

Devil with

Pitchfork

W.J. Duffney

The following pages first appeared in The Connecticut Postal History Society Journal of February, 1995 (Volume 21, No. 1; Whole No. 61). They do not fall strictly into the proper definition of a research article or exhibit. The structure is a hybrid genre which combines both forms of philatelic writing. The resulting caption-text, based primarily on original research, deals with the philatelic and historical background of the West Meriden, Connecticut, Devil with Pitchfork fancy cancellation. The material has been updated with color illustrations and the census has been expanded.

A predilection for any cancellation has something in common with the appreciation of minimal art. Just as Andy Warhol's Coke bottles are unique variations of the same design, each individual cancel strike can have elements of variation that are interesting in their own right, as they provide information not evident in other examples. Differences in ink viscosity, pressure applied by the striking handstamp, paper absorption, and the number of impressions made before re-inking the handstamp all contribute to infinite possibilities of chance variation. To accurately define the features of a fancy cancellation design, many examples must be studied for the details each reveals.

Although principally found on the 3¢ 1861 Scott #65 adhesive, the fancy cancellation was also used to kill U34, U58, U59, and U61 entires, as well as, in exceedingly rare cases, the 2¢ "Black Jack" 1863.

It is too late for us to ever learn the reasons behind the decision to use this dramatic fancy cancellation, or its meaning. Many romantic theories that have been offered go unproven. However, using the vernacular of that day, we can say, if a postmaster has to obliterate a stamp with a "killer" to prevent its reuse, he might as well use a bit of panache and "send him to the devil" to complete the job.



First Day of Use



Monday, April 16, (1866)

The only April 16th strike recorded thus far is found on a #65 on cut-to-shape piece. No earlier example has been uncovered. It can therefore be assumed that date is the most probable first day of use.

Precursors



March 1, 1866

The above March 1st Blake correspondence cover pre-dates the use of the Devil with Pitchfork. It is from the largest surviving correspondence bearing the Devil with Pitchfork, known to span virtually the entire period of use of the fancy cancellation. All of the Blake Devil with Pitchfork covers are addressed by the same hand. The late Curator of the Philatelic Foundation, S. Kellogg Stryker, examined the complete correspondence intact during the 1920's and recalled that it originally contained about eighteen Devils.



The duplex handstamp which housed the Devil with Pitchfork is known as having been used as early as January, 1866, sans Devil. It is also recorded after the Devil with Pitchfork's period of use but with a simple quartered cork.

Second Day Of Use



Tuesday, April 17, (1866)

This April 17th example shows the often ink-filled design detail of the Devil's eye.

Twisted Devils



Wednesday, April 25th

(Detail from center photo following page)

For approximately the first two and a half weeks of use the Devil with Pitchfork slug turned freely in its sleeve on the government issued duplex device. The deviation, measured clockwise from its usual relationship to the West Meriden postmark, varies from 11° on April 17th (*top, this page*), to 17° on April 21st, 53° on April 25th, and 56° in the extreme case of May 1st. (*following page*)



Saturday, April 21, 1866 — with letter enclosed



Wednesday, April 25, (1866)



Tuesday, May 1, (1866) Twisted Slug (56° diviation)

Twice Struck — Triple Rate



Saturday, May 12, (1866)

(Ex: Knapp, Souren, Eno)

Fixed



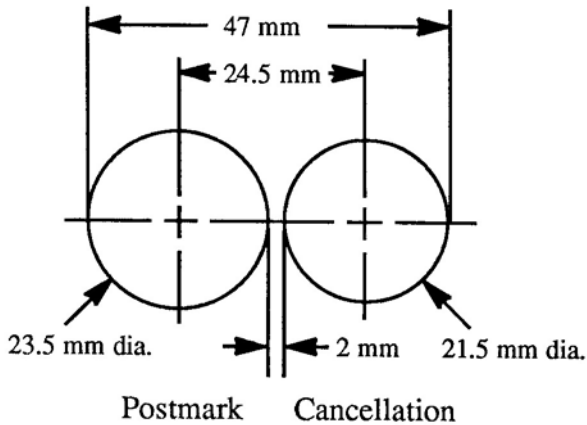
Friday, May 18, (1866)

Illustrated in Skinner-Eno, p. 113

(Ex: Knapp, Souren, Eno)

Sometime between May 1st and May 4th the fancy cancel slug was fixed in a permanent attitude. In this final orientation the line of the pitchfork, if projected, meets the postmark at the period and base of the second **N** in **CONN.**

Handstamp

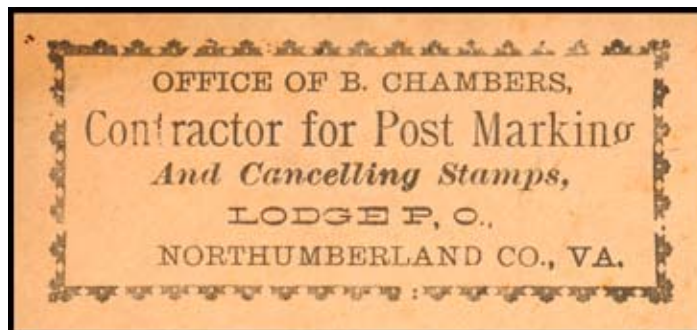


Thursday, May 17, (1866)

(Ex-Sampson)

The Fairbanks Co. held the government contract for handstamp production from 1863 to 1867. During 1866 they sub-contracted the work to the Benjamin Chambers, Jr., firm of Washington, D.C. The West Meriden Post Office's volume of mail qualified it for a class one government steel handstamp. In all probability it was Chambers who supplied the duplex which housed the Devil with Pitchfork fancy cancel. The schematic measurements and relationship of the parts of the handstamp may assist in determining authenticity of any given example. As with the majority of fancy cancel designs, it is assumed that the Devil caricature was added locally.

The Chambers Firm



Top of page: Henry B. Chambers & Bros. catalog of postmarking devices c. 1875 (post-Devil), reduced. Directly above: Detail of B. Chambers corner card from a legal size post office business cover (9½ x 4 inches) carried outside the mail.

Common Origin



Wednesday, May 23, (1866)

Noticing stamp centering of items illustrated within this study leads to the conclusion that three of the Blake covers, postmarked May 17th, 18th and 23rd, are franked by stamps from the same pane. The May 12th triple rate piece may also be included with them as its paper matches that of Blake correspondence examples.

Sender Handstamp



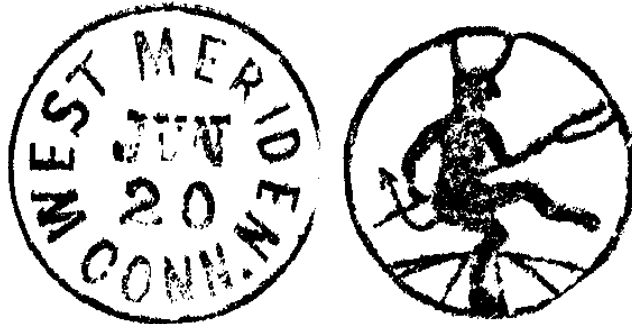
Thursday, June 7, (1866); Friday, June 15, (1866); Wednesday, August 15, (1866)

The blue N.C. Stiles sender's handstamp was probably applied to these entires with a small hand press manufactured by the entrepreneur himself.

N. C. STILES & CO.,
Machinists, Manufactur rs of
PRESSES, DIES, and HARDWARE
MANUFACTURERS' TOOLS,
AND Machinery of every description. Particular
attention paid to all kinds of Machine work, Repairs
and Forging. Orders from out town respectfully
solicited and promptly oxecuted. 9 1y

Newspaper ad of 1864

Backstamp

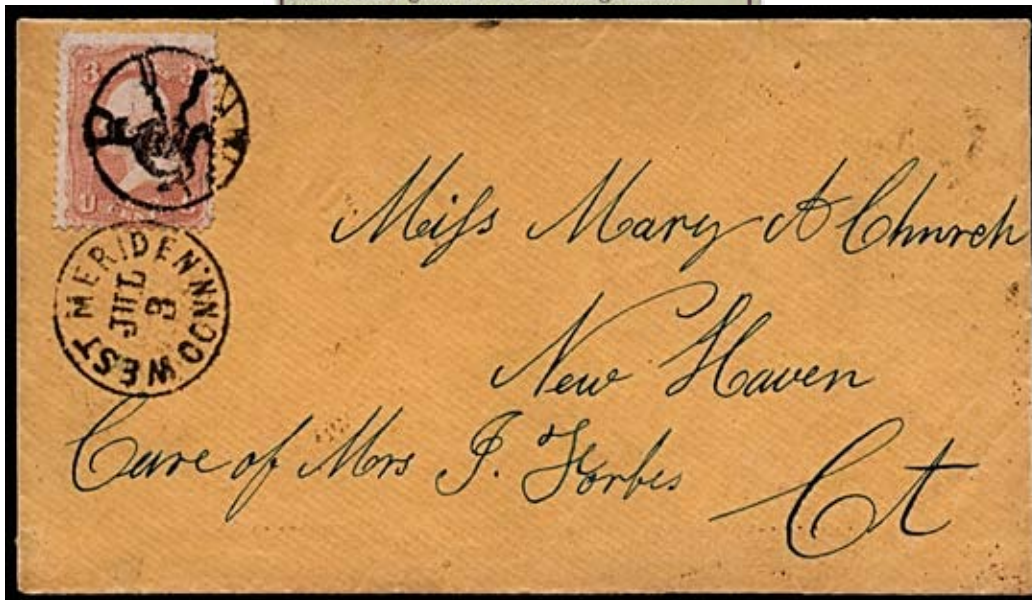


Wednesday, June 20, (1866)

The Devil with Pitchfork duplex is applied on the backflap of a cover franked by 3¢ Rose (65), tied by a light May 17th Hartford CDS to West Meriden. It also has a cartouche framed ADVERTISED hs, with MAY 23 in type below, and a matching UNCLAIMED hs struck at a diagonal in lower left.

Root of All Evil

Heirs to Thirty-Five Millions Dollars.—Mr. and Mrs. Eli Walker, residing on Maple avenue in this city, have recently become heirs to the estate of Thomas Church of England, and which is valued at \$35,000,000 in gold. The heirs to this property were advertised for, and investigation proved that Mr. Balsey Church, the father of Mrs. Walker, formerly of East Haddam in this State, and now living at an advanced age in Stockbridge, Mass., was the sole heir of the said Thomas Church, and entitled to the property, which is partly in government securities and partly in two large estates, one on the Thames, near London. Mrs. Walker has one brother and one sister living in this State, and one sister in Ohio. The property will be divided between the four children. They will shortly visit Europe and take possession, after which they will return and make this city their home. We heartily congratulate them on their good fortune, as they are very estimable people, and will no doubt make good use of their large means.



David's daughter says that this Mrs Walker is one of our tribe and has always said that the property was to be divided among us all. but donot let it keep you awake or run

Tuesday, July 3, 1866

Tine Count



Thursday, July 26, (1866)

The brilliant Irish playwright John Millington Synge spent much of his life in the study of language. He used very precise language in his masterpiece *Playboy of the Western World* to refer to a two-pronged fork used in harvesting hay — *pitchpike*. This points out differences between a pike, which has a single prong, the two-pronged pitchpike, and the common three-pronged pitchfork. The fork of the fancy cancellation in this study is of the two-pronged variety. Perhaps, instead of lazy vernacular, we should properly call the cancellation the “West Meriden Devil with Pitchpike.”

Directive Compliance



Thursday, August 2, (1866)

On July 25, 1860, the U.S. Post Office, acting on a long-expressed concern over the illegal cleaning and reuse of postage stamps, made it a requirement that stamps be obliterated by a mark other than the town datestamp, creating the impetus for wider use of the fancy cancel. Postmaster’s imaginations were set free to create and use their own designs. Here, in compliance with the regulation, the fancy cancel was dutifully applied to an awkwardly positioned stamp.

Sincerest Flattery



Devil with Pitchfork — Brattleboro, Vermont



23 December

Brattleboro, Vermont

The quite similar Brattleboro Devil with Pitchfork is sometimes found on grilled stamps, which were not issued until 1867. This suggests that the West Meriden Devil, used in 1866, was the progenitor of the more primitive Vermont design. This conclusion is supported by the postmark (24mm) accompanying the Brattleboro Devil, which is a standard government-issued style not used until 1869. Many philatelists incorrectly assume that the Brattleboro Devil was used during the term of Postmaster Daniel Kellogg because he is famous for having used many distinctive fancy cancellations. Surprisingly, it was not. R.W. Clark, Kellogg's immediate successor, should be properly credited with having used the Brattleboro Devil with Pitchfork. To date, this research has recorded only four on-cover and one on-piece Brattleboro Devils.

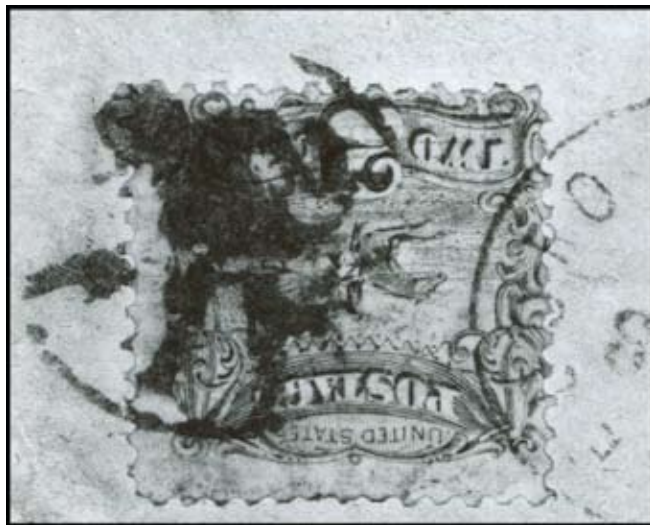
Hauntingly Familiar



February 7th

Brattleboro, Vermont

It is the opinion of the Philatelic Foundation that this cover is genuine. However, when pressed, they were unable to identify the cancellation. It is left to the viewer to decide whether or not it is a previously unrecorded *Devil with Pitchfork Facing Left*, unlike the known Brattleboro Devils, which face right. The issue date of the stamp (March 27, 1869) and the postmark indicate that the year must have been 1870 or later. Ironically, the printed “pointing hand” directing attention to the advertisement is a left hand.



Infrared photograph (detail inverted to assist viewing) increases contrast between the stamp and cancellation.

Commercial Correspondence



Friday, August 10, (1866)

Most of the Blake Devil covers exhibit evidence of removed docketing. Photo-enhancement reveals monetary figures and measurements written vertically on the left side of the cover fronts. Since other non-devil covers from the Blake correspondence are from lumber and hardware dealers, it may be inferred that all are of a common commercial nature.



*Left — Blake correspondence December 23rd
Montpelier, Vermont Shield on 3c 1869*



*Right — Blake correspondence June 10, 1870
Springfield, Massachusetts Maltese Cross*

Year of Use

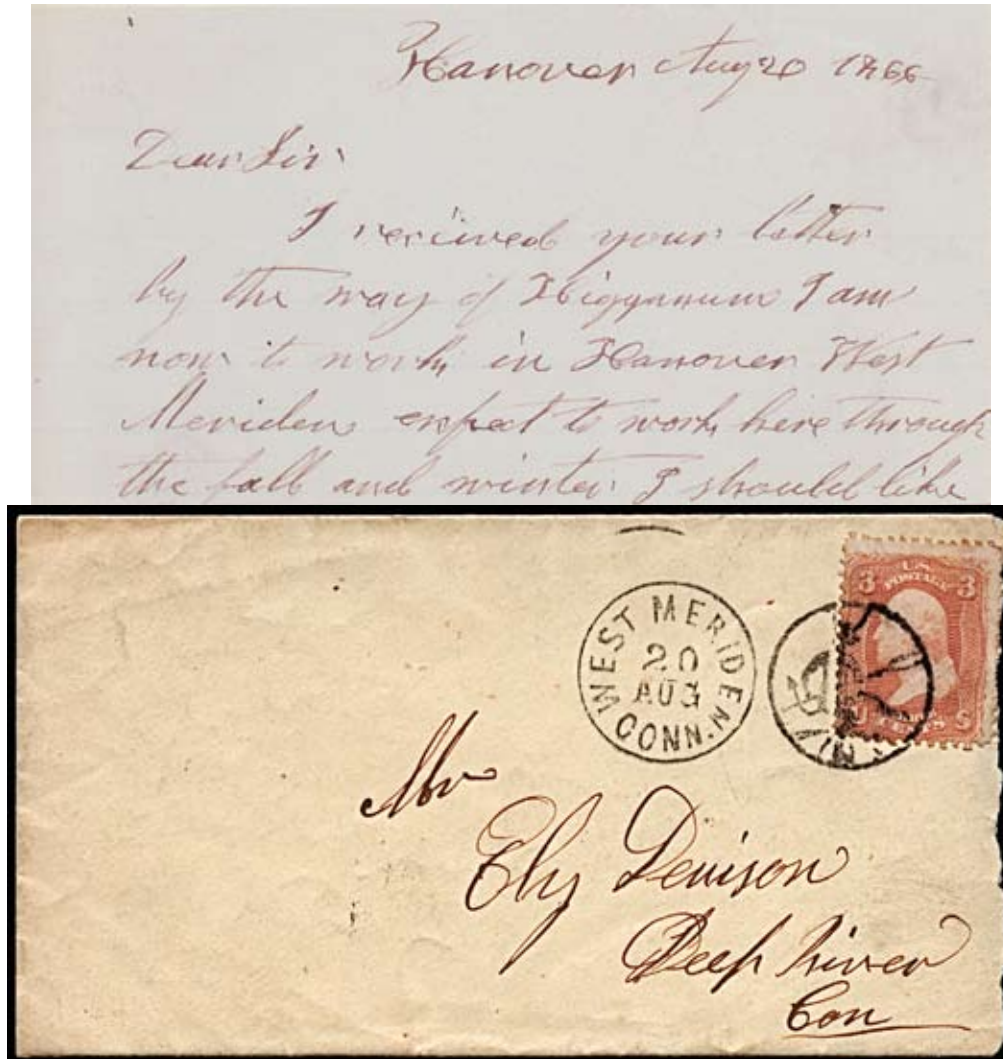


Monday, 20 August 1866

(Ex-Judge Fay)

Because the postmark gives no year designation we rely on enclosures, all of which are manuscript dated 1866 by the writers, to establish the year this fancy cancel was in use. This entire is one of the finest known examples of the cancel.

Same Day Postmarks



Monday, 20 August 1866

The above cover and the 3¢ Pink Entire immediately preceding were posted on a date when the type for the month and day had been transposed as they were inserted in the handstamp mortise. (Hanover, incidentally, is a section of West Meriden.)

The errant partial rim at the top of the Denison correspondence cover perhaps occurred because the postmaster stacked the mail as he cancelled it, the rim having overlapped the edge of another piece of mail. Traces of cancellation ink can also be found on the back side of certain covers, evidently made by wet covers underneath. In these cases the Devil caricature is sometimes faintly discernible.

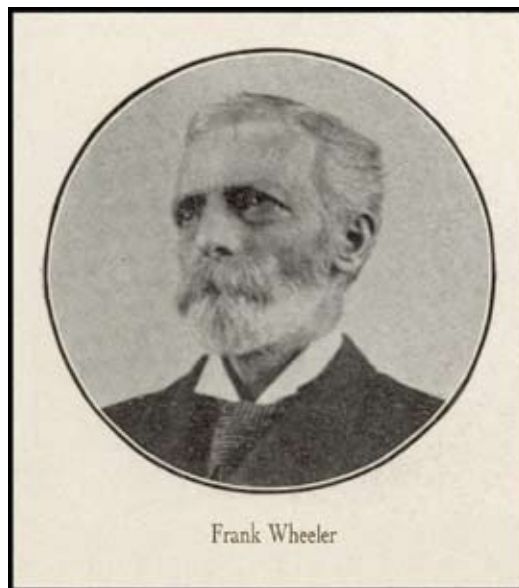
Corner Card



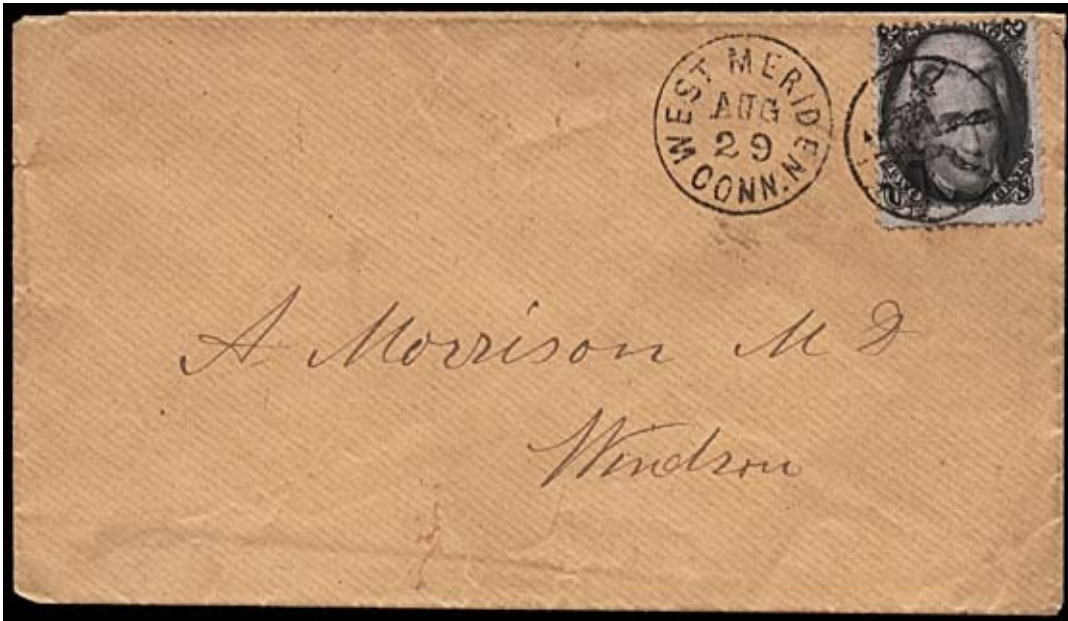
Wednesday, August 22, (1866)

(Ex-Newbury)

The U.S. postal rates which were in effect from July 1, 1863, specifically state that there would be no extra charge for an imprinted "card" on envelopes or wrappers.



Two Cent Rate



Wednesday, August 29, (1866)

During this period the rate for second and third class letters was two cents for each four ounces, or fraction thereof. Unsealed circulars, such as the above example, could also be sent for the same amount. This cover, once described by Robert A. Seigel as “an important Black Jack rarity,” is the finest known example of only three recorded “Black Jacks” on cover cancelled by the Devil with Pitchfork.



Wednesday, August 29, (1866) Detail

Last Day of Use



Friday, August 31, (1866)

August 31, 1866 has been established as the most probable last day of Devil with Pitchfork use for two reasons: no later genuine postmark has yet been found; a new postmaster began his term of office on the following day.

Other Fancies







West Meriden Crucifix — April 27, NYD













Several other West Meriden fancies appeared after 1866. The Crucifix featured at the top, previously unrecorded, is perhaps the most intriguing in that it represents the antithesis of the Devil with Pitchfork.


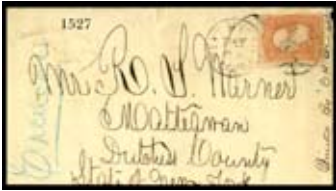



Those interested in the historical background surrounding the Devil with Pitchfork fancy cancel are referred to The Congress Book 2017 article, *The Devil's Post Office*, by W.J. Duffney.

West Meriden Devil with Pitchfork Calendar of Use






1866	Cover/Detail/Piece	Stamp	Correspondence	Notes	Source
April 16 XF strike	 piece	3¢ Rose 1861 Sc #65	Unknown	cut-to-shape piece; loose fancy slug; only first day of use currently recorded	Private Collection
April 17 VF strike	 cover detail	3¢ Rose 1861 Sc #65	M.F. Blake South Barton, VT	replaced stamp, probably originated; fancy slug twisted to 2 o'clock position; largest surviving correspondence	Private Collection
April 20 XF strike	 RAS/AG cover illustration	3¢ Rose 1861 Sc #65	H.R. Merriman New York	tied; minor cover nick bottom right; loose and turned fancy cancel slug	RAS Sale 575, Lot 573 February 1981
April 20 Poor strike	<div style="border: 1px solid black; width: 150px; height: 80px; display: flex; align-items: center; justify-content: center;"> Poor Condition </div>	3¢ Rose 1861 Sc #65	Charles H. Hall Cheshire, CT	faulty and ragged yellow cover with torn stamp; loose and turned fancy cancel slug	Private Collection
April 21 VF-XF strike	 cover detail	3¢ Rose 1861 Sc #65	Betsey Johnson Middletown, CT	dated enclosure; fancy slug twisted to 3 o'clock position; stamp placed over cover edge at right	RAS Sale 1167, Lot 2339






1866	Cover/Detail/Piece	Stamp	Correspondence	Notes	Source
<p>April 25</p> <p>VF strike</p>	 <p>cover detail</p>	<p>3¢ Rose 1861 Sc #65</p>	<p>W. F. Barnes West Rutland, VT</p>	<p>fancy slug twisted to 4 o'clock position</p>	<p>RAS Sale 293, Lot 384</p>
<p>April 29</p> <p>Poor strike</p>	 <p>Poor Condition</p>	<p>3¢ Rose 1861 Sc #65</p>	<p>Seth Hill, M.D. Birmingham, CT</p>	<p>struck twice, date set-screw evident at top of postmarker, loose and turned fancy cancel slug</p>	<p>Private Collection</p>
<p>May 1</p> <p>F-VF strike</p>	 <p>cover detail</p>	<p>3¢ Rose 1861 Sc #65</p>	<p>Horton & Son Windsor Locks, CT</p>	<p>loose fancy cancel slug twisted to 56° diviation; pink cover</p>	<p>Private Collection</p>
<p>May 4</p> <p>Fine strike</p>	 <p>cover photocopy (inset removed)</p>	<p>3¢ Rose 1861 Sc #65</p>	<p>Cyrus Cole Middletown, CT</p>	<p>cancel slug in permanently fixed attitude</p>	<p>Private Collection</p>
<p>May 12</p> <p>F-VF strikes</p>	 <p>piece</p>	<p>3¢ Rose 1861 Sc #65 (x3), pair and single</p>	<p>Unknown</p>	<p>Dw/P struck twice on piece, triple rate; proves hs duplex; Ex-Handy, Ex-Knapp, Ex-Eno</p>	<p>Private Collection</p>







1866	Cover/Detail/Piece	Stamp	Correspondence	Notes	Source
May 14 F-VF strike	 pse detail	3¢ Pink U59 PSE	L.W. Cushing Mozart Watch Co. Providence, RI	reduced at right	Cherrystone Lot 632 June 12-13-2018 PFC #413731
May 17 VF strike	 cover detail	3¢ Rose 1861 Sc #65	M.F. Blake South Barton, VT	cover apparently cleaned	Private Collection
May 18 VF-XF strike	 cover detail	3¢ Rose 1861 Sc #65	M.F. Blake South Barton, VT	illustrated in Skinner-Eno, page 113; docketed 'No. 12'	Private Collection PFC #433830
May 20 CFT	 PF cover illustration	3¢ Rose 1861 Sc #65, s.e. at left	Mr. J.C. Atkerson Henderson, KY	COUNTERFEIT	Philatelic Foundation PFC #114 137
May 23 Fine strike	 cover detail	3¢ Rose 1861 Sc #65	M.F. Blake South Barton, VT	docketed '13'	Rasdale Sale 427 Lot73






1866	Cover/Detail/Piece	Stamp	Correspondence	Notes	Source
May 23 Fine strike	 cover	3¢ Rose 1861 Sc #65	Horace Merriman 29 Spruce Street N. York	yellow cover torn at right and reinforced	
May 24 Fine strike	 RAS/AG cover illustration	3¢ Rose 1861 Sc #65	R.L. Warner Matteawan, NY	Mechanics Trading Co., West Meriden, sender's embossed corner card; rough opening at right	RAS Sale 1011, Lot 1527
June 1 Poor strike	 cover detail 2002	2¢ 1863 Sc #73 Black Jack	Philo Hall Meriden, CT	2002 2¢ rate; Internal Revenue corner card; stamp tied at top over pre-application tear	2002 Private Collection
	 cover detail 2012			2012 top edge of stamp ADDED	2012 Rumsey Sale 47, Lot 242
June 3 XF strike	 RAS/AG cover illustration	3¢ Rose 1861 Sc #65	Miss Francis A. Spencer Higganum, CT	lady's small cover; stamp at left with vertical strike	RAS Sale 1012, Lot 47; PFC #284210






1866	Cover/Detail/Piece	Stamp	Correspondence	Notes	Source
June 3 CFT	see June 8 Donovan correspondence	1¢ Blue Sc #63, 2¢ Black Sc #73	G.C. Fenn Ware, MA	COUNTERFEIT similar to June 8 PFC #35969	Philatelic Foundation PFC #24354
June 4 Fine strike	 cover detail	3¢ Rose 1861 Sc #65 (x2) Pair	Amos Doolittle West Cheshire/ Brooksvale, CT	blue legal size; to West Cheshire redi- rected to Brooksvale	Private Collection
June 4 Fine strike	 cover	3¢	Joseph Jones Wheeler & Wilson's Bridgeport, CT	PF Cert 42 070	HRH Sale 3019, May 17-19,2018 Lot 2554
June 6 VF+ strike	 cover	3¢ Pink U58 PSE	Burton W. Smith Seymour, CT	sender O.H. Platt	Rumsey Sale 78, Lot 1436 April 26-29, 2018
June 6 CFT	see June 8 Donovan correspondence	1¢ Blue Sc #63, 2¢ Black Sc #73	Rose & Henderson Lafayette, IN	COUNTERFEIT similar to June 8 PFC #35969	Philatelic Foundation PFC #39391


1866	Cover/Detail/Piece	Stamp	Correspondence	Notes	Source
June 7 Fine strike	 pse detail	3¢ Brown U61 PSE	L.W. Cushing Mozart Watch Co. 117 Broad Street Providence, RI	blue N.C. Stiles sender's handstamp	Private Collection
June 7 Fine strike	 cover	3¢ Pink U58 PSE	L.W. Cushing Mozart Watch Co. 117 Broad Street Providence, RI	blue N.C. Stiles sender's handstamp	Rumsey Sale October 12-14, 2018 Sale 81, Lot 471
June 8 XF strike	 cover detail	3¢ Rose 1861 Sc #65	Miss Francis A. Spencer Higganum, CT	lady's small cover; stamp at left with vertical strike; toning	Private Collection PFC #284210
June 8 CFT	 RAS/AG cover illustration	1¢ Blue Sc #63, 2¢ Black Sc #73	D. Donovan Burlington, VT	COUNTERFEIT	RAS Sale 391, Lot 58; PFC #35969
June 9 VF strike	 PF cover illustration	3¢ Rose 1861 Sc #65	Miss Juliette Frisbie Cheshire, CT	lady's small cover; stamp tear and piece added at t.r.	RGK Sale 73, Lot 228; Philatelic Foundation PFC #221076






1866	Cover/Detail/Piece	Stamp	Correspondence	Notes	Source
June 11 F-VF strike	 PF piece illustration	3¢ Rose 1861 Sc #65 w/ double perfs at right	Unknown	on piece torn at left; double perfs on right	Drews Auction 21, Lot 229; PFC # 308784
June 14 F-VF strike	 PF cover illustration	3¢ Rose 1861 Sc #65	Rev. L. Stewart Milltown, CT	stamp at left with vertical strike ; notes for "Theme for the Pulpit" ms on reverse	RAS Sale 701, Lot 1266; PFC #203079
June 15 XF-Sup strike	 pse detail	3¢ Pink U58 PSE	L.W. Cushing Mozart Watch Co. Providence, RI	blue N.C. Stiles sender's handstamp	Private Collection PFC #197516
June 15 CFT	 cover	3¢ dull red 1857 Sc #26	Morton R. Mower Saugerties, NY	COUNTERFEIT cancel appears rubber; pmk struck x2; patriotic env	eBay 12/16/2011
June 15 CFT	 cover	3¢ dull red 1857 Sc #26	Mrs. S.A. Dorland Salisbury, N.C.	COUNTERFEIT cancel appears rubber; sold as fake; see above	Downeast Stamps Sale 309 Lot 1141






1866	Cover/Detail/Piece	Stamp	Correspondence	Notes	Source
June 20 Superb strike	 cover backflap detail	Sc #65 tied by Hartford pmk to West Meriden; Dw/P struck on backflap	Charles B. May West Meriden, CT	framed ADVERTISED hs with MAY 23 in type, framed UNCLAIMED hs struck at diagonal in lower left	Private Collection
June 20 VF strike	 USCC cover detail photocopy	3¢ Rose 1861 Sc #65	Mr. George Lavernmore		USCC News March 1963
June 22 XF strike	 RAS/AG cover detail illustration	3¢ Rose 1861 Sc #65	Ira Hough Wolcott, CT	stain in upper left corner	RAS Sale 518, Lot 402
June 23 VF-XF strike	 cover	3¢ Rose 1861 Sc #65	Ira Hough Wolcott, CT	reduced at left	DFK Sale 5016, Lot 6073; PFC #260126
June 23 Fine strike	 PF cover illustration	3¢ Rose 1861 Sc #65	Mr. George Lavernmore Detroit, MI	torn along top edge of cover	RAS Sale 790, Lot 1943; PFC 312381
June 25 XF-Sup strike	 Brookman illustration	3¢ Rose 1861 Sc #65	M.F. Blake South Barton, VT	Ex-Brown	Illustrated in Brookman, vol. II, page 28






1866	Cover/Detail/Piece	Stamp	Correspondence	Notes	Source
June 26 Superb strike	 <p>RAS/AG cover illustration</p>	3¢ Rose 1861 Sc #65	...ndson Baldwin, ME		RAS Sale 518, Lot 401
June 27 Fine strike	 <p>cover photocopy</p>	3¢ Rose 1861 Sc #65	A.T. Steward Cor. Broadway + 9 th New York City	enclosure; ragged opening at top; ms 'Private' upper left	RAS Sale 551, Lot 1619
June 28 XF strike	 <p>RAS/AG cover detail illustration</p>	3¢ Rose 1861 Sc #65	Unknown	negligible sealed tear in cover	RAS Sale 444, Lot 692
June 29 VF-XF strike		3¢ Rose 1861 Sc #65	M.F. Blake South Barton, VT	possibly replaced stamp	RAS Sale 225, Lot 155
July 3 Superb strike	 <p>cover detail</p>	3¢ Rose 1861 Sc #65 at top left	Miss Mary Church New Haven, CT	docketed 'Care of Mrs J. Forbes'; stamp at left with vertical strike; enclosure	Private Collection PFC #369957







1866	Cover/Detail/Piece	Stamp	Correspondence	Notes	Source
July 6		3¢ Rose 1861 Sc #65	Mrs. Emma A. Jones West Chester, NY	strike goes beyond cover at right	RAS Sale April 18, 1971, Lot 478
July 9	 cover detail	3¢ Rose 1861 Sc #65	E.P. Fowler Essex, CT		Ventura Price List October 1998 PFC #295933
July 11	 Rumsey cover illustration	3¢ Rose 1861 Sc #65	Mrs. Timothy Gilbert Middletown, CT	Ex-Meyerson	Rumsey Sale April 25-27, 2003, Lot 471
July 13		3¢ Rose 1861 Sc #65	Unknown	repaired at bottom right; questionable authenticity	Harmer-Rooke Sale January 11, 1956
July 20	 PF cover illustration	3¢ Rose 1861 Sc #65	Miss Adella Sage Rocky Hill, CT	stamp at left with vertical strike	Suburban Sale January 22, 1980 PFC #247910

1866	Cover/Detail/Piece	Stamp	Correspondence	Notes	Source
July 23 VF strike	 cover photocopy	3¢ Rose 1861 Sc #65	Mrs. Byron Ives Bristol, CT	enclosure	Private Collection
July 25		3¢ Rose 1861 Sc #65	M.F. Blake South Barton, VT		RAS Sale March 22, 1956
July 25 XF strike	 RAS/AG cover illustration	3¢ Rose 1861 Sc #65	Emma A. Jones West Cheshire, NY		RAS Sale 1219, Lot 165
July 26 XF-S strike	 cover detail	3¢ Rose 1861 Sc #65	Webster R. Walkley Southington, CT	light orange cover; top corners repaired not affecting stamp or cancel	Private Collection PFC #483581
July 28		3¢ Rose 1861 Sc #65	Unknown	small tear in cover	RAS Sale January 1974, Lot 692

1866	Cover/Detail/Piece	Stamp	Correspondence	Notes	Source
Aug. 1 VF strike	 cover	2¢ 1863 Sc #73 Black Jack	Street Jones Wallingford, CT	2¢ rate; Internal Revenue corner card	RAS Sale 1118 April 23, 2018 Lot 1319
Aug. 2 F-VF strike	 cover detail	3¢ Rose 1861 Sc #65	Emily Scovill Lyons Falls Lewis Co. NY	stamp at upper left with vertical strike	Private Collection
Aug. 6 F-VF strike	 cover photocopy	3¢ Rose 1861 Sc #65	Rev. C.R. Moore Poquonock, CT	yellow cover, reduced at left	RCF May 20, 1995, Lot 438
Aug. 8 VF strike	 cover detail	3¢ Rose 1861 Sc #65	H.R. Merriman 29 Spruce Street NY	yellow cover, rough opening at right	DFK Auction 623, Lot 1204
Aug. 10 Superb strike	 cover detail	3¢ Rose 1861 Sc #65	M.F. Blake South Barton, VT	remarkably clean cover	Private Collection PFC #484947

1866	Cover/Detail/Piece	Stamp	Correspondence	Notes	Source
Aug. 11		3¢ Rose 1861 Sc #65	probably to Mozart Watch Co. Providence, RI	few iredular perfs; Ex-Emerson	RAS Sale 417, Lot 1227
Aug. 15	 pse detail	3¢ Pink U58 PSE	L.W. Cushing Mozart Watch Co. Providence, RI	blue N.C. Stiles sender's handstamp	RAS Sale 290, Lot 1397
Aug. 17		3¢ Rose 1861 Sc #65	M.F. Blake South Barton, VT		Philatelic Foundation PFC #119 404
Aug. 20	 pse detail	3¢ Pink U58 PSE	L.W. Cushing Mozart Watch Co. Providence, RI	blue N.C. Stiles sender's handstamp; marvelous N.C. Stiles billhead enclosure; Ex-Judge Fay	Private Collection
Aug. 20	 cover detail	3¢ Rose 1861 Sc #65	Ely Denison Deep River, CT	enclosure; pmk month and day transposed; replaced stamp	RAS 1215, Lot 2294 PFC #54731 Declined Opinon

1866	Cover/Detail/Piece	Stamp	Correspondence	Notes	Source
Aug. 20 VF strike	 cover	3¢ Rose 1861 Sc #65	E. Horton & Son Windsor Locks, CT	pmk month and day transposed	DFK Sale #693, Lot 1000
Aug. 20 Superb strike	 Ventura cover detail illustration	3¢ Rose 1861 Sc #65	Miss Alice Buck Hartford, CT	Frank Wheeler photographer's corner card; pmk month and day transposed; reduced at right	Ventura Net Price Sale 114, Lot 501, May 1994
Aug. 21 Poor-Fine strike	 cover photocopy (inset removed)	3¢ Rose 1861 Sc #65	Samuel Hopson Wallingford, CT		Private Collection
Aug. 22 Superb strike	 cover	3¢ Rose 1861 Sc #65	Alice Buck No. 8 Linden Place Hartford, CT	bold strike; Frank Wheeler photographer's corner card; docketed 'O.B.' at left above cc; Ex-Newbury	Private Collection
Aug. 22 VF strike	 cover	3¢ Rose 1861 Sc #65	Mrs. Levi Allen Durham Center, CT	lady's small cover; stamp at left with vertical strike	Rumsey Sale 61 Lot 637

1866	Cover/Detail/Piece	Stamp	Correspondence	Notes	Source
Aug. 22 VF strike	 cover	3¢ Rose 1861 Sc #65	Eugene Leonard Bryan, OH	lady's small cover; stamp folded over cover edge at lower left	Dealer Stephen Taylor
Aug. 22 XF strike		3¢ Rose 1861 Sc #65	Mrs. E.B. Ives Bristol, CT	small cover; stamp faulty; opened at right	RAS Sale 1063, Lot 1457
Aug. 27		3¢ Rose 1861 Sc #65	Samuel Hopson Wallingford, CT	dated enclosure	Private Collection
Aug. 29 Superb strike	 cover detail	2¢ 1863 Sc #73 Black Jack	Dr. A. Morrison Windsor, CT	<i>An important Black Jack rarity</i> — Robert A. Siegel	Rumsey Sale 38, Lot 2260, record Dw/P realization \$20,000; PFC #487216/ #096870
Aug. 31 VF strike	 cover detail	3¢ Rose 1861 Sc #65	Mary J. Corbin New Britain, CT	only last day of use currently recorded	Private Collection
Nov. 2 CFT		3¢ Rose 1861 Sc #65		COUNTERFEIT WEST MERIDEN/CT. 2 NOV pmk with fancy cancel; not in period of use	RAS Sale 196, Lot 278, Dec. 18-19, 1956