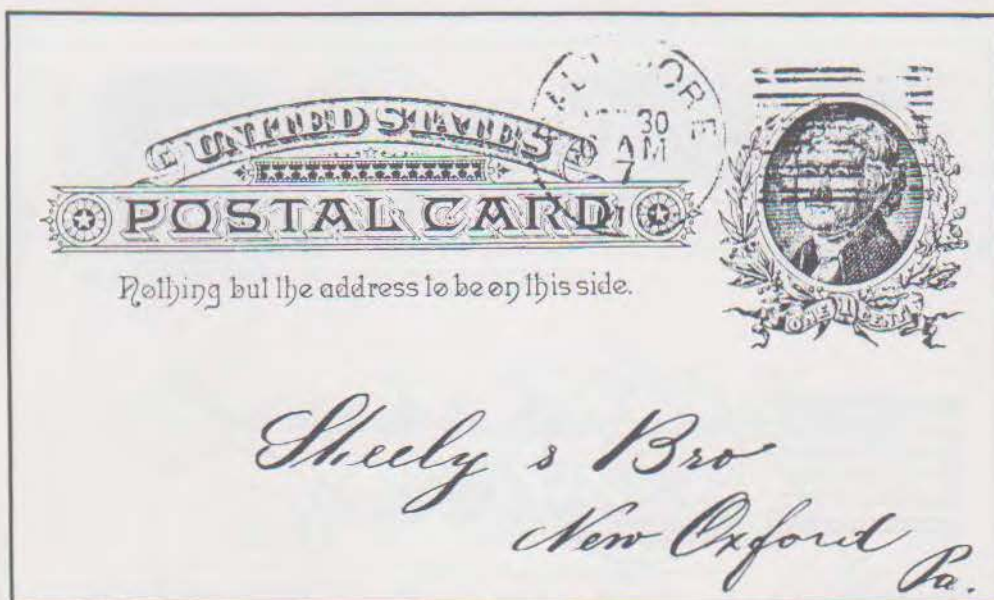
TYPE C-BALT August 18 (1885) BALTIMORE, MD.
The bottom left cancel was caused by a clerks error in facing the cards in stacks just prior to their being cancelled. The inverted cancel shows the time as 8 PM with two hours elapsing before the corrected cancel at 10 PM.

BALTIMORE
GROUP C - CANCELS
1882 - 1887



TYPE C-BALT February 9, 1886 BALTIMORE, MD.

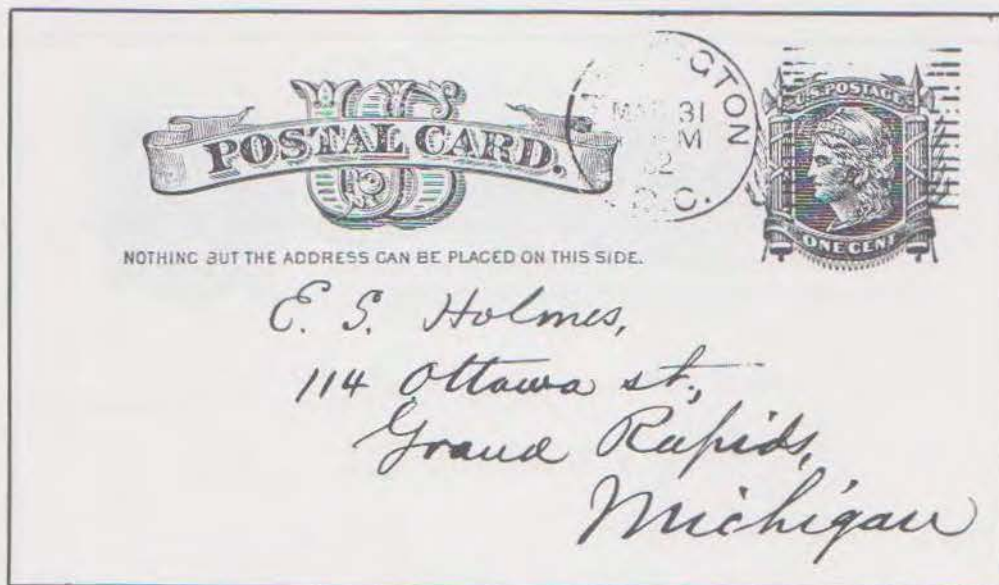
The Leavitt machine was used in Baltimore for five years with no reported year dated cancels from 1882 to 1885. During the following year, an "86" year was installed in the dial but this year dated cancel is very scarce.



TYPE C-BALT April 30, 1887 BALTIMORE, MD.

The above cancel shows an unusual provisional, single digit, "7" year date. The bizarre date was used for only four months. The single digit dates are very scarce. Type C cancels are known from May 18, 1882, to April 30, 1887.

WASHINGTON
GROUP C - CANCELS
1882 - 1891



TYPE C-WASH March 31, 1882 WASHINGTON, D.C.

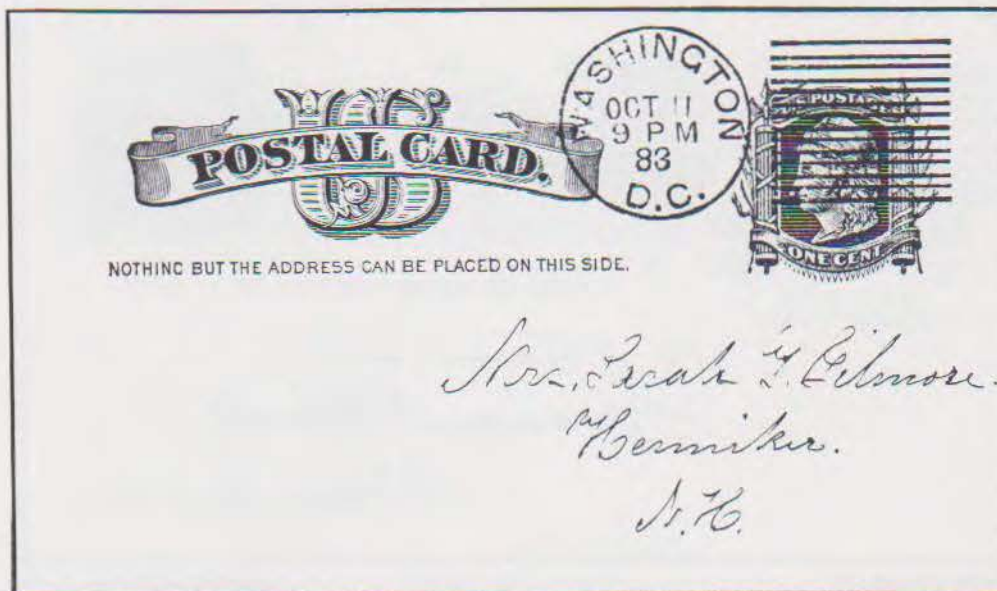
The latest reported use of the previously used Type B in Washington is March 24, 1882. Seven days later, on March 31, 1882, the new Type C cancelling die was installed. This cancel is the earliest reported use for a Type C.



TYPE C-WASH May 23, 1882 WASHINGTON, D.C.

Between 1882 and 1891, two digit year dated cancels are seen for each year except 1890. Examples without year dates are irregularly seen between 1884 and 1890. The cancels are known from March 31, 1882, to April 2, 1891.

WASHINGTON
GROUP C - CANCELS
1882 - 1891



TYPE C-WASH October 11, 1883 WASHINGTON, D.C.
The dial used previously in the Type B die was also used in the new Type C die. The new six paired bar canceller shows 14 bars with the added bottom and top bar. The height is 21.0 mm. and width is 23.0 mm.

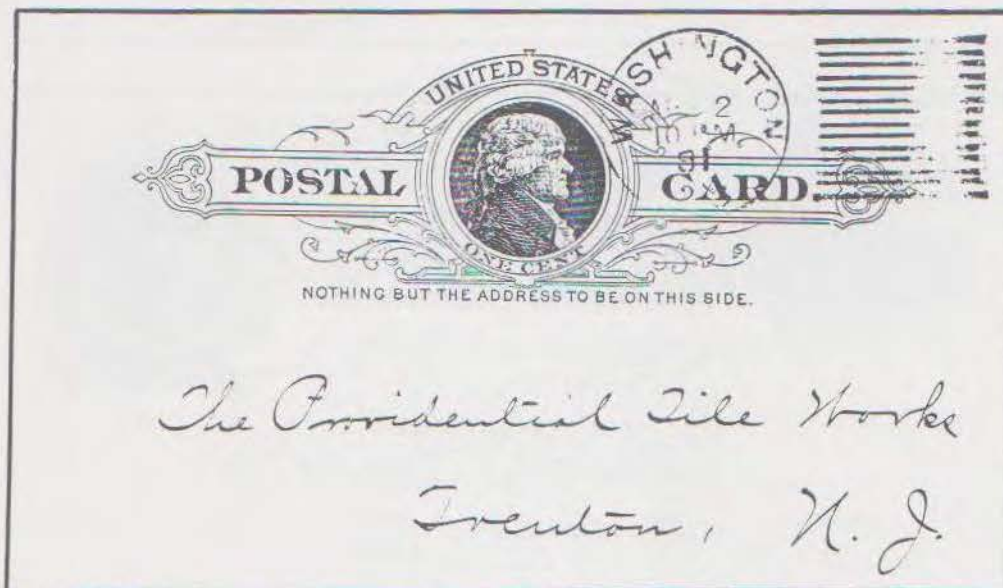


TYPE C-WASH January 3 (1887) WASHINGTON, D.C.
This cancel shows a bar slug in place of the two digit date. Bar slug varieties are reported in January and December 1887; February 1890; and January 1891. Year date slugs were reversed to create this bar slug variety.

WASHINGTON
GROUP C - CANCELS
1882 - 1891



TYPE C-WASH October 18 (1889) WASHINGTON, D.C.
Two digit year dates are seen from 1882 to 1891 except for 1890. In the same period no year dated cancels are known between 1884 and 1890. This clear example of the canceller shows 14 bars in six pairs with two added bars.



TYPE C-WASH April 2, 1891 WASHINGTON, D.C.
The above Type C cancel is the latest reported use for this type that was used for nine years. Generally the cancels are well struck. Cancels are plentiful and very common. During use of the Type CT, no Type C cancels are known.

GROUP CT - CANCELS

The cancelling dies used in the Leavitt machines designated as Group CT were in use for only brief periods and can be considered as provisional dies. Two cities are known to have used the Type CT cancel, Washington, D.C. and Indianapolis, Ind.

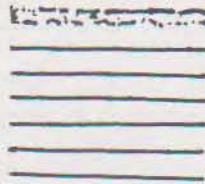
The reason for the use of the Type CT cancelling dies is not known. In all likelihood, it was probably due to a mechanical problem in their operational machine at the time. However, no impaired cancels are known from either city

prior to the use of their provisional die.

The original dies were returned to their respective machines after using the provisional die. The two dies show no trace of damage or having been re-engraved.

Illustrated here is the Type CT six bar canceller having a thick inked smudge that occasionally appears as a seventh bar on both Washington and Indianapolis cancels. It is likely that the same Type CT canceller was used in both cities.

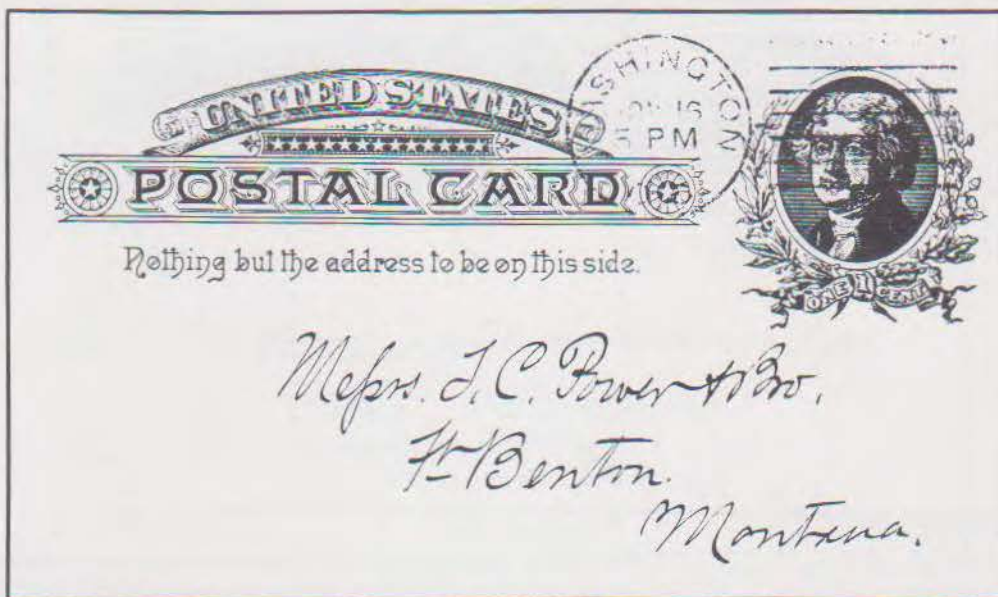
GROUP CT
CANCELLER



Six horizontal bars.

Long thick smudge
caused by the top
edge of the die.

24.5 mm. length
15.5 mm. height



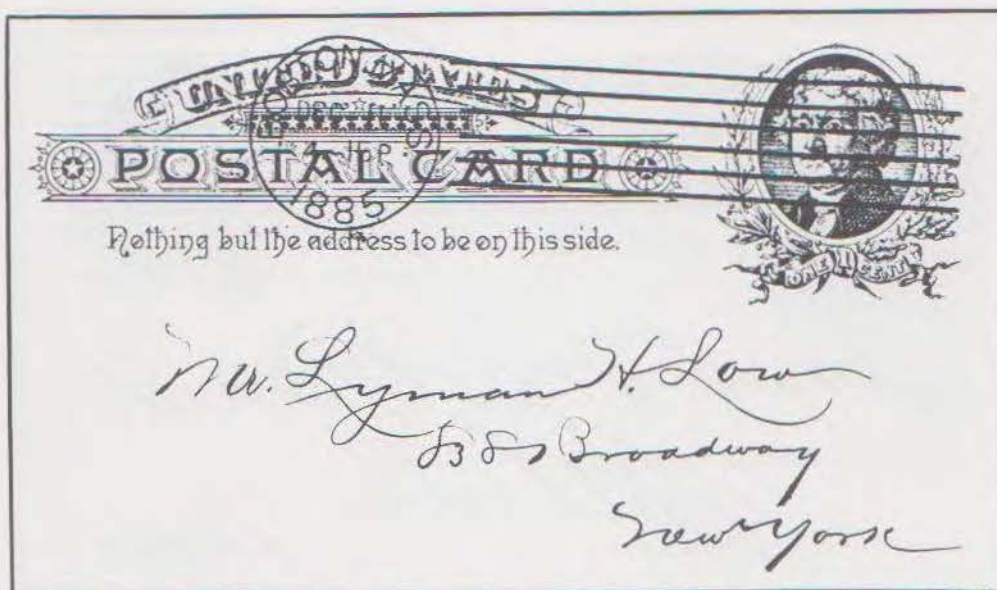
TYPE CT-WASH

November 16 (1885)

WASHINGTON, D.C.

This Type CT provisional cancelling die was used from November 16, 1885, to January 18, 1886. The earliest use of the temporary cancel is seen above. There is no year date.

GROUP CT - CANCELS
1885 - 1886

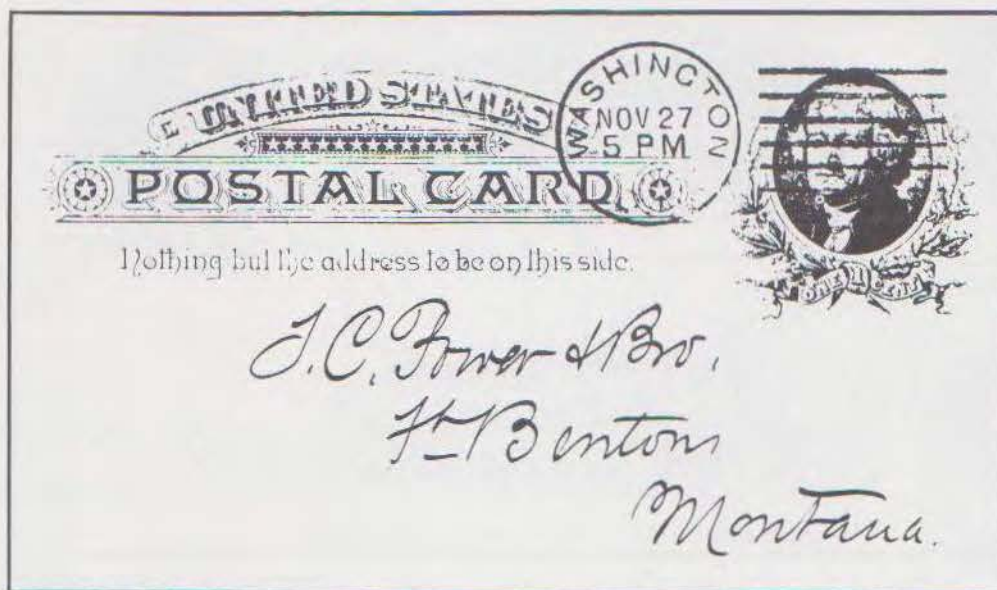


AMERICAN TYPE 85-9

December 11, 1885

BOSTON, MASS.

Several American machines used a thin 6 bar canceller at this time like the CT six bar provisional. Both dies were 16 mm. in height, probably cut from the same bar stock. The American Postal Machine Co. was the Leavitt proprietor.



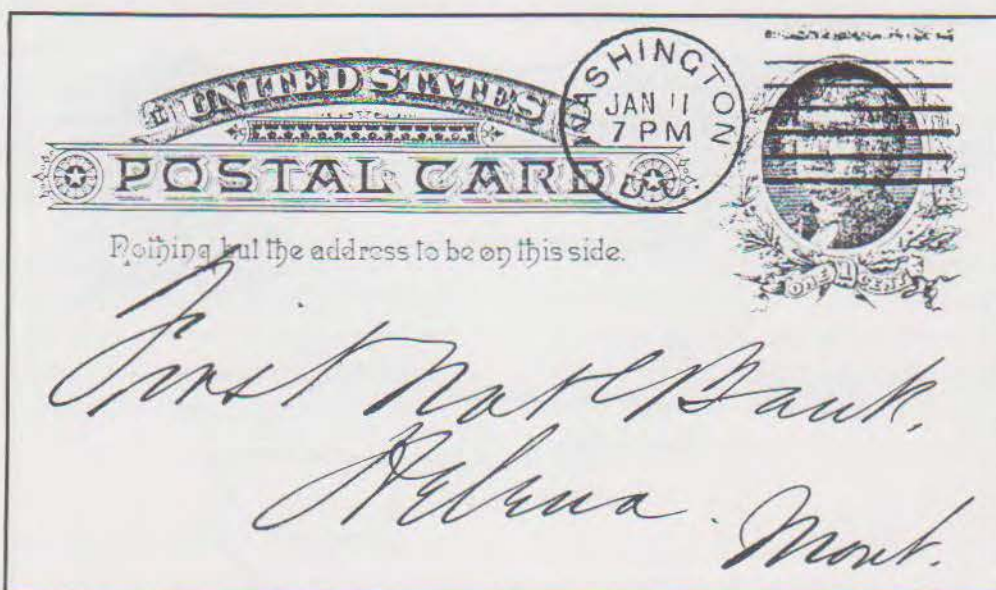
TYPE CT-WASH

November 27 (1885)

WASHINGTON, D.C.

It is unusual to see a provisional cancel without the proverbial ink smudge over the 6 bar canceller. The Type CT rectangular canceller has six horizontal bars. It measures 24.5 mm. in length and 16 mm. in height.

GROUP CT - CANCELS
1885 - 1886

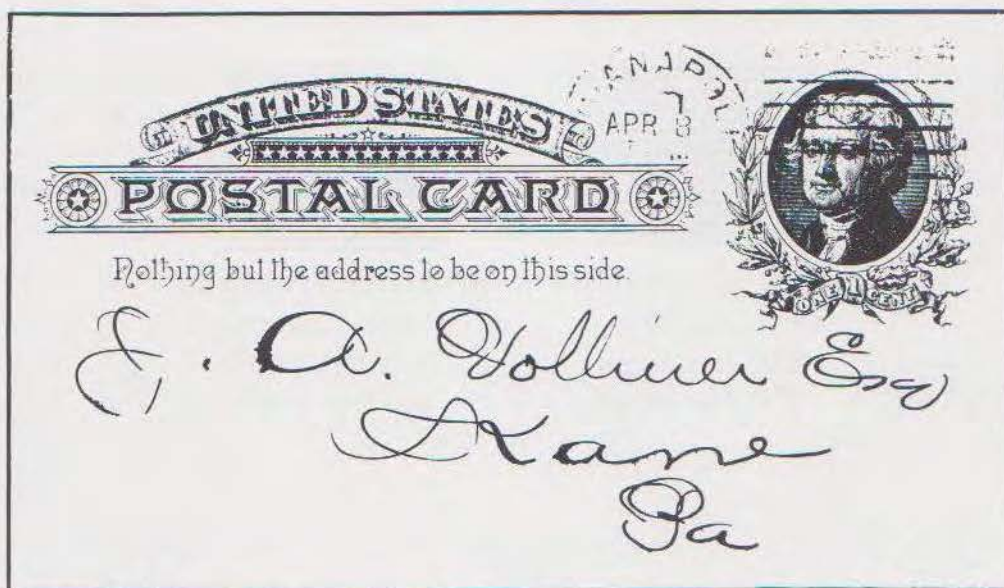


TYPE CT-WASH January 11 (1886) WASHINGTON, D.C.
During the 64 days when the Type CT cancelling die was being used, there are no Type C cancels known from Washington. Type CT cancels were rated as rare in the 1985 catalog but are now downgraded to scarce.



TYPE CT-WASH January 18 (1886) WASHINGTON, D.C. *courtesy of Robert Patkin*
This is the latest reported use for the Type CT temporary cancel.. Compare the two cancelling dies. Type CT and Type C both used the same dial.

GROUP CT - CANCELS
1885 - 1886



TYPE CT-IND

April 8 (1886)

INDIANAPOLIS, IND.

The Type CT provisional cancels from Indianapolis were used February 25, 1886, to April 20, 1886. It appears that the die was a hybrid using the earlier Type B Indianapolis Die I dial and Washington's bar canceller from Type CT.

TYPE B
Die I Dial

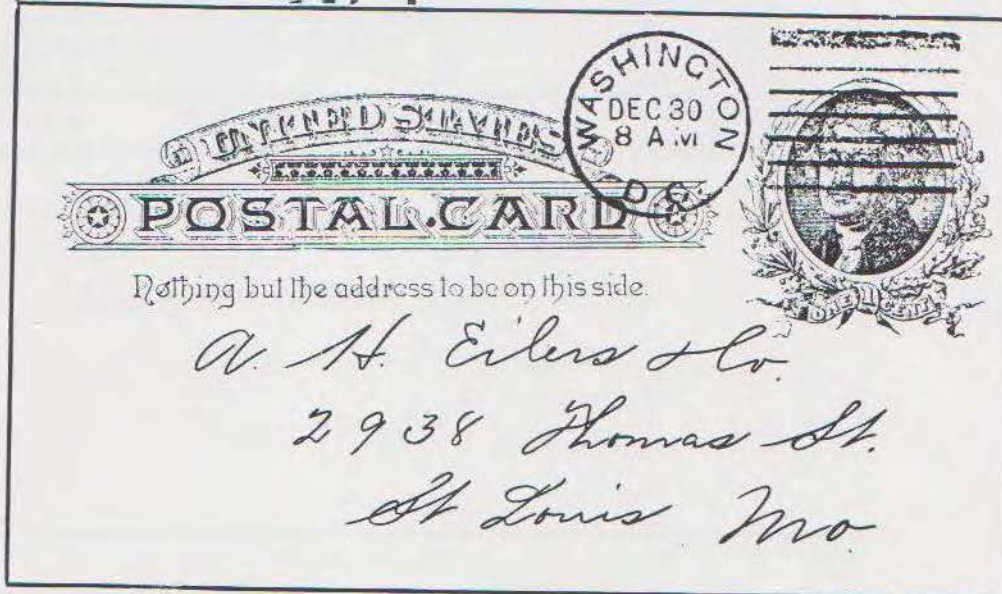
INDIANAPOLIS,
IND.
July 1 (1882)

Die I used
in Type CT



TYPE CT
WASHINGTON,
D.C.
December 30
(1885)

The canceller
was used in
INDIANAPOLIS
CT cancels
in 1886



GROUP D CANCELS
1882 - 1885



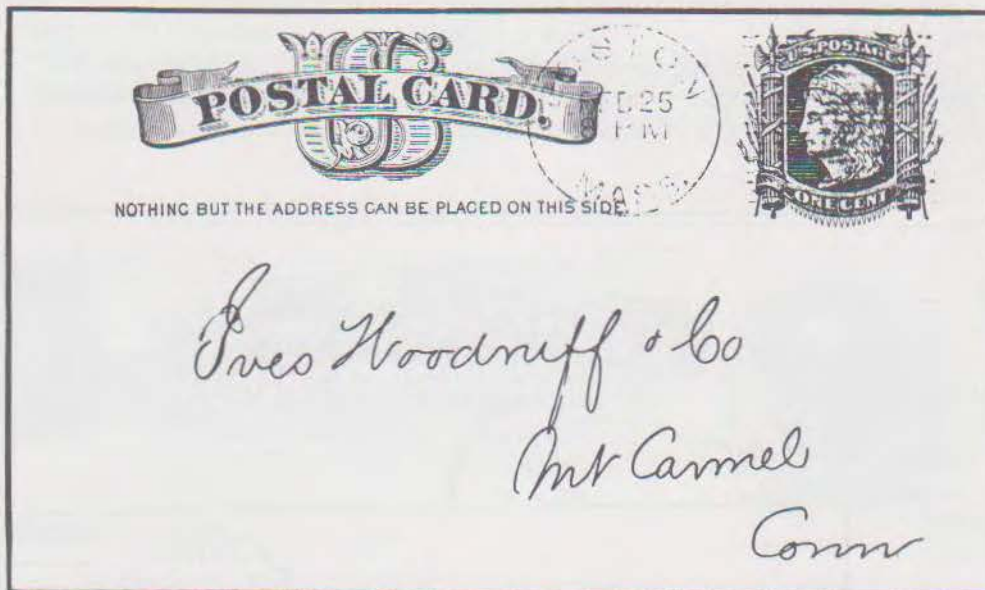
BOSTON -- TYPE D-1

18 Horizontal Bars
25.0 mm. length
22.0 mm. height



BOSTON -- TYPE D-2

19 Horizontal Bars
27.0 mm. length
23.0 mm. height



BOSTON
GROUP D - CANCELS
1882 - 1885

The Die Cb, Die D and Die Cc dials were used in five combinations with three cancellers in Group C and Group D cancels. These different combinations were used on

two machines in Boston from February 25, 1882, to July 19, 1886. The three Boston dial dies are illustrated here:-



DIAL DIE Cb

25.5 mm.
Medium "MASS."

Dial used in
Types B-2, B-
and C-1.



DIAL DIE D

25.0 mm.
Small "MASS."

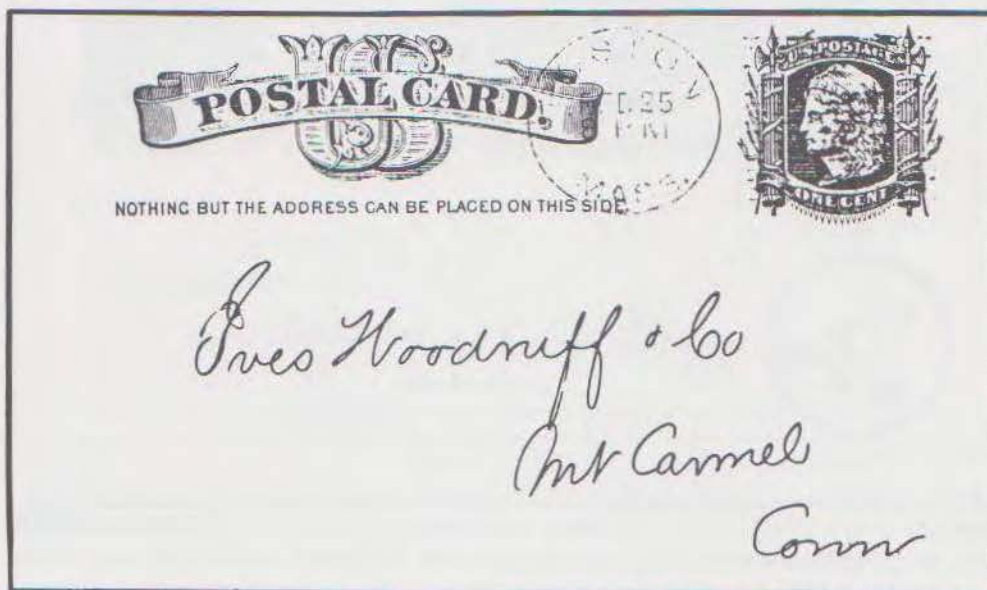
Dial used in
Types D-1, D-2
C-3 and X-D



DIAL DIE Cc

26.5 mm.
Large "MASS."

Dial used in
Type C-2.



TYPE D-1

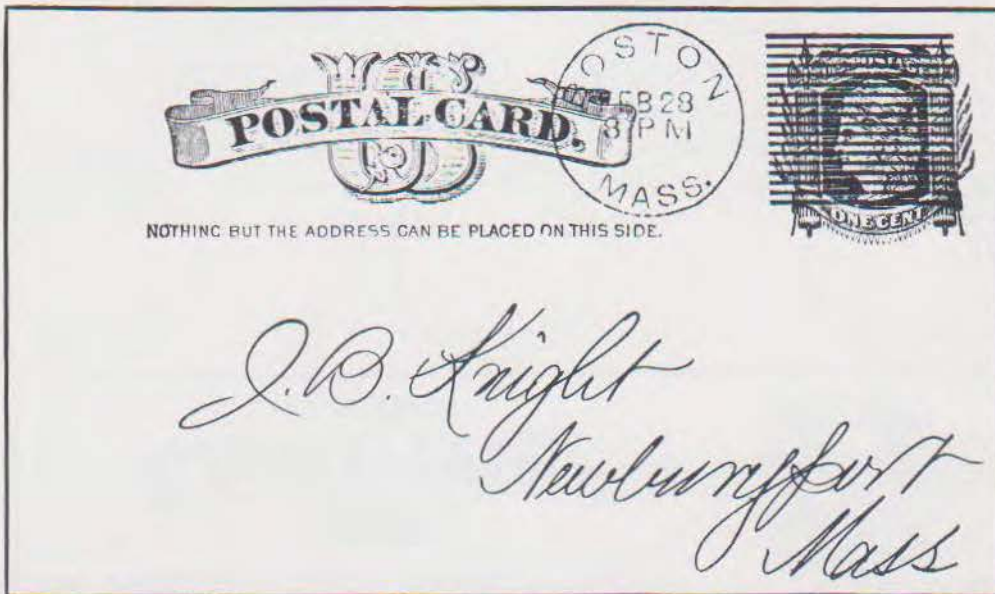
February 25, 1882

BOSTON, MASS.

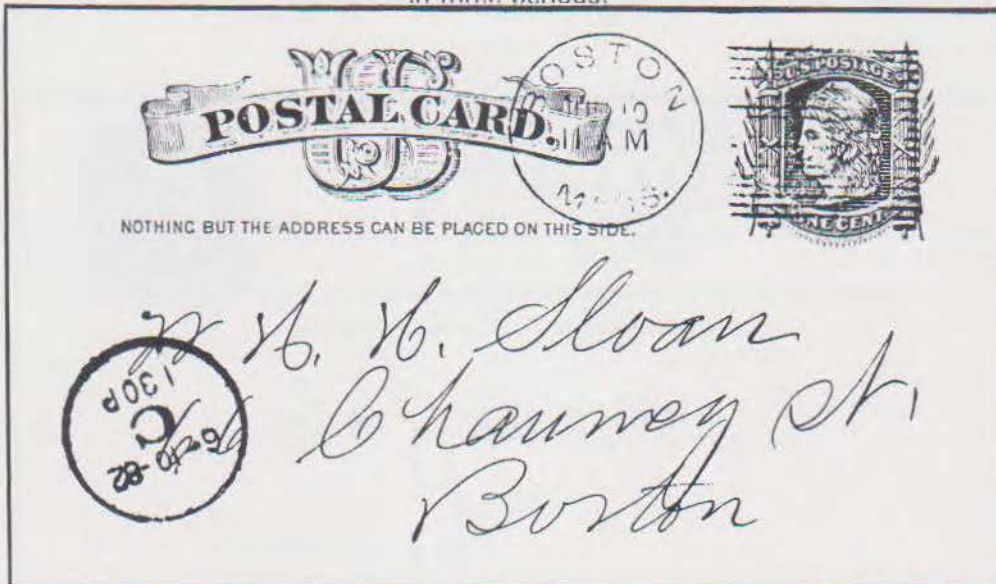
February 25 is the earliest reported use of the Type D-1 cancel.

BOSTON
GROUP D - CANCELS
1882 - 1885

TYPE D-1 - 1st Period - February 25, 1882, to June 20, 1882
TYPE D-1 - 2nd Period - January 28, 1884, to April 19, 1884
TYPE D-1 - 3rd Period - July 21, 1884, to October 9, 1884

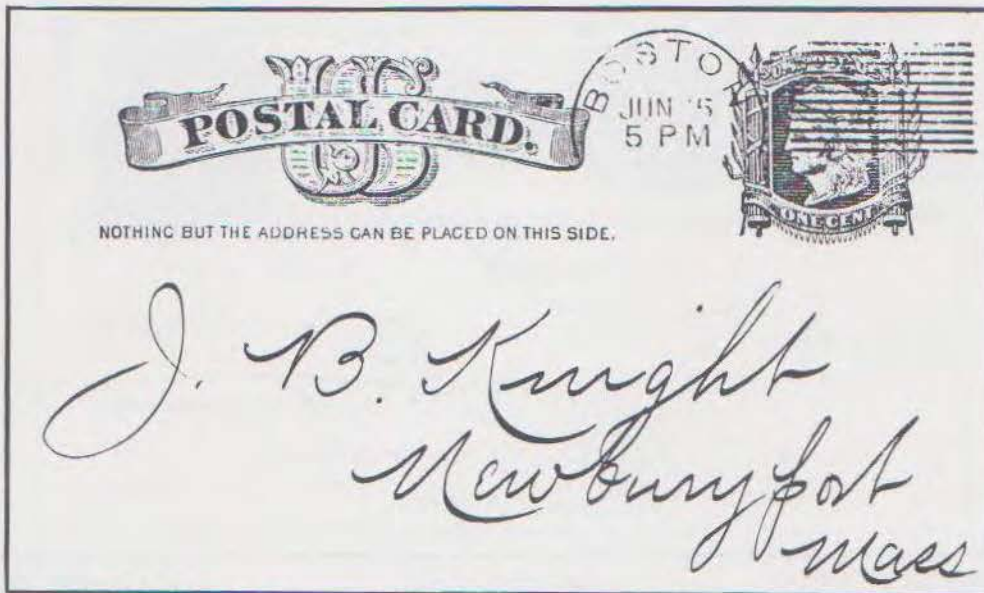


TYPE D-1 February 28 (1882) BOSTON, MASS.
This Type D-1 cancelling die used a combination of the Die D dial with an 18 bar canceller. The Boston Type D 25.0 mm. dial was used with four cancellers in three periods.



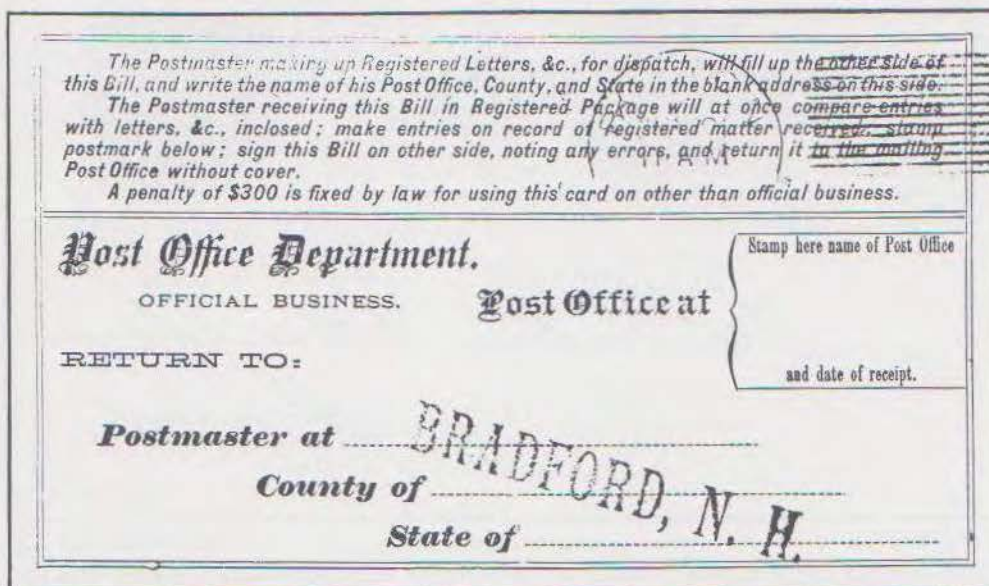
TYPE D-1 June 10 (1882) BOSTON, MASS.
The machine was functioning properly for over 15 weeks, from February 25 to June 10, 1882, showing a complete 18 bars. By June 15, a partial 12 bar canceller was seen. The cancel shows late use of a normal 18 bar canceller.

BOSTON
GROUP D - CANCELS
1882 - 1885



TYPE D-1 June 15 (1882) BOSTON, MASS.

The earliest Type D-1 cancel showing the major problem in the machine's inking system is the June 15 cancel with 12 inked bars. The missing inked bars were caused by the ribbon slipping while inking the cancelling die.



TYPE D-1 June 19 (1882) BOSTON, MASS.

A slippage of the inked ribbon caused the cancelling die to be partially inked. This condition is known from June 15 to June 20, 1882. Date of this penalty card appears as "21" but the day slug "19" was inverted.

BOSTON
GROUP D - CANCELS
1882 - 1885



TYPE D-1 June 20 (1882) BOSTON, MASS.
Both varieties of the Type D-1 are known for June 20, 1882 (this complete 18 bar canceller and the partial 12 bar). Latest first period use of Type D-1 is June 20, 1882, and it is then unseen until January 28, 1884.



TYPE D-1 January 28 (1884) BOSTON, MASS.
The earliest second period use is shown above. Absence was possibly due to machine repairs but more likely it was due to the new Type C-2, known by March 30, 1882.

BOSTON
GROUP D - CANCELS
1882 - 1885

The Postmaster making up Registered Letters, &c., for dispatch, will fill up the other side of this Bill, and write the name of his Post Office, County, and State in the blank address on this side.
The Postmaster receiving this Bill in Registered Package will at once compare entries with letters, &c., inclosed; make entries on record of registered matter received; stamp postmark below; sign this Bill on other side, noting any errors; and return it to the mailing Post Office without cover.
A penalty of \$300 is fixed by law for using this card on other than official business.

Post Office Department.
OFFICIAL BUSINESS. **Post Office at**

Stamp here name of Post Office

RETURN TO:

and date of receipt.

Postmaster at BRADFORD, N. H.
County of _____
State of _____

TYPE D-1 April 19 (1884) BOSTON, MASS.
A complete and well inked cancel is the exception for the Type D-1 during the three periods. For the second period, cancels are reported January 28, 1884, to April 19, 1884. Type C-2 cancels are unknown during this three months of use.

The Postmaster making up Registered Letters, &c., for dispatch, will fill up the other side of this Bill, and write the name of his Post Office, County, and State in the blank address on this side.
The Postmaster receiving this Bill in Registered Package will at once compare entries with letters, &c., inclosed; make entries on record of registered matter received; stamp postmark below; sign this Bill on other side, noting any errors; and return it to the mailing Post Office without cover.
A penalty of \$300 is fixed by law for using this card on other than official business.

Post Office Department.
OFFICIAL BUSINESS. **Post Office at**

Stamp here name of Post Office

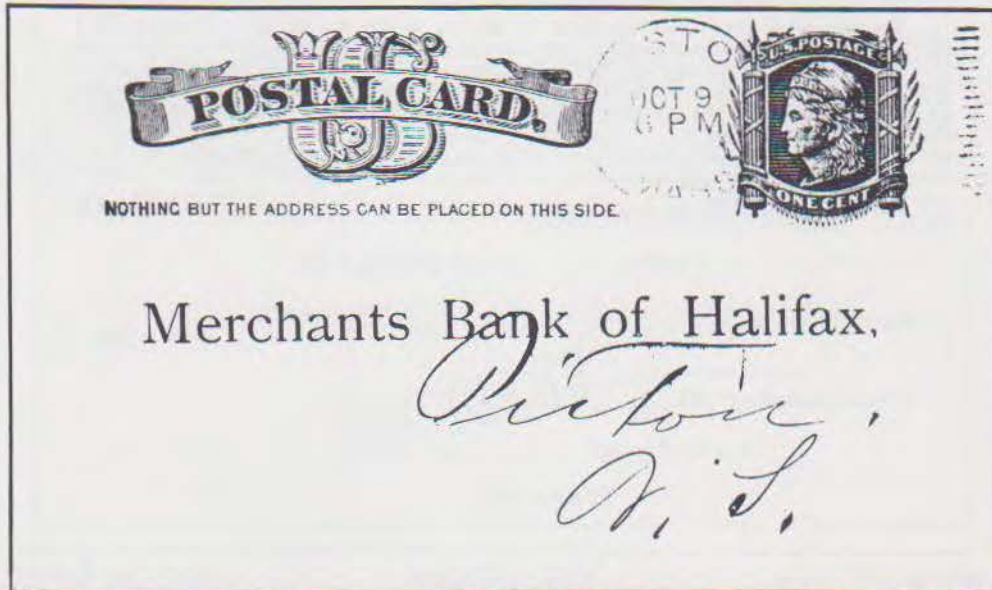
RETURN TO:

and date of receipt.

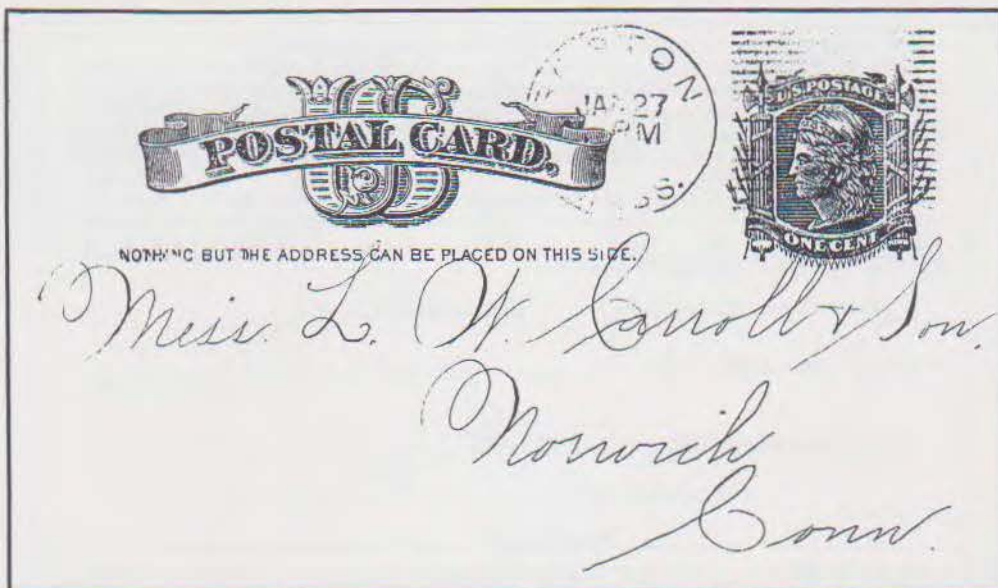
Postmaster at BRADFORD, N. H.
County of _____
State of _____

TYPE D-1 August 13 (1884) BOSTON, MASS.
After a three month absence, the Type D-1 cancels are once again seen in Boston. The reason for the machine absence is not known. While the inking system may have been repaired, examples continue to appear ink starved.

BOSTON
GROUP D - CANCELS
1882 - 1885



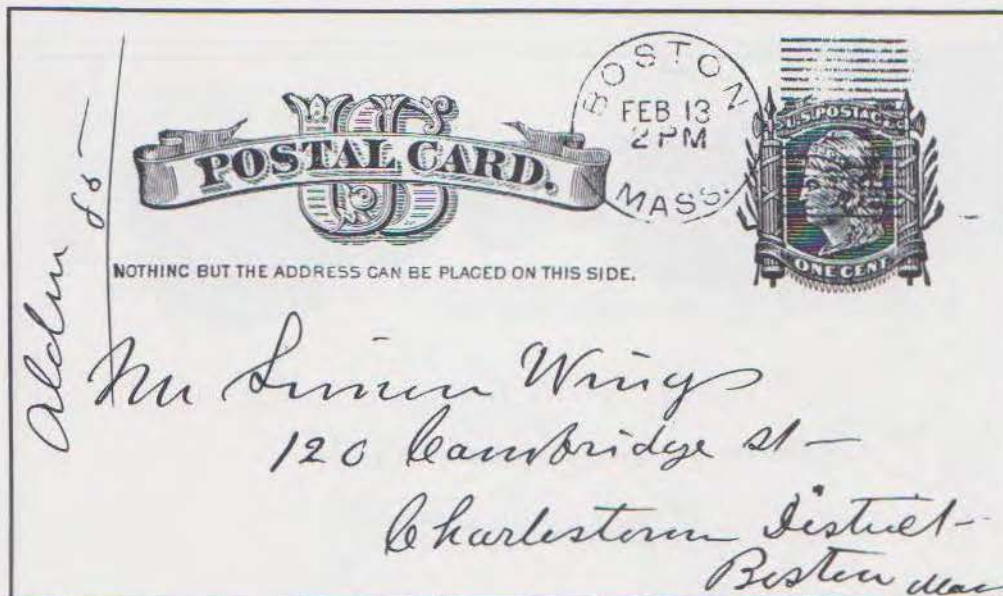
TYPE D-1 October 9 (1884) BOSTON, MASS.
After 12 weeks of use, the Type D-1 machine again ceased to operate and for the final time. This example is the latest known for Type D-1. Reported used during the third period of July 21, 1884, to October 9, 1884.



TYPE D-2 January 27 (1885) BOSTON, MASS.
This January 27, 1885, cancel is the earliest known use of the new Type D-2 cancelling die with 19 horizontal bars. The canceller's length is 27 mm. and the height is 23 mm. Early examples are generally poorly struck.

courtesy of Joe McDonough

BOSTON
GROUP D - CANCELS
1882 - 1885

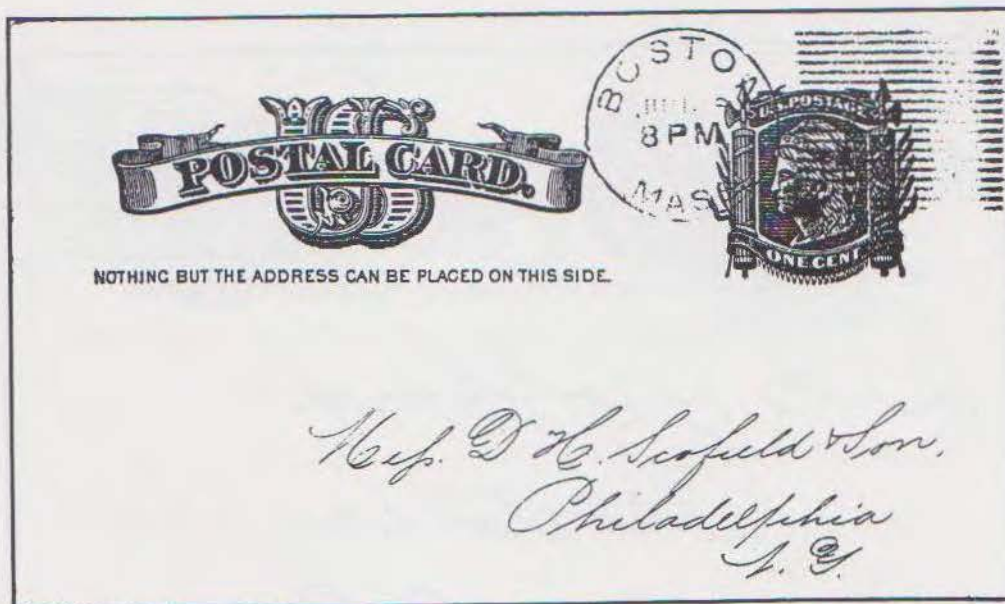


TYPE D-2

February 13 (1885)

BOSTON, MASS.

This strange looking cancel appears as a new shortened bar with a 16.5 mm. width. On copies we have inspected, they show the right side to be poorly inked. The Die D dial is seen in the Type D-1 and D-2 cancels.



TYPE D-2

June 26 (1885)

courtesy of Robert Patkin

BOSTON, MASS.

The cancel shows the complete cancelling die having no damage to the top rim of the dial or to the top bar of the canceller. Sometime after "8 PM", on June 26, 1885, the Type D-2 die suffered some major damage.

BOSTON
GROUP D - CANCELS
1882 - 1885

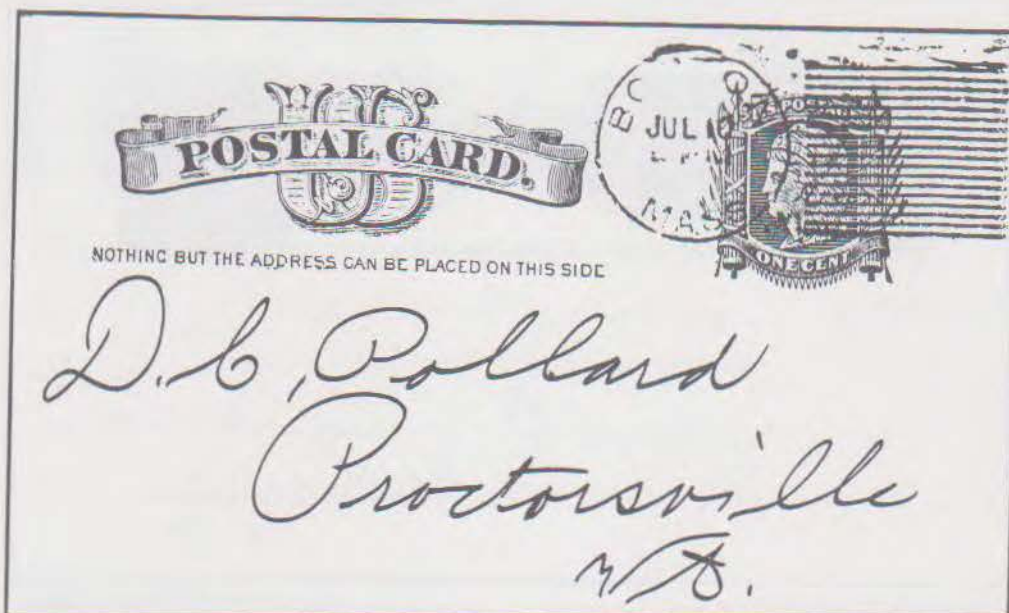


TYPE D-2

June 27 (1885)

BOSTON, MASS.

There was severe damage to this cancelling die on June 27, 1885, to the uppermost part of the dial's rim and to the top 19th bar of the Type D-2. The earliest damaged cancel reported is this June 27, 1885, example at "1 PM."



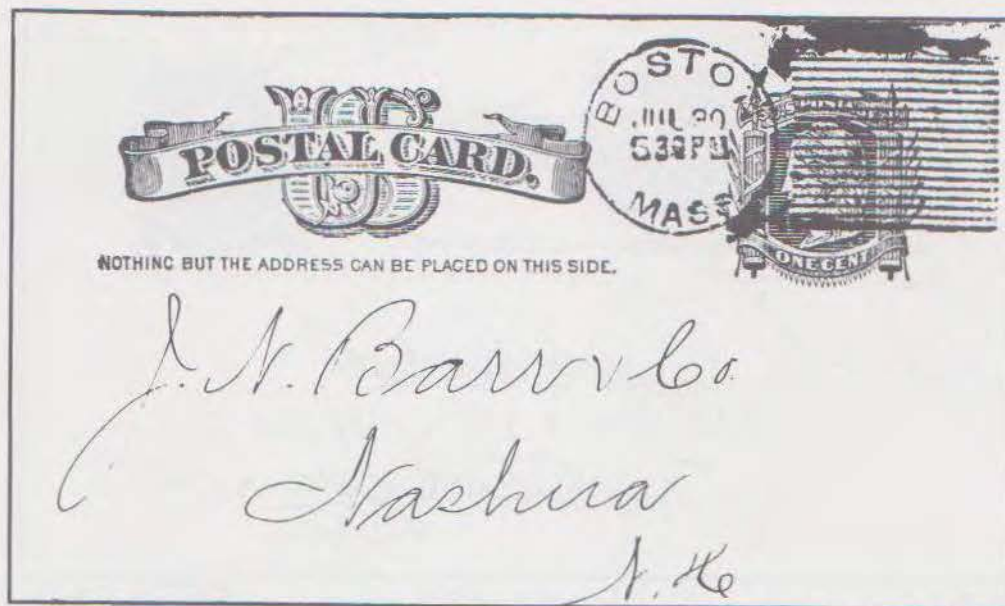
TYPE D-2

July 10 (1885)

BOSTON, MASS.

This over-inked cancel clearly shows the severe damage suffered to the topmost part of the dial and canceller. We cannot determine the cause but it could be due to a foreign substance adhering to a card or from an internal machine part as described on the next card (July 30, 1885).

BOSTON
GROUP D - CANCELS
1882 - 1885

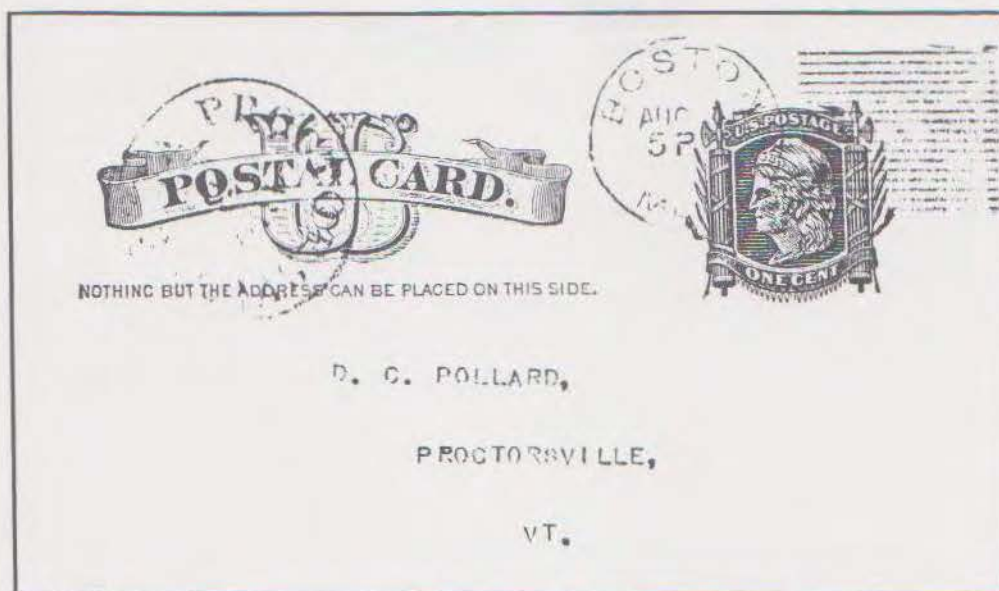


TYPE D-2

July 30 (1885)

BOSTON, MASS.

Reports of over-inked cancels appear to be exaggerated from the quantity of postal cards observed. Apparently the inking system was damaged from a broken or a loose machine part causing the Boston cancel to be overinked.



TYPE D-2

August 1 (1885)

BOSTON, MASS.

The machine ceased to operate shortly after suffering the damage and apparently underwent some minor repair. By August 1, the cancel shows little damage to the die suggesting that it was re-engraved.

BOSTON
GROUP D - CANCELS
1882 - 1885



TYPE D-2

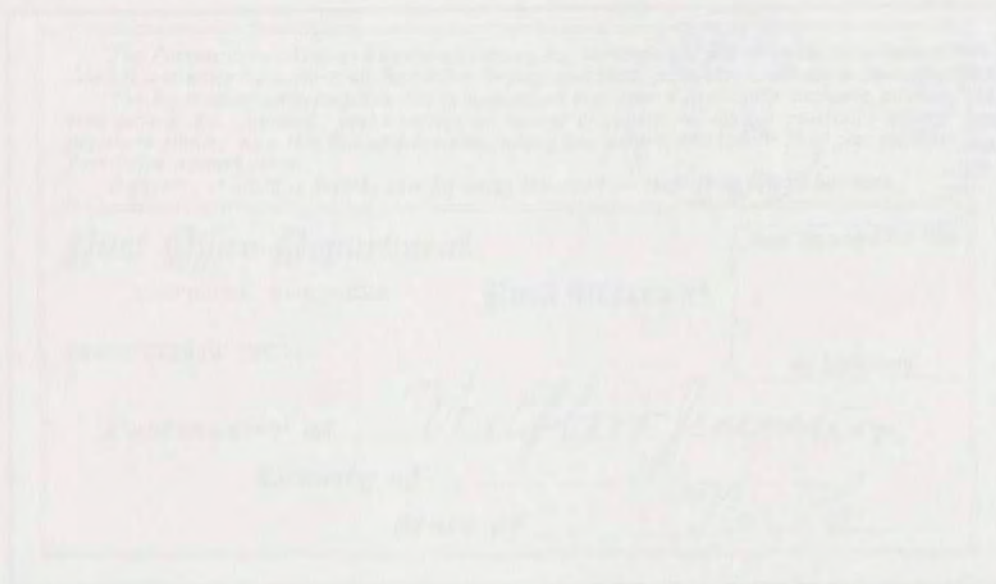
August 3 (1885)

BOSTON, MASS.

The repaired machine continued operating until August 9, 1885.

For a period of three months, from August 10 to November 4, 1885, there are no cancels known. A new Type C-3 machine was installed by November 4.

GROUP E
8-BAR OVAL CANCELS
1886 - 1890



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deleted from eBook

BOSTON
GROUP E - CANCELS
1886 - 1890

Leavitt continued through the years to make improvements to his postmarking machine but Government Officials continued to list three basic defects he had failed to correct:

- a.) Percentage was considered too high for the quantity of cards found with heavy inking on the reverse side.
- b.) The number of damaged or destroyed cards was proportionally too high for the number of cards cancelled.
- c.) Percentage of cards that passed through the machine without a cancel considered too high.

Leavitt sold his patents, machines and rights to a group of investors headed by Henry

Waite in 1884. This was after many unsuccessful attempts to perfect his machine. Under the direction of Mr. Waite, the group took control of all Leavitt machines, ones in operation and their maintenance.

Later, on December 23, 1885, this same group of businessmen incorporated the American Postal Machines Co.

The goal of the group was to construct and lease cancelling machines to the United States Postal Department.

The last change to a patented Leavitt machine was made for use in the Boston Post Office under the direct supervision of Waite and the American Postal Machines Co. A new Type E cancelling die was installed on or before August 17, 1886.

The Postmaster making up Registered Letters, &c., for dispatch, will fill up the other side of this Bill, and write the name of his Post Office, County, and State in the blank address on this side.
The Postmaster receiving this Bill in Registered Package will compare entries with letters, &c., inclosed; make entries on record of registered matter received; stamp postmark below; sign this Bill on other side, noting any errors, and return it to the mailing Post Office without cover.
A penalty of \$300 is fixed by law for using this card on other than official business.

Post Office Department.
OFFICIAL BUSINESS. **Post Office at** _____

RETURN TO: _____

Postmaster at Wolboro Junction
County of _____
State of N. H.

Stamp here name of Post Office _____
and date of receipt. _____

TYPE E

August 17 (1886)

BOSTON, MASS.

The earliest use of the new Type E cancel is seen here.

BOSTON
GROUP E - CANCELS
1886 - 1890



TYPE E-BOS(D) November 16 (1886) BOSTON, MASS.
This Type E cancelling die used the combination of an 8-bar oval bar canceller measuring 24.5 x 19.0 mm. and a 26 mm. dial. The cancel is seen only with a "D" service letter. In use August 17, 1886, to July 8, 1890.



BOSTON
TYPE E DIAL

Diameter 26 mm.

"MASS."
16.5 mm. width
and period.

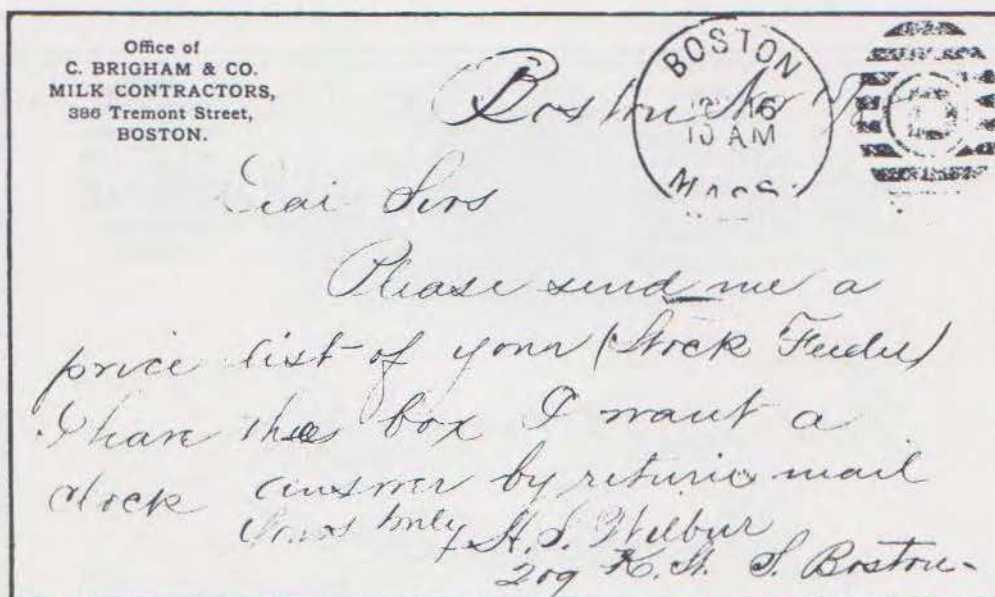
The Group E cancels are known only from Boston where the machine was in operation for almost four years. The American Postal Machines Co. was the proprietor of this machine and 16 other Leavitt machines still operating in 1886.

The American Company was developing their own machines with seven machines being evaluated in Boston at this time. In late November 1884, a machine invented by Martin Van Buren Ethridge was

installed in the Boston Post Office as its first operational machine.

The Leavitt machine operating with the Type E cancelling die was removed from the Boston Post Office in July 1890. At the time, there were 16 improved American (Ethridge) machines operating in Boston and two machines were operating in Philadelphia. The first American machine was installed in Philadelphia by March 4, 1890, when there were no longer any Leavitt machine in operation.

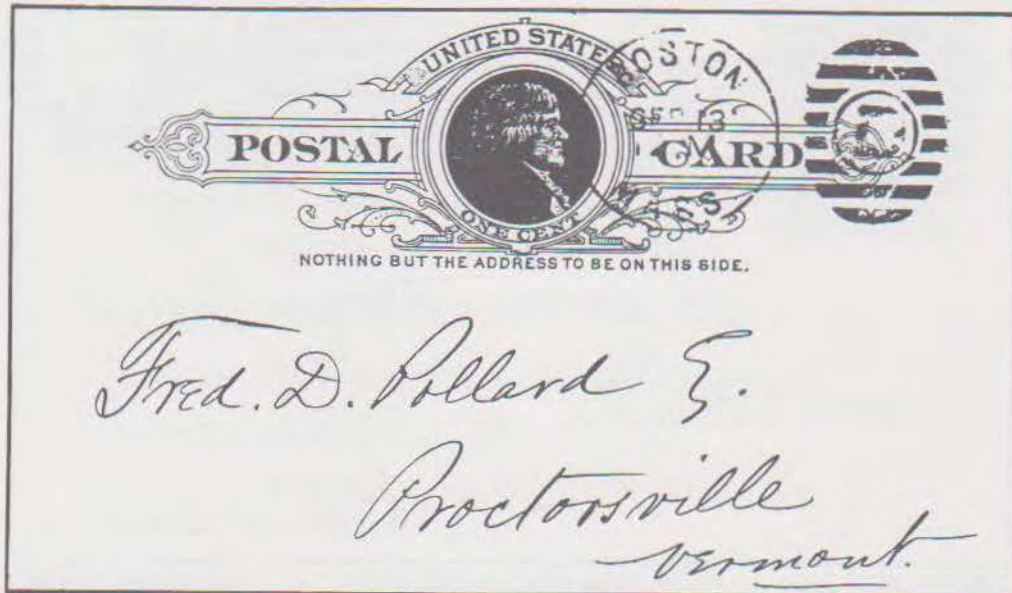
BOSTON
GROUP E - CANCELS
1886 - 1890



TYPE E November 16 "10 AM" (1886) BOSTON, MASS.
Facing errors could cause a card to receive a cancel inverted and reversed on its back side as seen above. On the face of the card are three WESSON TOB cancels.

BOSTON	(B)	November 16, 1888 9 45 AM (Corrected cancel has a 15 minute time error)
PROVIDENCE	-	November 16, 1888 2 30 PM (Receiving)
PROVIDENCE	(O)	November 17, 1888 4 45 PM (Forwarded)

BOSTON
GROUP E - CANCELS
1886 - 1890

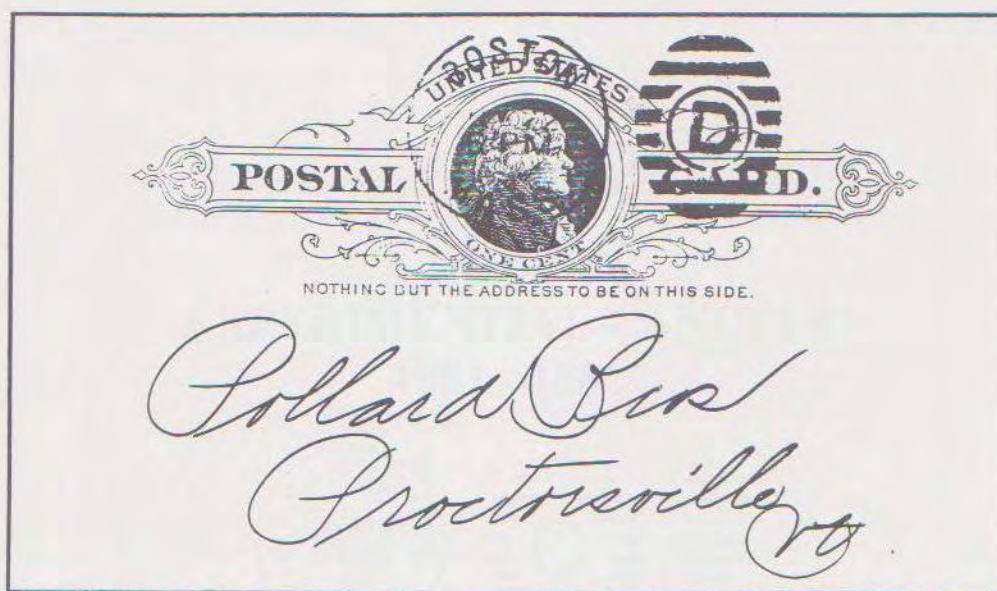


TYPE E-BOS(D) September 13 (1888) BOSTON, MASS.
The Leavitt (American) machine was constantly in use for almost four years in Boston. The Type E cancels are very common and seen used on three issues of postal cards.



TYPE E-BOS(D) July 30 (1889) BOSTON, MASS.
There were no more than eight (American) Leavitt machines that continued to operate in 1889. The following year the number was reduced to only seven machines. During the four years of Type E use no year dated cancels are reported.

BOSTON
GROUP E - CANCELS
1886 - 1890



TYPE E-BOS(D)

May 22 (1890)

BOSTON, MASS.

After 15 years of continuous use of various types of Leavitt machines, the last machine ceased to operate on July 8, 1890. At this time, one American machine was operating in Philadelphia and 15 machines in Boston.

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GROUP X **EXPERIMENTIAL CANCELS** **1881 - 1882**



The pin holes in the cards and covers illustrated are extremely difficult to photograph or reproduce. In some cases they are indicated by small circles drawn into the illustration. These can also be seen in the illustrations on pages 37, 45, 46 and 47. The pin arrangements are shown at the beginning of each section in this chapter.

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GROUP X
1881 - 1882

Early in the development of the Leavitt Rotary postmarking machine, Henry E. Waite was looking to invest money in a business adventure that showed promise and opportunity. Positive reports were received about the Leavitt machine from postal officials which prompted him to contact Leavitt in 1877 about a possible business association.

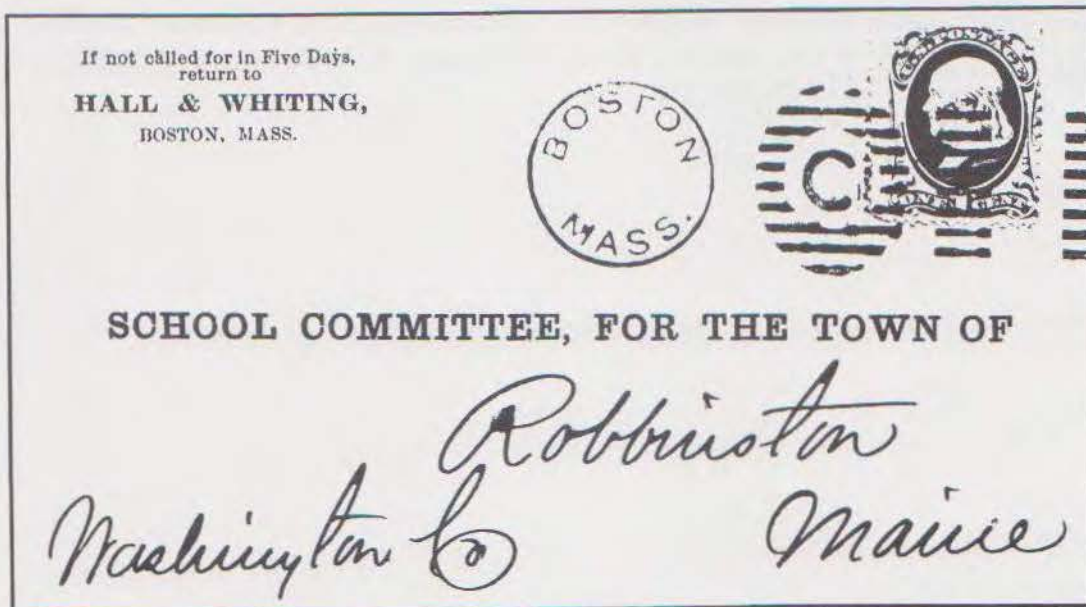
At this time, Leavitt had received no compensation from the Postal Department for his machines. The lack of funds prevented the expansion of his ideas and the continued experimental work he desired to undertake. The need for financial backing forced Leavitt to reach a mutual agreement with Waite. Leavitt received \$3,000 from him which enabled Leavitt to hire a relative, a Eliza Leavitt Howard. He was a skilled mechanic

and was very capable in assisting in the construction of machines and the necessary experimental work.

In 1881, Congress appropriated \$6000 to compensate Leavitt for use of his machines. The compensation was the only money he was to receive from the United States Government.

Prior to this time, Leavitt and Howard had started the construction on a new machine using a diverse system for feeding letters into the machine's printing cylinder. It featured a toothed plate that separated and pull the bottom letter into the machine's cylinder.

Leavitt's patent 235,952 fits the basic idea of the needle feed system covered in the March 30, 1880 patent application.



TYPE X1-A

3rd Class(1881)

BOSTON, MASS.

The earliest known Boston experimental cancel has needle marks that fit Sub-Group 1 with six equally spaced marks. With no explicit date, the probable use was January 1881.

SUB-GROUP 1 PIN PUNCTURES

The feed system used in the Group X machines is an important factor in their identification and their period of use. Cancels fall within five Sub-Groups as we have outlined and identified by the location and number of needle marks on the letter's face.

The system used in feeding letters into the new Leavitt experimental letter machine would

separate and pull the bottom letter into the machine by using a toothed plate with needles or pins. The pins would penetrate the soft paper and pull the bottom letter into the machine's printing cylinder for its cancellation.

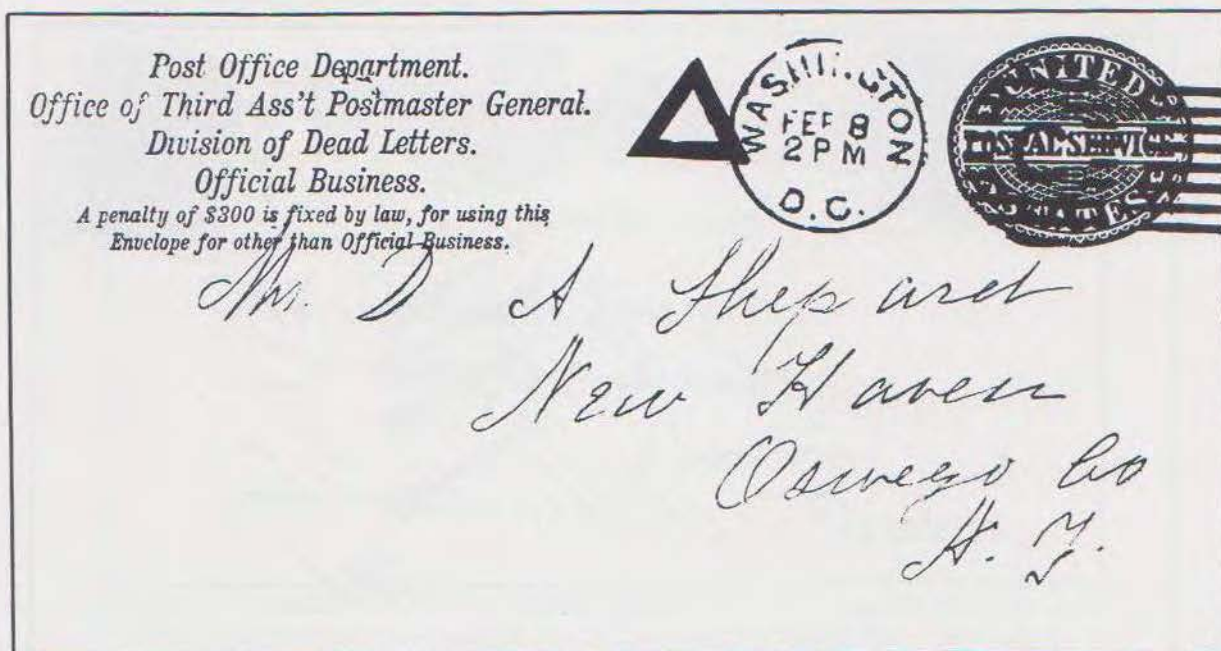
Leavitt experimented with this type of feed system for over two years, using 5 different needle arrangements.

SUB-GROUP 1

- Total of six needle punctures, 4.5 to 5 mm.
- apart in one grouping. Height measurement of
- the six needles is from 24 mm. to 25 mm.
-
- Circumstantial evidence suggest one machine
- was used and transferred between three cities:

TYPE DIAL	DIE	CITY	KNOWN USE
X-1A	A	BOSTON	3rd Class - (January - 1881)
X-1	A I	NEW YORK	February 1, 1881 - February 2, 1881
X-1	A I	WASHINGTON	February 8, 1881 - April 2, 1881

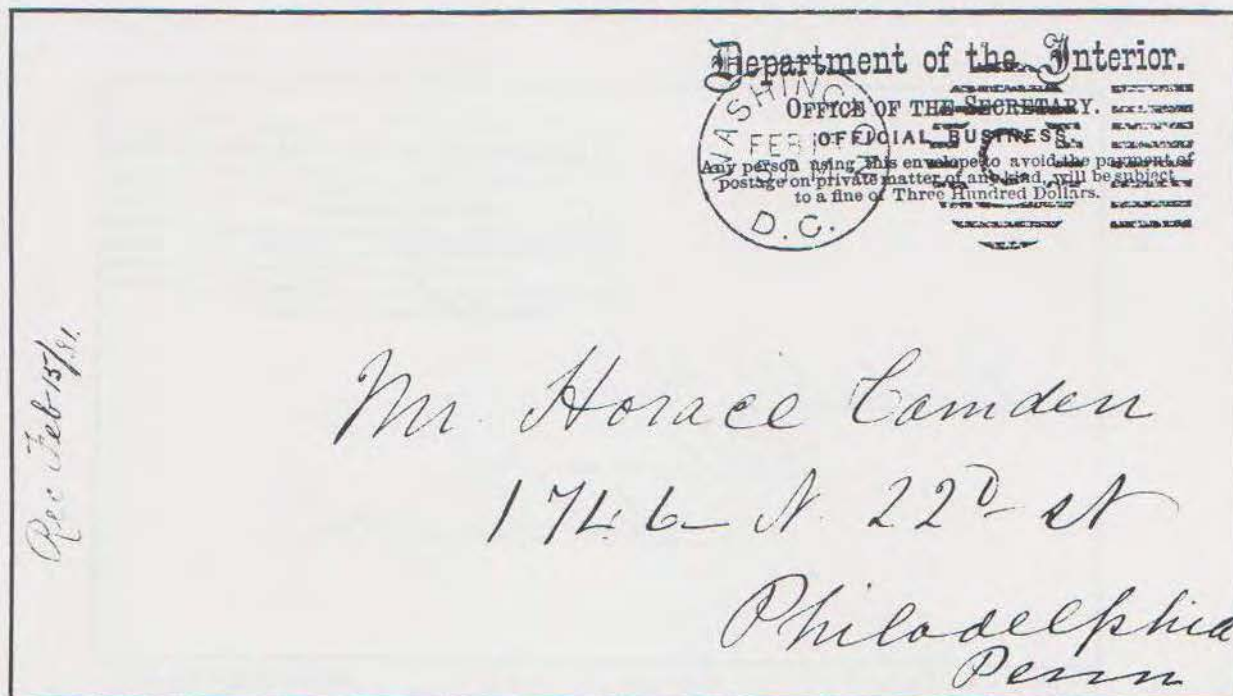
SUB-GROUP 1
PIN PUNCTURES



courtesy of Louis Geschwinder

TYPE X1A WASH DIE I February 8 (1881) WASHINGTON, D.C.

The Leavitt experimental machine was transferred from New York to Washington early in February 1881. Classified as a Sub-Group 1 with six pin marks. This is the earliest known Type X-1 (for Washington).



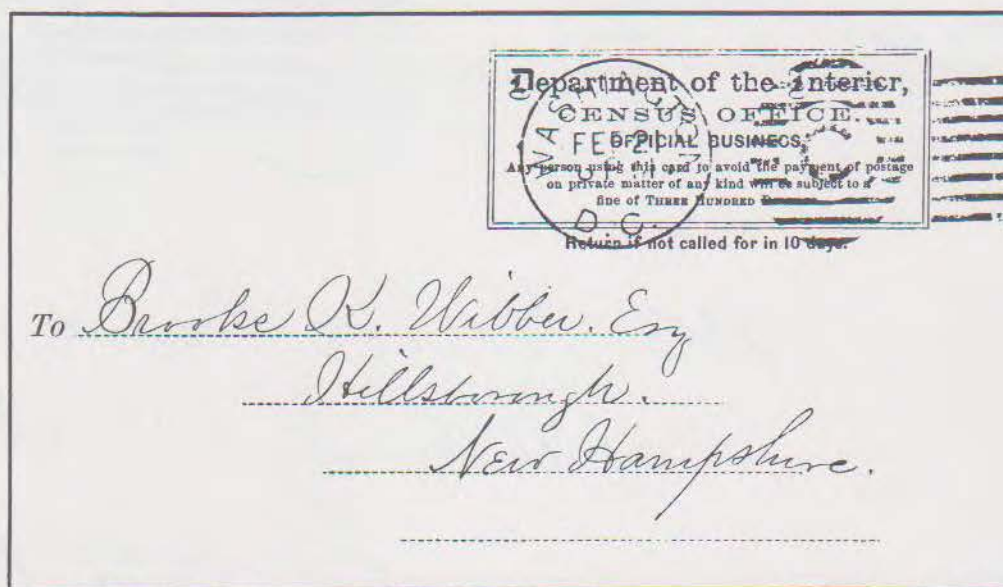
TYPE X1A WASH DIE I February 15 (1881) WASHINGTON, D.C.

The early use of a Group X experimental cancel from Washington.

SUB-GROUP 1
PIN PUNCTURES

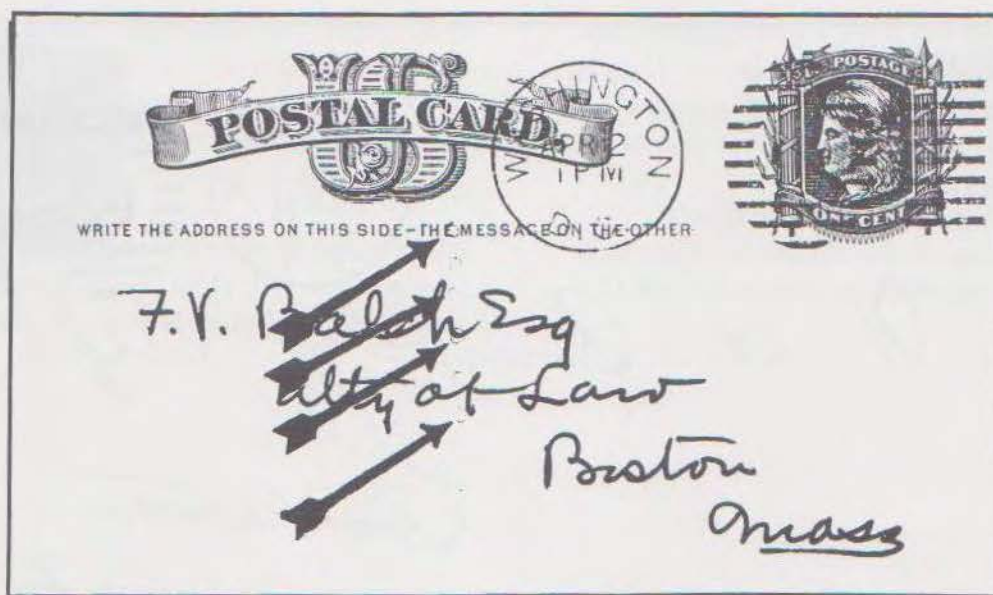


TYPE X1A WASH DIE I March 3 (1881) WASHINGTON, D.C.
This first class experimental cancel shows the day slug "3"
in an inverted position. This type of error is very common.



TYPE X1A WASH I February 21 (1881) WASHINGTON, D.C.
Group X experimental cancels are seldom seen on penalty or postal cards
which have been rated as extremely rare. The needles or pins used in the
feeding plates were not designed to penetrate the very hard stock used in
cards.

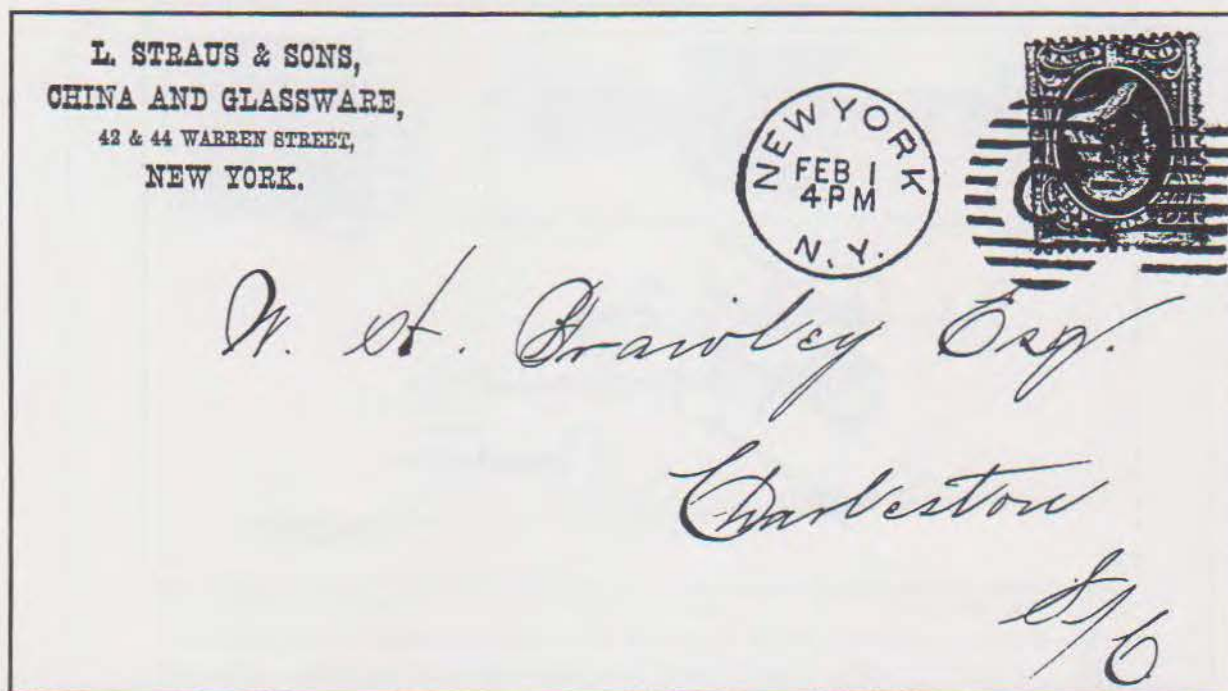
SUB-GROUP 1
PIN PUNCTURES



TYPE X1A WASH 1 April 2 (1881) WASHINGTON, D.C.

The experimental Sub-Group 1 cancels are reported used from February 8, 1881, to April 2, 1881. Two cancels have been reported on postal cards and the one penalty card. The six pin marks have been circled.

SUB-GROUP 1
PIN PUNCTURES



TYPE X1A NY DIE I February 1 (1881) *courtesy of Robert Patkin*
NEW YORK, N.Y.
The only two known Type X1A Die I cancels are shown on this page.



TYPE X1A NY DIE I February 2 (1881) NEW YORK, N.Y.
The Leavitt machine was involved, between 1876 and 1882, in several tests on cards in New York using a Type B cancelling die. There were two more New York tests in 1881 on Group X letter machines.

SUB-GROUP 1A PIN PUNCTURES

Boston's experimental Type X-D cancelling die used a 25.0 mm. Die D dial with an 8-bar oval canceler measuring 24.5 mm. x 18.5 mm. The two copies have an inverted "C" service letter.

The fine lettering in the dial shows little wear suggesting the Die D dial was originally used in the Type X-D cancelling die before being

installed in Boston's Type D-1 cancelling die. Type D-1 cancels are known in three periods, the earliest is February 25, 1882, and the latest is October 9, 1884.

The facts suggest the two known 3rd Class experimental cancels designated as Type X-D were used prior to February 25, 1882.

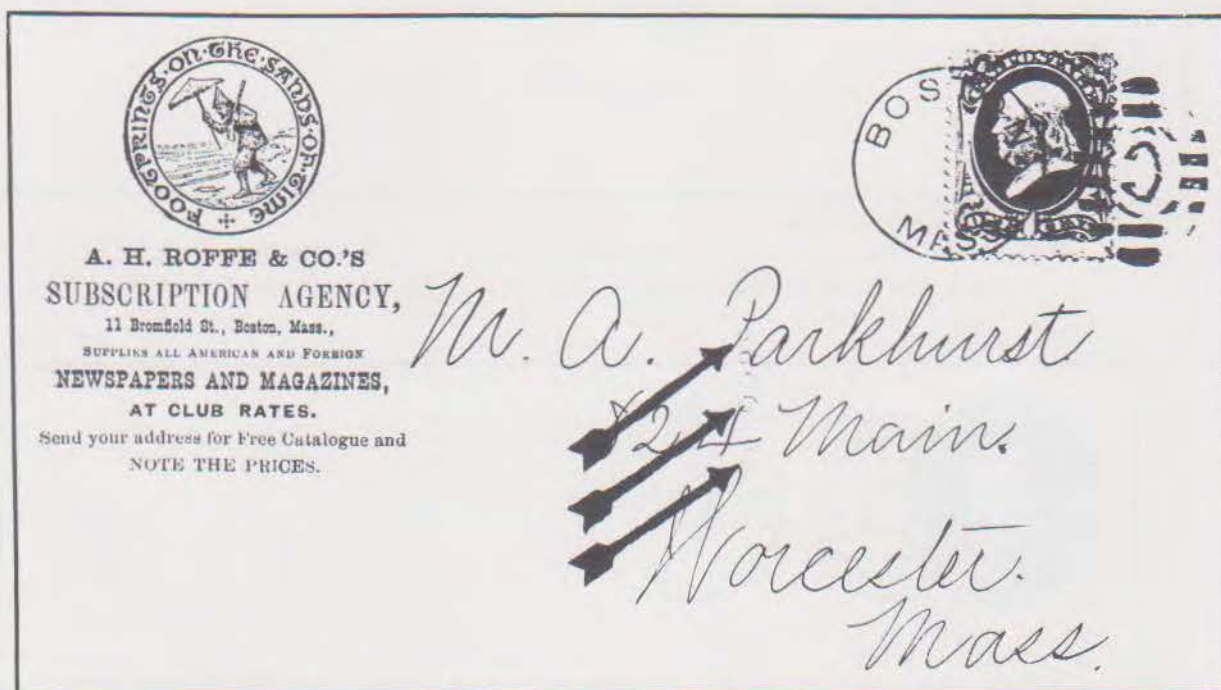
SUB-GROUP 1A PIN PUNCTURES

• Total of six needle
• punctures, 3.3 mm. apart, in
• one grouping. The height mea-
• surement of the six needles is
• 16.5 mm. It is similar to the
• Sub-Group 1 needles but with

a different spacing.

Boston is the only city known to have
used the Sub-Group 1A classification.

TYPE	DIAL	DIE	CITY	KNOWN USE
X-D	D	-	BOSTON	3rd Class (1882)



TYPE XD DIAL D 3rd Class (1882) BOSTON, MASS.

The above 3rd Class cancel is now classified as a Sub-Group 1A. The two known copies have six needle marks in one group measuring 16.5 mm. in height. They both show an inverted "C" service letter.

SUB-GROUP 2 PIN PUNCTURES

-
- Two groups, each group with four needle punctures.
- Measurement between each needle puncture varies between 5.0 mm. and 5.5 mm.

- Distance between the two groups of four needle marks varies between 23.0 mm. to 24.0 mm. The overall mea-
-

surement of both groups varies from 55.0 mm. to 56.0 mm.

The dates of use suggest two Group X experimental letter machines were constructed for use in the three cities. It's possible one of the machines in Group 2 was refurbished and used in Group 1.

Three cities are known in Sub-Group 2:

TYPE DIAL DIE			CITY	KNOWN USE
X1	B	I	BOSTON	September 30, 1881 - December 20, 1881
X1	B	II	BOSTON	December 14, 1881 - December 14, 1881
X2	B	--	BOSTON	December 20, 1881 - April 19, 1882
X1	A	II	NEW YORK	October 14, 1881 - October 19, 1881
X1	A	II	WASHINGTON	October 31, 1881 - November 18, 1881



TYPE X1B DIE I

September 30, 1881

BOSTON, MASS.

The Type X1B is an example of Die I with a Dial B. It is the earliest known experimental cancel classified in Sub-Group 2.

SUB-GROUP 2 PIN PUNCTURES

The Group X experimental cancels on letters and cards is an interesting area for study due to the wide range of varieties.

are known to have used three different dial dies, nine canceller dies in five Sub-Group pin puncture types and two varieties of TRANSIT markings.

Boston's experimental letter machine

BOSTON DIAL IDENTIFICATION



DIAL A

24.0 mm.
Wide "S"
"MASS." = 17.0 mm.

BOSTON'S
X1-A X3-A
XT-Aa XT-Ab



DIAL B

24.0 mm.
Narrow "S"
"MASS." = 15.0 mm.

BOSTON'S
X1-B I & II
X2-B
X3-B
X3-2B I & II
X4-B



DIAL D

25.0 mm.
Wide "S"
"MASS." = 14.5 mm.

BOSTON'S
X-D C-3
D-1 D-2

SUB-GROUP 2
PIN PUNCTURES

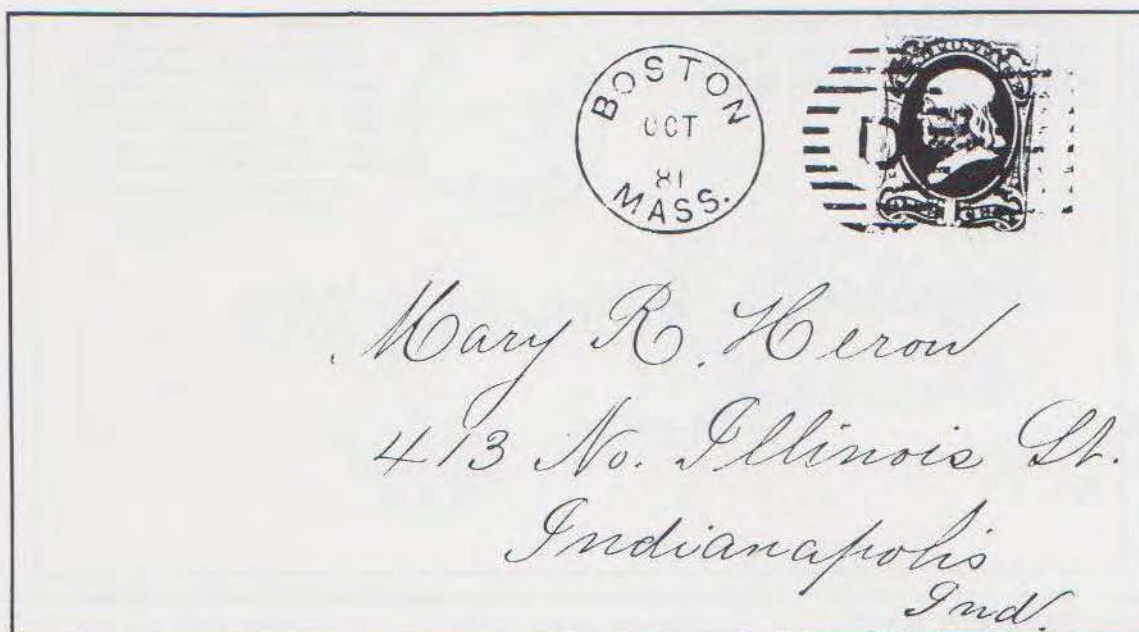


TYPE X1B DIE I

December 18, 1881

BOSTON, MASS.

This letter shows a 2-cent vermilion adhesive paying a local letter rate for December 18, 1881. Note the 18 under 5 PM, a clerks error shows the year date was inverted. The two groups of four pin markings have been circled.



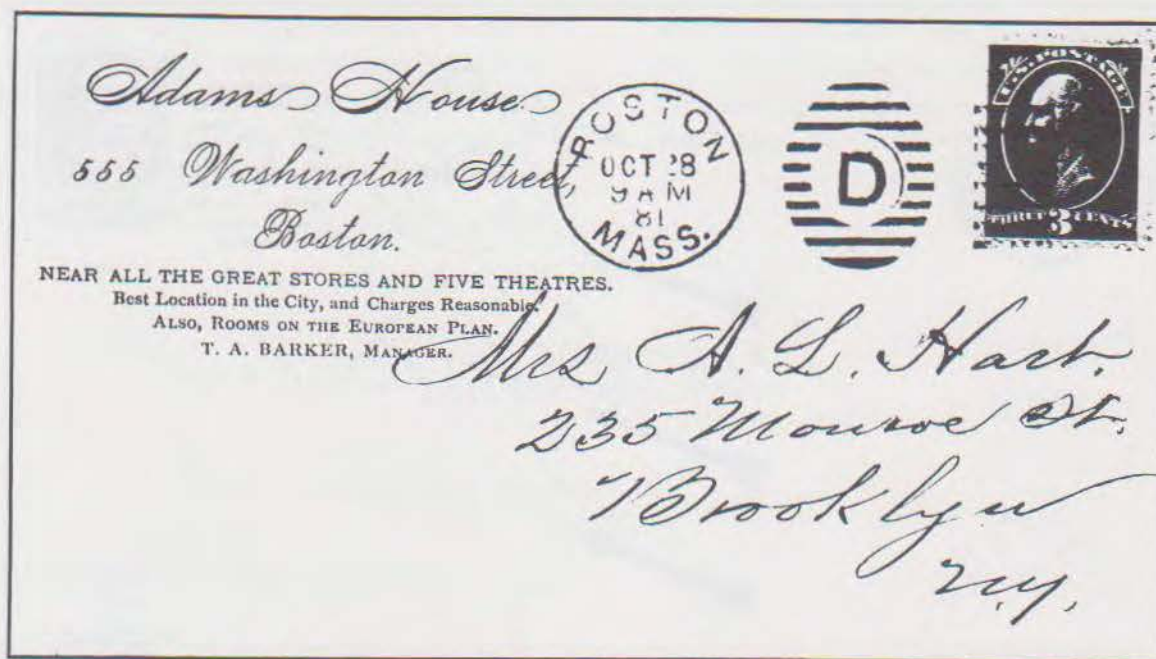
TYPE X1B DIE I

October 1881

BOSTON, MASS.

The Type X1B Boston cancels are known using only a service letter "D". The 3rd Class use shows the day and time slugs were removed. The Die I canceller has a thin, flat top bar.

SUB-GROUP 2
PIN PUNCTURES

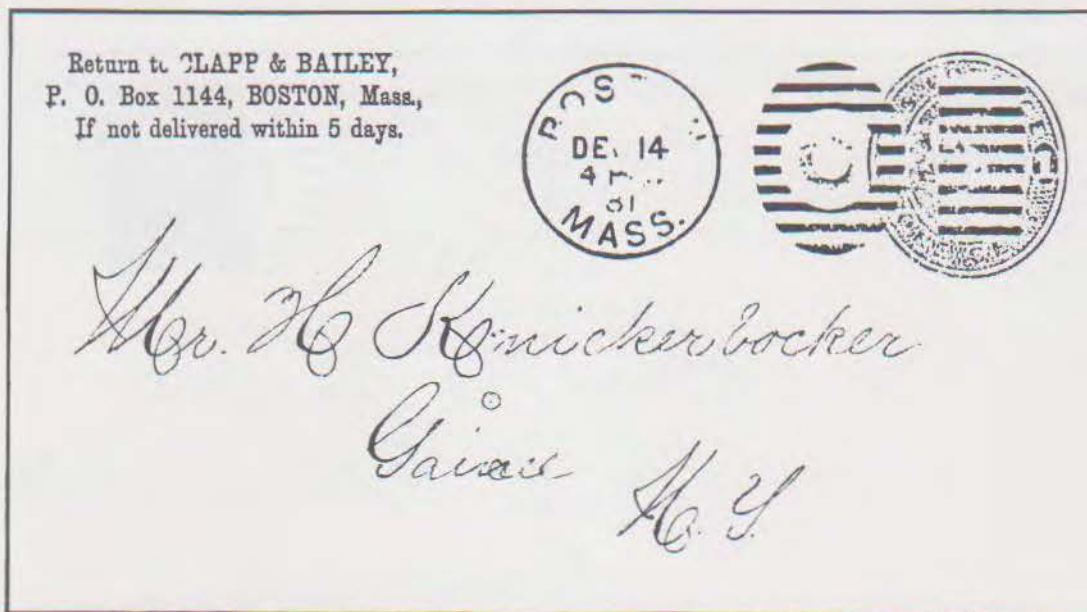


TYPE X1B DIE I

October 28, 1881

BOSTON, MASS.

The Die B dials that show the Sub-Group 2 needle marks are designated as Type X1B cancels. This Type X1B Die 1 has a 24 x 19.5 mm. 10-bar oval canceller, with eight short bars.



TYPE X1B DIE II

December 14, 1881

BOSTON, MASS.

This Sub-Group 2 cancel designated as Type X1B has a Die B dial. There are three examples of the Die II and all have a "C" service letter. The only date reported is December 14, 1881.

courtesy of Unknown Patron

SUB-GROUP 2
PIN PUNCTURES

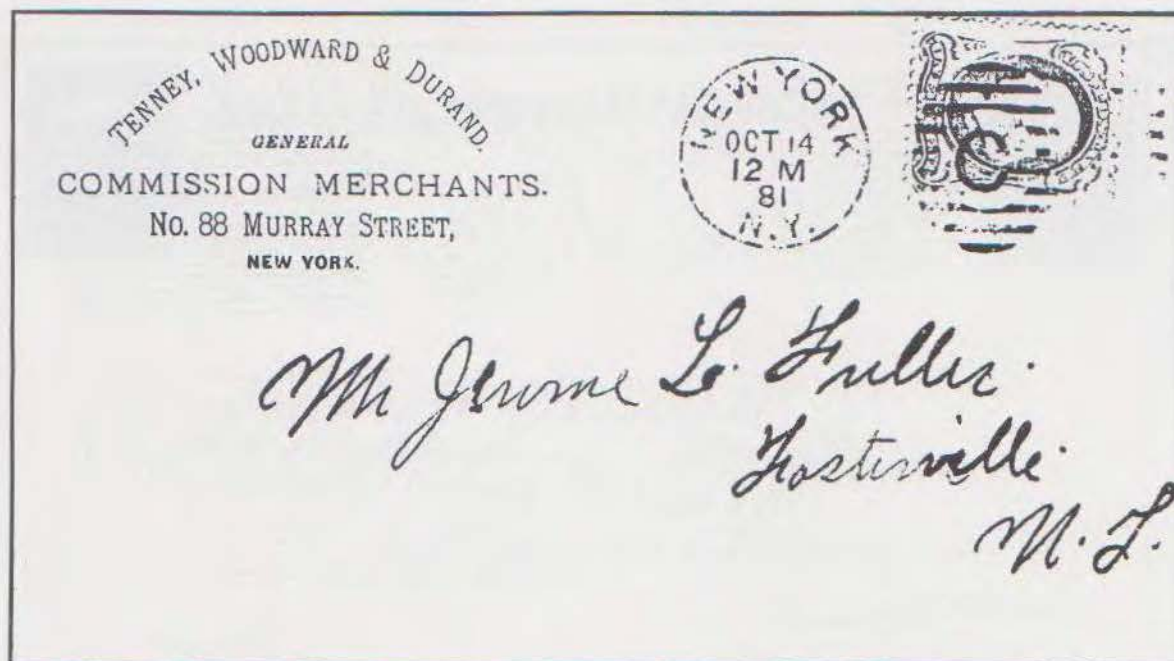


TYPE X1B Die II

December 14, 1881

BOSTON, MASS.

The Die II cancelling die has the 10 bar oval canceller measuring 24.0 mm. x 19.0 mm. The top bar is round and not flat as in Die I. Die II has ten short bars on the right.



TYPE X1B NY DIE II

October 14, 1881

courtesy of Gilbert Levere
NEW YORK, N.Y.

The New York cancel designated as Type X1B has a Die II dial and unlike the earlier Die I, only service letter "C" is known. Copies are known only for October 14, 1881, and October 19, 1881.

SUB-GROUP 2
PIN PUNCTURES

**G. W. Banker's Patent Faucet
SWINGING CAN.**
THE SAFEST, MOST ECONOMICAL AND
BEST SHIPPING CAN IN USE.

If uncalled for in 7
days, return to
[redacted]
41 Platt Street, N. Y.



Agent for Collier Co's Cold Pressed Castor Oil.

NEW YORK
OCT 19
81
N.Y.



H. B. [unclear]
10/19/81

TYPE X1B NY DIE II

October 19, 1881

NEW YORK, N.Y.

The ten barred oval canceller measures 24.0 x 20.0 mm. with eight short 7.0 mm. bars on the right. The two copies reported of Die II are shown, above and on preceding page. They are rated extremely rare.

DR. S. G. CLARKE'S, "WILSONIA" MAGNETIC APPLIANCES.
Office,
14 Winter Street.
BOSTON, - MASS.



POSTO
DEC 30
3 PM
81
MASS.

*Nathaniel W. Appleton Esq
Pleasant St. corner Tremont St
Dorchester,
Mass*

TYPE X2 DIAL B

December 30, 1881

BOSTON, MASS.

Type X2 cancels have 17 horizontal bars with seven oblique cuts that slope down to the left. A dial B was used in this type. The "WILSONIA" magnetic garment guaranteed to cure all ills.

SUB-GROUP 2
PIN PUNCTURES

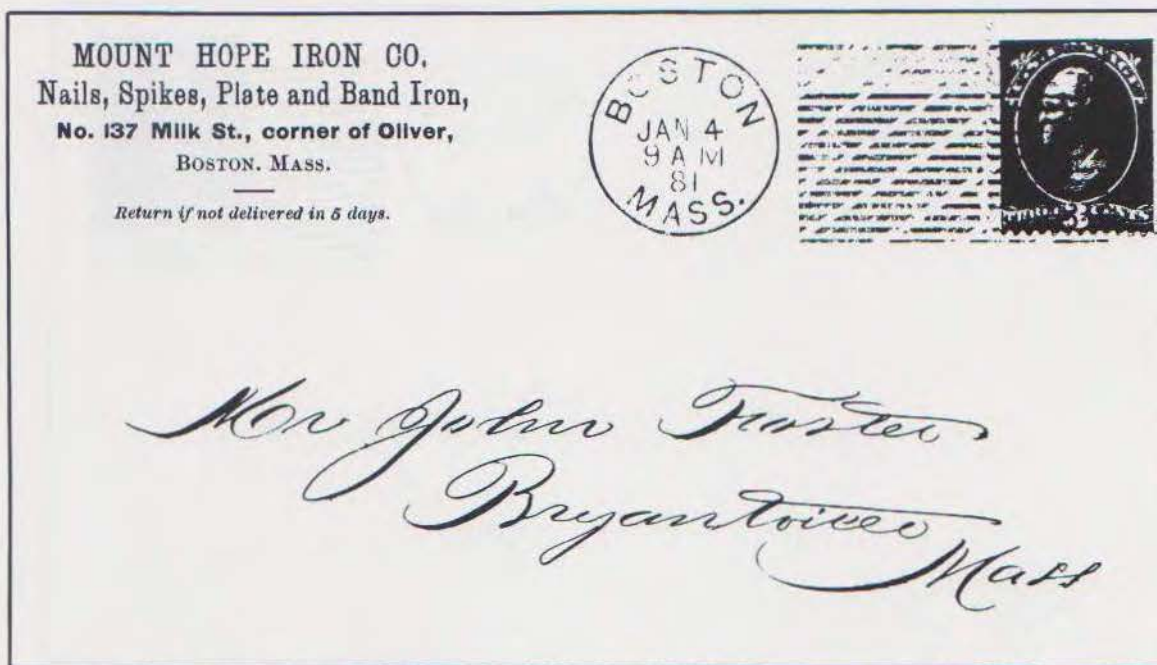


TYPE X2 DIAL B

Third Class 1882

BOSTON, MASS.

The indicia lines in the dial were removed for Third Class use. The letter enclosure is dated February 1, 1882



TYPE X2 DIAL B

January 4, 1881

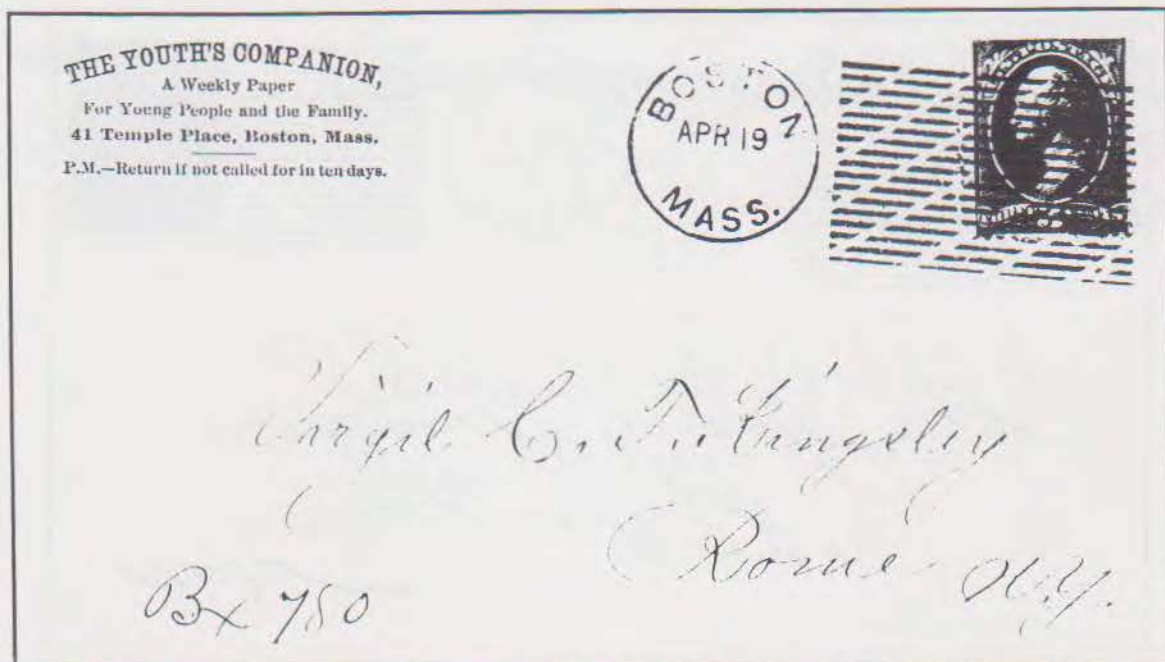
BOSTON, MASS.

The new Boston canceller with 17 bars measures 41.0 mm. x 25.5 mm. with seven diagonal cuts. The "81" year date was used in error. The correct "82" slug arrived too late.

SUB-GROUP 2
PIN PUNCTURES

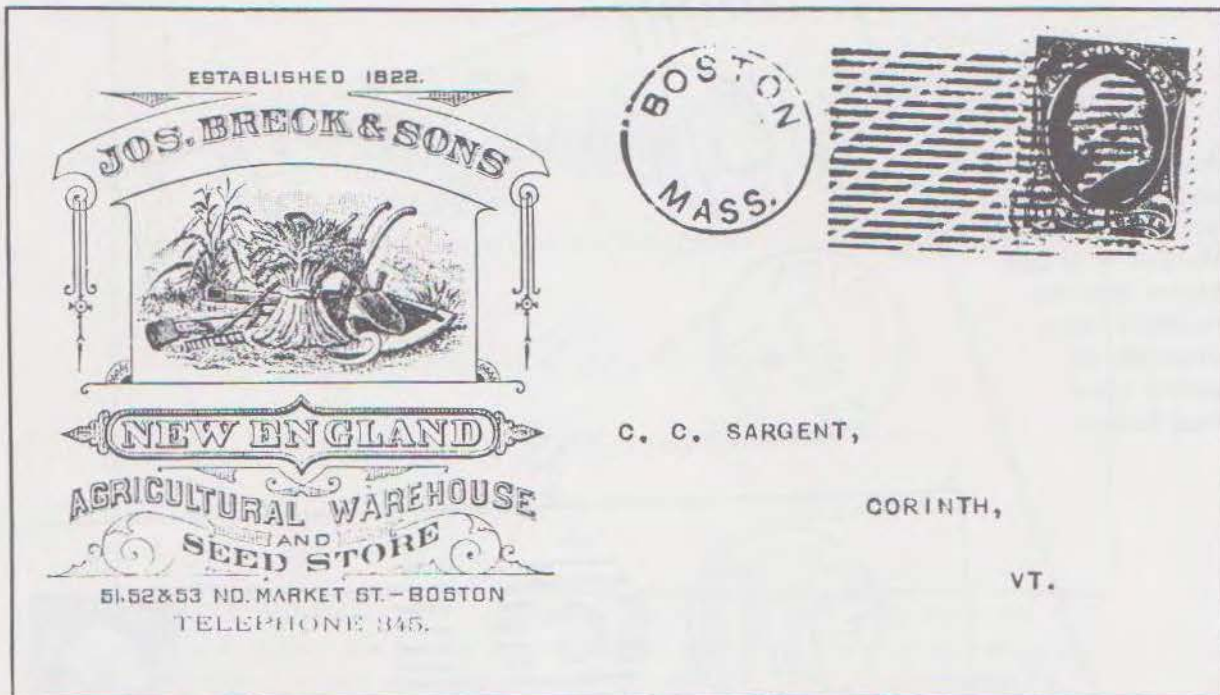


TYPE X2 DIAL B January 10 (1881) *courtesy of Robert Patkin*
BOSTON, MASS.
Discovery of the earlier "81" date error resulted in reversing the year slug to
show an inked bar in place of the year date error. Type X2 is known used
from December 20, 1881, to April 19, 1882.



TYPE X2 DIAL B April 19 (1882) BOSTON, MASS.
To show Third Class use the time and year were removed. In 1882, these Type
X2 cancels slope down to the right. This Type X2 cancel
with a Dial B is the latest reported use.

SUB-GROUP 2
PIN PUNCTURES



TYPE X2 DIAL B

Third Class

BOSTON, MASS.

Note the early 1880's typewriter use on this illustrated cover printed in red ink. The indicia was removed prior to Third Class cancelling.

SUB-GROUP 2
PIN PUNCTURES

TYPE X1A WASH II
WASHINGTON, D.C.
October 31, 1881

An early Die II cancel showing the continued Washington use of the Dial A. It also shows that the machine had a capability to cancel extra long letters.



Wesville, Pa.



*Postmaster,
New Hope,
N.Y.*



**Treasury Department,
TO BE RETURNED TO
Treasurer of the United States**

OFFICIAL BUSINESS
If not delivered in ten days
Any person using this envelope to avoid the payment
matter of any kind, will be subject to a fine of Three H

TYPE X1A
WASH DIE II
WASHINGTON, D.C.
November 15, 1881

The feed system in the Type X-1 Washington machine designated as Die II with a Sub-Group 2 cancel. With two groups of four pins each. Envelope shows eight pin marks in their correct position. Reason for the odd placement of the cancel appears to be from slippage seen in the eight inked bars. The bottom canceller bar and portion of the dial doesn't print. Three days later one sees no indication of an inking problem.

SUB-GROUP 2
PIN PUNCTURES



TYPE X1A WASH II November 18, 1881 WASHINGTON, D.C.
Group X cancels are usually seen on letters and rarely found on postal cards.
The Die II cancels are reported used October 29, 1881, to November 18, 1881. The type was used for 21 days. This cancel is the latest known use.



TYPE X1A WASH III November 27, 1881 WASHINGTON, D.C.
Interestingly, Die III cancels are seen from November 27, 1881, to October 30, 1882, but only two cancels are reported for 1881. This Washington dial is known for all Group X cancels.

SUB-GROUP 3 PIN PUNCTURES

- Two groups of puncture
- with each group having three
- needle marks. The measure-
- ment between puncture marks
- is 8.0 mm.

Distance between the two groups of three needle mark groups is 24 mm. Overall height measurement of Sub-

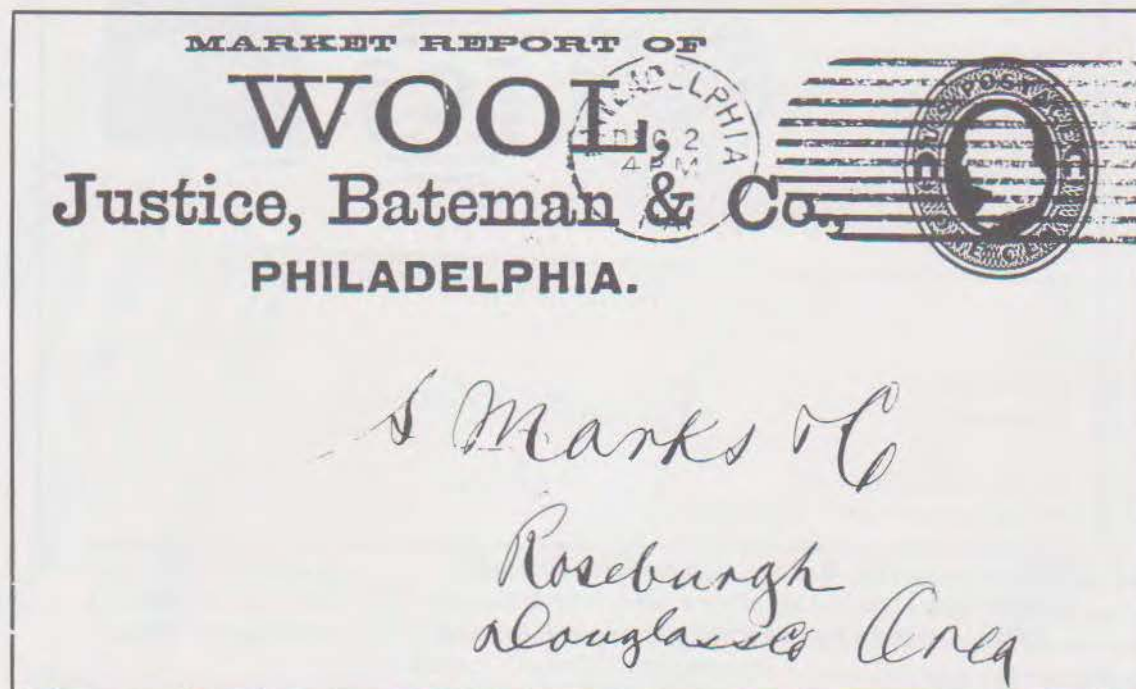
Group 3 cancels varies from 55 to 56 mm.

Dates suggest that two machines were used in this sub-group. The machines were new or may be from two older experimental machines refurbished with new or modified feeding plates

Only two cities are known in Sub-Group 3:

TYPE	DIAL	DIE	CITY	KNOWN USE
X-1	-	I*	PHILADELPHIA	(December, 1881) only
X-1	A	I	PHILADELPHIA	December 2, 1881 - December 3, 1881
X-1	B	II	PHILADELPHIA	December 10, 1881 - January 11, 1882
X-1	-	--	BALTIMORE	December 7, 1881 - January 6, 1882

* Third class cancel without the dial portion of the die.



TYPE X1A PHIL DIE I

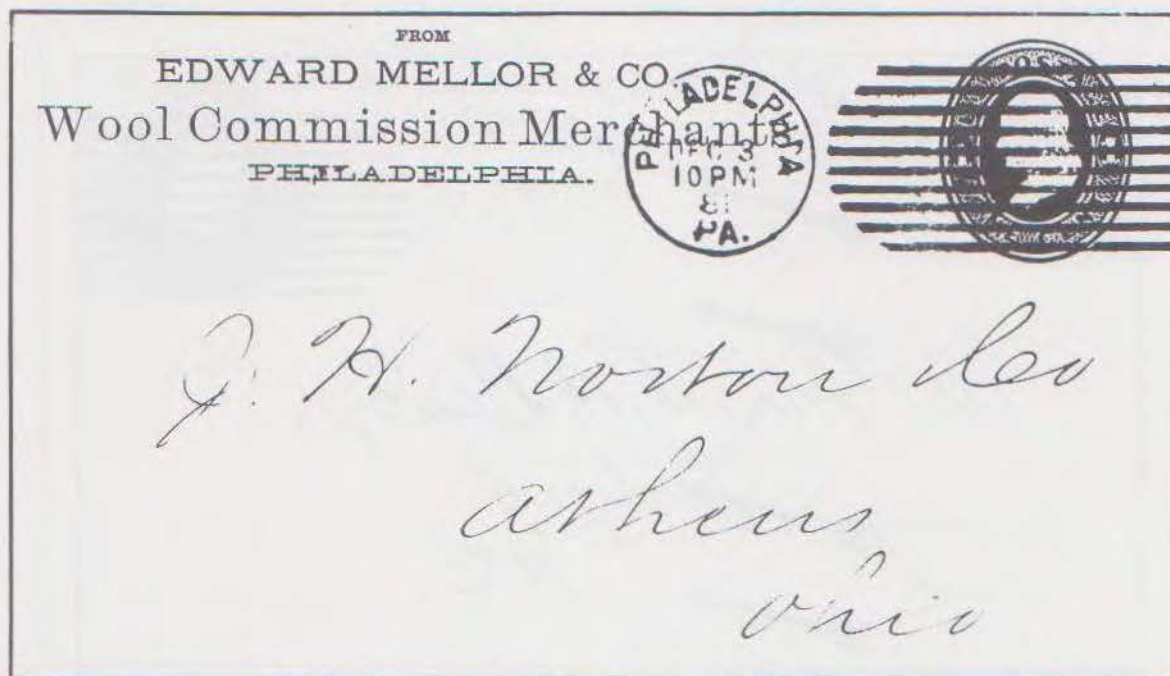
December 2, 1881

courtesy of Robert Patkin

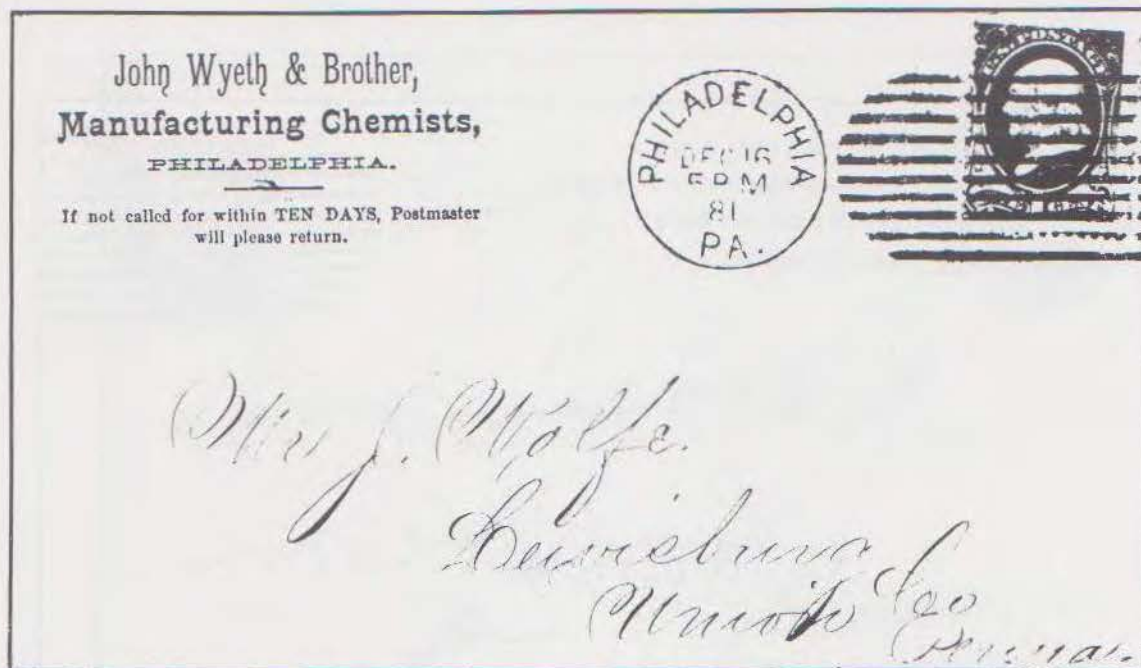
PHILADELPHIA, PA.

An unusual smaller diameter canceller used December 2, 1881, and December 3, 1881.

SUB-GROUP 3
PIN PUNCTURES



TYPE X1A PHIL DIE I December 3, 1881 PHILADELPHIA, PA.
The Die I cancelling die shows the small 24.0 mm. dial combined with a 10 bar canceler having a convex left end. A length of 49.0 mm. and height of 24.0 mm. The cancel is extremely rare.

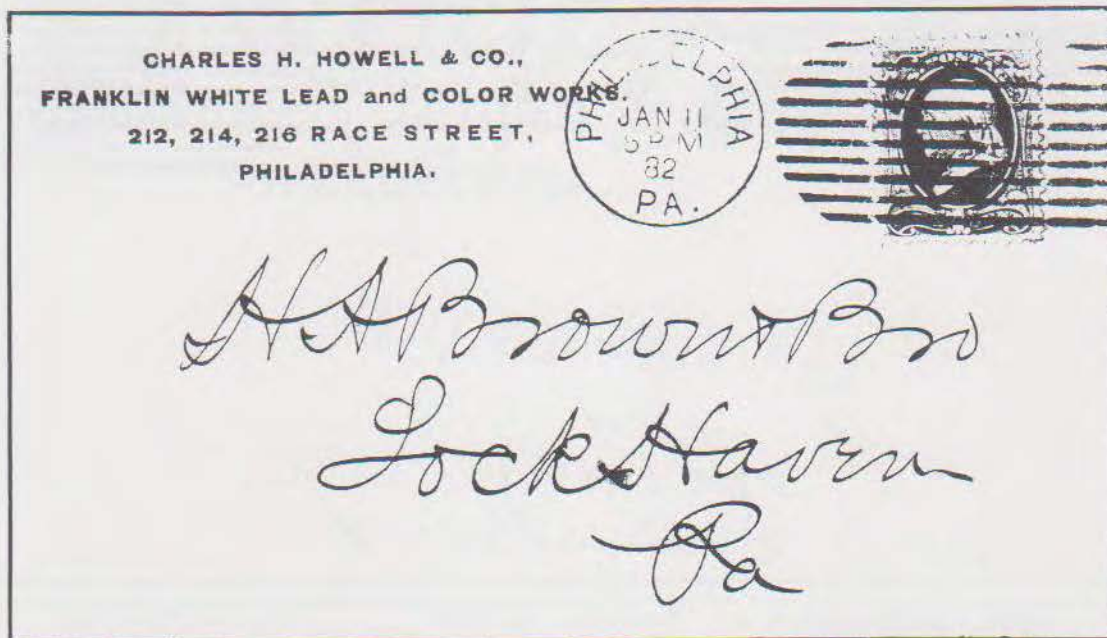


TYPE X1B PHIL DIE II December 16, 1881 PHILADELPHIA, PA.
A new, larger dial with a different canceller was installed by December 10, 1881. Die I and Die II cancels show the "81" year.

SUB-GROUP 3
PIN PUNCTURES

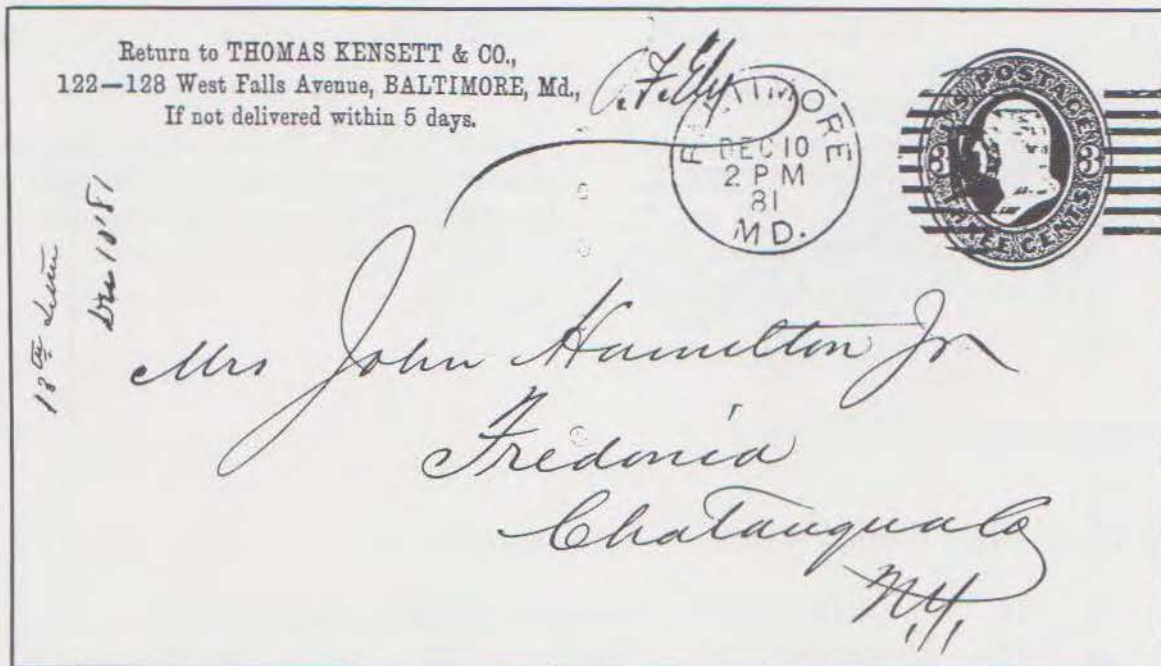


TYPE X1B PHIL DIE II January 5 (1882) PHILADELPHIA, PA.
The Die II cancelling die differs from Die I in that the convex left end does not match Die I. The larger dial is 25.5 mm. compared to 24 mm. Early examples in 1882 show no year date.



TYPE X1B PHIL DIE II January 11, 1882 PHILADELPHIA, PA.
The "82" year is seen by the second week of January. The Die II cancels are known from December 10, 1881, to January 11, 1882. Leavitt experimental cancels reported for Philadelphia are unusual.

SUB-GROUP 3
PIN PUNCTURES



TYPE X1 BALT

December 10, 1881

BALTIMORE, MD.

courtesy of William Maisel

The Group X experimental letter machine was used briefly for 31 days in Baltimore. Five copies are known with three being poorly inked. Reported for December 7, 1881, to January 6, 1882.



TYPE X1 BALT

January 6 (1882)

BALTIMORE, MD.

With a one cent circular rate to Germany the enclosure indicated a transit time of 17 days to Wismar. Dial is 24.5 mm. and the oval 10-bar canceller is 24.5 x 19.5 mm. with eight 10 mm. bars.

SUB-GROUP 4 PIN PUNCTURES

Two groups of needle punctures with each having only two punctures. The measurement between each puncture mark is 15.0 mm.

overall height varying from 55.0 mm. to 56.0 mm.

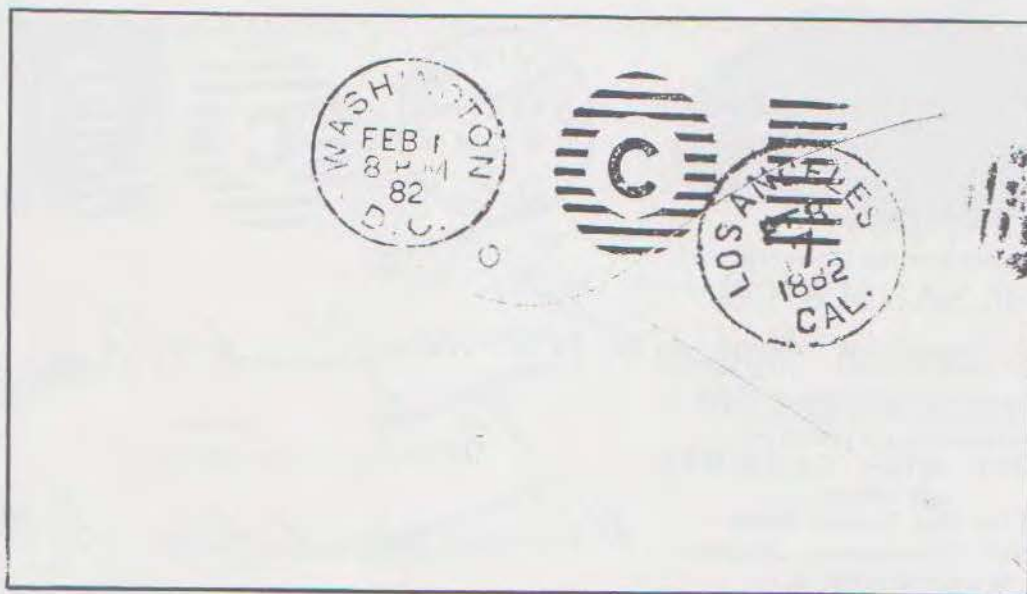
Sub-Group 4 cancels suggest that three Leavitt experimental machines were used, one machine in Washington and two machines in Boston.

The two groups are separated by 25 mm.. With an

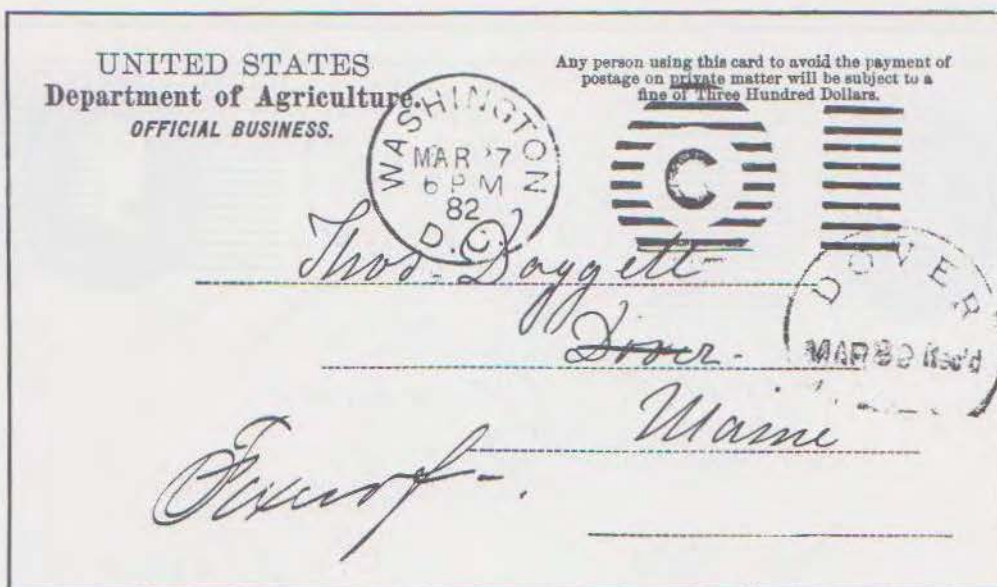
Two cities are known in Sub-Group 4:

TYPE	DIAL	DIE	CITY	KNOWN USE
X1	A	III	WASHINGTON	November 27, 1881 - October 30, 1882
X1	A	III	WASHINGTON (Transit Mail)	February 1, 1882 - February 22, 1882
X3	A	A	BOSTON	September 1, 1882 - September 27, 1882
X3	B	B	BOSTON	November 1, 1882 - November 3, 1882
XT	A	a	BOSTON	November 10, 1882 - November 13, 1882
XT	A	b	BOSTON	November 14, 1882 - December 29, 1882
X3-2	B	I	BOSTON	September 9, 1882 - 3rd Class, 1882
X3-2	B	II	BOSTON	October 2, 1882 - December 30, 1882
X4	B	-	BOSTON	3rd Class (1882) - 3rd Class (1882)

SUB-GROUP 4
PIN PUNCTURES



TYPE X1A WASH II February 1, 1882 WASHINGTON, D.C.
Tests were conducted in Washington to mark transit mail. Two copies are known; February 1, 1882, and February 22, 1882.



TYPE X1A WASH III March 27, 1882 WASHINGTON, D.C.
Examples of Group X experimental cancels on penalty or postal cards are very rare. The reason for this rarity suggest clerks were instructed not to cancel cards due to the pins having difficulty in penetrating the hard card stock. Cards would cause the pins to bend or break.

SUB-GROUP 4
PIN PUNCTURES

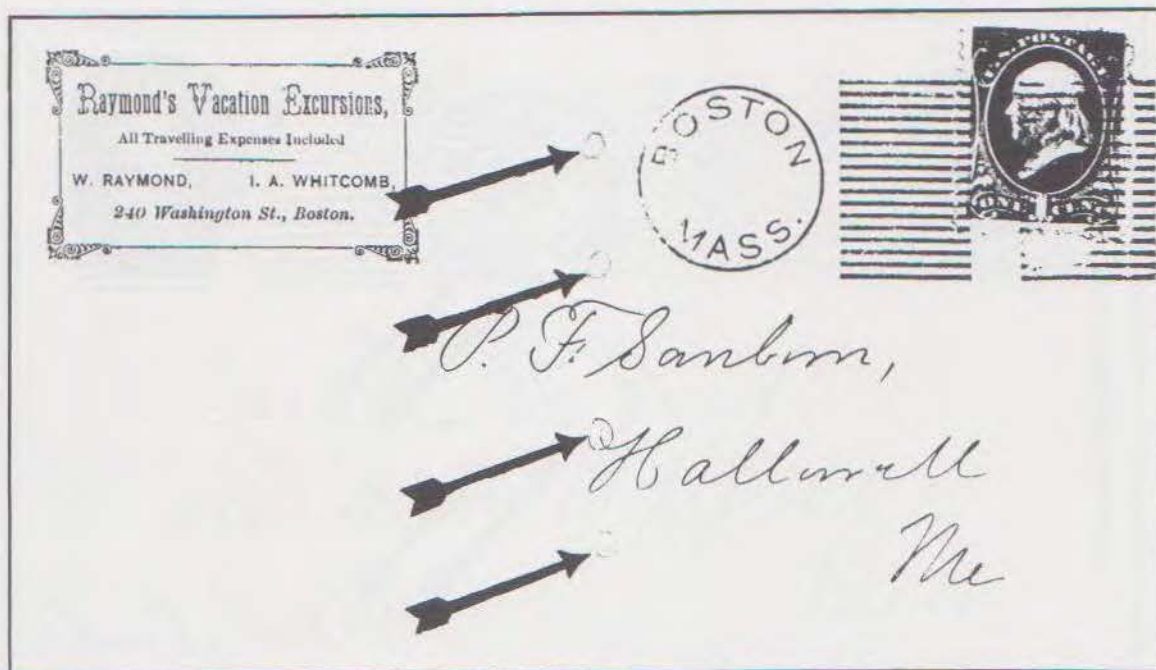


TYPE X1A WASH III February 17, 1882 WASHINGTON, D.C.
 Three different Washington cancelers were installed during the experimental machine testing. The same dial was used in the three trials with a different Sub-Group pin setting for each.



TYPE X3A DIE A September 1 (1882) BOSTON, MASS.
 Type X3A cancels have an A dial with a 17 bar canceler having a 6 mm. channel between the paired bars. Overall bar width is 42.0 mm. This is the earliest use of Type X3A.

SUB-GROUP 4
PIN PUNCTURES



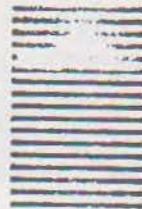
TYPE X3A DIE A Third Class (1882) BOSTON, MASS.
The Leavitt cancels with no date indicia are common for the Third Class Group X experimentals. The same cancel and corner card on another letter shows it was received on September 28, 1882.



TYPE X3B DIE B November 1 (1882) BOSTON, MASS.
This 17 bar canceller with a 6 mm. channel between the paired bars was used earlier in Type X3A cancels. Only the Boston dial is changed in Type X3A and X3B cancels.

SUB-GROUP 4
PIN PUNCTURES

If not delivered within 10 days, to be returned to



*W. G. Greeby.
53 Chelsea St.
East Boston*

TYPE X3B DIE B

November 3 (1882)

BOSTON, MASS.

This envelope was posted to East Boston to pay the local postage rate from Boston. The Type X3B cancels are known with a B dial between November 1, 1882, and November 3, 1882.



NOTHING BUT THE ADDRESS CAN BE PLACED ON THIS SIDE.



*H. C. Church & Son
Lowell Mass*

TYPE X3-2B DIE I

September 9 (1882)

courtesy of Robert Stendel

BOSTON, MASS.

This partial cancel was probably caused when the pins failed to penetrate the hard card stock. The pin scraping under "CA" of POSTAL CARD was caused by the top pin not penetrating the card. No pin marks are seen for the second and fourth pins.

SUB-GROUP 4
PIN PUNCTURES



TYPE X3-2B DIE I

Third Class (1882)

BOSTON, MASS.

The long score marks that appear under the cancel were the probable reason for the far right impression on the cover. The stamp was not cancelled so the letter processed again.



TYPE X3-2B DIE I

Third Class (1882)

BOSTON, MASS.

This Type X3-2B cancelling die used the B dial in Die I and II. The Die I has 17 bars, thin oblique cuts and a thin 5 mm channel. Die II has 16 bars, wide oblique cuts and a wide 9 mm. channel.

SUB-GROUP 4
PIN PUNCTURES



TYPE X3-2B DIE II

October 2 (1882)

BOSTON, MASS.

This Die II is the only reported cancel with the month, day and time. All other known copies are Third Clas with no indicia. The Die 1 and Die II cancels are very rare.



TYPE X3-2B DIE II

BOSTON, MASS.

This Die II cancel shows the B dial in Type X3-2. The 9.0 mm. channel is clearly seen separating the pair of 17 bars. Bar width is 15 mm., height is 24 mm. and oblique cuts are wide.

SUB-GROUP 4
PIN PUNCTURES



TYPE X3-2B DIE II

3rd Class (1882)

BOSTON, MASS.

A few large 3rd class letters of the same type apparently were posted in Boston at the same time. This same cancel appears as Type X3-2B, Die II. Majority of cancels were used as 3rd class.

SUB-GROUP 4 PIN PUNCTURES

Since the publication of *The Descriptive Catalog of LEAVITT MACHINE CANCELLATIONS* by Frank B. Stratton in 1985, only one new Boston experimental cancel has been discovered.

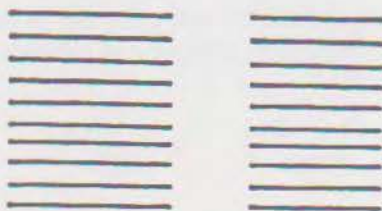
The Boston letter is marked by Sub-Group 4 pin punctures and the Die B dial that has extensive wear when compared with other cancels with a Die B dial. The worn dial does

suggest the new Leavitt experimental letter machine was used very late 1882 or very early in 1883.

An adhesive stamp is known with a partial impression of a 10 bar canceler that is undoubtedly from the same cancelling die. By using both measurements, we are able to reconstruct the canceler showing a 10 bar canceler split unequally by a 9.0 mm. channel.

DIAL: BOSTON / MASS 24.0 mm. Die B Dial.

CANCELER: 10 horizontal bars have a 9.0 mm channel.
Width of the bars, left side is 16.0 mm.
Width of the bars, right side is 20.0 mm.
Height of the 10 paired bars is 23.5 mm.



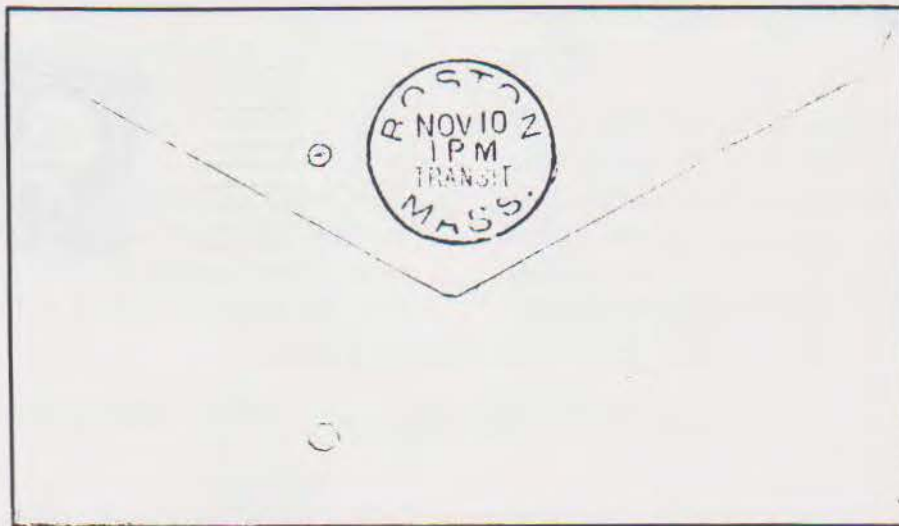
TYPE X4
CANCELLER

SUB-GROUP 4
PIN PUNCTURES



TYPE X4 DIAL B Third Class (Undated) BOSTON, MASS.
 The new and unique Group X cancel from Boston has been designated as a
 Type X4. The needle marks on the cover are the Sub-Group 4 type.
 Cancelling die is a B dial.

SUB-GROUP 4 PIN PUNCTURES



TYPE XT DIE a November 10 (1882) BOSTON, MASS.

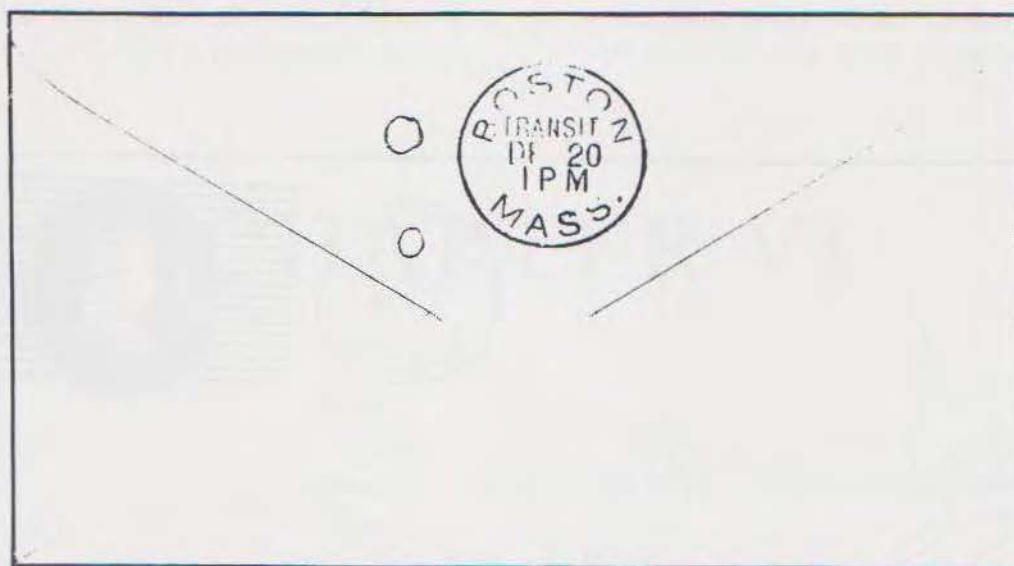
In November 1882, a new concept was used in Boston for a brief period. A Boston machine was used with a TRANSIT slug in the dial. Die a shows the slug on the 3rd line. The Die b slug was probably moved to the top line for better visibility. The Type XT is the only daily used Leavitt cancel without the bar canceller. Dial A was used in the TRANSIT markings. Die a known used November 10th to November 13, 1882.



TYPE XT DIE b November 14 (1882) BOSTON, MASS.

After four days of using the TRANSIT slug on the third line, the slug was inserted in the first line of the indicia. Die b markings are known from November 14, 1882, to November 29, 1882.

SUB-GROUP 4
PIN PUNCTURES



TYPE XT DIE b December 20 (1882) OSTON, MASS.
The Boston TRANSIT marking shows late use for Die b. The letter was posted
in Andover, situated 25 miles north of Boston. The cover has a Medford
address, a Boston suburb. The transit mark was applied the same day that it
was posted.

A Boston machine was used with a TRANSIT slug in the dial. Die a shows the slug on the third line. The Die b slug was probably moved to the top line for better visibility. The Type XT is the only daily used Leavitt cancel without the bar canceler. Dial A was used in the TRANSIT markings. Die a

known used November 10, 1882, to November 13, 1882.

In this study, the TRANSIT dies have been reversed from the 1985 catalog for easier sequential listing and die identity.

SUB-GROUP 4 PIN PUNCTURES

The example on this page shows use of the A dial. Envelopes that carry transit marks show pin punctures proving clearly they are created by

experimental Leavitt machines. The TRANSIT die was transformed to a Type XT die by removing the Die A dial and inserting a TRANSIT slug.



TYPE X3A DIE A

September 4 (1882)

BOSTON, MASS.

CHAPTER VI

LEAVITT CANCELLATION SUMMARY AND VALUE GUIDE

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deleted from eBook.

LEAVITT CANCELLATION SUMMARY

GROUP A RECTILINEAR POSTMARKS

TYPE A-1E BOSTON / MASS.

<u>POSTMARK</u> <u>DIE</u>	<u>CANCELLER</u> <u>BARs</u>	<u>DIMENSION</u>	<u>ONE</u> <u>CORK</u>	<u>KNOWN USAGE</u>	<u>VALUE</u> <u>GUIDE</u>
Prototype	7 Horiz.	60.0+ x 17.5mm.	12.0+mm.	11/15/75	L

TYPE A-1 BOSTON / MASS.

<u>POSTMARK</u> <u>DIE</u>	<u>CANCELLER</u> <u>BARs</u>	<u>SIZE</u>	<u>TWO</u> <u>CORKs</u>	<u>KNOWN</u> <u>USAGE</u>	<u>ADDED VALUE</u> <u>PREM. GUIDE</u>
I	14 Oblique	47x17	10 mm	01/06/76 - 06/08/76 01/06/76 - 03/11/76 01/06/76	Cover G Postal H with 2 Stamps H 1st Day use K

TYPE A1/2 BOSTON / MASS.

<u>POSTMARK</u> <u>DIE</u>	<u>CANCELLER</u>	<u>DIMENSION</u>	<u>KNOWN USAGE</u>	<u>VALUE</u> <u>GUIDE</u>
I	(None)	----	02/02/76	K

TYPE A-2 BOSTON / MASS.

<u>POSTMARK</u> <u>DIE</u>	<u>CANCELLER</u> <u>BARs</u>	<u>DIMENSION</u>	<u>KNOWN USAGE</u>	<u>VALUE</u> <u>GUIDE</u>
I	9 Oblique	23.0 x 17.5 mm.	02/09/76 - 03/31/76 03/09/78 - 04/11/78	D E

TYPE A-2 BOSTON / MASS.

<u>POSTMARK</u> <u>DIE</u>	<u>CANCELLER</u> <u>BARs</u>	<u>DIMENSION</u>	<u>KNOWN USAGE</u>	<u>VALUE</u> <u>GUIDE</u>
II	9 Oblique	23.0 x 17.5 mm.	04/01/76 - 09/23/77 09/25/77 - 03/04/78 77 JULY JAN (1877) Inverted (Nov) 6/76	C D E E E

LEAVITT CANCELLATION SUMMARY

GROUP A RECTILINEAR POSTMARKS *cont'd*

TYPE A2-NY NEW YORK (N.Y.)

POSTMARK <u>DIE</u>	CANCELLER <u>BAR</u>	<u>DIMENSION</u>	<u>KNOWN USAGE</u>	VALUE <u>GUIDE</u>
I	9 Oblique	22.0 x 17.5 mm.	06/10/76 - 06/28/76 08/14/76 - 10/07/76	H J

TYPE A-3 BOSTON / MASS.

POSTMARK <u>DIE</u>	<u>CANCELLER</u>	<u>LETTER</u>	<u>KNOWN USAGE</u>	VALUE <u>GUIDE</u>
II	17.0 mm. Ring	C	12/24/77 - 03/--/78 1877 use Post Card	E G J
I	17.0 mm. Ring	C	03/11/78 - 04/03/78	F

TYPE A4-NY NEW YORK (N.Y.)

POSTMARK <u>DIE</u>	CANCELLER <u>BAR</u>	<u>DIMENSION</u>	<u>KNOWN USAGE</u>	VALUE <u>GUIDE</u>
II	7 Horizontal	23.0 x 18.0 mm.	02/21/78 - 02/23/78	K

GROUP B ELLIPTICAL 8 BAR CANCELLER

TYPE AB-NY(31) NEW YORK (N.Y.)

POSTMARK <u>DIE</u>	OV <u>CANCELLER</u>	<u>DIMENSION</u>	<u>NUMBER</u>	<u>KNOWN USAGE</u>	VALUE <u>GUIDE</u>
I	8 Bars	25.0 x 19.0	31	02/26/78 - 03/01/78 Feb 26 use	J K
II	8 Bars	24.5 x 18.5	31	02/26/78 - 03/25/78 Feb 26 use	G H

LEAVITT CANCELLATION SUMMARY

GROUP B ELLIPTICAL 8-BAR CANCELLER *cont'd*

TYPE B-NY(31) NEW YORK (N.Y.)

<u>DIAL</u> <u>DIE - DIA.</u>	<u>OVAL</u> <u>CANCELLER</u>	<u>DIMENSION</u>	<u>NUMBER</u>	<u>KNOWN USAGE</u>	<u>VALUE</u> <u>GUIDE</u>
I 23.8 mm.	8 Bars	25.0 x 20.0	31	03/26/78 - 07/22/79 First Day - 03/26/78	D F
II 23.5 mm.	8 Bars	24.0 x 21.5	31	03/27/78 - 01/16/79 1879 use	E F

TYPE B-NY(32) NEW YORK (N.Y.)

<u>DIAL</u> <u>DIE - DIA.</u>	<u>OVAL</u> <u>CANCELLER</u>	<u>DIMENSION</u>	<u>NUMBER</u>	<u>KNOWN USAGE</u>	<u>VALUE</u> <u>GUIDE</u>
II 23.5 mm.	8 Bars	24.0 x 21.5	32	04/08/78 - - - -	L

TYPE B-NY(33) NEW YORK (N.Y.)

<u>DIAL</u> <u>DIE - DIA.</u>	<u>OVAL</u> <u>CANCELLER</u>	<u>DIMENSION</u>	<u>NUMBER</u>	<u>KNOWN USAGE</u>	<u>VALUE</u> <u>GUIDE</u>
II 23.5 mm.	8 Bars	24.0 x 21.5	33	08/27/78 - - - -	L

TYPE B-NY(31)Q NEW YORK / N.Y.

<u>DIAL</u> <u>DIE - DIA.</u>	<u>OVAL</u> <u>CANCELLER</u>	<u>DIMENSION</u>	<u>NUMBER</u>	<u>KNOWN USAGE</u>	<u>VALUE</u> <u>GUIDE</u>
Q 25.0 mm.	8 Bars	24.0 x 19.5	31	11/06/80 - - - - - 04/04/81 - 04/24/81	L K

TYPE B-NY(33)A NEW YORK / N.Y.

<u>DIAL</u> <u>DIE - DIA.</u>	<u>OVAL</u> <u>CANCELLER</u>	<u>DIMENSION</u>	<u>NUMBER</u>	<u>KNOWN USAGE</u>	<u>VALUE</u> <u>GUIDE</u>
A 25.0 mm.	8 Bars	25.0 x 20.0	33	01/17/82 - - - -	L

LEAVITT CANCELLATION SUMMARY

GROUP B ELLIPTICAL 8 BAR CANCELLER *cont'd*

TYPE B-1 BOSTON / MASS.

<u>DIAL</u> <u>DIE - DIA.</u>	<u>OVAL</u> <u>CANCELLER</u>	<u>DIMENSION</u>	<u>SERVICE</u> <u>LETTER</u>	<u>KNOWN USAGE</u>	<u>VALUE</u> <u>GUIDE</u>
Ca 23.5 mm.	7 Bars	24.5 x 19.0	C / D	04/05/78 - 07/31/79	A
		Time Second Line		04/05/79 - 04/15/79	E
		Time First Line		08/12/79 / 02/23/80	E
		Time Second Line		05/15/80 - 07/08/80	E

TYPE B-2 BOSTON / MASS.

<u>DIAL</u> <u>DIE - DIA.</u>	<u>OVAL</u> <u>CANCELLER</u>	<u>DIMENSION</u>	<u>SERVICE</u> <u>LETTER</u>	<u>KNOWN USAGE</u>	<u>VALUE</u> <u>GUIDE</u>
Cb 25.5 mm.	8 Bars	24.5 x 21.0	C / D	08/01/79 - 04/08/80	B
	"V" notch			07/16/80 - 12/30/80	C
				First Day 08/01/79	E
				Service Letter C	D

TYPE B-3 BOSTON / MASS.

<u>DIAL</u> <u>DIE - DIA.</u>	<u>OVAL</u> <u>CANCELLER</u>	<u>DIMENSION</u>	<u>SERVICE</u> <u>LETTER</u>	<u>KNOWN USAGE</u>	<u>VALUE</u> <u>GUIDE</u>
Cb 25.5 mm.	8 Bars	24.5 x 21.0	C / D	01/03/81 - 02/23/82	B
	"V" notch			Service Letter C	C
				Year Date Bar	D

TYPE B ALBANY / N.Y.

<u>DIAL</u> <u>DIA.</u>	<u>OVAL</u> <u>CANCELLER</u>	<u>DIMENSION</u>	<u>SERVICE</u> <u>LETTER</u>	<u>KNOWN USAGE</u>	<u>VALUE</u> <u>GUIDE</u>
25.0 mm.	8 Bars	24.5 x 20.5 mm.	C / D	09/04/79 - 06/24/81	D
	"V" notch			Service Letter D	E
				Month on First Line	F

TYPE B ATLANTA / GA.

<u>DIAL</u> <u>DIA.</u>	<u>OVAL</u> <u>CANCELLER</u>	<u>DIMENSION</u>	<u>SERVICE</u> <u>LETTER</u>	<u>KNOWN USAGE</u>	<u>VALUE</u> <u>GUIDE</u>
24.0 mm.	8 Bars	24.5 x 21.0 mm.	C	02/05/81 - - -	L
	"V" notch				

LEAVITT CANCELLATION SUMMARY

GROUP B ELLIPTICAL 8 BAR CANCELLER *cont'd*

TYPE B BALTIMORE, MD.

<u>DIAL DIA.</u>	<u>OVAL CANCELLER</u>	<u>DIMENSION</u>	<u>SERVICE LETTER</u>	<u>KNOWN USAGE</u>	<u>VALUE GUIDE</u>
23.5 mm.	8 Bars	25.0 x 20.0 mm.	D	03/01/79 - 04/15/82 First Day 03/01/79	A E

TYPE B BROOKLYN / N.Y.

<u>DIAL DIA.</u>	<u>OVAL CANCELLER</u>	<u>DIMENSION</u>	<u>SERVICE LETTER</u>	<u>KNOWN USAGE</u>	<u>VALUE GUIDE</u>
25.0 mm.	8 Bars "V" notch	24.5 x 20.5 mm.	C / D	08/06/79 - 06/24/81 Service Letter C Time on First Line	D E E

TYPE B BUFFALO/N.Y.

<u>DIAL DIA.</u>	<u>OVAL CANCELLER</u>	<u>DIMENSION</u>	<u>SERVICE LETTER</u>	<u>KNOWN USAGE</u>	<u>VALUE GUIDE</u>
25.0 mm.	8 Bars "V" notch	25.0 x 24.5 mm.	C / D	10/23/79 - 02/04/92 Time First Line Transposed Die 1891 Dial Only 1891 - 1892	A C J D

TYPE B CHICAGO / ILL.

<u>DIAL DIA.</u>	<u>OVAL CANCELLER</u>	<u>DIMENSION</u>	<u>SERVICE LETTER</u>	<u>KNOWN USAGE</u>	<u>VALUE GUIDE</u>
24.0 mm.	8 Bars	25.0 x 21.0 mm.	2	06/10/79 - 11/07/79 Complete Impression	E G

TYPE B CINCINNATI / O.

<u>DIAL DIA.</u>	<u>OVAL CANCELLER</u>	<u>DIMENSION</u>	<u>SERVICE LETTER</u>	<u>KNOWN USAGE</u>	<u>VALUE GUIDE</u>
24.0 mm.	8 Bars	25.0 x 24.0 mm.	D	06/10/79 - 12/08/79 Year Date Bar	G G

LEAVITT CANCELLATION SUMMARY

GROUP B ELLIPTICAL 8 BAR CANCELLER *cont'd*

TYPE B CLEVELAND / O.

<u>DIAL DIA.</u>	<u>OVAL CANCELLER</u>	<u>DIMENSION</u>	<u>SERVICE LETTER</u>	<u>KNOWN USAGE</u>	<u>VALUE GUIDE</u>
24.5 mm.	8 Bars "V" notch	24.5 x 20.5 mm.	C / D	10/28/79 - 07/13/80 11/05/84 - 05/23/85 Service Letter D	G G H

TYPE B DAYTON / OHIO

<u>DIAL DIA.</u>	<u>OVAL CANCELLER</u>	<u>DIMENSION</u>	<u>SERVICE LETTER</u>	<u>KNOWN USAGE</u>	<u>VALUE GUIDE</u>
23.5 mm.	8 Bars "V" notch	24.5 x 20.0 mm.	C / D	07/10/80 - 02/20/91 Receiving Mark	B B

TYPE B DETROIT / MICH.

<u>DIAL DIA.</u>	<u>OVAL CANCELLER</u>	<u>DIMENSION</u>	<u>SERVICE LETTER</u>	<u>KNOWN USAGE</u>	<u>VALUE GUIDE</u>
24.0 mm.	8 Bars "V" notch	24.5 x 20.5 mm. Month First/Day Second Line	D	11/03/79 - 01/02/84 01/23/86 - 11/25/86 Year Date Bar	C F E

TYPE B HARTFORD / CT.

<u>DIAL DIA.</u>	<u>OVAL CANCELLER</u>	<u>DIMENSION</u>	<u>SERVICE LETTER</u>	<u>KNOWN USAGE</u>	<u>VALUE GUIDE</u>
25.0 mm.	8 Bars	24.0 x 19.5 mm.	C / D	02/17/83 - 12/02/89 Complete Impression Service Letter D Bluish-Black Ink	B E D D

TYPE B INDIANAPOLIS / IND.

<u>DIAL DIE -DIA.</u>	<u>OVAL CANCELLER</u>	<u>DIMENSION</u>	<u>SERVICE LETTER</u>	<u>KNOWN USAGE</u>	<u>VALUE GUIDE</u>
I 25.0 mm.	8 Bars	4.5 x 20.5	C / D	06/30/79 - 05/22/84	C
II 26.0 mm.	8 Bars	25.0 x 20.5	C / D	10/07/84 - 09/01/92 Time on First Line Latest Leavitt 09/01/92	B D G

LEAVITT CANCELLATION SUMMARY

GROUP B ELLIPTICAL 8 BAR CANCELLER *cont'd*

TYPE B KANSAS CITY / MO.

<u>DIAL DIA.</u>	<u>OVAL CANCELLER</u>	<u>DIMENSION</u>	<u>SERVICE LETTER</u>	<u>KNOWN USAGE</u>	<u>VALUE GUIDE</u>
24.0 mm.	8 Bars	24.5 x 19.5 mm.	C / D	12/01/80 - 05/14/88	D
				Bluish Ink 1883/84	D
				2/3 Cancel 1883/88	E

TYPE B LOUISVILLE / KY.

<u>DIAL DIA.</u>	<u>OVAL CANCELLER</u>	<u>DIMENSION</u>	<u>SERVICE LETTER</u>	<u>KNOWN USAGE</u>	<u>VALUE GUIDE</u>
23.5 mm.	8 Bars	25.0 x 21.0 mm.	D	07/15/79 - 11/06/80	H

TYPE B NASHVILLE / TENN.

<u>DIAL DIA></u>	<u>OVAL CANCELLER</u>	<u>DIMENSION</u>	<u>SERVICE LETTER</u>	<u>KNOWN USAGE</u>	<u>VALUE GUIDE</u>
24.0 mm.	8 Bars	25.0 x 21.0 mm.	D	07/31/79 - 03/30/85	E
				Bluish Ink 1881	F

TYPE B NEWARK / N.J.

<u>DIAL DIA.</u>	<u>OVAL CANCELLER</u>	<u>DIMENSION</u>	<u>SERVICE LETTER</u>	<u>KNOWN USAGE</u>	<u>VALUE GUIDE</u>
24.0 mm.	8 Bars	24.5 x 20.0 mm.	C	10/01/80 - 12/28/91	D
				2/3 Print 1885/88	E

TYPE B NEW ORLEANS / LA.

<u>DIAL DIE - DIA.</u>	<u>OVAL CANCELLER</u>	<u>DIMENSION</u>	<u>SERVICE LETTER</u>	<u>KNOWN USAGE</u>	<u>VALUE GUIDE</u>
I 23.5 mm.	8 Bars	25.0 x 20.5	C	07/14/79 - 01/12/80	G
				1880 Use	H
				Bluish Ink	H
II 25.0 mm.	8 Bars	25.0 x 20.5	C	04/24/80 - 05/11/80	H

LEAVITT CANCELLATION SUMMARY

GROUP B ELLIPTICAL 8 BAR CANCELLER *cont'd*

TYPE B NORWALK / OHIO

<u>DIAL DIA.</u>	<u>OVAL CANCELLER</u>	<u>DIMENSION</u>	<u>SERVICE LETTER</u>	<u>KNOWN USAGE</u>	<u>VALUE GUIDE</u>
25.0 mm.	13 Horiz. with die space	22.0 x 26.0 mm.	D	06/04/83 - 04/24/84 04/24/85 - 03/01/86 01/25/88 Year Date Bar	F G G G

TYPE B PHILADELPHIA / PA.

<u>DIAL DIE - DIA.</u>	<u>OVAL CANCELLER</u>	<u>DIMENSION</u>	<u>SERVICE LETTER</u>	<u>KNOWN USAGE</u>	<u>VALUE GUIDE</u>
I 23.5 mm.	8 Bars	25.0 x 21.0 mm.	D	06/06/79 - 11/11/79	H
I 23.5 mm.	8 Bars	25.0 x 21.0 mm.	3	11/21/79 - 10/21/88 09/23/87 - 11/03/87 Commemorative - 10/24/82 Commemorative - 09/15/87	C D G G
II 25.0 mm.	8 Bars	24.5 x 20.5 mm.	D	12/02/79 - 12/05/82	E

TYPE B PHILADELPHIA, PA. / STA. B

<u>DIAL DIA.</u>	<u>OVAL CANCELLER</u>	<u>DIMENSION</u>	<u>SERVICE LETTER</u>	<u>KNOWN USAGE</u>	<u>VALUE GUIDE</u>
26.5 mm.	8 Bars	24.5 x 20.5 mm.	D	04/18/85 - 01/02/86	K

TYPE B PITTSBURGH / PA.

<u>DIAL DIA.</u>	<u>OVAL CANCELLER</u>	<u>DIMENSION</u>	<u>SERVICE LETTER</u>	<u>KNOWN USAGE</u>	<u>VALUE GUIDE</u>
26.0 mm.	8 Bars "V" notch	24.5 x 20.5 mm.	C / D	10/30/79 - 06/23/80 Service Letter D	J J

TYPE B PROVIDENCE / R.I.

<u>DIAL DIA.</u>	<u>OVAL CANCELLER</u>	<u>DIMENSION</u>	<u>SERVICE LETTER</u>	<u>KNOWN USAGE</u>	<u>VALUE GUIDE</u>
24.0 mm.	8 Bars	24.5 x 19.5 mm.	D	10/05/80 - 05/25/82	D

LEAVITT CANCELLATION SUMMARY

GROUP B ELLIPTICAL 8 BAR CANCELLER *cont'd*

TYPE B RICHMOND / VA.

<u>DIAL DIA.</u>	<u>OVAL CANCELLER</u>	<u>DIMENSION</u>	<u>SERVICE LETTER</u>	<u>KNOWN USAGE</u>	<u>VALUE GUIDE</u>
25.0 mm.	8 Bars	25.0 x 21.0 mm.	C	09/27/80 - 01/13/82 Complete Impression Month - Day First Line 1880 Month First and Day Second Line	E J F E

TYPE B ROCHESTER / N.Y.

<u>DIAL DIA.</u>	<u>OVAL CANCELLER</u>	<u>DIMENSION</u>	<u>SERVICE LETTER</u>	<u>KNOWN USAGE</u>	<u>VALUE GUIDE</u>
25.0 mm.	8 Bars "V" notch	24.5 x 20.5 mm.	C	11/02/79 - 05/09/85	E

TYPE B ST. LOUIS / MO.

<u>DIAL DIA.</u>	<u>OVAL CANCELLER</u>	<u>DIMENSION</u>	<u>SERVICE LETTER</u>	<u>KNOWN USAGE</u>	<u>VALUE GUIDE</u>
23.5 mm.	8 Bars	25.0 x 21.0 mm.	C / D	06/28/79 - 05/28/87 Service Letter C Year Date Bar Plus Dayton Rec'd	A F D E

TYPE B SAN FRANCISCO / CAL.

<u>DIAL DIA.</u>	<u>OVAL CANCELLER</u>	<u>DIMENSION</u>	<u>SERVICE LETTER</u>	<u>KNOWN USAGE</u>	<u>VALUE GUIDE</u>
24.5 mm.	8 Bars	24.5 x 20.5 mm.	C / D	09/24/80 - 11/05/90 Service Letter D	B E

TYPE B TOLEDO / O.

<u>DIAL DIA.</u>	<u>OVAL CANCELLER</u>	<u>DIMENSION</u>	<u>SERVICE LETTER</u>	<u>KNOWN USAGE</u>	<u>VALUE GUIDE</u>
26.0 mm.	8 Bars "V" notch	24.5 x 20.5 mm.	D	11/21/79 - 09/27/87 1879 Use	B E

LEAVITT CANCELLATION SUMMARY

GROUP B ELLIPTICAL 8 BAR CANCELLER *cont'd*

TYPE B WASHINGTON / D.C.

<u>DIAL DIA.</u>	<u>OVAL CANCELLER</u>	<u>DIMENSION</u>	<u>SERVICE LETTER</u>	<u>KNOWN USAGE</u>	<u>VALUE GUIDE</u>
25.0 mm.	8 Bars	24.5 x 19.5 mm.	C / D	11/18/79 - 03/24/82 Bluish Ink 1879 Year Date Bar Deliberate Invert 1880	E E F G

GROUP C HORIZONTAL BARS

TYPE C-1 BOSTON / MASS.

<u>DIAL DIE - DIA.</u>	<u>BAR CANCELLER</u>	<u>PAIR</u>	<u>DIMENSION</u>	<u>KNOWN USAGE</u>	<u>VALUE GUIDE</u>
Cb 25.5 mm.	12 Horiz.	6	23.0 x 17.0 mm.	03/01/82 - 03/23/82	F

TYPE C-2 BOSTON / MASS.

<u>DIAL DIE - DIA.</u>	<u>BAR CANCELLER</u>	<u>PAIR</u>	<u>DIMENSION</u>	<u>KNOWN USAGE</u>	<u>VALUE GUIDE</u>
Cc 26.5 mm.	12 Horiz.	6	23.0 x 17.0 mm.	03/30/82 - 04/15/82 05/31/82 - 01/24/84 04/25/84 - 01/26/85	C A C

TYPE C-3 BOSTON / MASS.

<u>DIAL DIE - DIA.</u>	<u>BAR CANCELLER</u>	<u>PAIR</u>	<u>DIMENSION</u>	<u>KNOWN USAGE</u>	<u>VALUE GUIDE</u>
D 25.0 mm.	12 Horiz.	6	23.0 x 17.0 mm.	11/04/85 - 07/19/86	C

TYPE C BALTIMORE / MD.

<u>DIAL DIA.</u>	<u>BAR CANCELLER</u>	<u>PAIR</u>	<u>DIMENSION</u>	<u>KNOWN USAGE</u>	<u>VALUE GUIDE</u>
26.0 mm.	12 Horiz.	6	24.0 x 17.0 mm.	05/12/82 - 04/30/87 Two Digit Year 86 One Digit Year 7	A F G

LEAVITT CANCELLATION SUMMARY

GROUP C HORIZONTAL BARS *cont'd*

TYPE C WASHINGTON / D.C.

<u>DIAL DIA.</u>	<u>BAR CANCELLER</u>	<u>PAIR</u>	<u>DIMENSION</u>	<u>KNOWN USAGE</u>	<u>VALUE GUIDE</u>
24.5 mm.	14 Horiz.	6	23.0 x 21.0 mm.	03/31/82 - 04/02/91	A
		6 Pair - Bar		Time First Line	D
		Top and Bottom		Year Date Slug	D

GROUP CT HORIZONTAL BARS

TYPE CT WASHINGTON / D.C.

<u>DIAL DIA.</u>	<u>BAR CANCELLER</u>	<u>PAIR</u>	<u>DIMENSION</u>	<u>KNOWN USAGE</u>	<u>VALUE GUIDE</u>
24.0 mm.	6 Horiz.	No	24.5 x 16.0 mm.	11/16/85 - 01/18/86	E

TYPE CT INDIANAPOLIS / IND.

<u>DIAL DIA.</u>	<u>BAR CANCELLER</u>	<u>PAIR</u>	<u>DIMENSION</u>	<u>KNOWN USAGE</u>	<u>VALUE GUIDE</u>
25.0 mm.	6 Horiz.	No	24.5 x 16.0 mm.	02/25/86 - 04/20/86	J

GROUP D HORIZONTAL BARS

TYPE D-1 BOSTON / MASS.

<u>DIAL DIE - DIA.</u>	<u>BAR CANCELLER</u>	<u>PAIR</u>	<u>DIMENSION</u>	<u>KNOWN USAGE</u>	<u>VALUE GUIDE</u>
D 25.0 mm.	18 Horiz.	No	25.0 x 22.0 mm.	02/25/82 - 06/10/82	D
			2/3 Prints	06/15/82 - 06/20/82	E
			Full Print	06/20/82 - - - --	F
			Second Period	01/28/84 - 04/19/84	D
			Third Period	07/21/84 - 10/09/84	D

LEAVITT CANCELLATION SUMMARY

GROUP D HORIZONTAL BARS *cont'd*

TYPE D-2 BOSTON / MASS.

<u>DIAL</u> <u>DIE - DIA.</u>	<u>BAR</u> <u>CANCELLER</u>	<u>PAIR</u>	<u>DIMENSION</u>	<u>KNOWN USAGE</u>	<u>VALUE</u> <u>GUIDE</u>
D 25.0 mm.	19 Horiz.	No	27.0 x 23.0 mm.	01/27/85 - 08/09/85	D

GROUP E ELLIPTICAL 8 BAR CANCELLER

TYPE E BOSTON / MASS.

<u>DIAL</u> <u>DIE - DIA.</u>	<u>OVAL</u> <u>CANCELLER</u>	<u>DIMENSION</u>	<u>SERVICE</u> <u>LETTER</u>	<u>KNOWN USAGE</u>	<u>VALUE</u> <u>GUIDE</u>
E 26.0 mm.	8 Bars	24.5 x 19.0 mm.	D	08/17/86 - 07/08/90	A

GROUP X EXPERIMENTAL CANCELS

SUB-GROUP 1

TYPE X1A BOSTON / MASS.

<u>DIAL</u> <u>DIA.</u>	<u>10 BAR</u> <u>OVAL</u> <u>CANCELLER</u>	<u>SERVICE</u> <u>LETTER</u>	<u>NUMBER OF</u> <u>HORIZONTAL</u> <u>BARs - WIDTH</u>	<u>KNOWN USAGE</u>	<u>VALUE</u> <u>GUIDE</u>
A 24.0	24.5 x 20.0	C	8+8 7 mm.	Jan 1881 - - -	L

TYPE X1A NEW YORK / N.Y. DIE I

<u>DIAL</u> <u>DIA.</u>	<u>10 BAR</u> <u>OVAL</u> <u>CANCELLER</u>	<u>SERVICE</u> <u>LETTER</u>	<u>NUMBER OF</u> <u>HORIZONTAL</u> <u>BARs - WIDTH</u>	<u>KNOWN USAGE</u>	<u>VALUE</u> <u>GUIDE</u>
A 24.5	25.0 x 20.0	C	8 - 10 mm.	02/01/81 - 02/02/81	K

LEAVITT CANCELLATION SUMMARY

GROUP X EXPERIMENTAL CANCELS

SUB-GROUP 1 *cont.*

TYPE X1A WASHINGTON / D.C. DIE I

<u>DIAL</u>	<u>DIA.</u>	<u>10 BAR OVAL CANCELLER</u>	<u>SERVICE LETTER</u>	<u>NUMBER OF HORIZONTAL BARS - WIDTH</u>	<u>KNOWN USAGE</u>	<u>VALUE GUIDE</u>
A	25.0	24.5 x 20.0	C	8 - 10 mm.	02/08/81 - 04/02/81 Penalty or Postal Card	H J

SUB-GROUP 1A

TYPE X-D BOSTON / MASS.

<u>DIAL</u>	<u>DIA.</u>	<u>10 BAR OVAL CANCELLER</u>	<u>SERVICE LETTER</u>	<u>NUMBER OF HORIZONTAL BARS - WIDTH</u>	<u>KNOWN USAGE</u>	<u>VALUE GUIDE</u>
D	25.0	24.5 x 18.5	Inv.C	(None)	(3rd Class 1882)	K

SUB-GROUP 2

TYPE X1B BOSTON / MASS. DIE I

<u>DIAL</u>	<u>DIA.</u>	<u>10 BAR OVAL CANCELLER</u>	<u>SERVICE LETTER</u>	<u>NUMBER OF HORIZONTAL BARS - WIDTH</u>	<u>KNOWN USAGE</u>	<u>VALUE GUIDE</u>
B	24.0	24.0 x 19.5	D	8 - 10 mm.	09/30/81 - 12/20/81 Year Date Bar	G H

TYPE X1B BOSTON / MASS. DIE II

<u>DIAL</u>	<u>DIA.</u>	<u>10 BAR OVAL CANCELLER</u>	<u>SERVICE LETTER</u>	<u>NUMBER OF HORIZONTAL BARS - WIDTH</u>	<u>KNOWN USAGE</u>	<u>VALUE GUIDE</u>
B	24.0	24.0 x 19.0	C	8 - 10 mm.	12/14/81 - 12/14/81	K

LEAVITT CANCELLATION SUMMARY

GROUP X EXPERIMENTAL CANCELS

SUB-GROUP 2 *cont.*

TYPE X2B BOSTON / MASS.

<u>DIAL</u>	<u>DIA.</u>	<u>CANCELLER BARS</u>	<u>DIMENSION</u>	<u>PAIRED BARS</u>	<u>CHANNEL</u>	<u>CUTS</u>	<u>KNOWN USAGE</u>	<u>VALUE GUIDE</u>
B	24.0	17	41 x 25.5	No	(No)	7	12/20/81 - 04/19/82 Year Date Bar	G H

TYPE X1B NEW YORK / N.Y. DIE II

<u>DIAL</u>	<u>DIA.</u>	<u>10 BAR OVAL CANCELLER</u>	<u>SERVICE LETTER</u>	<u>NUMBER OF HORIZONTAL BARS - WIDTH</u>	<u>KNOWN USAGE</u>	<u>VALUE GUIDE</u>
B	24.0	24.0 x 20.0	C	8 - 7 mm.	10/14/81 - 10/19/81	K

TYPE X1A WASHINGTON / D.C. DIE II

<u>DIAL</u>	<u>DIA.</u>	<u>10 BAR OVAL CANCELLER</u>	<u>SERVICE LETTER</u>	<u>NUMBER OF HORIZONTAL BARS - WIDTH</u>	<u>KNOWN USAGE</u>	<u>VALUE GUIDE</u>
A	25.0	24.0 x 19.5	C	8 - 7 mm.	10/29/81 - 11/18/81 Postal Card	J K

SUB-GROUP 3

TYPE X1A PHILADELPHIA / PA DIE I

<u>DIAL</u>	<u>DIA.</u>	<u>BAR CANCELLER</u>	<u>LEFT SIDE</u>	<u>CANCELLER DIMENSION</u>	<u>KNOWN USAGE</u>	<u>VALUE GUIDE</u>
A	24.5	10 Horiz.	Convex	49.0 x 24.0	12/02/81 - 12/03/81	K
(No Dial)		10 Horiz.	Convex	49.0 x 24.0	(3rd Class 1881)	J

LEAVITT CANCELLATION SUMMARY

GROUP X EXPERIMENTAL CANCELS

SUB-GROUP 3 *cont.*

TYPE X-1B PHILADELPHIA / PA. DIE II

<u>DIAL</u>	<u>DIA.</u>	<u>BAR CANCELLER</u>	<u>LEFT SIDE</u>	<u>CANCELLER DIMENSION</u>	<u>KNOWN USAGE</u>	<u>VALUE GUIDE</u>
B	25.5	10 Horiz.	Convex	49.0 x 24.0	12/10/81 - 01/11/82 1882 Use	J K

TYPE X1A BALTIMORE / MD.

<u>DIAL</u>	<u>DIA.</u>	<u>10 BAR OVAL CANCELLER</u>	<u>SERVICE LETTER</u>	<u>NUMBER OF HORIZONTAL BARS - WIDTH</u>	<u>KNOWN USAGE</u>	<u>VALUE GUIDE</u>
A	24.5	24.5 x 19.5	D	8 - 10 mm.	12/07/81 - 01/06/82 Postal Card	K K

SUB-GROUP 4

TYPE X1A WASHINGTON / D.C. DIE III

<u>DIAL</u>	<u>DIA.</u>	<u>10 BAR OVAL CANCELLER</u>	<u>SERVICE LETTER</u>	<u>NUMBER OF HORIZONTAL BARS - WIDTH</u>	<u>KNOWN USAGE</u>	<u>VALUE GUIDE</u>
A	25.0	24.0 x 21.0	C	8 - 10 mm.	11/27/81 - 10/30/82 1881 Use 1882 Use Transit Marking 1882 Deliberate Invert 1882	J E H F

TYPE X3A BOSTON / MASS. DIE I

<u>DIAL</u>	<u>DIA.</u>	<u>CANCELLER BARS</u>	<u>CANCELLER DIMENSION</u>	<u>PAIRED BARS</u>	<u>CHANNEL</u>	<u>CUTS</u>	<u>KNOWN USAGE</u>	<u>VALUE GUIDE</u>
A	24.0	17	42.0 x 25.0	Yes	6.0 mm.	No	09/01/82 - 09/04/82 3rd Class -(09/28/82)	J H

LEAVITT CANCELLATION SUMMARY

GROUP X EXPERIMENTAL CANCELS

SUB-GROUP 4 *cont.*

TYPE X3B BOSTON / MASS. DIE II

<u>DIAL</u>	<u>DIA.</u>	<u>CANCELLER</u> <u>BARS</u>	<u>DIMENSION</u>	<u>PAIRED</u> <u>BARS</u>	<u>CHANNEL</u>	<u>CUTS</u>	<u>KNOWN USAGE</u>	<u>VALUE</u> <u>GUIDE</u>
B	24.0	17	42.0 x 25.0	Yes	6.0 mm.	No	11/01/82 - 11/03/82	J

TYPE X3-2B BOSTON / MASS. DIE I - DIE II

<u>DIE</u>	<u>DIAL</u>	<u>DIA.</u>	<u>CANCELLER</u> <u>BARS</u>	<u>DIMENSION</u>	<u>PAIRED</u> <u>BARS</u>	<u>CHANNEL</u>	<u>CUTS</u>	<u>KNOWN USAGE</u>	<u>VALUE</u> <u>GUIDE</u>
I	B	24 mm.	17	40 x 25.5	Yes	5.0 mm.	1.25	09/09/82 - 3rd Class 82	J
II	B	24 mm.	16	41 x 24.5	Yes	9.0 mm.	1.50	10/02/82 - 12/30/82	H

TYPE X4B BOSTON / MASS.

<u>DIAL</u>	<u>DIA.</u>	<u>CANCELLER</u> <u>BARS</u>	<u>DIMENSION</u>	<u>BAR</u> <u>WIDTH</u>	<u>CHANNEL</u>	<u>CUTS</u>	<u>KNOWN USAGE</u>	<u>VALUE</u> <u>GUIDE</u>
B	24.0	10	45 x 23.5	16 & 20	9.0 mm.	None	3rd Class 1882	L

TYPE XTA BOSTON / TRANSIT / MASS.

<u>DIAL</u>	<u>DIA.</u>	<u>DIE</u>	<u>TRANSIT</u>	<u>CANCELLER</u>	<u>KNOWN USAGE</u>	<u>GUIDE</u>
A	24.0	a	First Line	None	11/10/82 - 11/13/82	G
A	24.0	b	Third Line	None	11/14/82 - 12/29/82	E

(Dies reversed from 1985 catalog !)

VALUE GUIDE

A = Extremely Common	\$ 3.00 - \$ 5.00
B = Very Common	10.00 - 15.00
C = Common	20.00 25.00
D = Uncommon	30.00 - 40.00
E = Scarce	50.00 - 75.00
F = Very Scarce	90.00 - 125.00
G = Extremely Scarce	150.00 - 250.00
H = Rare	300.00 - 500.00
J = Very Rare	600.00 - 800.00
K = Extremely Rare	1000.00 - 1500.00
L = Unique or 2 known	Unpriced

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CHAPTER VII

ADDED VALUE OF LEAVITT CANCELLATION VARIANTS

CANCELLATION VARIANTS

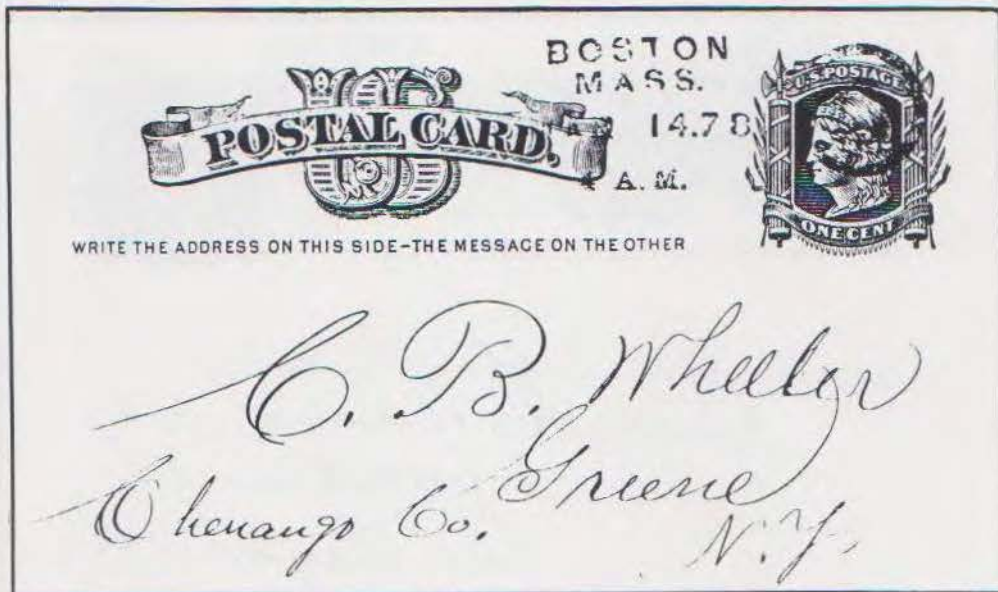
VALUE ADDED

INDICIA VARIANTS

PREMIUM

TIME INDICIA	\$ 5.00	Half-hour A.M.
	5.00	Half-hour P.M.
	25.00	Inverted time
	5.00	Missing time
	None	Time size (Type AB-NY)
	See Summary;	Date line error - page 296
	10.00	European style date
	15.00	Unusual times
DAY INDICIA	20.00	Day inverted
	10.00	Day seriffed or missing
MONTH INDICIA	15.00	Month inverted
	20.00	Month error or missing
YEAR DATE	20.00	Year missing
	20.00	Year date inverted
INDICIA	20.00	No indicia or month only
BARS	10.00	Spacer bar
	See Summary;	Year date bar - page 307
DIALS	See Summary;	Dial only (Buffalo) - page 308
CANCELS	20.00	Two or more cancels
	None	Partial cancel
FACING ERRORS	5.00	Inverted and one normal
	5.00	Inverted - one cancel
	10.00	Inverted and reversed
SERVICE LETTERS	None	Twisted or inverted
	25.00	Service letter missing
CANCELLATIONS	See Summary;	Inverted - deliberate - page 316
	See Summary;	Colored ink - page 317
	None	Inked offsets
	25.00	Penalty cards
	50.00	Overseas use

TIME VARIANTS
A.M.



TYPE A-3

March 14, 1878
Very early time - "4 A.M."

BOSTON, MASS.

Premium - none



TYPE B-TOL

August 16, 1883
Time of "10 AM"

TOLEDO, O.

Premium - none

TIME VARIANTS
A.M.



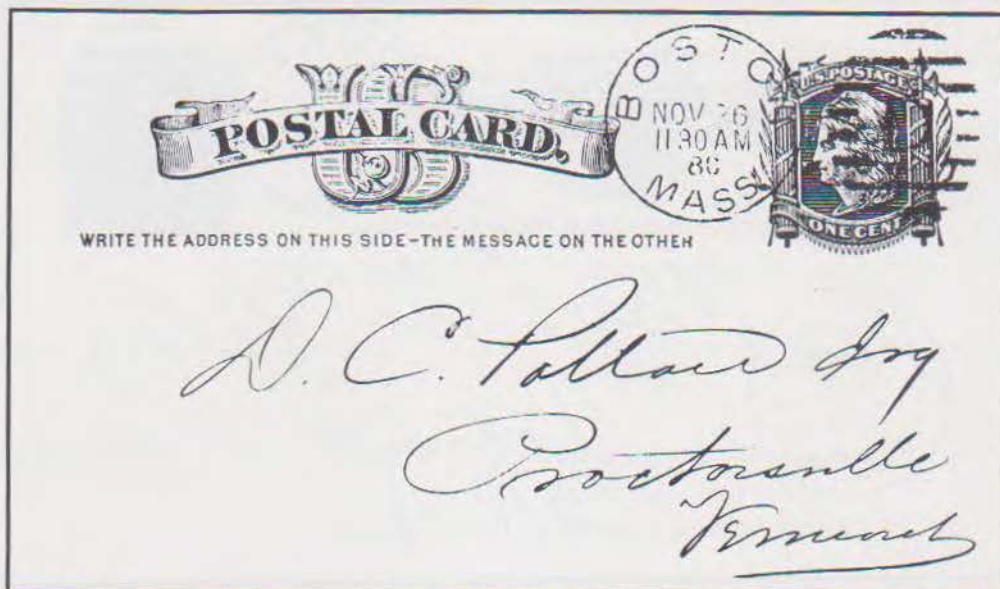
TYPE B-TOL

November 11, 1885

TOLEDO, O.

An unusual time - "9 50 A M"

Premium - 15.00



TYPE B-2

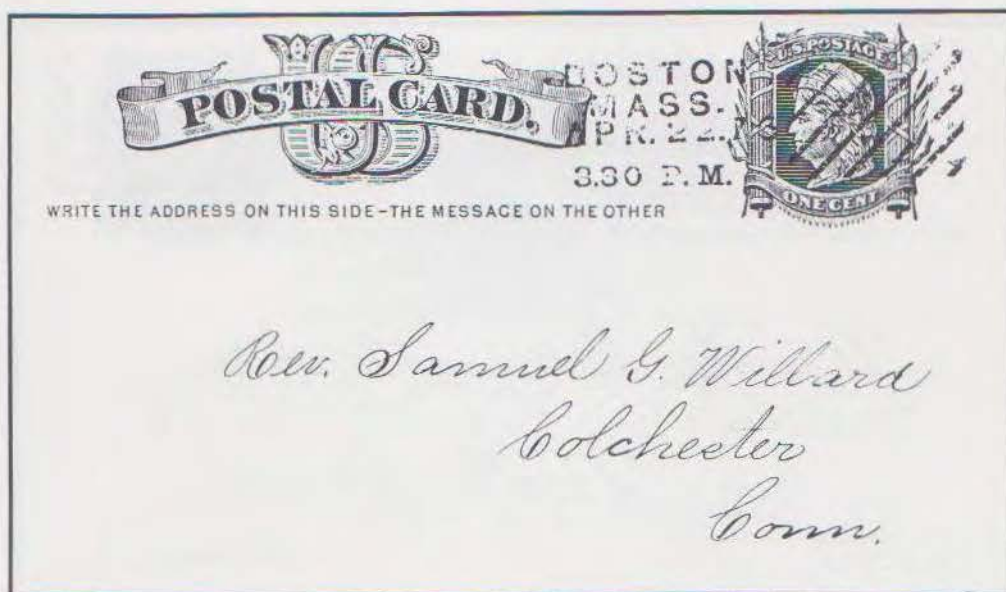
November 26, 1880

BOSTON, MASS.

Time of "11 30 AM"

Premium - 5.00

TIME VARIANTS
P.M.



TYPE A-2

April 22, 1876
Half-hour time - "3.30 P.M."

BOSTON, MASS.

Premium - 5.00



TYPE C-WASH

February 24, 1891
Very late time - "11 PM"

WASHINGTON, D.C.

Premium - none

TIME VARIANTS
INVERTED



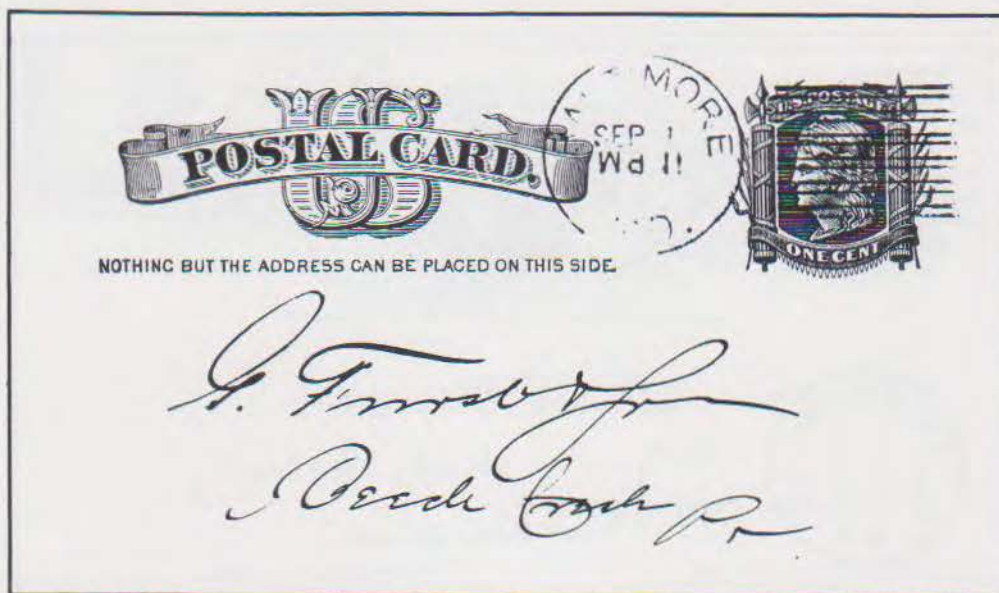
TYPE A-2

April 19, 1876

BOSTON, MASS.

Inverted time slug - "12 M"

Premium - 25.00



TYPE C-BALT

September 1 (1882)

BALTIMORE, MD.

Inverted time slug - "11 PM"

Premium - 25.00

TIME VARIANTS
MISSING



TYPE B-SF

June 27, 1888
Time is missing.

SAN FRANCISCO, CAL.

Premium - 5.00



TYPE B-IND DIE II

June (18, 1891)
Time, day and year missing (month only).

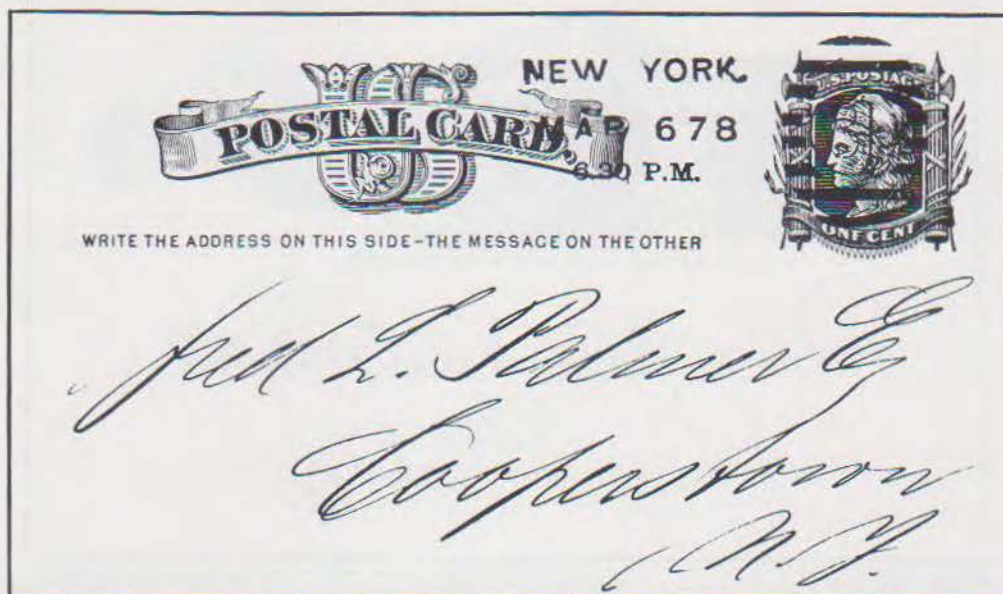
INDIANAPOLIS, IND.

Premium - 20.00

TIME VARIANTS
TIME SIZE

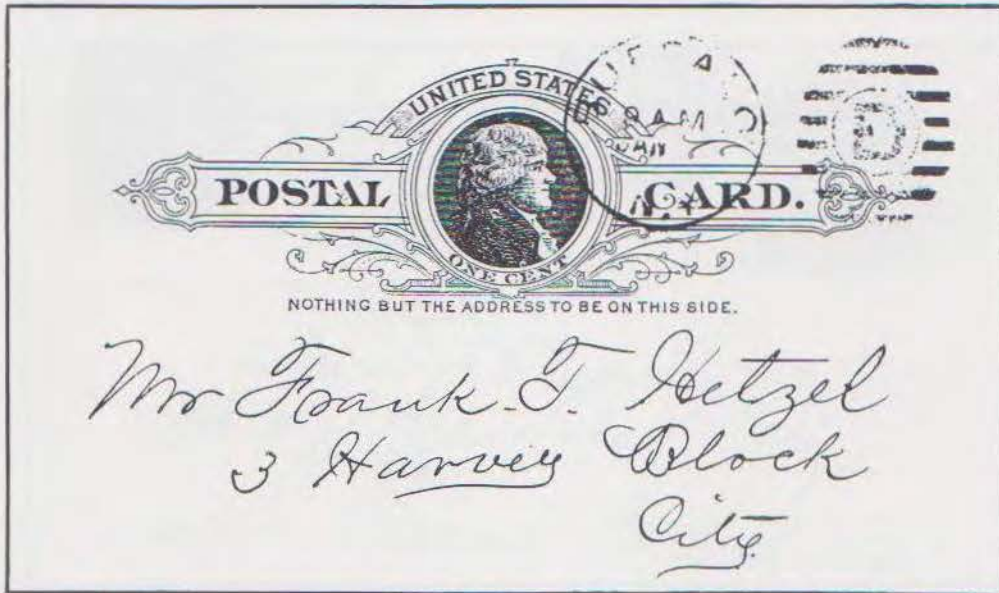


TYPE AB-NY DIE I March 1, 1878 NEW YORK (NY)
Large vs. small time size - Large "P.M."
Premium - none



TYPE AB-NY DIE II March 6, 1878 NEW YORK (NY)
Large vs. small time size - Smaller "P.M."
Premium - none

TIME VARIANTS
FIRST LINE



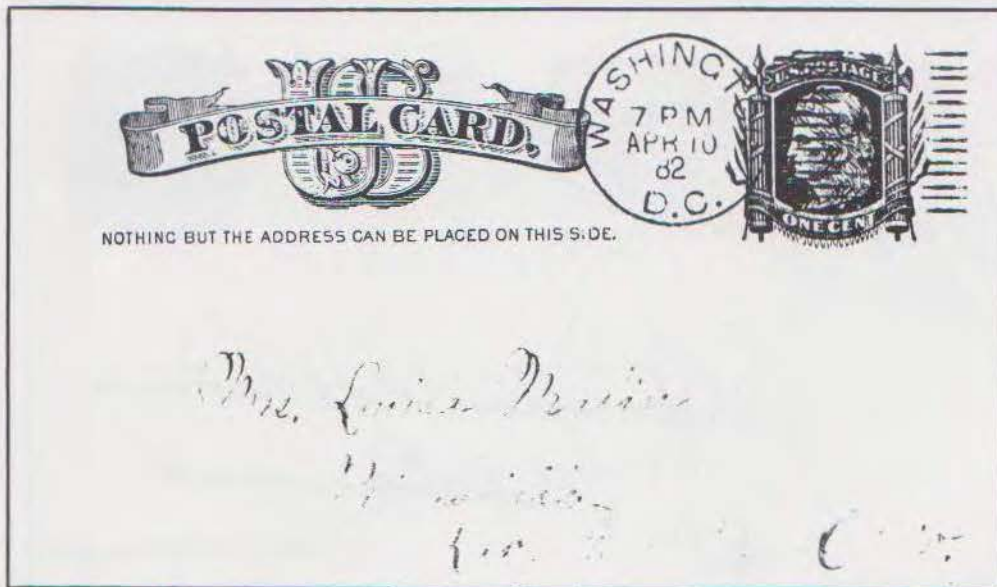
TYPE B-BUF

January (24, 1888)

BUFFALO, N.Y.

Time on first line - "9 AM" (day slug missing)

Premium - 20.00



TYPE C-WASH

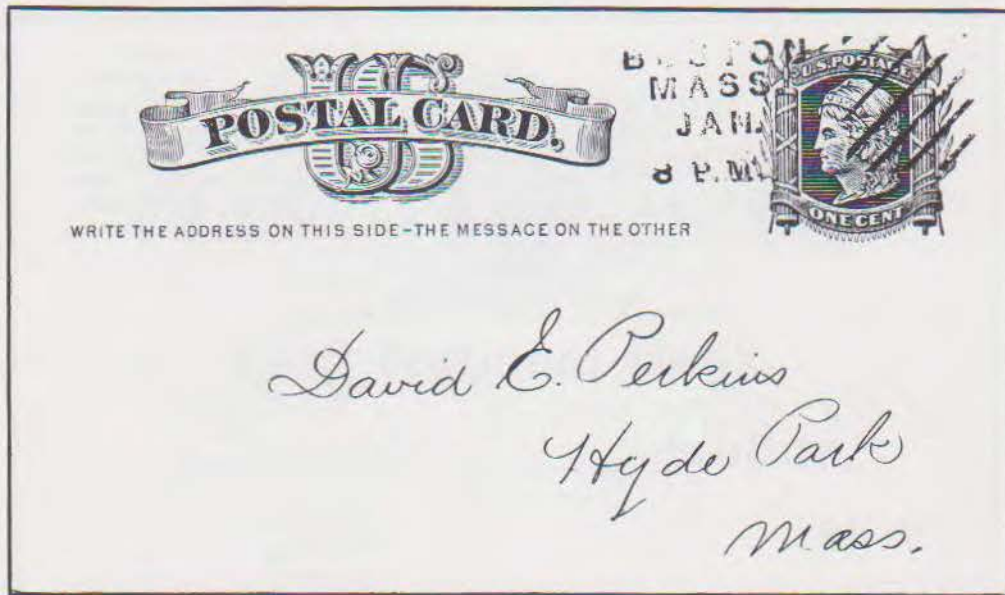
April 10, 1882

WASHINGTON, D.C.

Time on first line - "7 PM"

Premium - 20.00

TIME VARIANTS
DATE LINE ERRORS



TYPE A-2

January (20, 1877)

BOSTON, MASS.

Date line error - Day and year missing.

Premium - 75.00



TYPE A-2

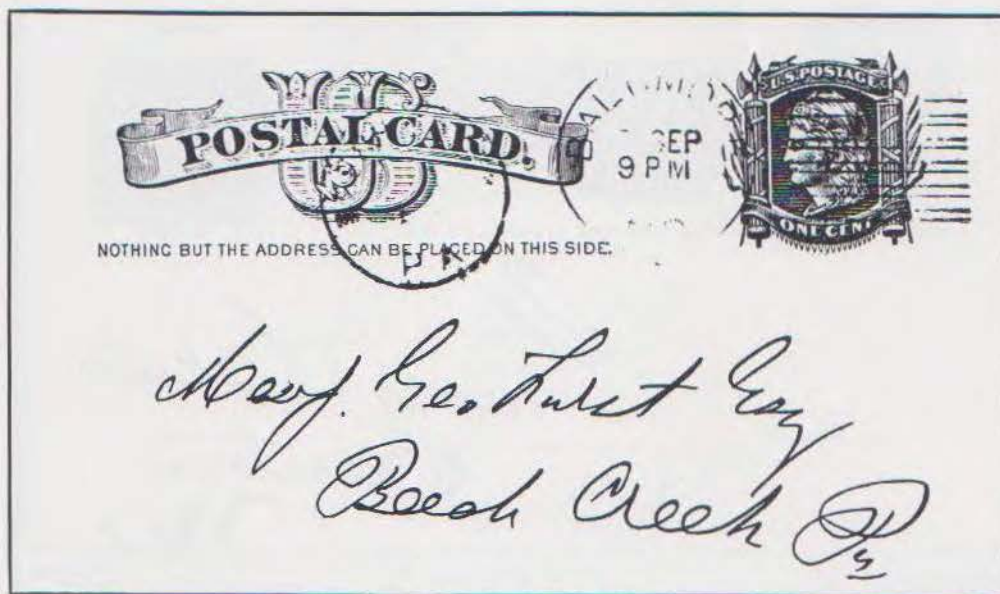
July -, 1877

BOSTON, MASS.

Date line error - Year date and month reversed with no day slug. Reverse shows no day.

Premium - 75.00

DATE VARIANTS
EUROPEAN

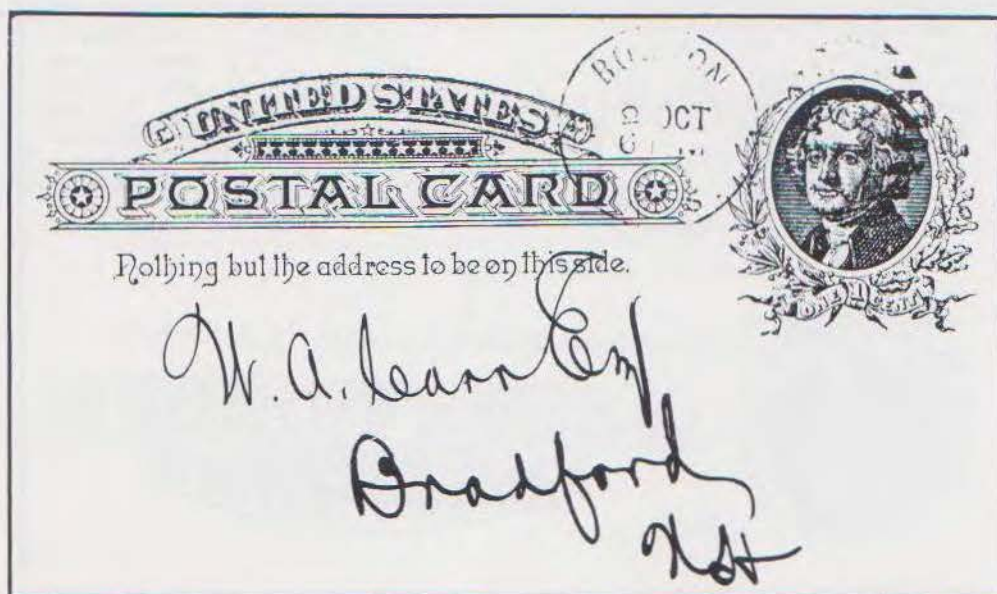


TYPE C-BALT

September 9 (1882)
European style date - "9 SEP"

BALTIMORE, MD.

Premium - 10.00



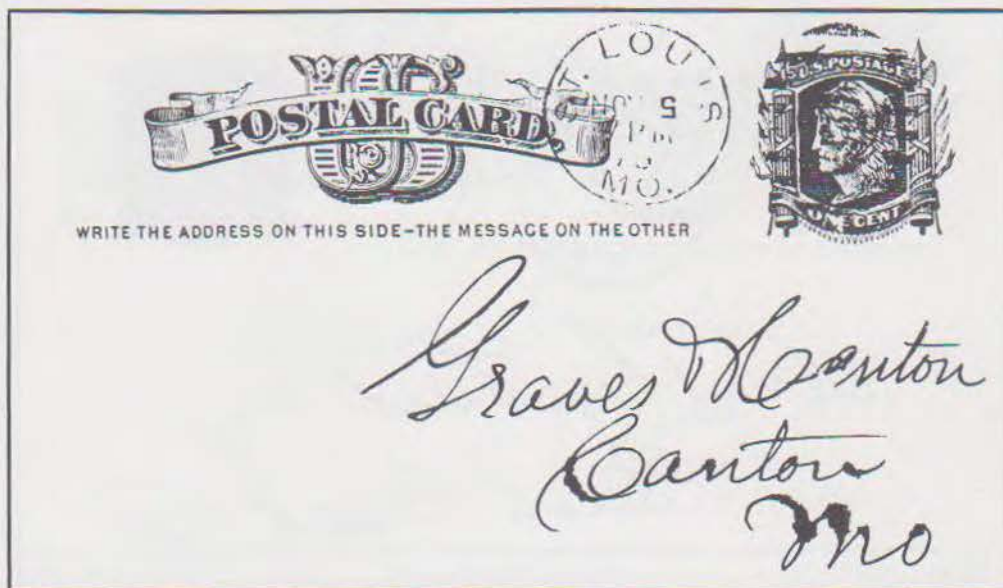
TYPE E

October 8 (1886)
European style date - "8 Oct"

BOSTON, MASS.

Premium - 10.00

DAY VARIANTS
INVERTED



TYPE B-St.L

November 5, 1879
Day slug inverted - "5"

ST. LOUIS, MO.

Premium - 20.00



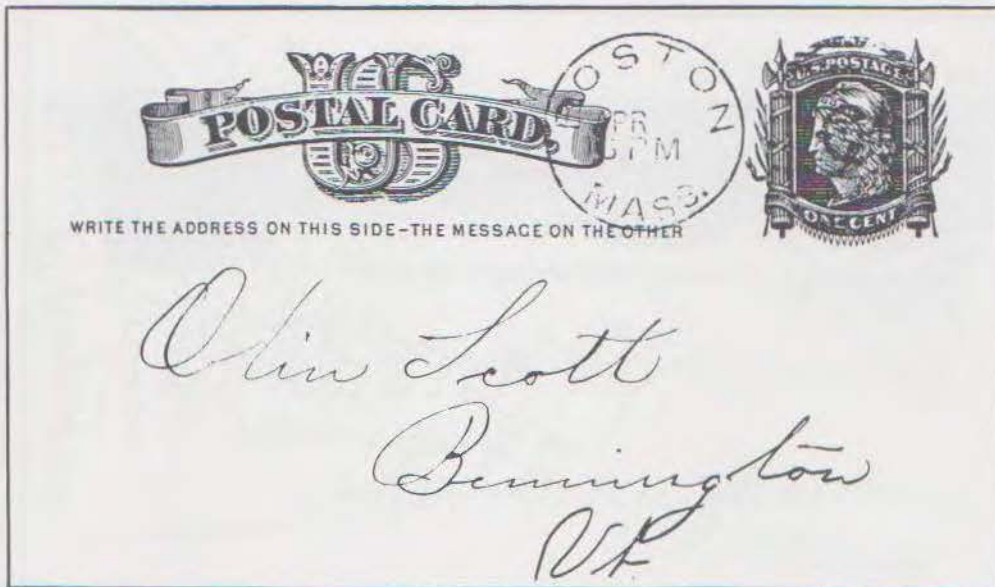
TYPE B-KC

June 21 (1886)
Day slug inverted - "21"

KANSAS CITY, MO.

Premium - 20.00

DAY VARIANTS
MISSING



TYPE B-3

April (20, 1881)
Day slug missing - (20)

BOSTON, MASS.

Premium - 10.00



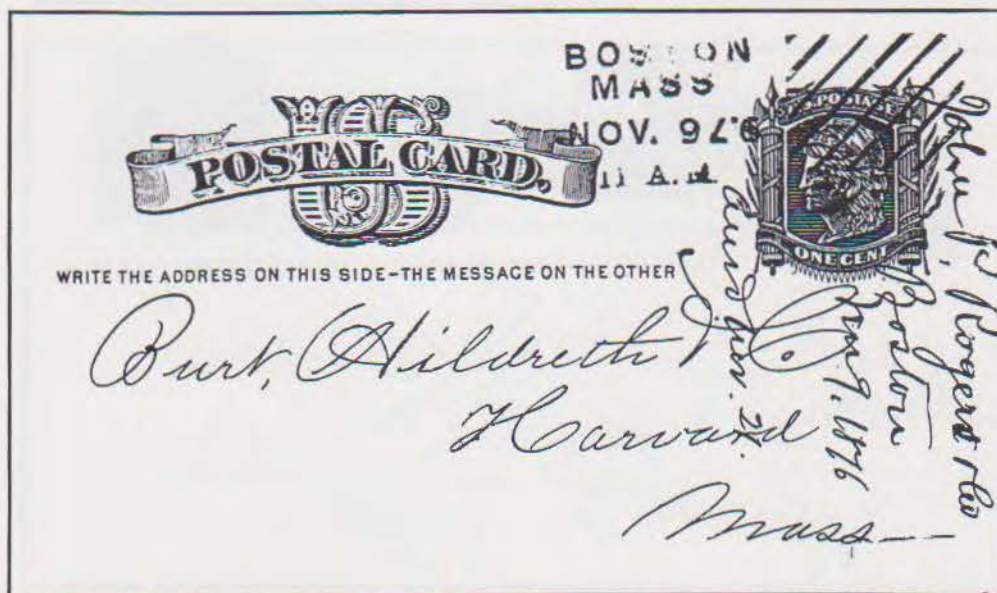
TYPE B-KC

January (5, 1883)
Day slug missing - (5)

courtesy of Robert Patkin
KANSAS CITY, MO.

Premium - 10.00

DAY VARIANTS
INVERTED/SERIFFED



TYPE A-2

November 9, 1876
Inverted day and year - "9, 76"

courtesy of Robert Patkin
BOSTON, MASS.

Premium - 75.00



TYPE B-St.L

April 11 (1883)
Seriffed day slug - "11"

ST. LOUIS, MO.

Premium - 10.00

MONTH VARIANTS
INVERTED

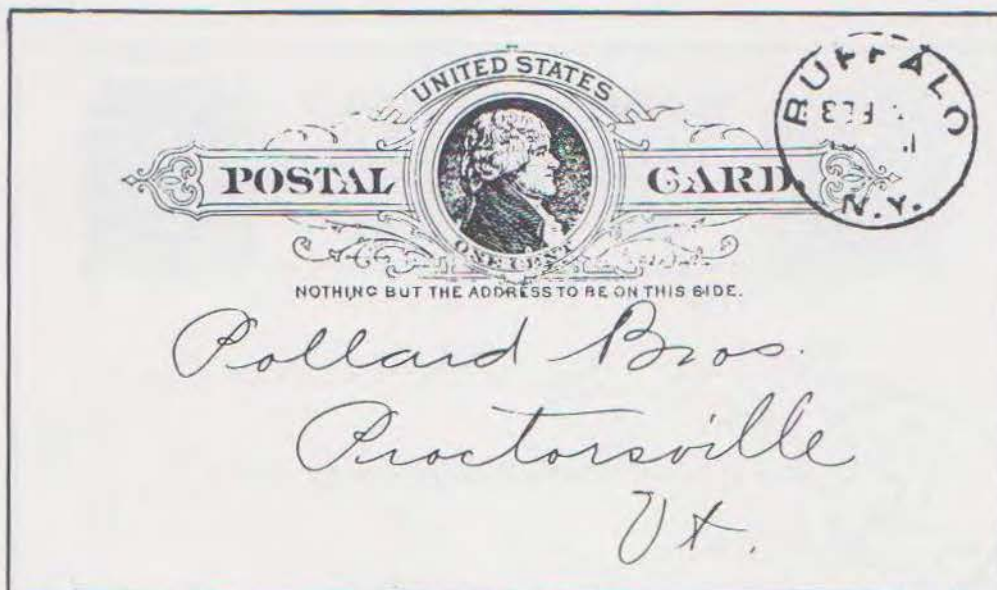


TYPE C-3

January 23 (1886)
Month inverted - "JAN"

BOSTON, MASS.

Premium - 15.00



TYPE B-BUF

February 5 (1892)
Month inverted - "FEB"

BUFFALO, N.Y.

Premium - 15.00

MONTH VARIANTS
WRONG/MISSING



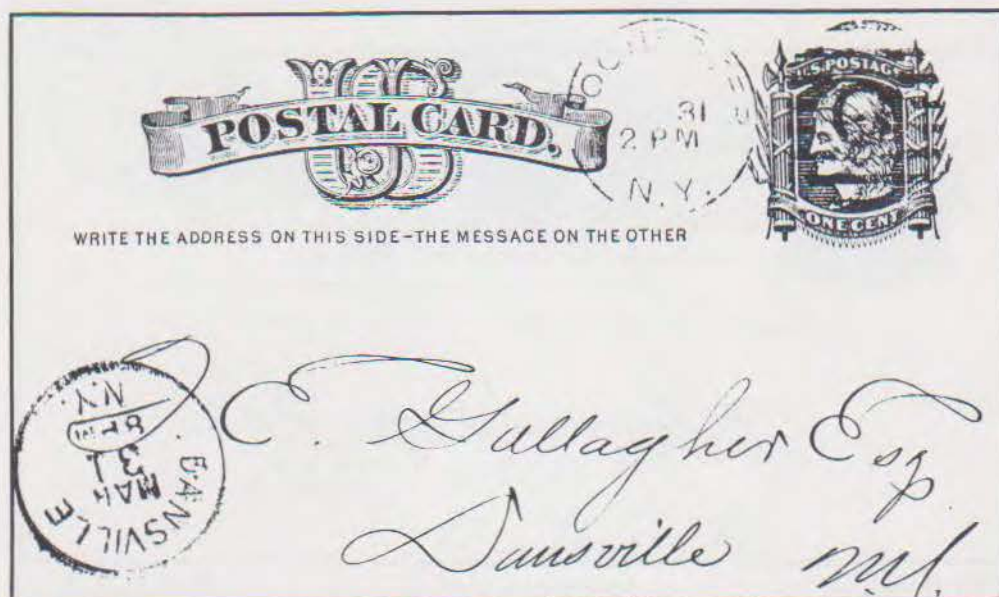
TYPE B-NY DIE I

January 1, 1878

NEW YORK (NY)

Wrong month - "JAN" (Error - actually June)

Premium - 20.00



TYPE B-ROCH

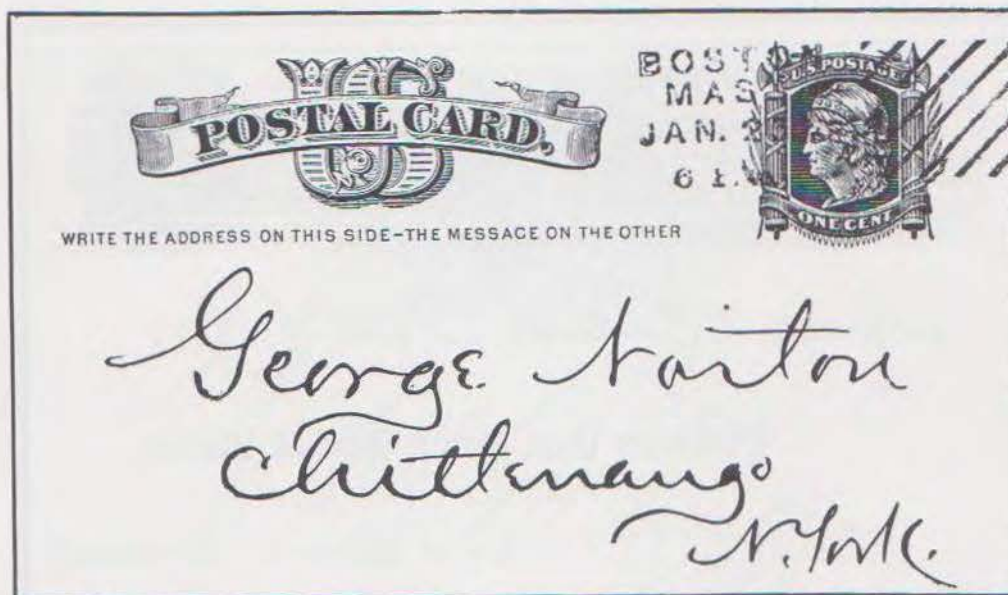
(March) 31 (1881)

ROCHESTER, N.Y.

Missing month - (March)

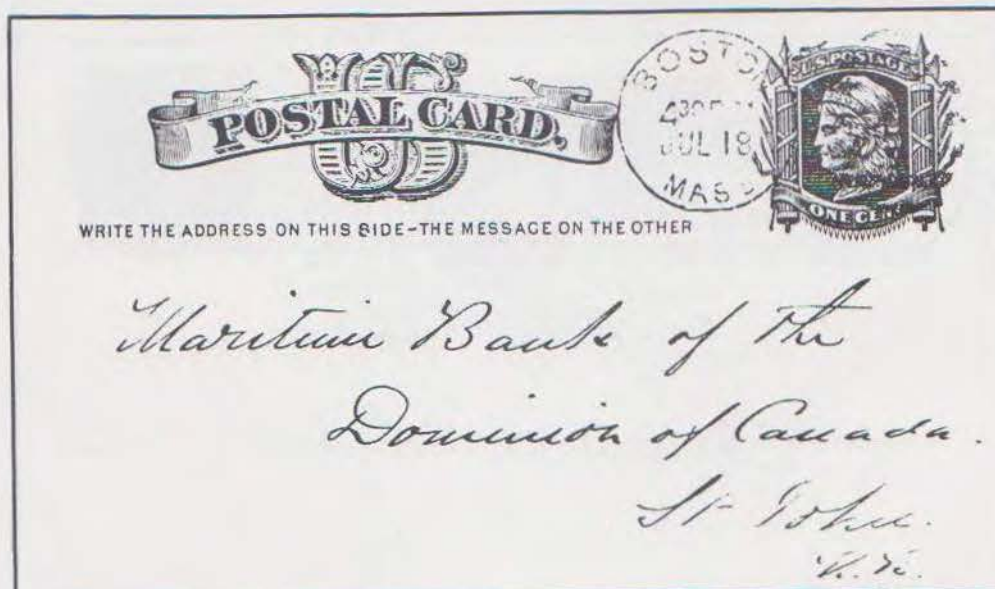
Premium - 20.00

YEAR VARIANTS
MISSING



TYPE A-2 January 25 (1877) BOSTON, MASS.
Missing year - (77) No year in January or early February 1877.

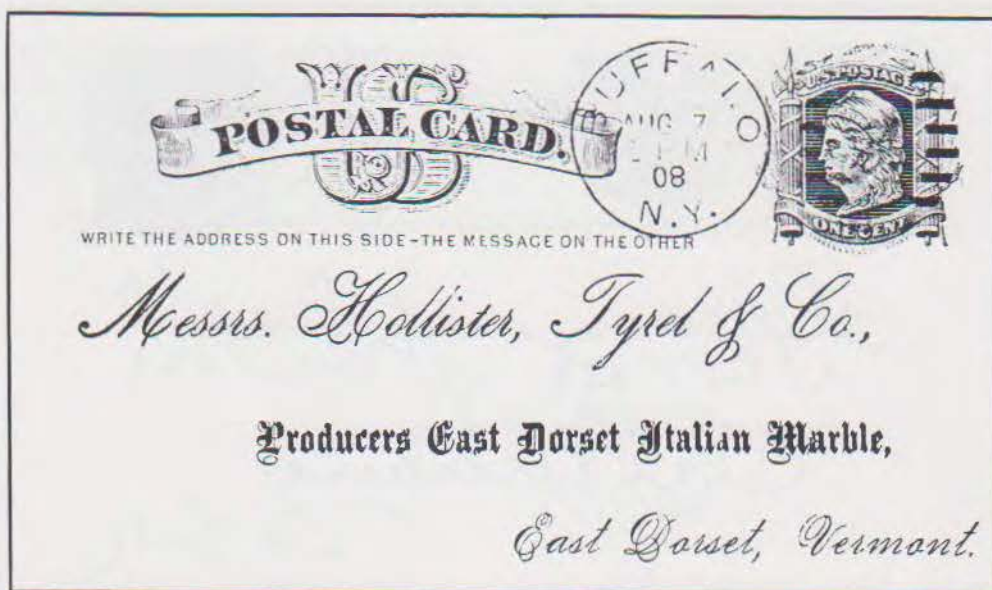
Premium - 20.00



TYPE B-1 July 18 (1878) BOSTON, MASS.
Missing year - (78) Some year dates do not print.

Premium - 20.00

YEAR VARIANTS
INVERTED

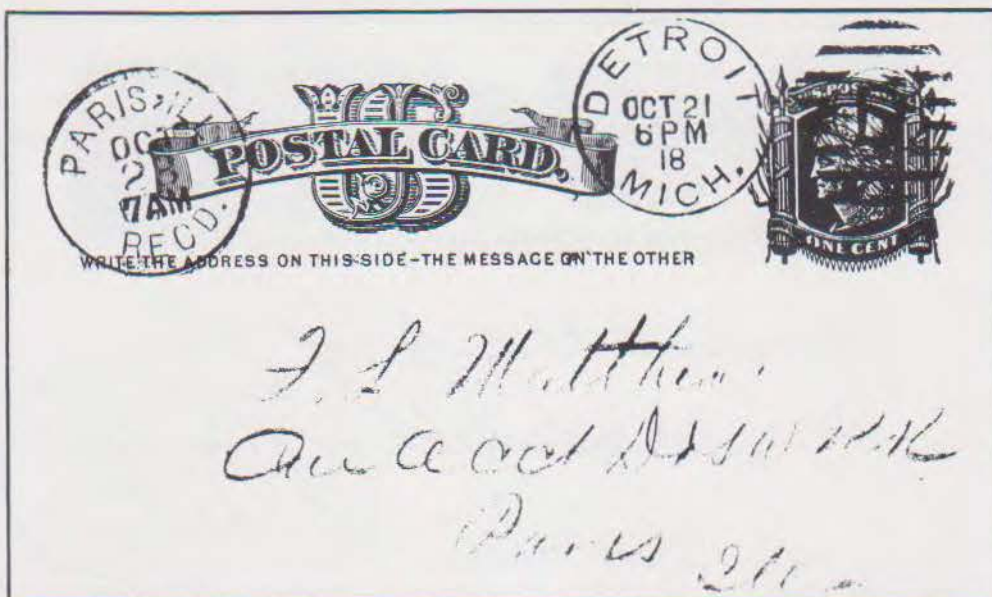


TYPE B-BUF

August 7, 1880
Inverted year date - "80"

BUFFALO, N.Y.

Premium - 20.00



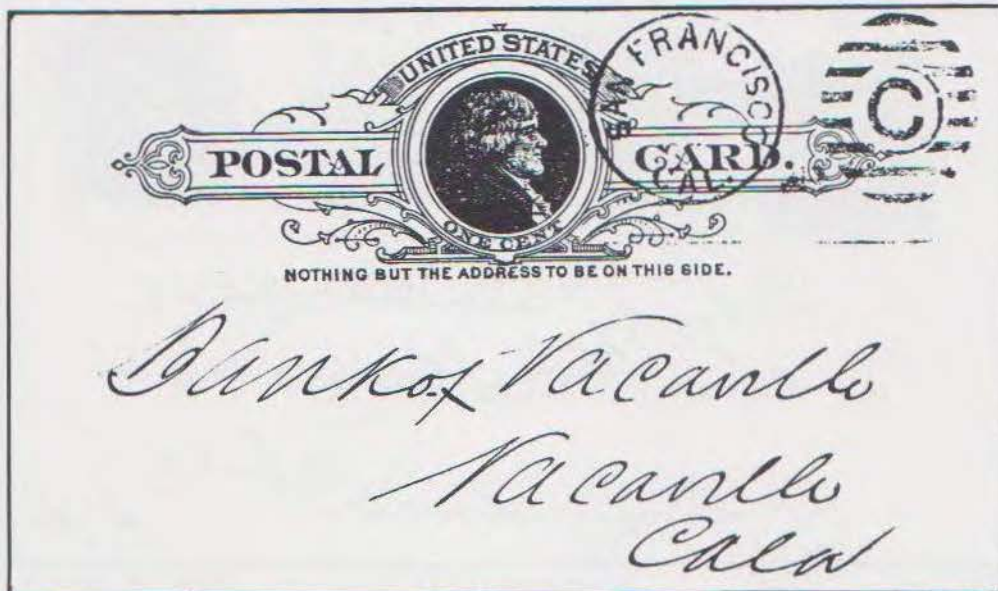
TYPE B-DET

October 21, 1881
Inverted year date - "81"

DETROIT, MICH.

Premium - 20.00

INDICIA VARIANTS
MISSING or PARTIAL



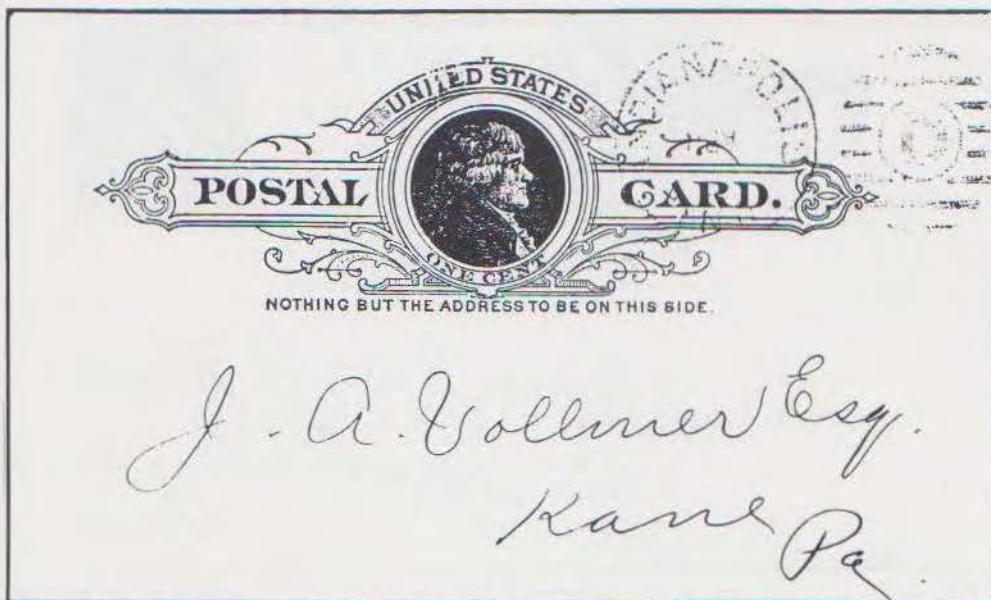
TYPE B-SF

(July 3, 1889)

SAN FRANCISCO, CAL.

Missing indicia - No month, day or time

Premium - 20.00



TYPE B-IND

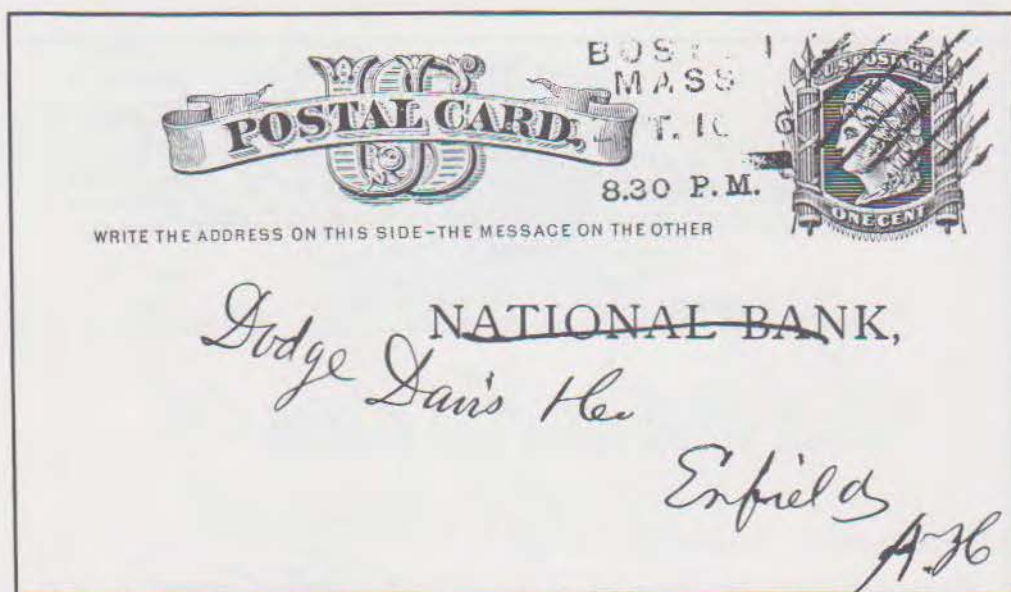
April (20, 1891)

INDIANAPOLIS, IND.

Partial indicia - Inverted month (APR) no day or time.

Premium - 25.00

VARIANTS
SPACER BARS



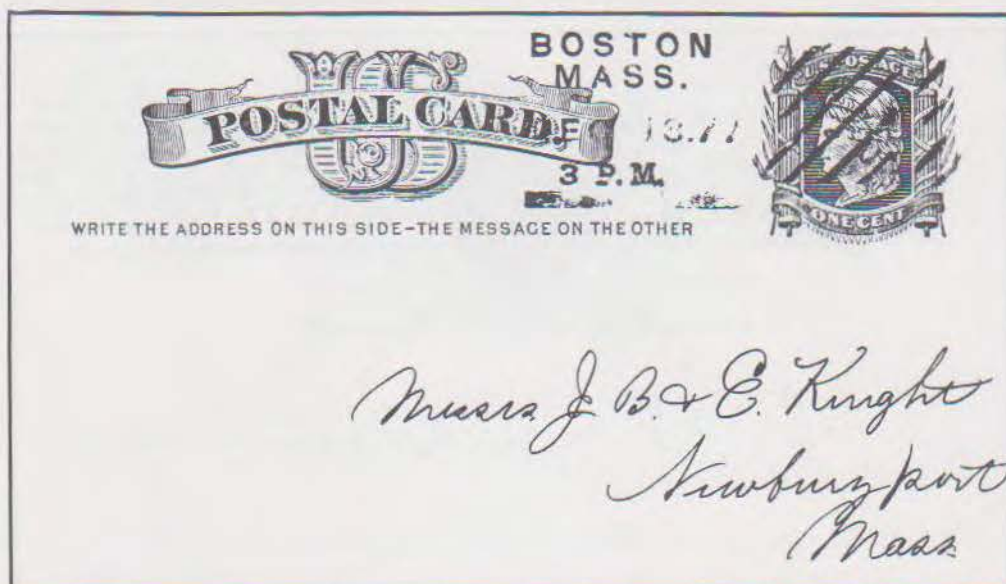
TYPE A-2

September 16, 1876

BOSTON, MASS.

Inked spacer bar - Bar between the date and time.

Premium - 10.00



TYPE A-2

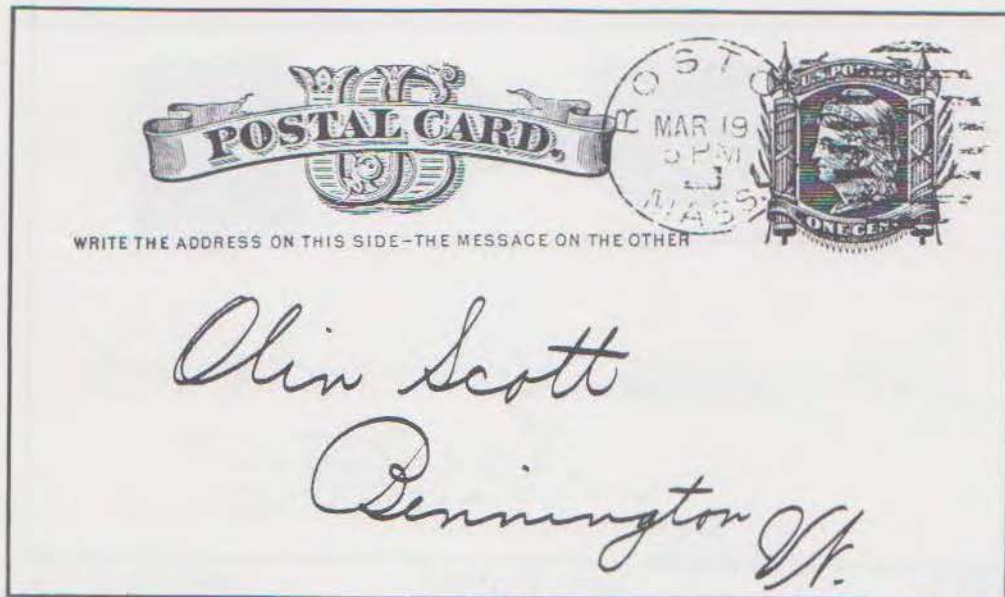
December 13, 1877

BOSTON, MASS.

Inked spacer bar - Bar seen under the time.

Premium - 10.00

VARIANTS
YEAR DATE BAR



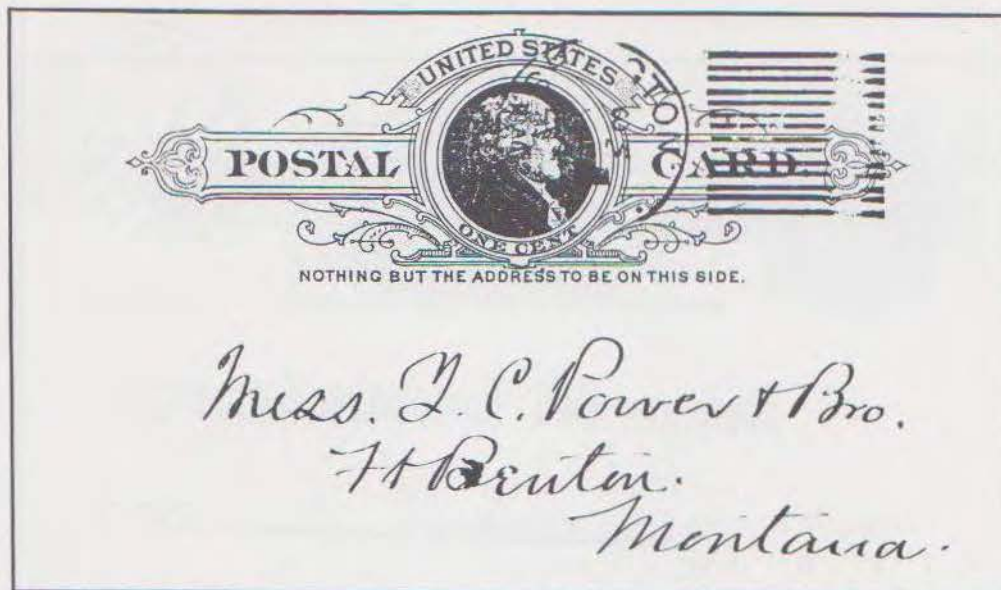
TYPE B-3

March 19 (1881)

BOSTON, MASS.

Year date bar - (80) year slug reversed to print a bar.

Premium - 40.00



TYPE C-WASH

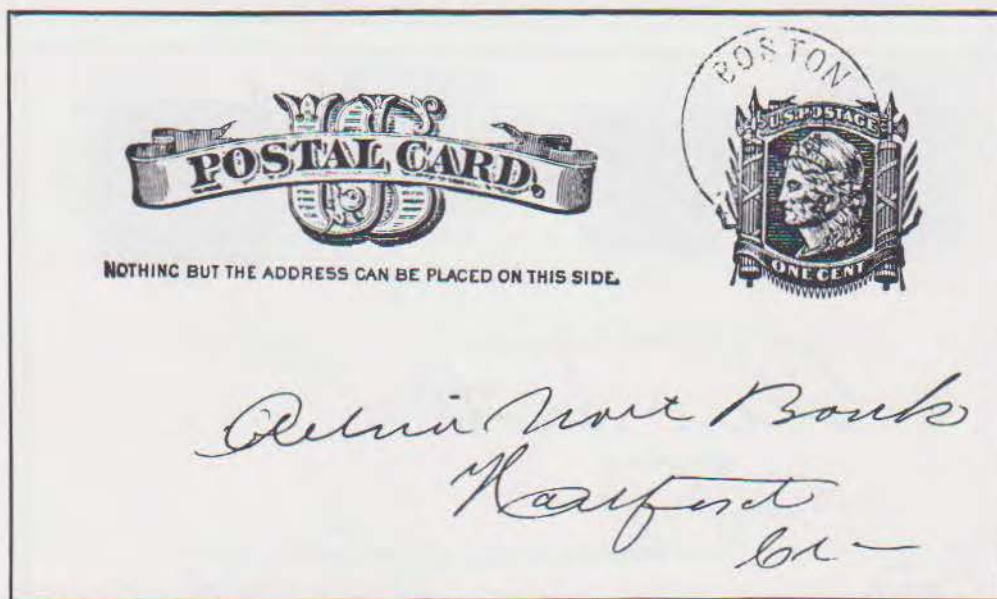
December 8 (1887)

WASHINGTON, D.C.

Year date bar - (87) year slug reversed to print a bar.

Premium - 40.00

VARIANTS
DIAL ONLY



TYPE E

March 21 (1887)

BOSTON, MASS.

Dial only - Probably two cards were cancelled together with the top card receiving the canceller portion.

Premium - none



TYPE B-BUF

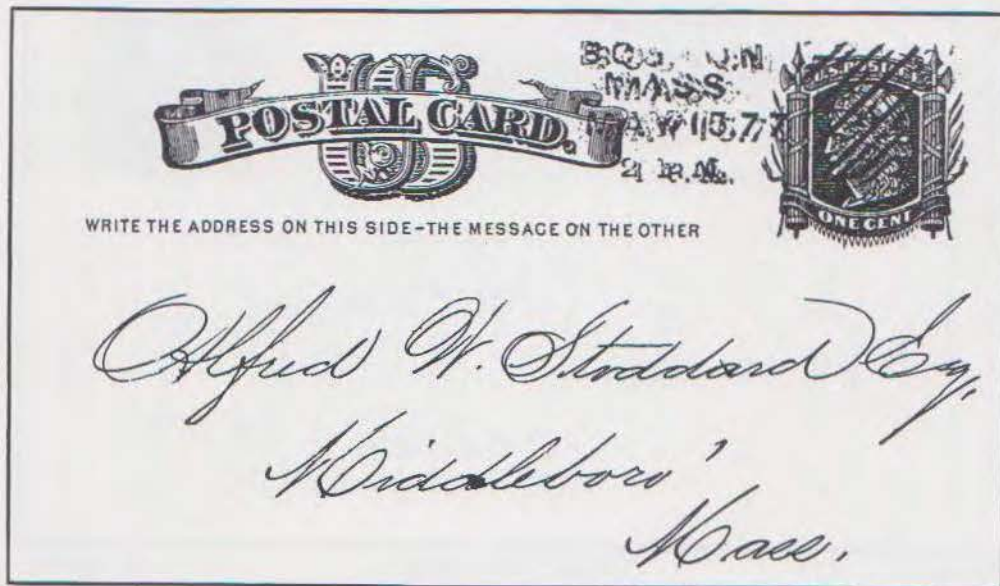
November 18 (1891)

BUFFALO, N.Y.

Dial only - Intentional canceller removal. (Buffalo only)

Premium - 40.00

CANCEL VARIANTS
TWO IMPRESSIONS



TYPE A-2

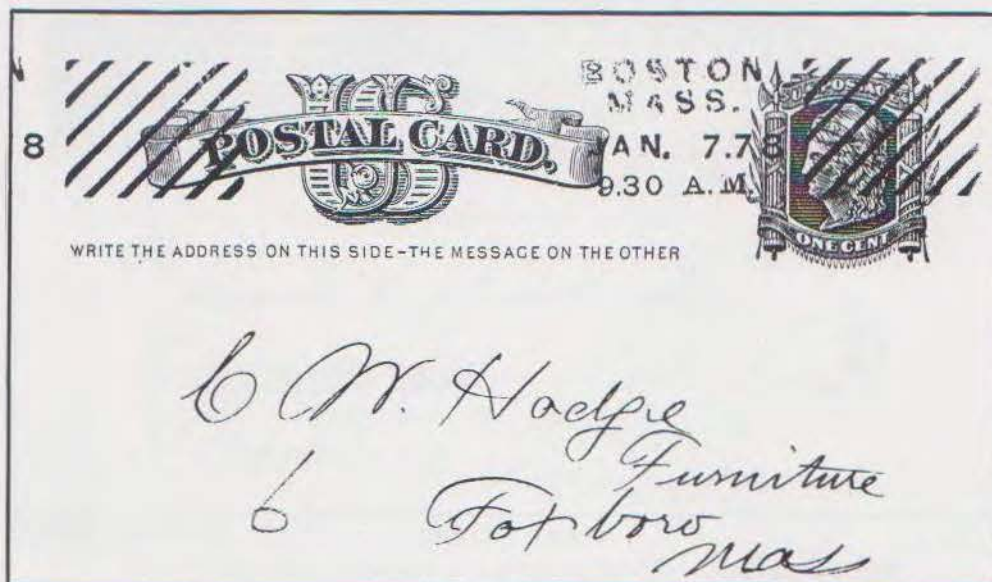
May 15, 1877

courtesy of Robert Patkin

BOSTON, MASS.

Double cancellation - First cancel has a "1 P.M." time and second cancel shows "2 P.M.".

Premium - 20.00



TYPE A-2

January 7, 1878

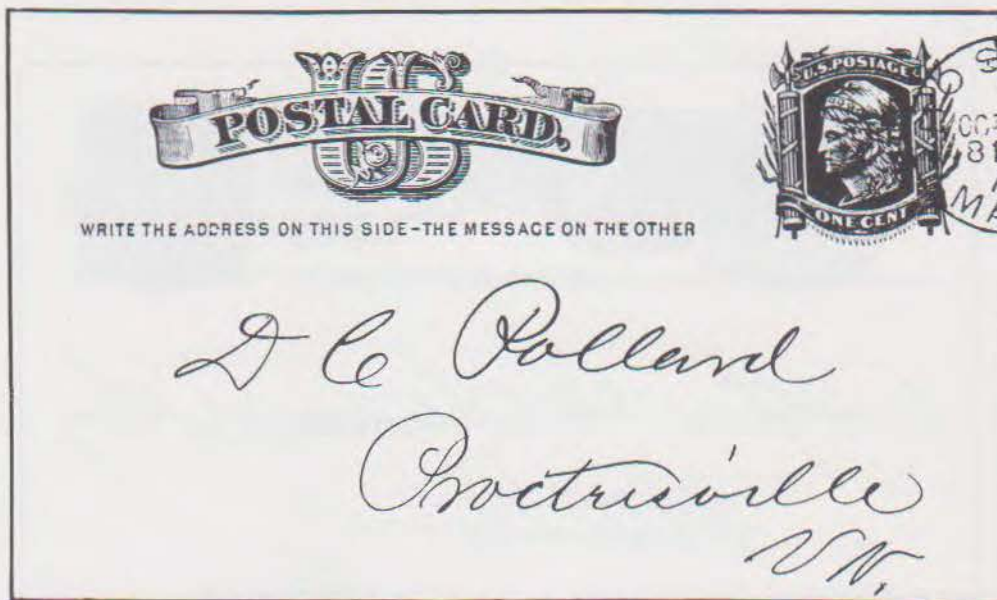
courtesy of Robert Patkin

BOSTON, MASS.

Two impressions - Slippage was the probable cause of the two cancels.

Premium - 20.00

CANCEL VARIANTS
PARTIAL/MULTIPLE



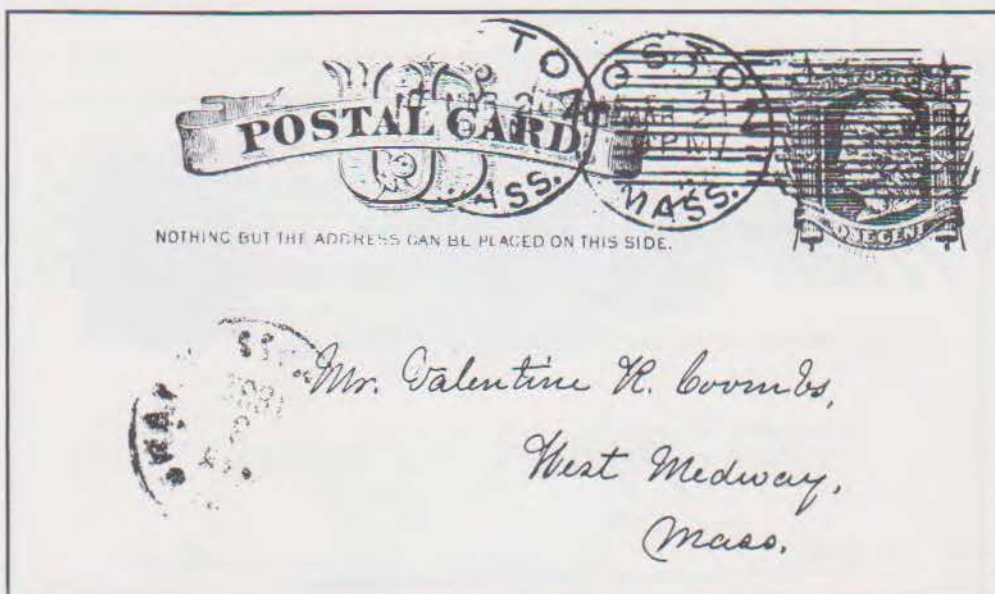
TYPE B-2

October (10), 187(9)

BOSTON, MASS.

Partial dial - Very poor registration of the cancel.

Premium - none



TYPE C-1

March 2 (1882)

BOSTON, MASS.

Multiple cancels - Three cancels are visible on this card. It is doubtful the card was processed three times. Slippage ?

Premium - 20.00

*Are there not some mem-
ber of your church (male
or female) who would like
to earn the commission
allotted on the sale of
this book?*

OSI M E. S.
ISV C
OAR PRAYER
OAM REMARKABLE ANSWERS.
E BY REV. WM. W. PATTON, D. D.

WHAT IS SAID OF IT.

"The book will be specially valuable for reference, and will be a powerful incentive to special prayer, and a great comfort to believers."—*Zion's Herald*, Boston

"This compilation of facts is large, wide in its survey, wonderful in its results."—*New York Observer*.

"While confirming the faith of Christians who have been troubled by infidel sophistries, its store of attested facts, and its acute reasoning will be scarcely less useful to those of firmer faith."—*National Baptist*, Philadelphia.

"It abounds in wonderful narratives, (are not many of God's doings wonderful?) but it contains no strained, extravagant, and fanciful theory of prayer."—*Christian Observer*, Louisville.

"One such fact as the many here presented goes far toward offsetting all the adverse theories of the philosophers. The book is an interesting one to read, and will be found nourishing to faith."—*The Congregationalist*, Boston.

"The writer seems to have taken care to authenticate most of the narratives which he gives; indeed, in many instances the mere names of those who send him statements are a sufficient guaranty of accuracy; they are those of men known widely for sobriety and candour.—*The Watchman*, Boston.

SOLD BY SUBSCRIPTION.
AGENTS WANTED EVERYWHERE.

(One agent writes, "I took 40 orders in three days," another orders 100 taken in a week's time, another "the best thing I ever canvassed for.")

Address EBEN. SHUTE,
36 Bromfield St., Boston.

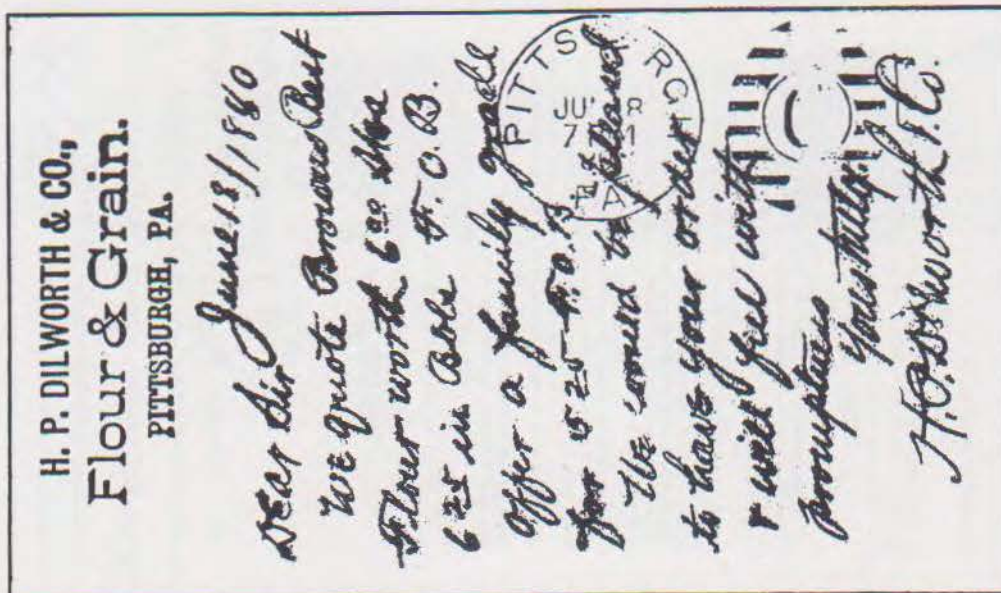
April 22, 1876

Premium - 10.00



Premium - 5.00

VARIANTS
FACING ERRORS



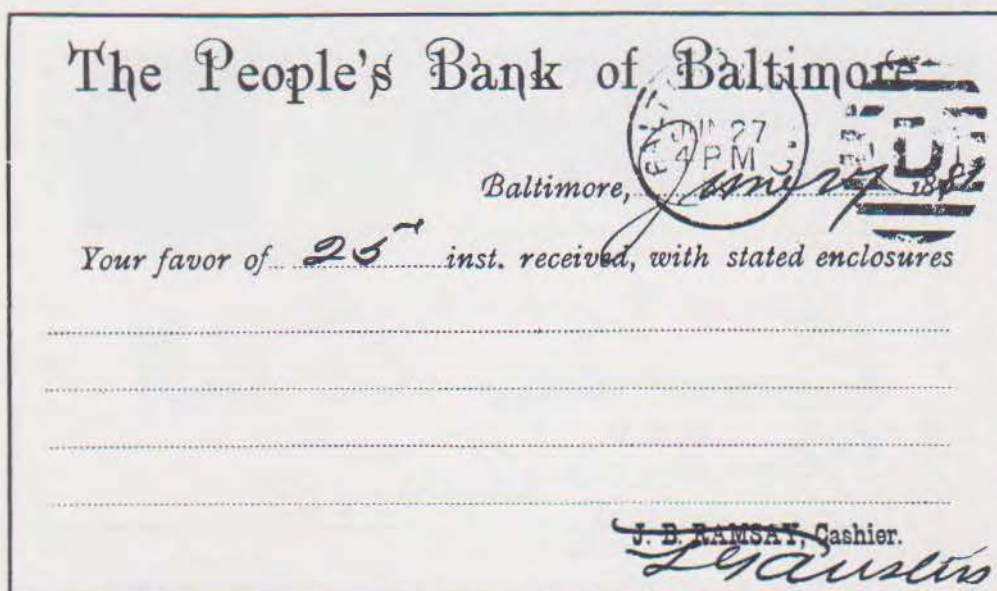
TYPE B-PBGH

June 18, 1880

PITTSBURGH, PA.

Facing error - During the facing procedure the card was inverted and reversed in error. Thus, this card was cancelled on its reverse side. The card shows a corrected hand stamp.

Premium - 10.00



TYPE B-BALT

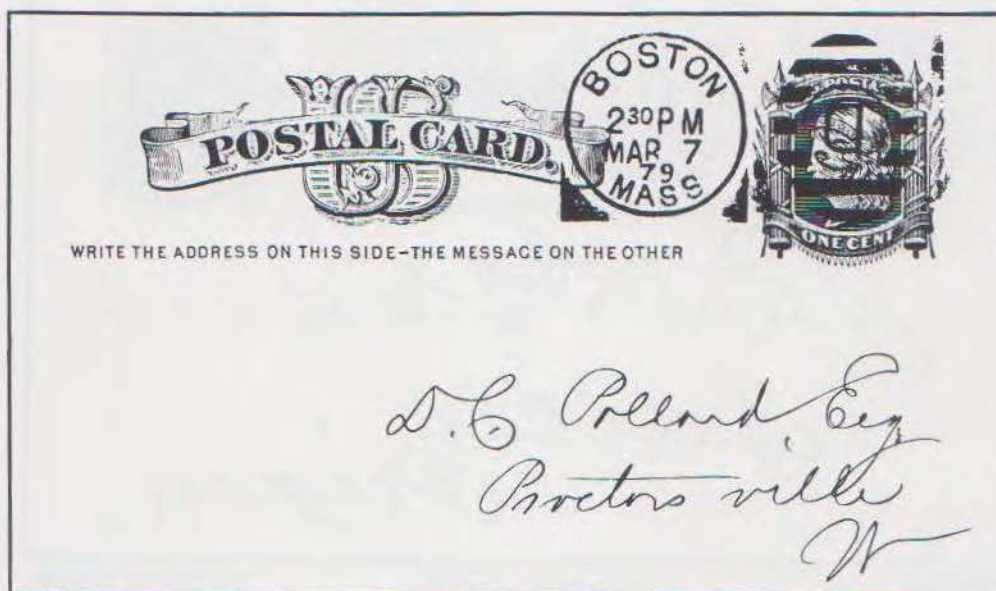
June 27, 1881

BALTIMORE, MD.

Facing error - Card was inverted and reversed before processing. The error was not found. Hence, card's face shows no cancel.

Premium - 10.00

VARIANT SERVICE LETTERS



TYPE B-1

March 7, 1879

BOSTON, MASS.

Service letter "D" - Inverted letters are common. There was no retaining pin to prevent it from rotating. The bottom corners of the dial die show heavy inking.

Premium - none



TYPE B-St.L

July 15, 1879

ST. LOUIS, MO.

Service letter "D" - The "D" has partially rotated to its right side. Rotation of the "D" service letters are common.

Premium - none

VARIANT SERVICE LETTERS



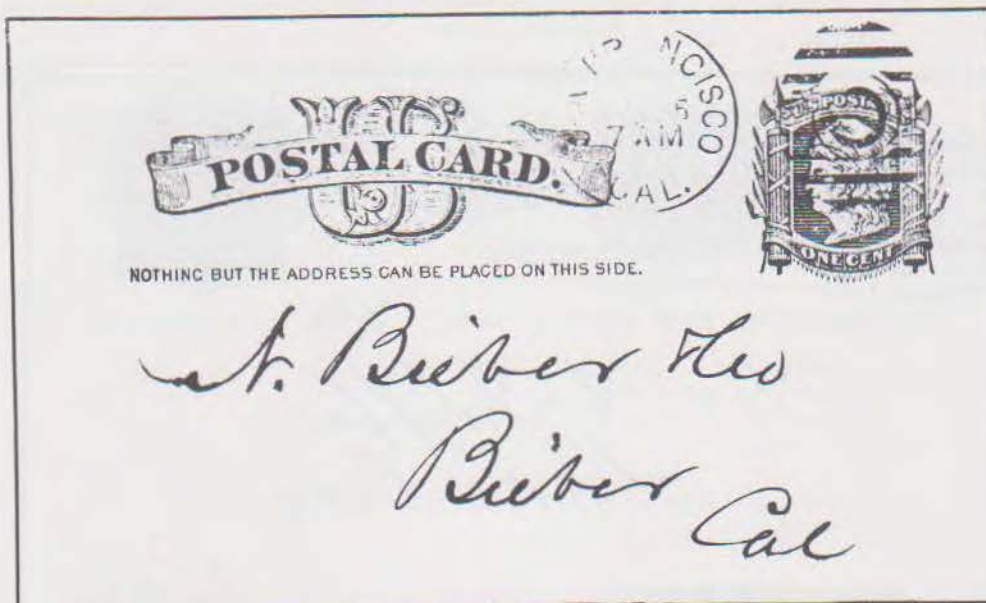
TYPE B-2

August 5, 1879

BOSTON, MASS.

Service letter "C" - The letter "C" has rotated and faces left.
The rotation of a service letter "C" is uncommon.

Premium - none



TYPE B-SF

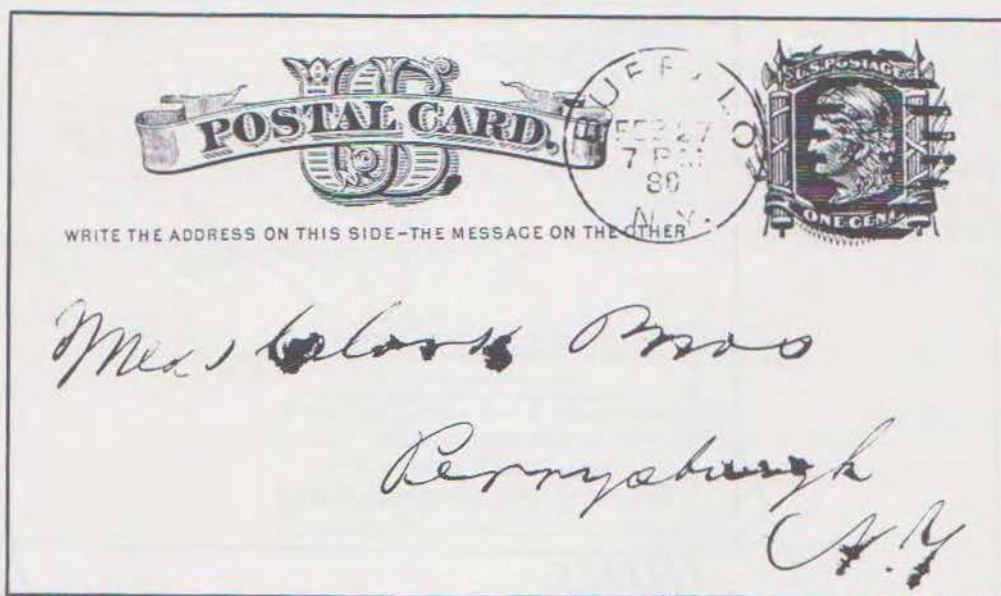
August 15 (1882)

SAN FRANCISCO, CAL.

Service letter "C" - The letter "C" is clearly seen in the canceller
and has completely rotated and faces left.

Premium - none

VARIANT
SERVICE LETTERS



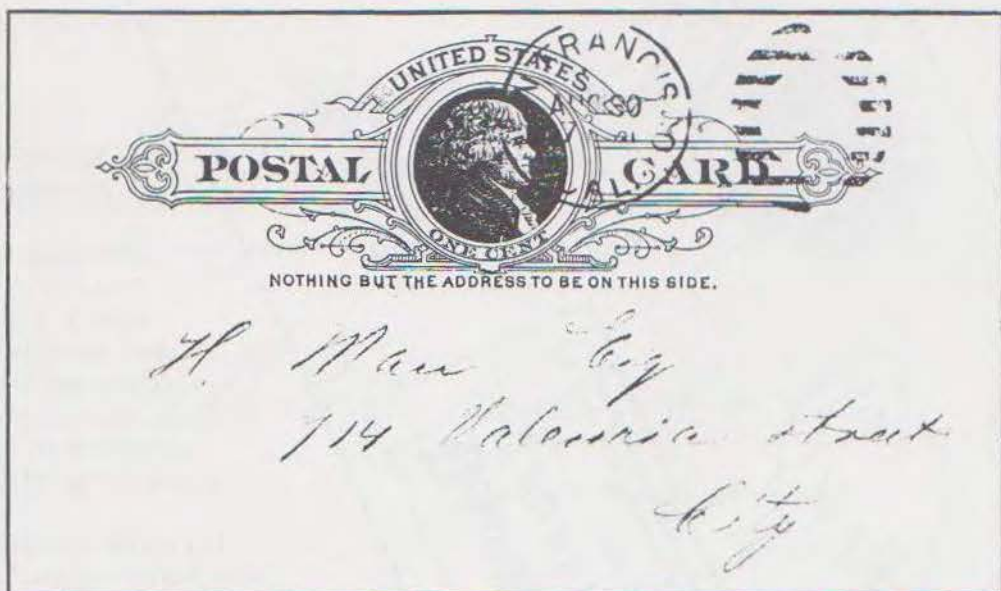
TYPE B-BUF

February 27, 1880

BUFFALO, N.Y.

Service letter - No visible service letter or ring.

Premium - 25.00



TYPE B-SF

August 30 (1887)

SAN FRANCISCO, CAL.

Service letter - No visible service letter or ring.

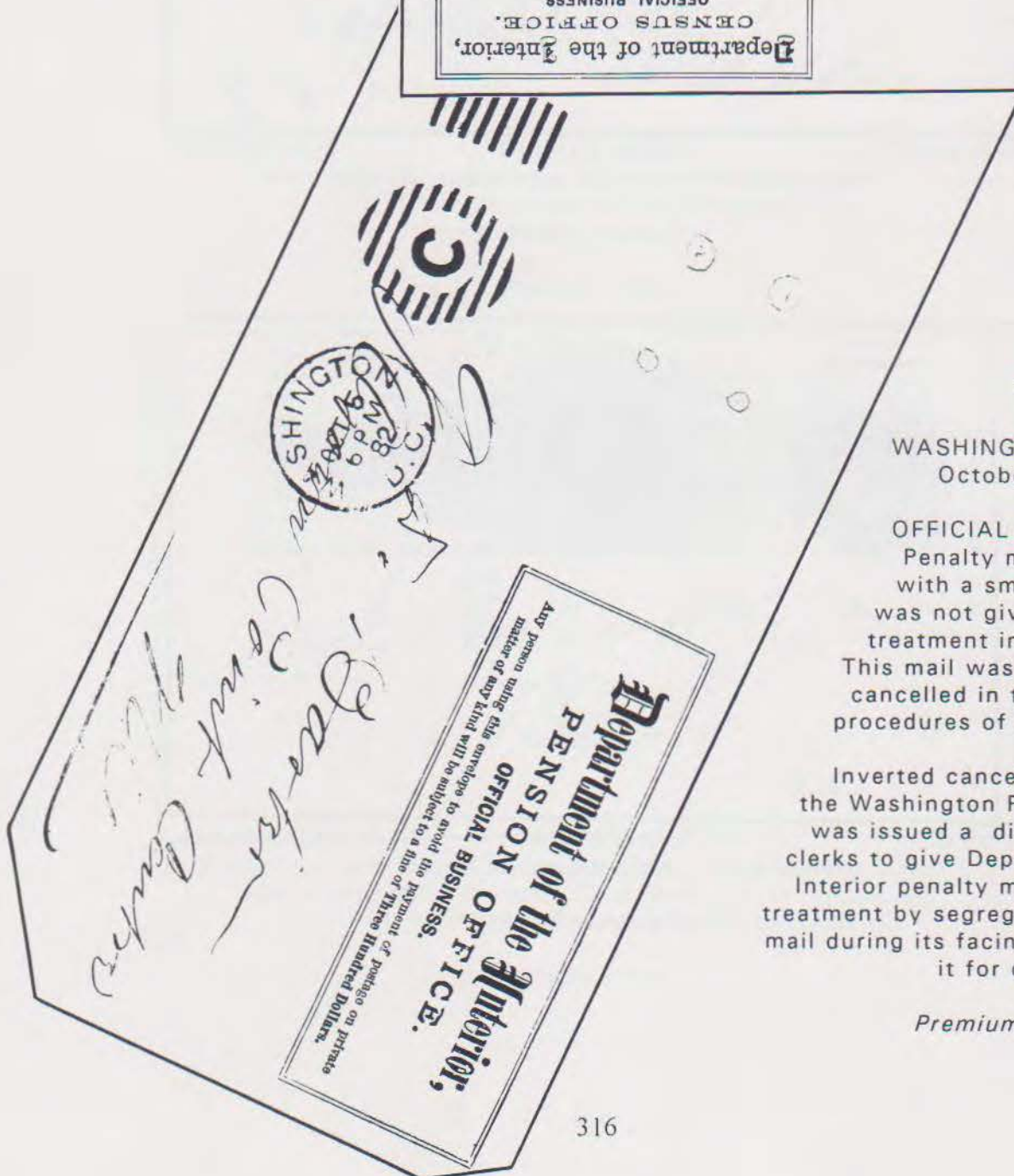
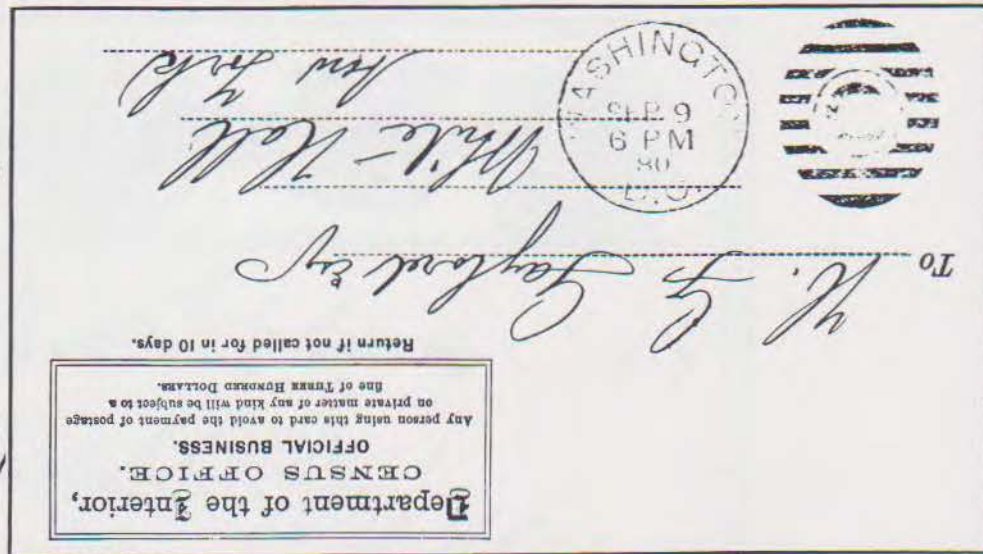
Premium - 25.00

VARIANT CANCELS
DELIBERATE INVERT

TYPE B-WASH
WASHINGTON, D.C.
September 9, 1880

Another large imprint on a
Department of Interior
penalty card with an
inverted cancel
suggesting
special
handling.

Premium - 100.00



TYPE X1A
DIE III
WASHINGTON, D.C.
October 5, 1882

OFFICIAL BUSINESS
Penalty mail matter
with a small imprint
was not given special
treatment in handling.
This mail was faced and
cancelled in the regular
procedures of daily mail.

Inverted cancels suggest
the Washington Post Office
was issued a directive for
clerks to give Department of
Interior penalty mail special
treatment by segregating their
mail during its facing to ready
it for cancelling.

Premium - 100.00

VARIANTS
COLORED INK



TYPE B-WASH

November 21, 1879

WASHINGTON, D.C.

Colored ink -

Several cities received colored ink with their new machine including bluish-black.

Premium - 75.00



TYPE B-KC

January 2 (1884)

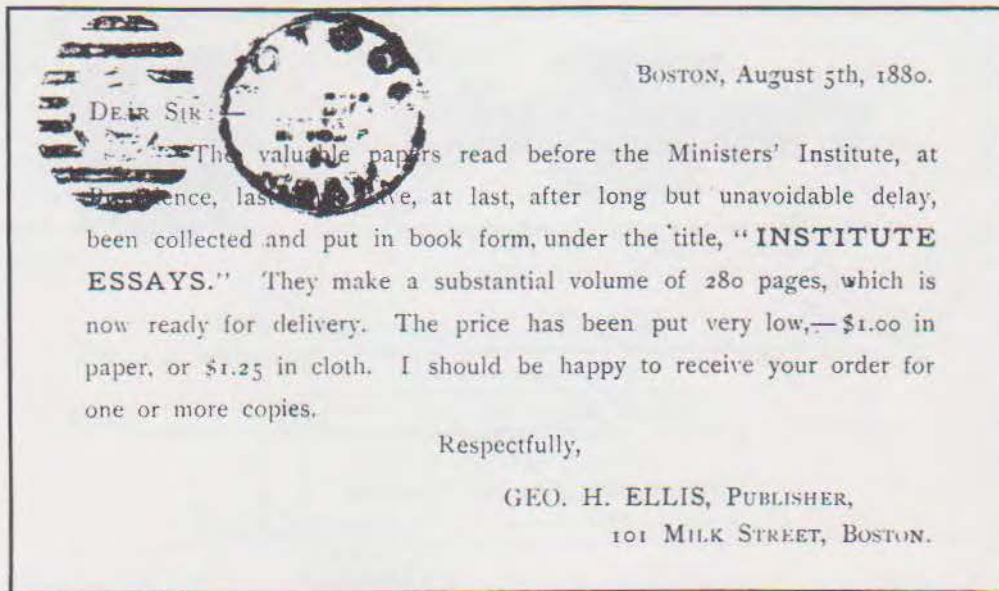
KANSAS CITY, MO.

Colored ink -

Several years after their installation a few cities used a bluish-black briefly.

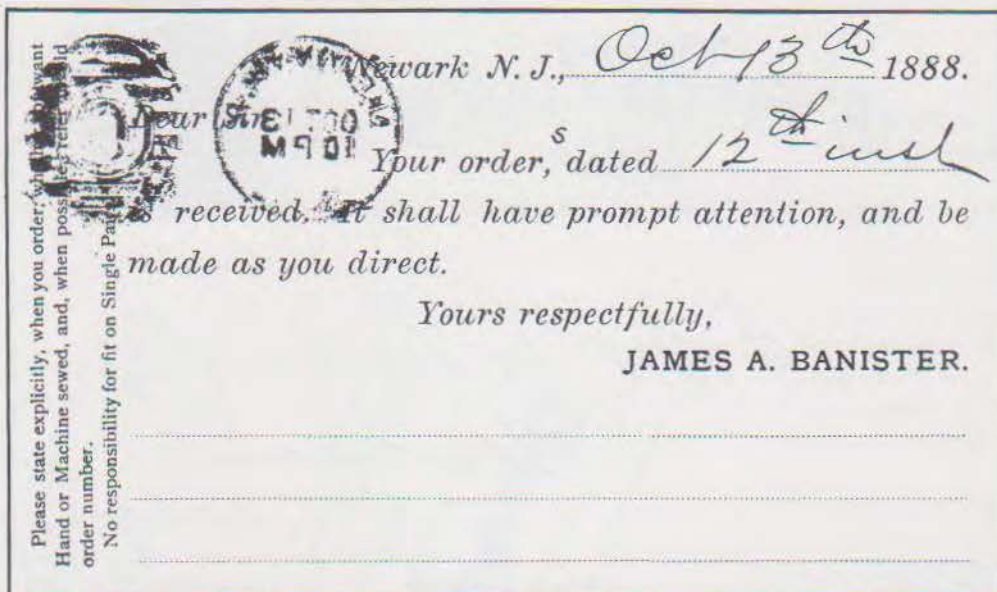
Premium - 40.00

VARIANTS INKED OFFSET



TYPE B-2 August 5, 1880 BOSTON, MASS.
Inked offset - One of the complaints of the Post Office Officials
Was the presence of cancellation offsets on the
backs of the cards.

Premium - none



TYPE B-NRK October 13 (1888) NEWARK, N.J.
Inked offset - Few of these heavily inked offsets have been
observed by the authors.

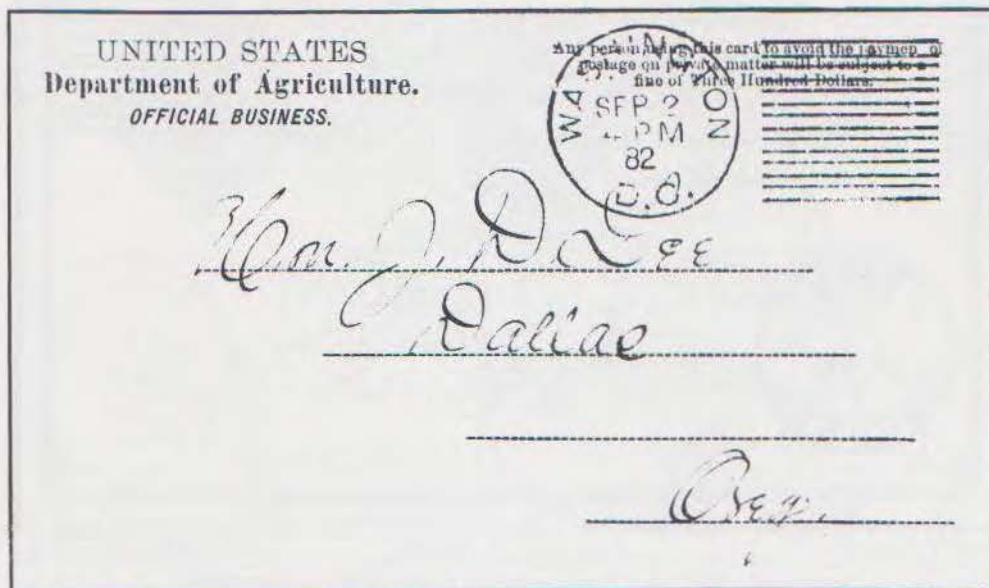
Premium - none

VARIANTS PENALTY CARDS



TYPE C-WASH May 23, 1882 WASHINGTON, D.C.
Penalty card - There are many types of these Official Business cards. This example shows the Smithsonian Institution card.

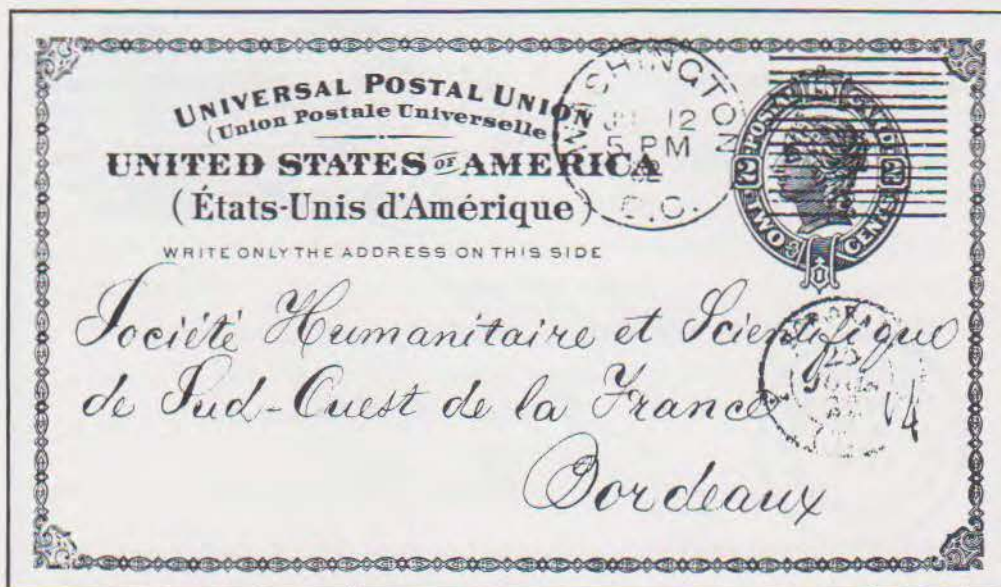
Premium - 25.00



TYPE C-WASH September 2, 1882 WASHINGTON, D.C.
Penalty card - Another type of Official Business card used by the Department of Agriculture.

Premium - 25.00

VARIANTS
OVERSEAS USE



TYPE C-WASH July 12, 1882 WASHINGTON, D.C.
Overseas use - An International card was used by the
Smithsonian Institution to France.

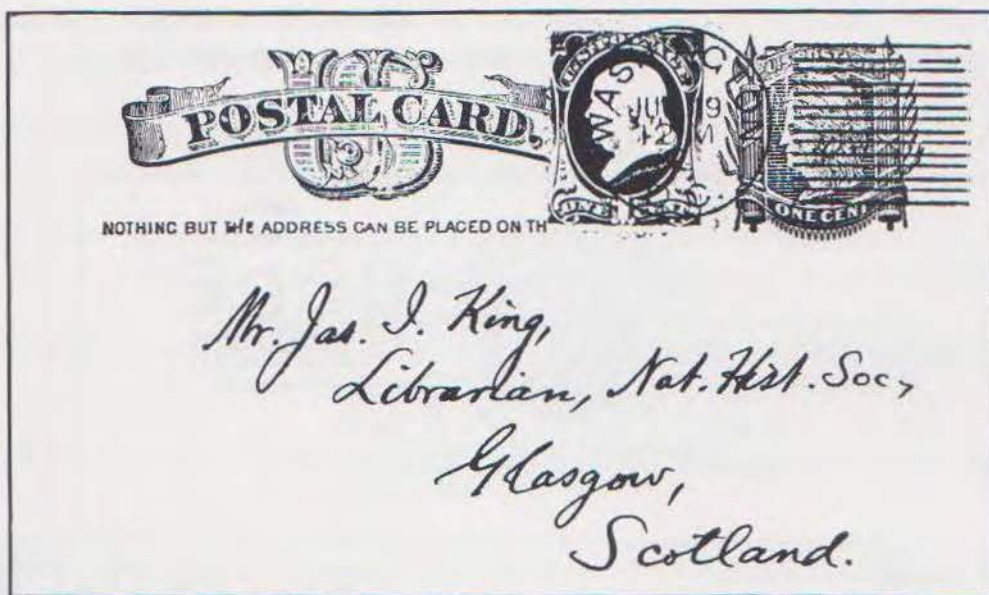
Premium - 50.00



TYPE C-WASH February 7, 1890 WASHINGTON, D.C.
Overseas use - An International card used to Germany.
Note that the time in transit was 12 days.

Premium - 50.00

VARIANTS
OVERSEAS USE



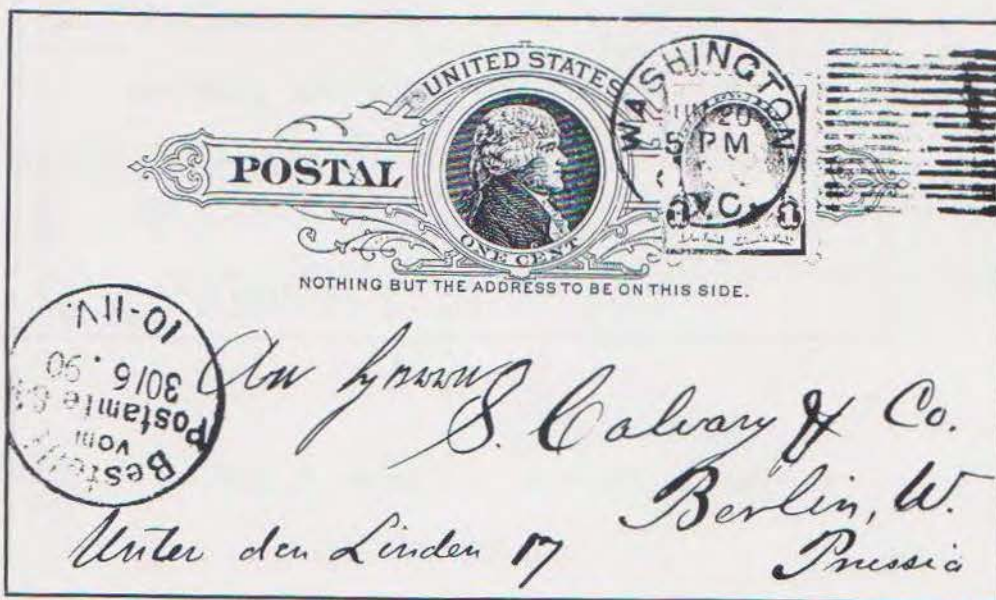
TYPE C-WASH

June 19, 1882

WASHINGTON, D.C.

Overseas use - This domestic postal card was used to Scotland with a one cent adhesive added for the two cent International rate.

Premium - 50.00



TYPE C-WASH

June 20 (1890)

WASHINGTON, D.C.

Overseas use - This postal card was used abroad with the required additional one cent stamp. Card shows use to Prussia (Germany).

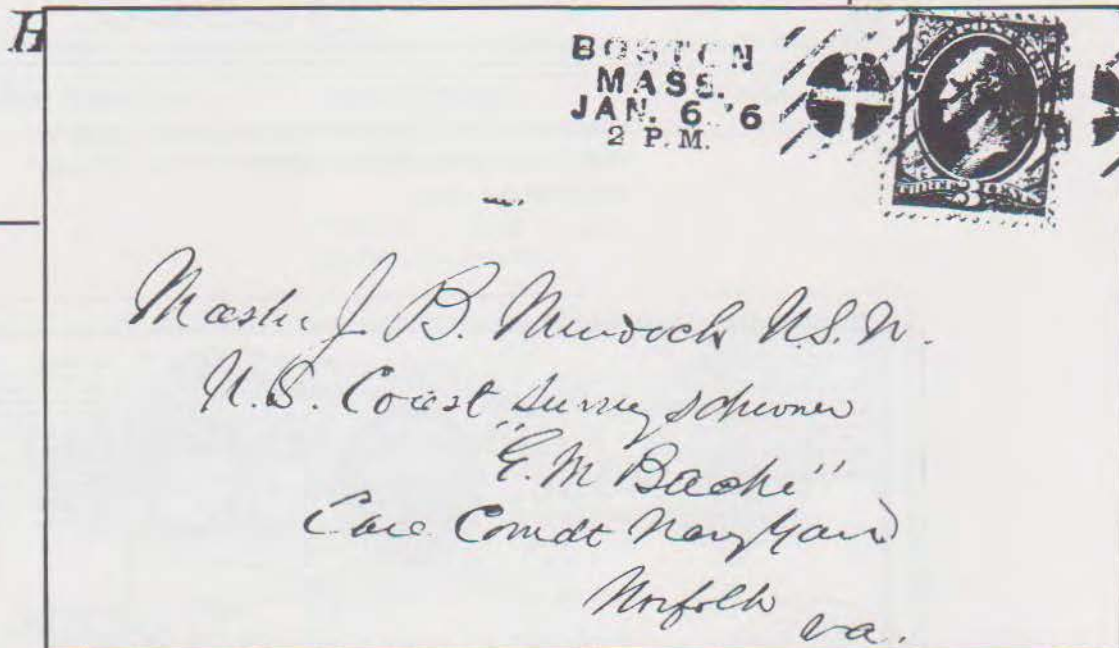
Premium - 50.00

TYPE B-IIND Die II

September 1, 1892

INDIANAPOLIS, IN

LATEST KNOWN LEAVITT!



First Day Use of TYPE A-1 !

January 6, 1876

BOSTON, MASS.

REFERENCES

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