

***'FROM DUPLEX TO MECHANICAL':***  
**THE EVOLUTION OF EXPERIMENTAL**  
**AND EARLY MACHINE POSTMARKS**  
**WORLDWIDE ... 1857 to 1920s**

by  
**JERRY H. MILLER**

# **'From Duplex to Mechanical': The Evolution of Experimental and Early Machine Postmarks Worldwide .. 1857-1920s**

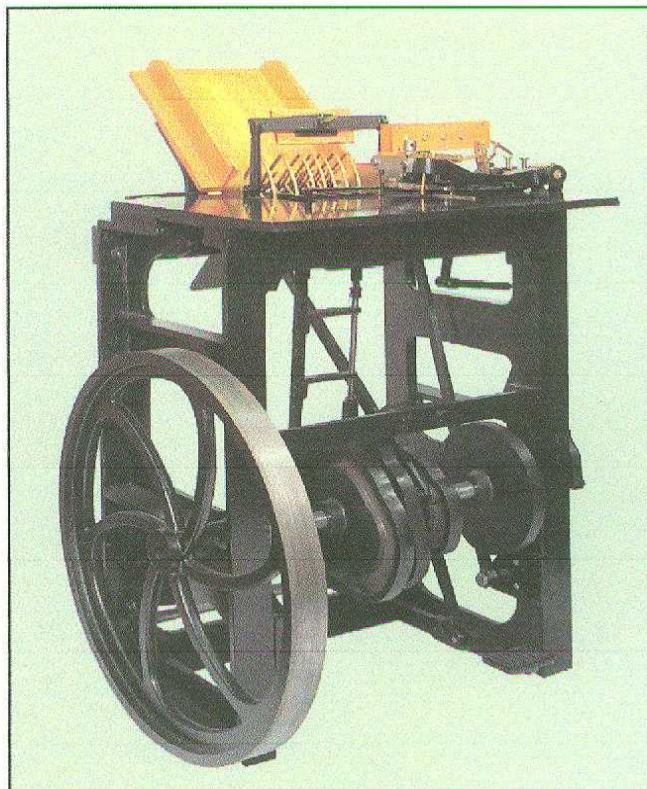
## **HISTORICAL BACKGROUND**

**Soon after the introduction of prepaid postage and use of the first postage stamp in England in 1840, postal authorities recognized a need for clear and legible postmarks as well as an improvement in handling of the ever-increasing mail volume.**

**Forerunner duplex hand-postmarking devices were introduced in Europe and the United States between 1850-1860s with 'pioneer' mechanical machines following in many countries between 1857-1880s.**

**With improved mechanical technology evolving between 1880s-1900s, rapid hand-operated machinery resulted followed by electrically powered high-speed machinery.**

**Concurrent with those developments, a number of innovative unusual postmarking machines evolved which were evaluated & tested by many postal authorities.**



## **FIRST POSTMARKING MACHINE**

**Introduced in England by Pearson Hill in September 1857, this treadle-operated machine was able to postmark about one hundred units of mail/minute.**



## EXHIBIT

This postal history exhibit is a chronological presentation of the evolution of important postmarks applied by early experimental postmarking machines tested or evaluated by post office authorities worldwide between 1857 – 1920s.

Shown postmarks are from devices or machines considered to be of philatelic and historic importance with impact worldwide in the evolutionary process with many lesser important machines tried or tested worldwide not included in this exhibit, nor are all the postmarks of each indicated machine shown.

## EXHIBIT PLAN

- I. Introduction and Title Page
- II. Forerunner Devices  
(1850s – early 1860s)
- III. 'Pioneer' Mechanical Machines  
(1857-1880s)
  - A. Great Britain
  - B. Expansion Worldwide
- IV. Early Rapid Postmarking Machines  
(1880s-1900s)
- V. High-Speed Flexible Machines  
(1904-1940s)
- VI. Epilogue:  
Innovative Unusual Postmarking Machines  
(1870s-1920s)

## TEXT COLOR-CODING

**BLACK:** General Historical or Other Information

**BLUE:** Chapter-Start-Page Heading, important annotative information, with blue-matting as visual indication of particular scarcity

**MAROON:** Postal-Rate Information

## II. FORERUNNER DEVICES

### United States of America Early Attempts at Duplex Markings

1850s - early 1860s

Attempts at 'hand-stamper' duplex postmarking out-going mail were tested or tried in a number of countries in the 1850s and early 1860s.

OUT-GOING MAIL POSTMARKING WERE WITH DATED  
DATER-DIAL INDICATING CITY & WITH OBLITERATOR IN DUPLEX.

19 January (?)

"Chicago-Blue"  
Postmark on cover sent to  
Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania.



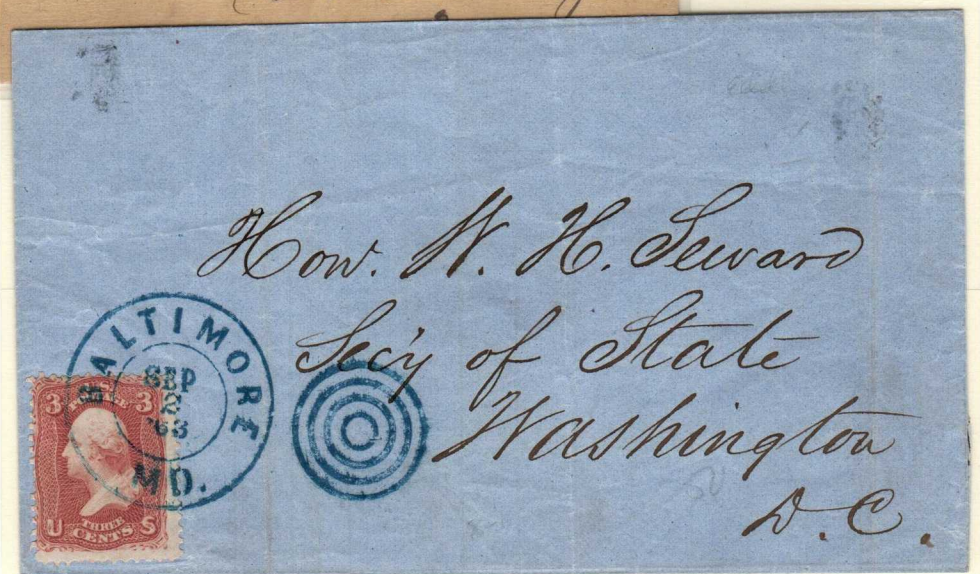
31 March (?)

Advertising cover  
postmarked  
New York City,  
sent to  
Chester,  
New Jersey.



2 September 1863

Civil War Period  
"Baltimore Blue" Postmark  
on folded-letter addressed  
to  
"Secretary of State  
Seward",  
at  
Washington D.C.



Three Cents ...  
Prepaid Postage for letter-mail ½ ounce  
(1 July 1851 - 30 September 1883)



# FORERUNNER DEVICES

## Denmark

### Early Attempt at Time-Dating Mail Through the Copenhagen Railway Post Office

1853 - 1856

In 1853, the Copenhagen Railway Post Office commenced experimenting with a **HAND-OPERATED DEVICE APPLYING A TIME-DATED POSTMARK** to out-going or transit mail.

#### DOMESTIC MAIL

12 MARCH 1853

Folded commercial letter, postmarked at the Copenhagen Railway Post Office, sent to Lonstrup, Denmark.

4 Skilling ...  
Single-weight domestic letter-rate.



#### FOREIGN-BOUND MAIL

29 October 1856

Folded commercial letter, postmarked at Copenhagen Railway Post Office, sent to "Bordeaux", France, via Danish & Thurn & Taxis Post Offices at Hamburg.

##### Transit Postmarks:

- Copenhagen Railway Post Office, 29. October (front, left-bottom)
- Danish Post Office at Hamburg, 30 October 1856
- Thurn & Taxis Post Office at Hamburg, 30 October 1856
- Valenciennes & Tours Train '2' Railway Postmark, 1 November
- Paris, 1 November
- Bordeaux, 2 November 1856

Eight Skilling ..  
Single-page commercial mail.  
(18-Centimes transit postage)





# FORERUNNER DEVICES

United States of America

Norton 'Patent Duplex'

22 January 1861 – 30 January 1862

One of the early American pioneers of hand-stamper duplex postmarking devices was Marcus P. Norton, patent attorney, who, commencing in 1859, introduced various types of duplex stampers.

**IN 1861, A 'NORTON 'PATENT DUPLEX' WAS INTRODUCED AT NEW YORK AND CAPABLE OF INNOVATIVE ADJUSTABLE DATE SETTINGS.**



Ex Chase, Preston

22 January 1861

New York origin postmark on cover  
sent to Dover, Massachusetts.

Three Cents ...  
Prepaid postage for letter-mail ½ ounce

Earliest known use date.

# FORERUNNER DEVICES

United States of America  
Norton Duplex 'Stamping Iron'

October 1862 - January 1863

**IN 1862, ANOTHER 'NORTON' DUPLEX-POSTMARKING DEVICE,  
REFERRED TO AS A "STAMPING IRON",  
USING CUTTING-BLADES AS THE OBLITERATOR  
WAS TESTED AT THE MAIN NEW YORK CITY POST OFFICE.**

**The blades canceled the postage stamp  
but potentially the mail itself, resulting in  
Postmaster Abram Wakeman at Washington D.C.  
rejecting the device and suggesting  
substituting the blades for cork.**



**24 October 1862**

**New York origin postmark on folded-letter  
sent to Boston, Massachusetts.**

**Three Cents ...  
Prepaid postage for letter-mail ½ ounce**

**Earliest known use date.**



### III-A. PIONEER MECHANICAL

Great Britain

Pearson Hill ... Machine 'A'

21 September 1857 – 17 February 1858

Early work done by Pearson Hill, son of Rowland Hill, "father" of the postage stamp, at the British Post Office concentrated on studying postmarking deficiencies concurrently recognizing a **NEED FOR A MACHINE OR STAMPING DEVICE TO IMPROVE THE HANDLING OF MAIL & POSTMARKING LEGIBILITY ALONG WITH CONSERVATION OF INK.**

**IN 1857, PEARSON HILL PATENTED THE FIRST MACHINE** for "stamping, marking or printing...letters", a single-impresion, treadle-operated, single-stroke, postmarking machine.

POSTMARK FROM THE FIRST FIELD-TESTED POSTMARKING MACHINE..  
Postmark Code 'A' Machine Code 'A'



Reverse

Front

25 September 1857

Single-weight folded commercial letter,  
postmarked at London on the first day of day/night machine usage,  
sent to Glasgow, Scotland.

One Penny ..  
Domestic single-weight letter-rate.

Only known cover from this early operational date.



## THIRD TRIAL Duplex Postmark Type III

Officially first demonstrated on 13-14 May 1858,  
**HILL'S SO-CALLED 'PARALLEL-MOTION STAMPING MACHINE'**  
had a parallel-motion linkage with a double-roller inking feature  
to eliminate offset inking on mail.



19mm Dater-Dial with 'London'  
15mm in length along with a  
duplex obliterator having a postal code  
in obliterator between  
9 (2.5.5.2) heavy bar lines.

Postmark Die Code Numbers: Vary  
Postal Day Codes "A" thru "Z"



15 MARCH 1861

Commercial cover sent from  
London to Kilmarnock, Scotland.

**One Penny..**  
**Domestic single-weight letter-rate**

# PIONEER MECHANICAL

## Great Britain Charles Rideout Machine '1' Duplex Postmark Type I ('HS')

4 February - 14 October 1858

In January 1858, Charles Rideout, a former surveyor, offered the London Post Office a new table-top, single-die, hand-operated postmarking machine, patented in October 1857 by his son-in-law, George Beard.

**RIDEOUT'S POSTMARK WAS DUPLEX-STYLE HAVING A DATER AND OBLITERATOR INDICATING THE MACHINE NUMBER**



19mm Dater-Dial with 'HS' Code, month, day & year along with a duplex obliterator having '1' between 12 (2.8.7.2) vertical bar lines.



Ex Chase, Ward, Gibson

12 May 1858

Cover postmarked at Charlottesville, Virginia, sent to London where 'Rideout Postmark' was applied with additional 'redirected' postage to Chester, England.

**24 Cents .. Single-weight letter-rate to London, England.  
Plus  
One Penny.. Domestic single-weight letter-rate postage  
in England for redirected mail.**



# PIONEER MECHANICAL

## Great Britain

Charles Rideout Machine '2'  
Duplex Postmark Types II ('CR')  
27 December 1858 –  
3 December 1859

In December 1858, Charles Rideout, delivered a  
**SECOND TRIAL MACHINE** to the General Post Office at London;  
**POSTMARK NOW HAD A NEW DATER-DIAL CODE OF 'CR' HAVING  
OBLITERATOR INDICATING '2'.**



19mm Dater-Dial with 'CR' Code,  
month, day & year along with a  
duplex obliterator having '2' between  
9 (2.5.5.2) vertical bar lines.



16 September 1859

Prepaid folded letter postmarked at  
London, England, sent to Richmond, Virginia.  
Carried on the Cunard Steamer "Asia"  
with Liverpool transit mark and red "X" postal inspector's mark.  
15-day transit time.

24 Cents ..  
(3+16+5 Cents)  
Single-weight  
letter-rate to America  
including  
Five Cents domestic postage  
(New York City to Richmond).



**III-B. PIONEER MECHANICAL**  
Expansion Worldwide

**Australia**  
**(New South Wales)**  
**Charles Rideout Machine**

10 July 1861 – 8 May 1862

In 1861, the New South Wales Post Office acquired Charles Rideout Mechanical Postmarking Machines for trial use at Sydney's main post office.

**THE POSTMARK WAS DUPLEX-STYLE HAVING A DATER DIAL AND OBLITERATOR INDICATING A MACHINE NUMBER "2" OR "3".**



19mm Dater-Dial with 'AO', 'EO' or 'HO' Codes, "Sydney" month, day & year along with a duplex obliterator having '3' between 9 (2.5.2) horizontal bar lines.

**5 August 1861**  
("EO" Code)  
Sydney origin postmark on mourning cover sent to Brisbane. 3-day transit time.

**Six Pence..**  
**Single-weight**  
(1/2 ounce)  
**letter-rate to**  
**another province**

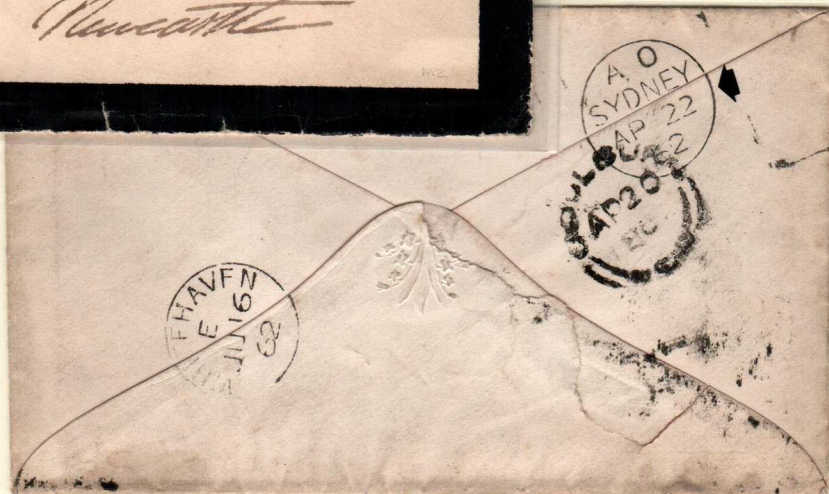


**23 November 1861**  
("EO" Code)  
Sydney origin postmark on mourning cover sent to Newcastle. One-day transit time.

**Two Pence ...**  
**Single-weight**  
(1/2 ounce)  
**letter-rate**



**22 April 1862**  
("AO" Code)  
Sydney transit postmark on reverse of outbound cover to England. 85-day transit time.





**PIONEER MECHANICAL**  
Expansion Worldwide

**Australia**  
(New South Wales)  
Pearson Hill  
Parallel Motion Machine  
21 January 1867 – 7 November 1871

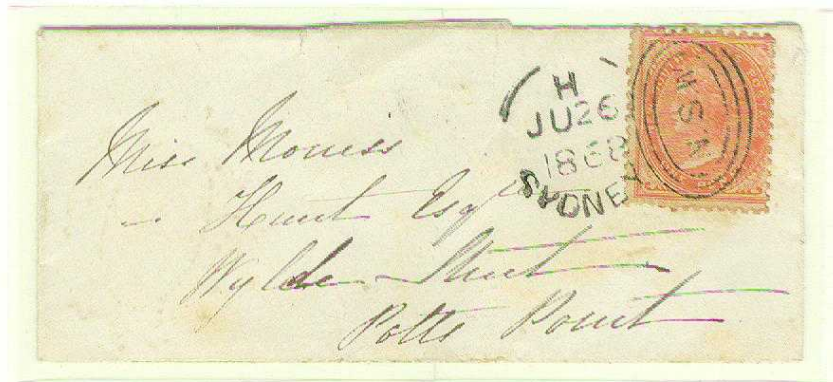
In 1867, the New South Wales Post Office acquired Pearson Hill Parallel Motion Machines for trial and comparison to similar 'Charles Rideout' Machines operating at Sydney's main post office since 1861.



20 mm Dater-Dial with letter code, "Sydney", month, day & year along with a duplex obliterator having "NSW" between three oval lines.

26 July 1868  
("H" Code)  
Sydney postmarked  
"lady's" cover  
sent to  
Potts Point, Australia

One Penny..  
Single-weight  
letter-rate in  
New South Wales



21 April 1869  
("K" Code)

Sydney postmarked cover sent to Newport, Shropshire, England, with route endorsement "Via Marseilles". 83-day transit time.

Arrival Postmark:  
(Reverse)  
"Newport,  
July 13, 1869"

Ten Pence ...  
Single-weight (1/2 ounce)  
letter-rate to England,  
"Via Marseilles" (France).

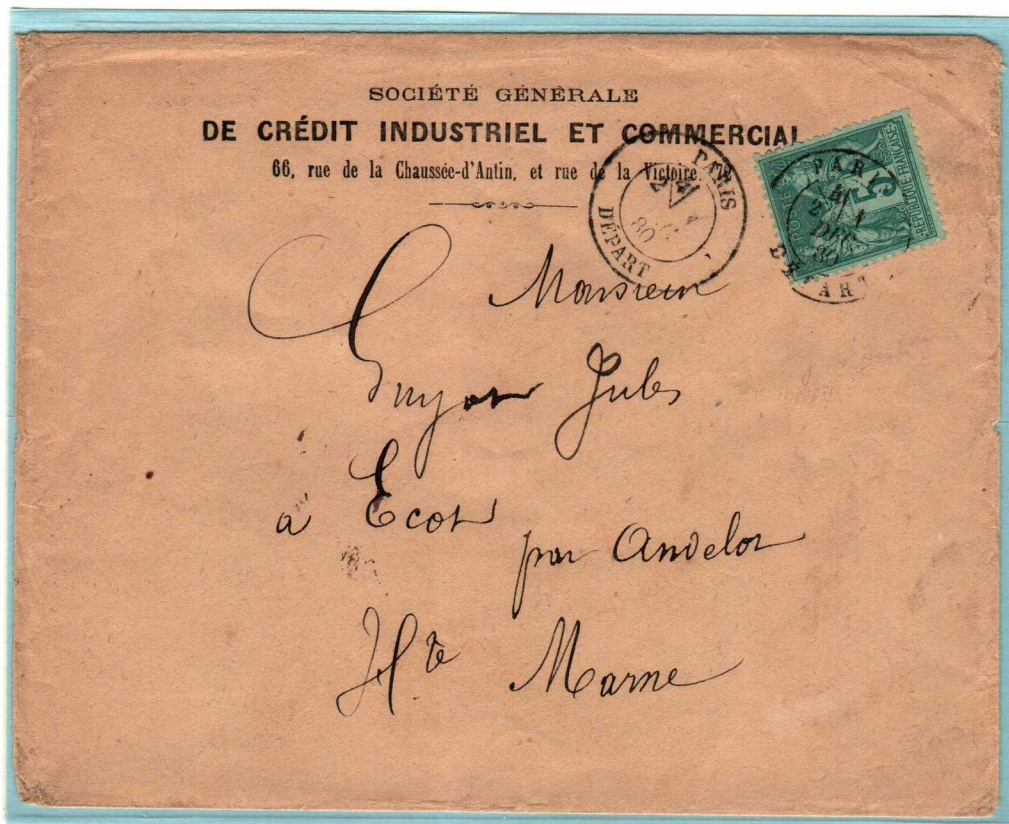


**PIONEER MECHANICAL**  
Expansion Worldwide

France  
(Paris .. Depart)  
Pearson Hill  
Parallel Motion Machine  
18 June 1880 – 23 August 1881

In an effort to expedite mail and reduce hand-cancelling by their postmarking clerks, the French Post Office at Paris in 1880 acquired a trial Pearson Hill Parallel Motion Machine from England for applying origin postmarks to out-going mail.

22 mm Double-Circle Dater-Dials in Duplex  
indicating city, time, date & year  
with each dial having different type size



Exp. Pothion

1 DECEMBER 1880  
(24 PM)

Commercial bank cover, unsealed, postmarked 'Paris Depart',  
sent to Econ/Andelot, Haute Marne, France.

Arrival Postmark:  
(Reverse)  
"Andelot, Haute Marne,  
3 December 1880"

5 Centimes...  
(Ceres, L = 19½)

Domestic single-weight printed-matter mail up to 50 grams.

Less than five known.



**PIONEER MECHANICAL**  
Expansion Worldwide

Italy  
(Tuscany)  
Pearson Hill  
Parallel Motion Machine  
April 1868

IN OCTOBER 1863, A PEARSON HILL PARALLEL MOTION MACHINE WAS ACQUIRED BY THE TUSCANY STATE POST OFFICE FROM DE LA RUE COMPANY, whereupon the machine had a brief trial at Florence (Firenze), a subsequent brief trial at Turin in 1864, WITH FINAL RETURN TO FLORENCE FOR SPORADIC POSTMARKING USE APPLYING ARRIVAL OR TRANSIT MARKS TO MAIL BETWEEN 1868-69.

19 mm Dater-Dial  
indicating  
time code, city, date & year.



23 April 1868  
("4 S" Time Code)

Firenze origin & Pearson Hill transit postmarked  
folded-sheet printed-matter sent to Milan.

Arrival Postmark:  
(Reverse)  
"Milano"  
25 April 1868"

Two Centesimo ...  
Domestic single-weight printed-matter mail rate.

**PIONEER MECHANICAL  
Expansion Worldwide**

**United States of America  
John McAdams Machine  
Washington D.C. Trials  
4-10 December 1862**

**Because of the high volume of Union Soldiers' Mail having to be handled & distributed daily at Washington D.C. during the Civil War, the Postmaster General sought machines to expedite mail handling and reduce postmarking by hand.**

**'JOHN McADAMS' DEVELOPED A TREADLE-OPERATED MACHINE, TESTED AND EVALUATED IN DECEMBER 1862 AT WASHINGTON D.C. APPLYING TWO STYLES OF DATER DIALS WITH DUPLEX OBLITERATORS,**

**Oval Dater (35mm)  
& 5-Ring Obliterator**

**9 December 1862**

**Washington D.C.  
postmarked cover sent  
to Newark, New Jersey**

**Known Use:  
5-9 December 1862**



**Circular Dater (32mm)  
& Waffle-Format  
Obliterator**

**8 December 1862**

**Washington D.C.  
postmarked cover sent  
to Providence, Rhode  
Island.**

**Known Use:  
4-10 December 1862**



**Three Cents ...  
Prepaid Postage for letter-mail ½ ounce**



**PIONEER MECHANICAL  
Expansion Worldwide**

**United States of America  
McAdams or Other Machine  
Washington D.C. Trials**

7-11 March 1863

Just prior to Adams Machine Trials at New York City, another brief trial continued at Washington D.C. in March 1863.

**IT CANNOT BE VERIFIED WHETHER THE MACHINE POSTMARK APPLIED IN 1863 WAS DEFINITELY FROM A 'McADAM'S MACHINE', OR FROM ANOTHER INVENTOR, ALBEIT THE DATER DIAL OF BOTH THE WASHINGTON 'MARCH TRIAL' AND THOSE AT NEW YORK IN 1863 HAD THE SAME DATER DIAL DIAMETER.**



**Round Dater (24mm)  
& 5-Circle obliterator**

**10 March 1863**

**Washington D.C. postmarked cover  
sent to Cushing, Maine.**

**Three Cents ...  
Prepaid Postage for letter-mail ½ ounce**

**Only known example.**

**PIONEER MECHANICAL  
Expansion Worldwide**

**United States of America  
McAdams Foot-Motion Machine  
New York City Trials  
March - June 1863**

**Trials were also held in New York City with machines developed by  
John McAdams.**

**TWO DIE VARIETIES WERE APPLIED AND TRIAL EVALUATED.**

**DIE I:  
Round Dater (26mm)  
& 10-bar obliterator  
Use: 28 March - 6 April  
1863**

**3 April 1863**

**New York City  
postmarked  
folded-letter  
sent to Providence,  
Rhode Island.**

**Three Cents ...  
Prepaid postage for  
letter-mail ½ ounce.**

**One of three examples  
known.**

Ex R. Payne



**DIE II:  
Round Dater (26mm)  
& 12-bar obliterator  
Use: 8 April - 6 June  
1863**

**6 June 1863**

**New York City  
postmarked  
cover  
sent to occupied  
New Orleans, Louisiana.**

**Three Cents ...  
Prepaid postage for  
letter-mail ½ ounce.**

**One of two examples  
known.**

Ex P. Stafford





**PIONEER MECHANICAL**  
Expansion Worldwide

United States of America  
Unknown Machine Manufacturer  
Pittsburgh Trials  
1871-1872

It would not be until 1871-1872 when another single-impresion postmarking machine would be evaluated and tested in the United States of America and at Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania, Invented and manufactured by an unknown person or company.

**TRIALS LASTED BETWEEN 1871-1872 HAVING SEVERAL  
POSTMARK CONFIGURATIONS USED WITH THE  
"SHIELD" OBLITERATOR BEING THE MOST ATTRACTIVE.**



**Rectangular Dater 45x18mm  
& 'Shield' Obliterator**

**15 July (1872)**

**Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania, postmarked  
advertising cover  
sent to Westchester, Connecticut.**

**Three Cents ...  
Prepaid Postage for letter-mail ½ ounce**

**PIONEER MECHANICAL**  
Expansion Worldwide

United States of America  
Pearson Hill 'Pivot Machine'  
New York City  
1874

**A MODIFIED VERSION OF THE BRITISH MANUFACTURED  
'PEARSON HILL PARALLEL MOTION' MACHINE,  
mounted with a swivel arm and referred to as  
a 'Pivot Machine',  
WAS TRIED AT NEW YORK CITY IN 1874.**

**Postmark: 27mm Diameter Dater Dial  
with obliterator indicating "12"  
between 21 thin horizontal bars**

**Usage: 10 September – 26 October 1874**



**26 October (1874)**

**New York City postmarked  
local city cover.**

**Latest usage date known.**

**Three Cents ...  
Domestic letter-mail for each ½ ounce  
(1 July 1863 – 1 October 1883)**



**PIONEER MECHANICAL  
Expansion Worldwide**

**United States of America  
Pearson Hill 'Pivot Machine'  
Boston, Massachusetts  
1880 - 1891**

Subsequent to the 1874 trial at New York City, Pearson Hill's 'Pivot Machine' was transferred to Boston, Massachusetts, for trials using a different obliterator.

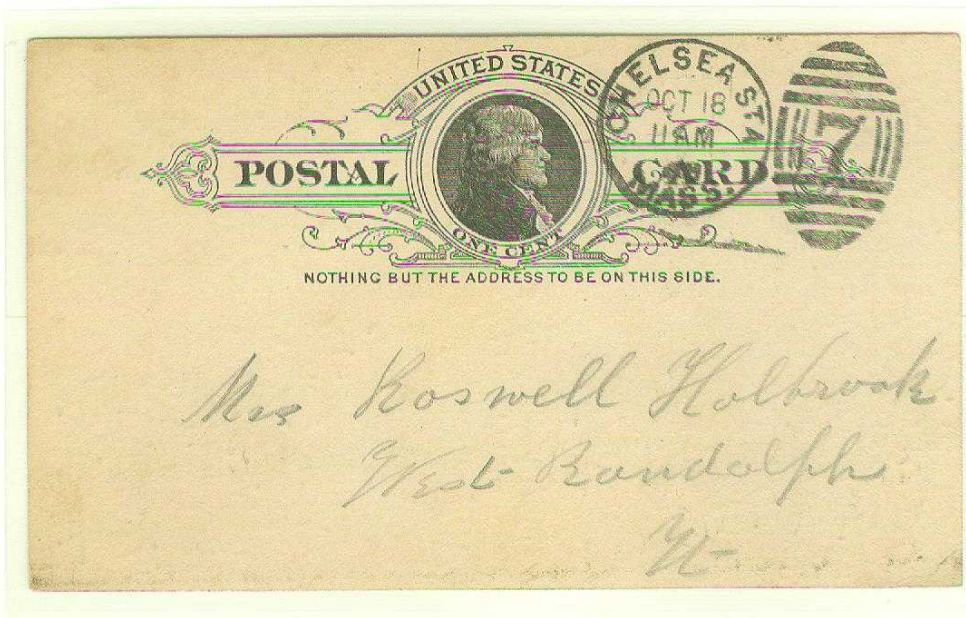
**DESPITE A TRIAL DURATION OF TEN YEARS, THE PEARSON HILL MACHINE  
HAD NO WIDER SUCCESS IN THE UNITED STATES.**

Postmark: 27mm Diameter Dater Dial  
with obliterator indicating "7"  
in an oval having 8-3-3  
horizontal & vertical bars

**18 October 1888**

Chelsea Station  
(Boston),  
Massachusetts.  
postmarked  
postal stationery  
card for local city  
delivery.

**One Cent...  
Domestic  
Postcard Rate  
(1 May 1873 -  
1 July 1898)**



If not called for within TEN days, return to

**GEORGE F. SLADE,**

Manufacturer of

**CIGARS, CIGARETTES  
AND CHERROOTS.**

No. 14 BROAD ST. .... BOSTON.  
Factories at Chelsea and Cliftondale, Mass.



**25 August 1887**

Chelsea Station  
(Boston),  
Massachusetts,  
postmarked  
advertising cover  
sent to Lowell,  
Massachusetts.

**Two Cents...  
Single-weight  
(one ounce)  
domestic letter-  
Rate  
(1 July 1885 -  
2 November 1917)**

*Mr Alfred P. Sanger  
Attorney at Law.  
Lowell, Mass*



**PIONEER MECHANICAL**  
Expansion Worldwide

**United States of America**  
Palmer & Clark  
1876-1877

**ONE OF THE FIRST EFFECTIVE AMERICAN-BUILT HAND-OPERATED  
POSTMARKING MACHINES WAS PATENTED BY TIMOTHY G. PALMER  
AND HENRY F. CLARK IN 1875.**

**Their machine was evaluated by the American Post Office in  
seven different cities between 1876-1877, albeit not  
otherwise more widely accepted as a result of still more effective  
competitive machines, e.g. Leavitt, being evaluated**



**28mm Round Dater Dial  
& 6-Bar Oval Obliterator**

**15 December (1876)**

**Washington, D.C. postmarked cover  
sent to New York City.  
One-day transit time.**

**Arrival Postmark:  
(Reverse)  
"New York, December 16, 1876"**

**Three Cents ...  
Prepaid Postage for letter-mail ½ ounce**



**PIONEER MECHANICAL**  
Expansion Worldwide

**United States of America**  
Leavitt Machines

1876-1892

**BROTHERS THOMAS & MARTIN LEAVITT DEVELOPED THE FIRST SUCCESSFUL ROTARY-OPERATING HAND-OPERATED POSTMARKING MACHINE IN FIELD USE UP TO FIFTEEN YEARS IN VARIOUS CITIES OF AMERICA.**

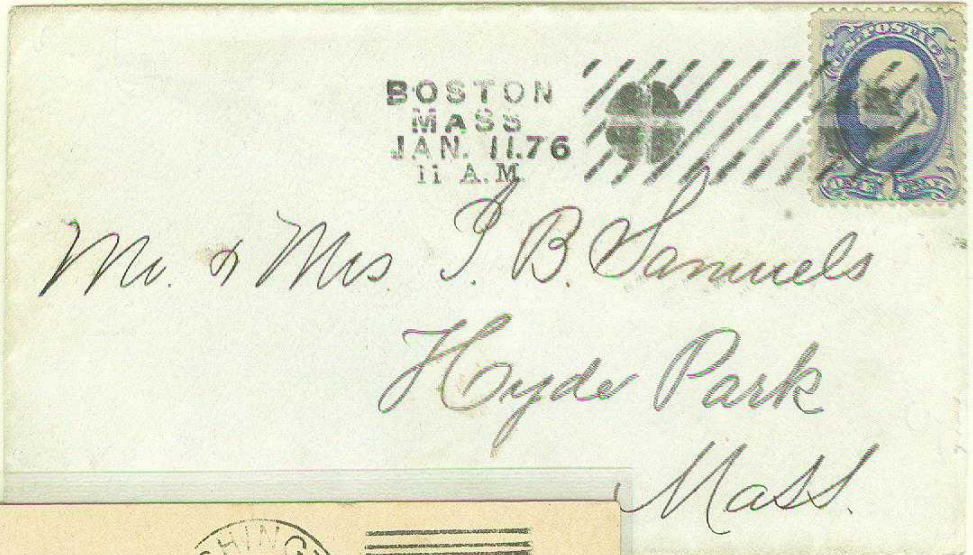
Leavitt Machines postmarked both covers and postal cards applying varied postmarks and obliterations over the time of their use.

**FIRST FIELD USE POSTMARK APPLIED AT BOSTON**

11 January 1876

Boston, Massachusetts,  
postmarked cover  
sent to local Hyde Park.

**One cent Drop or Local Letter-Rate**  
(1/2 ounce)



**FIELD USE POSTMARK APPLIED AT WASHINGTON, D.C.**

3 November 1886

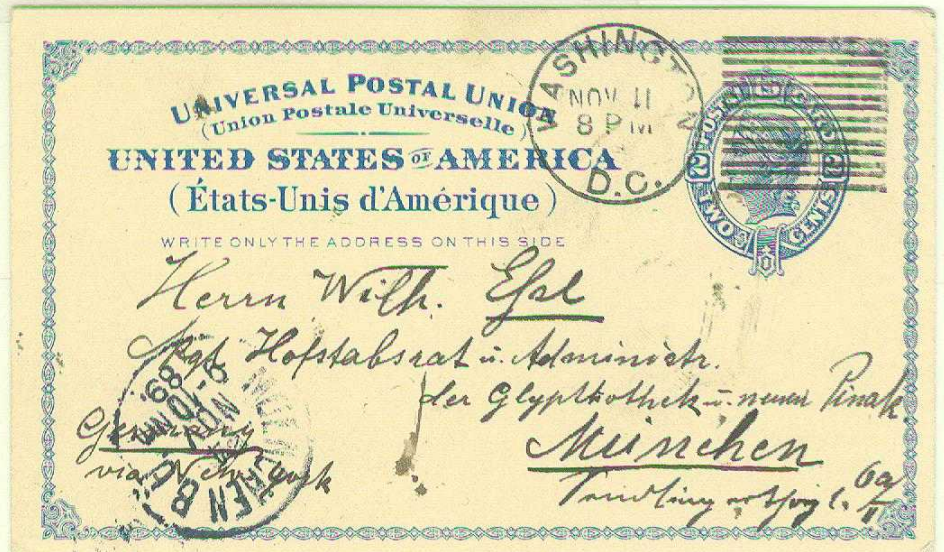
Up-rated domestic postal card, postmarked at Washington, D.C., sent to Potsdam, Germany.

**Two Cents: UPU International Postcard Rate**

11 November 1889

UPU International Postal Card, postmarked at Washington, D.C., sent to Munich, Bavaria, Germany.

**Two Cents: UPU International Postcard Rate**





**PIONEER MECHANICAL  
Expansion Worldwide**

**United States of America  
American Postal Machine Company**

1884 - 1885

**IN 1884, MARTIN VAN BUREN ETHRIDGE,  
ENTREPRENEUR & FOUNDER OF THE AMERICAN POSTAL MACHINE COMPANY,  
INTRODUCED A NEWLY DEVELOPED POSTMARKING MACHINE TO THE BOSTON  
POST OFFICE,**

**capable of postmarking 300 mail units/minute. Thus, the "Ethrige Machine"  
was unique for the time being able to postmark the equivalent of six postal  
clerks hand-cancelling mail in similar time period.**

**24mm Round Dater Dial  
& High Heavy 6-Bar  
Obliterator  
(Type I)**

Usage:

24 Nov. 1884 - 5 April 1885

**1884**

**Boston postmarked  
cover sent to  
Cambria, Michigan.**

**1 Cent:**

**Third-class printed-  
matter enclosed mail.**



**24mm Round  
Dater Dial  
& Concaved in Center  
Heavy 6-Bar Obliterator  
(Type II)**

Usage:

3 April - October 1885

**7 June 1885**

**Boston postmarked  
cover sent to  
Berlin, Germany.  
14-Day Transit Time.**

Arrival Postmark:

(Reverse)

"21 June 1885"

**5 Cents:**

**UPU Single-Weight  
International  
Letter-Rate.**





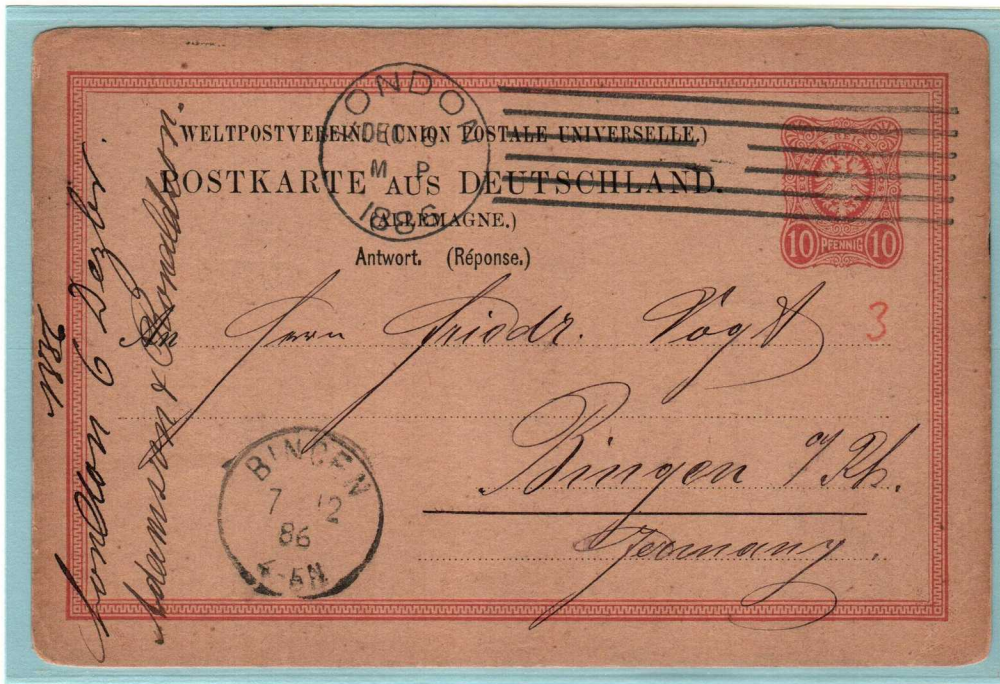
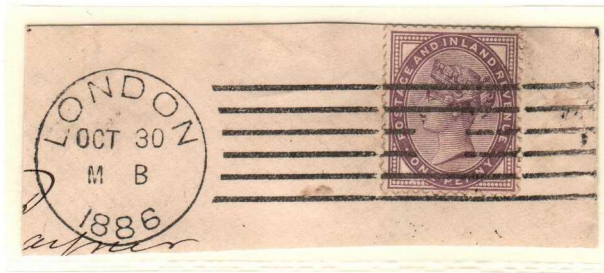
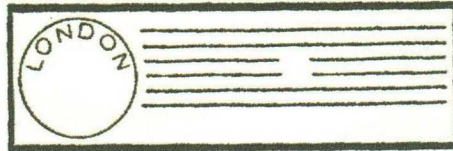
**PIONEER MECHANICAL**  
Expansion Worldwide

**Great Britain**  
American Postal Machine Company

September 1886 – April 1887

IN BRITAIN, THE 'AMERICAN POSTAL MACHINES' WERE REFERRED TO AS  
"ETHRIDGE MACHINES", NAME OF THEIR INVENTOR.

Testing at London took place between  
September 1886 and 20 April 1887 with no sales resulting.



6 December 1886

Commercial-mail German postal stationery reply card, transit  
postmarked at London, England (Ethridge Machine) with arrival at  
Bingen, Germany, on 7 December 1886.

10 Pfennig...  
UPU International Postcard Rate.

Only known Ethridge-Machine international reply-card usage.



# PIONEER MECHANICAL Expansion Worldwide

New Zealand  
Wright Postmarking Machine  
1865-1868

**THE FIRST TRIAL OF A NEW ZEALAND-BUILT POSTMARKING MACHINE  
TOOK PLACE IN 1865 WITH A MACHINE DEVELOPED BY F.E. WRIGHT,  
POSTMASTER AT CHRISTCHURCH.**

Whereas the British 'Pearson Hill Machine' was primarily intended to postmark out-going mail, The 'Wright Machine' was a single impression, single-stroke, device intended to apply service, receipt or arrival marks to in-bound or transit mail.

## EARLIEST KNOWN USAGE (IN-BOUND MAIL)

4 February 1865

Domestic cover with  
Wright Receiving Mark  
at Christchurch.

Two Pence...  
Domestic  
single-weight  
letter-rate



Ex Risdon



Front

## LATEST KNOWN TRANSIT USAGE (FOREIGN-BOUND MAIL)

4 April 1868

Cover sent to Edinburgh,  
Scotland, with Wright  
Machine Mark used a transit  
mark (reverse).

Other Transit Marks:

"London Paid,  
28 May 1868"  
(Front)

"Edinburgh,  
May 28, 1868"  
(Reverse)

Six Pence...  
Britain-bound  
single-weight  
letter-rate





**PIONEER MECHANICAL  
Expansion Worldwide**

**City-State of Hamburg  
Fischer-Mass/Hinrichsen Machine  
1866-1867**

**IN 1865, MESSRS. FISCHER & MAAS OF GERMANY DEVELOPED A POSTMARKING MACHINE, MANUFACTURED BY ROBERT HINRICHSEN, AND SUBMITTED IT FOR TRIALS AT THE 'GENERAL POST OFFICE' OF THE CITY-STATE HAMBURG IN 1866 AND, SUBSEQUENTLY, ALSO TO THE PRUSSIAN MAIN POST OFFICE AT BERLIN, where the machines initially applied arrival/service postmarks to in-bound or transit mail and origin postmarks to out-bound mail.**

Postmark on Cover Reverse:  
23mm Single-Circle Dater Dial with year-date at bottom.



Front



Reverse

6 MAY 1866

Thurn & Taxis (T&T) Post Office at Hamburg-postmarked folded-letter sent to Stadthagen with Hamburg-City Post Office Hinrichsen-Machine transit Postmark.

2 Silver Groschen...

Thurn & Taxis Post Office Single-Weight Letter 20-(German) Mile Rate  
(Thurn & Taxis Mail permitted to towns located in the States of Bremen & Oldenburg)

Earliest & only known 1866 postmark usage for this postmark.

**PIONEER MECHANICAL**  
Expansion Worldwide

**Hamburg & Prussia**  
Fischer-Mass/Hinrichsen Machine  
1866-1867



Ten days after the (6 May) trial commencement applying an arrival/transit postmark to mail at Hamburg, trials continued using a different style postmark intended for applying also an origin postmark to out-going mail with a Hinrichsen Machine at both Hamburg and Berlin (Prussia).

**Trial Dates Of Surviving Examples:**

**HAMBURG:** (3 Examples)

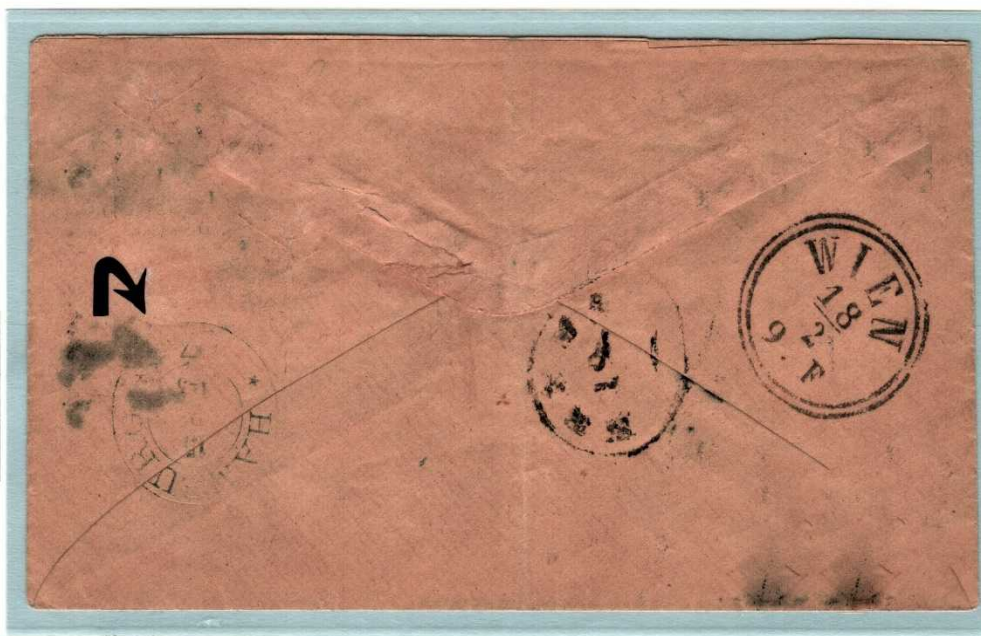
17-19 May 1866 & 15 February 1867

**BERLIN:** (2 Examples)

18-20 December 1866

**Postmark:**

24mm Double-Circle Dater Dial  
with year-date at bottom.



15 February 1867

Hamburg 'Transit Marking' (reverse) on New York-postmarked cover sent to Austria.

Vessel: 'Germania'..

Departure from New York .. 2 February/  
arrival at Hamburg .. 15 February.

*One of three postmark examples recorded for Hamburg;  
only one applied as a transit-mark & only known usage in 1867.*

15 Cents ...

U.S. - North German Confederation Rate for  
single-weight (One Ounce) letter mail



**PIONEER MECHANICAL  
Expansion Worldwide**

**Prussia  
Hinrichsen Machine  
1867**

In May 1867, the Imperial Prussian Post Office at Berlin contracted Robert Hinrichsen of Hamburg to supply a postmarking machine able to postmark 400-500 units of inbound-mail/minute.

**PRIOR TO DELIVERY OF A HINRICHSEN-SUPPLIED MACHINE FOR OPERATION AT BERLIN, MACHINE TESTS WERE CONDUCTED AT THE HAMBURG POST OFFICE BETWEEN 5-15 AUGUST 1867.**

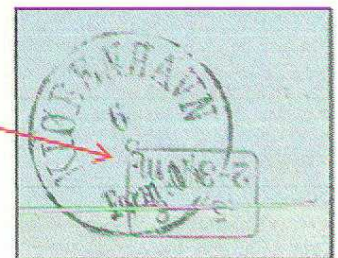
Postmark: Rectangular Die 17x 12mm.



5 August 1867

Folded commercial letter, deposited at the Prussian Post Office in Hamburg, transferred to the Hamburg City Post Office, where a receiving/transit mark was 'Hinrichsen Machine' applied along with an origin-out-bound mail postmark, sent to Copenhagen, Denmark.

**2-1/2 Schilling ...  
Letter-rate (1 Loth in weight) for mail to Denmark**



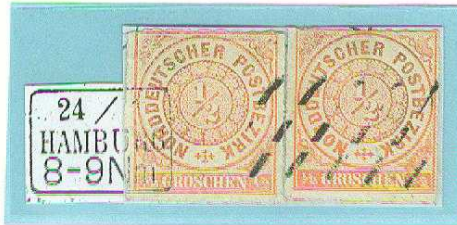
Reverse

Earliest known date of 'Berlin-bound Machine' Trial at Hamburg



With the establishment of the North German Confederation of several heretofore autonomous German states,  
**A 'UNIFIED' NORTH GERMAN POSTAL ADMINISTRATION  
COMMENCED RENEWED TRIALS (3) WITH THE  
'HINRICHSSEN MACHINE'**  
postmarking origin out-going mail.

*Postmark: Rectangular dater (19x14 mm) without year date having an obliterater with five widely spaced diagonal horizontal rows of three.*



Only recorded pair of 1/2 Groschen stamps postmarked from the first trial.

*First Trial: 23-25 January 1868*



Cert. Blecher

24 January (1868)

Commercial folded letter, postmarked at Hamburg, sent to "Captain Hinrichsen", Sonderburg, Germany.

One Groschen ...  
Single-weight (1 Loth or 15 grams)  
domestic letter-rate

Less than twenty covers or pieces recorded



**PIONEER MECHANICAL  
Expansion Worldwide**

**North German Confederation  
Hinrichsen Machine  
1868 - 1873**

**COMMENCING IN APRIL 1868 AT HAMBURG, THE POSTAL  
AUTHORITIES USED THE HINRICHSEN MACHINE TO APPLY  
SERVICE/ARRIVAL MARKINGS TO INBOUND MAIL FROM  
THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA.**

**Postmark: Rectangular dater die (19x13 mm),  
red-orange ink color, with text  
"Hamburg Franco"**



**Usage: 13 April 1868 – 5 December 1873**



**14 April 1868**

**Single-weight "Paid all New York Direct" cover,  
sent to Mittenwald, Bavaria, Germany, with "Hamburg Franco"  
arrival/transit mark. 16-day transit time**

**Hamburg-America Line Vessel 'Saxonia':  
14 April (departure New York) to Hamburg  
(arrival 27 April 1868), by train to Mittenwald.**

**Ten Cents ...  
U.S.-German States Rate  
(January 1868-June 1870)  
for single-weight letter mail.**

**PIONEER MECHANICAL  
Expansion Worldwide**

**German Empire  
Hinrichsen Machine  
1874 - 1881**

In October 1874,  
**A NEW POSTAL STATION AT THE 'VENLO TRAIN STATION' RECEIVED  
AN IMPROVED FASTER VERSION OF THE HINRICHSEN MACHINE**  
intended to handle voluminous printed-matter &  
lottery advertising mail.

**Postmark:** Rectangular dater dial (42 x 15mm)  
having two lines of text with three  
versions reflecting one of each of the  
postmarking machine dies.

**Usage:** 10 October 1874 - 24 April 1881



Cert Brugger

**18 October 1874**

Printed-matter wrapper with lottery mail advertising,  
postmarked (Type 3) at Hamburg, sent to Cottbus, Germany.

**1/3 Groschen ...  
Printed-matter rate for mail up to 50 grams.**

**One of five known entire wrappers for the period.  
Unique complete wrapper with contents  
having the 'large shield' issue of Germany**

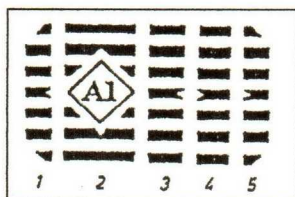


IN 1867, THE HINRICHSEN MACHINE WAS PATENTED IN BRITAIN  
WITH J.C. AZEMAR OF LONDON BECOMING THE  
LOCAL SALES REPRESENTATIVE.

Four years of trials (3) resulted in no broad sales success.

**Postmark:** 20mm diameter dater dial with the Code  
"YI" (First 1869 Trial Only) indicating "London"  
(14mm length) and month, day & year  
dates with a combination of obliterator  
bar-configurations.

**Usage:** (First Trial) 31 March – 24 June 1869



8 April 1869

Commercial cover sent from London to Blairgowrie, Scotland,  
arriving on 9 April (backstamp/reverse).

**One Penny ...**  
**Domestic single-weight letter-rate.**

Early days of the first trial had the dater-dial parallel  
with the upper bar of the obliterator or centered....

Configuration: 1.2. / 3.2.5.

One of two known examples with break in center of obliterator.

**PIONEER MECHANICAL  
Expansion Worldwide**

**German Empire  
Haller Machine  
1881 - 1906**

**In 1880, Wilhelm Löffelhardt patented the second postmarking machine to be trial-tested by the German Reichspost, manufactured by Haller & Company in Germany, with machines placed in field operation in fifteen locations.**

**HALLER MACHINES WERE DESIGNED TO APPLY RECEIVAL/SERVICE POSTMARKS TO INCOMING MAIL.**

**Postmark: Type 'a' at Berlin ..  
Single-Circle Dater Dial  
26mm in diameter**

**Usage: (Berlin Type 'a') 14 - 26 April 1881**



**20 April 1881**

**Postal Stationery Card, postmarked at  
Spandau's 'Hamburg Train Station', sent to a  
local Berlin pharmacist.**

**5 Pfennig ...  
Domestic Postcard Rate**

**One of five known examples from the 1881 trial.**



**PIONEER MECHANICAL  
Expansion Worldwide**

**United States of America  
Haller Machine  
1882**

**HALLER & COMPANY ALSO SOUGHT TO SELL THEIR POSTMARKING  
MACHINES IN THE UNITED STATES,  
with one machine known tested for applying transit marks  
at New York City in 1882.**

**Postmark: Single-Circle Dater Dial  
24mm in diameter**

**Usage: (New York City) 1882**



Front

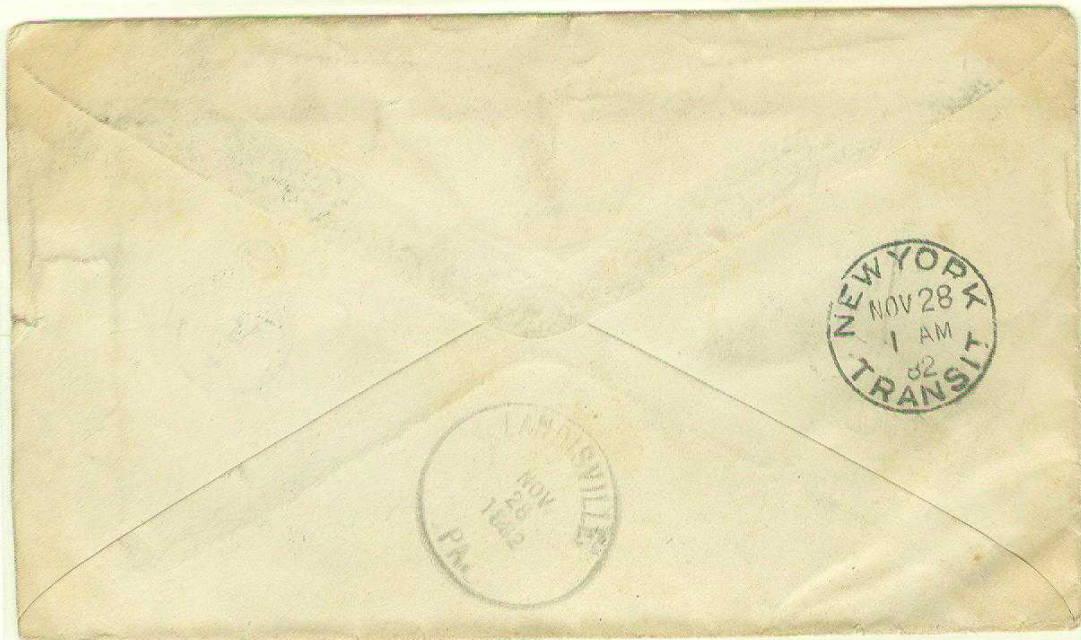
**25 December 1882**

**"Chappaqua, New York,  
postmarked cover,  
sent to Baker City, Oregon,  
with transit at New York City.**



**28 November 1882**

**Boston,  
Massachusetts,  
postmarked cover,  
sent to Landisville,  
Pennsylvania,  
with transit at New York  
City.**



**Three Cents ...  
Domestic half-ounce letter-rate**

**Less than ten Haller Postmark examples known.**



Based on its success with the *Reichspost* and its machine to apply arrival marks to in-bound mail, **IN 1882 HALLER & COMPANY DEMONSTRATED** (on previously used postal cards) **ITS RAPID HAND-OPERATED POSTMARKING MACHINE ABLE TO APPLY ORIGIN POSTMARKS TO OUT-GOING MAIL...** 'FORERUNNER TO THE 'HOSTER' POSTMARKING MACHINE.

**Postmark:** 42mm diameter double-circle indicating "Kaiserlich Deutsche Reichspost" along with an inner 25mm diameter single dater dial.

**Usage:** (Berlin C2) 5 January & 1 February 1882



Front



1 February 1882

'Dummy'/used (1880) Dutch Postal Stationery Card, on which the Haller Origin Postmark within a Reichspost Double-Dial was applied in the upper-right corners of each card side.

One of three known examples from the 1882 demonstration trial.



**PIONEER MECHANICAL  
Expansion Worldwide**

**Great Britain  
Hoster Machine  
1883 - 1893**

Over the period of ten years, Albert Hoster sold the British Post Office at London eight 'Hoster' Postmarking Machines to apply origin or arrival/service postmarks at several London locations.

**EACH HOSTER MACHINE HAD TWO DIE HEADS RESULTING IN TWO POSTMARK VARIETIES FOR EACH MACHINE WITH ADDITIONAL POSTMARK VARIETIES OVER TIME.**

**Postmark:** 30mm Single-Circle Dater Dial with 14-thick-line bar obliterator descending from left to right ..

**Usage:** (London Type VI ..  
23 December 1884 - 14 July 1886

**FOREIGN DESTINATION MAIL**

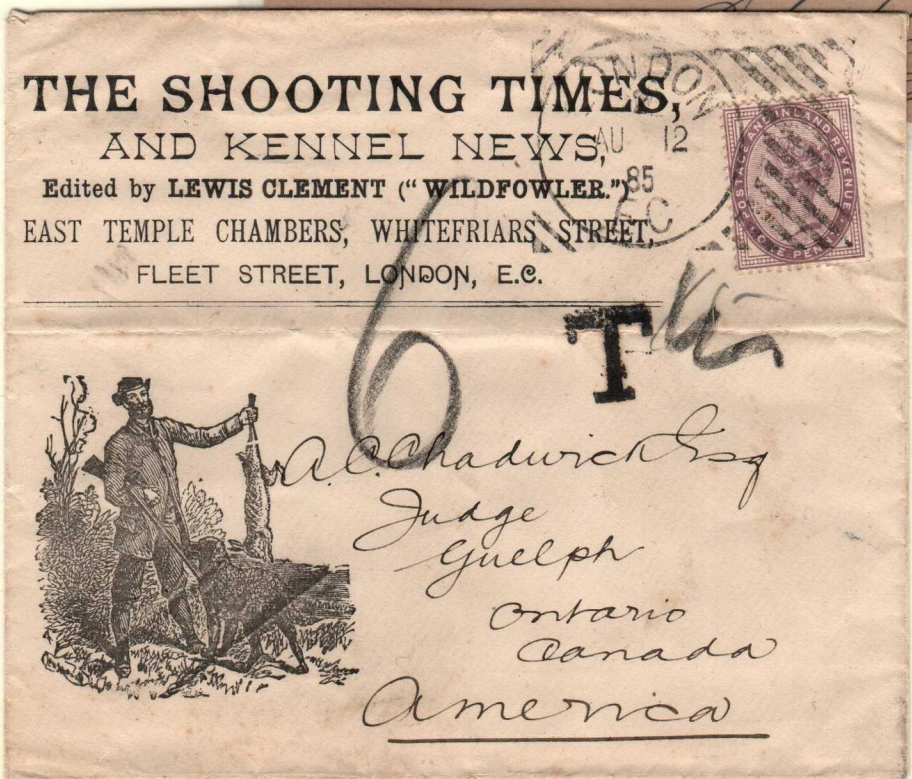
**MAIL TO FRANCE**

**2 February 1885**

**Commercial cover, sent to Bordeaux, France.**

**2-1/2 Pence ..  
Single-weight letter-rate to France**

**"ZZ" in dater dial denotes late arrival at post office.**



**POSTAGE DUE MAIL TO CANADA**

**12 August 1885**

**Commercial advertising cover, sent short-paid to Guelph, Ontario, Canada**

**One Penny franking should have been Four Pence resulting in Six Pence equivalent postage due in Canada:  
3 Pence additional postage + 3 Pence penalty.**



**PIONEER MECHANICAL**  
Expansion Worldwide

**German Empire**  
Hoster Machine  
1885 - 1887

Albert Hoster introduced his new postmarking machines to the German Reichspost in 1883, albeit formal field trials first commenced in 1885 at Berlin and Hamburg, having less success than machines used in Britain.

**'HOSTER MACHINES' IN GERMANY WERE DEDICATED TO APPLY ORIGIN POSTMARKS TO OUT-GOING MAIL WITH 'HALLER MACHINES' APPLYING ONLY RECEIVAL/SERVICE POSTMARKS TO IN-COMING MAIL... BOTH FROM THE SAME MANUFACTURER.**



**Postmark:** Berlin C2 ..  
30mm Double-Circle Dater Dial with  
17-line-bar obliterator descending  
from left to right

**Usage:** (Berlin Type I) 15 July –  
6 November 1885



**15 July 1885**

local city use of Reichspost postal stationery card,  
sent from 'Berlin Center Post Office 2' to 'Berlin W62 Post Office'  
informing addressee "Imperial Postal Advisor Rehbach"  
that the postmarking machine used here  
was able to process 400 mail units/minute".

**5 Pfennig ...**  
**Domestic Postcard Rate**

**Earliest known date for field trial.**



**PIONEER MECHANICAL  
Expansion Worldwide**

**German Empire  
Hoster Machine  
1885 - 1887**



**Postmark:** Berlin C2 ..  
30mm Double-Circle Dater Dial with  
17-line-bar obliterator descending  
from left to right;  
machine number upper left corner ('27')/  
die number in lower left corner ('1' of '2').

**Usage:** (Berlin Types III & IV) – 5 November 1885 -  
12 February 1887

**COMMERCIAL MAIL**

**2 May 1886**  
Postal stationery  
card,  
local city delivery.  
  
**5 Pfennig ...**  
Domestic  
postcard-rate



**8 January 1887**  
Franked postal card,  
sent to Amsterdam,  
Netherlands.  
  
**Arrival Postmark:**  
"Amsterdam,  
9 January 1887"  
  
**10 Pfennig ...**  
UPU International  
Postcard-Rate



**PIONEER MECHANICAL  
Expansion Worldwide**

**German Empire  
Hoster Machine  
1885 - 1887**

In addition to Berlin, trials also took place at Hamburg during the same period using a similar postmark.

**Postmark:** Hamburg P.A. 1 ..  
30mm Double-Circle Dater Dial with  
17-line-bar obliterator descending  
from left to right

**Usage:** (Hamburg Types I & II)  
17 September 1885 – 8 June 1887

**28 September 1885**  
(‘Hamburg Type II’)

Mourning cover,  
postmarked at  
Hamburg, sent to New  
York City, U.S.A.  
12-day transit time.

Arrival Postmark:  
(Reverse)  
“10 October 1885”

40 Pfennig ...  
UPU International  
Double-Weight  
(15-30 grams)  
Letter-Rate

Only Known Hoster  
Machine Postmark  
Cover sent to U.S.A.



**22 September 1885**  
(‘Hamburg Type I’)

UPU International Postal  
Stationery Card,  
postmarked at  
Hamburg, sent to  
Copenhagen, Denmark

Arrival Postmark:  
“K .. OMB 1,  
24 September 1885”

10 Pfennig ...  
UPU International  
Postcard-Rate



**PIONEER MECHANICAL**  
Expansion Worldwide

**Austro-Hungarian Empire**  
Hoster Machine  
1891-1894, 1904

**ALBERT HOSTER LICENSED THE 'CZEIGA-NISL COMPANY' OF VIENNA, AUSTRIA, FOR SALES TO THE AUSTRO-HUNGARIAN POSTAL ADMINISTRATION.**

Trial machines were operationally tested at Vienna, Austria, and Prague, Czechoslovakia, for dedicated use in applying receipt/service postmarks to in-bound mail.

Postmark: 30mm Single-Circle Dater Dial.

Usage: Vienna (1891-1894), Prague (1904)

25 January 1894  
(Purple Ink Color)

Commercial postal stationery card, postmarked (24 Jan.) at Trient, South Tirol, Austria, sent to Vienna.

2 Kreuzer .. Domestic postcard-rate.



29 January 1904  
(Blue Ink Color)

Viewcard, postmarked at Halle (Saale), Germany (Bickerdike Machine Flag Postmark), sent to Prague, Czechoslovakia.

3 Pfennig ... Concession-Rate for German Printed-Matter to 50 grams sent to Austro-Hungarian Empire destinations.



**AUGUSTE MELLET OF HAGUE, NETHERLANDS, MANUFACTURED THE FIRST DUTCH-ORIGIN HAND-OPERATED POSTMARKING DEVICE IN 1867,**  
with a first trial at the Hague Post Office demonstrating that the machine was able to postmark about 135 mail units/minute compared to 70 units for a postal clerk hand-stamping similar mail.

Dutch Post Office acceptance resulted in machines being introduced at five Dutch cities:  
**'s-Gravenhage, Amsterdam, Rotterdam, Utrecht & Arnhem.**

Postmark: 21mm and/or 23mm Diameter  
(depending upon city & time period)  
Double-Circle Dater Dial.

**26 October 1875**  
(23mm Dater Dial)

Dutch Postal Stationery Card, postmarked at Rotterdam, sent to Brussels, Belgium.

Arrival Postmark:  
"Brussels,  
27 October 1875"

5 Cents ...  
UPU International  
Postcard-Rate



**24 May 1892**  
(21mm Dater Dial)

Dutch UPU Postal Stationery Card, postmarked at Amsterdam, sent to Cologne, Germany.

Arrival Postmark:  
"Cöln \*(Rhein)\*  
25 May 1892"

5 Cents ...  
UPU International  
Postcard-Rate



**J.F.C. ROELANTS, POSTMASTER AT ASSEN, NETHERLANDS, INTRODUCED IN 1893 A SIMILAR-IN-OPERATION MACHINE TO THE EARLIER WIDELY-USED 'MELLET MACHINE', ALBEIT DESIGNED WITH A COUNTER-WEIGHT WHICH WAS LESS PRACTICAL DURING OPERATION.**

**Similar to the Mellet Machine, the 'Roelants' was designed to apply both origin postmarks to out-going mail as well as arrival/service postmarks to in-coming mail.**

**Although the Dutch Post Office authorized field trials in three Dutch cities (s-Gravenhage, Amsterdam & Rotterdam), the machine proven slower than the 'Mellet Machine' already in use with no subsequent units placed in operation beyond 1898.**

**Postmark: 27mm Diameter Double-Circle or Triple-Circle Dater Dial (depending upon city & time period).**



**3 February 1898**  
(27mm Double-Circle Dater Dial)

**Dutch UPU Postal Stationery Card, postmarked at Rotterdam, sent to Ronnenberg, Germany.**

**Arrival Postmark:  
"Ronnenberg  
5 February 1898 &  
6 February 1898"**

**5 Cents ...  
UPU International Postcard-Rate**

**PIONEER MECHANICAL**  
Expansion Worldwide

France  
Daguin Machine  
1884 – 1905, 1941-1945

**THE FRENCH-DESIGNED & MANUFACTURED "DAGUIN MACHINE"  
WAS FIELD OPERATIONAL IN FRANCE IN 1884  
WITH WIDE USE UNTIL HIGH SPEED ELECTRICALLY-OPERATED  
MACHINES WERE INTRODUCED IN 1898.**

Heretofore non-operational machines were resurrected during World War II France, during occupation, and beyond between 1941-1945.

The 'Daguin Machine' was unique in that it applied twin postmarks with each impression application, with postmarks able to be adjusted for distance between each other.

Postmark: 24mm Diameter Twin  
Double-Circle Dater Dials



5 November 1884

French Postal Stationery Card,  
postmarked at Amiens (Somme),  
sent to Rosiers (Somme),  
re-directed to Moreuil (Somme), France.

Arrival Postmarks:

"Rosiers,  
6 November 1884" &  
"Moreuil,  
7 February 1898"

10 Centimes ...  
Domestic Postcard-Rate



**PIONEER MECHANICAL**  
Expansion Worldwide

France  
**Daguin Machine**  
1900 Paris World's Fair

**IN AN EFFORT TO DEMONSTRATE FRENCH TECHNOLOGY AND  
ENGINEERING, TWO OF THE FRENCH POST OFFICES  
AT THE PARIS WORLD'S FAIR OF 1900 UTILIZED  
'DAGUIN MACHINES'  
TO POSTMARK OUT-GOING MAIL.**

The postmarks utilized were now 25mm in diameter and the  
distances between the twin postmarks (adjustable)  
were each different.

Postmark: 25mm Diameter Twin  
Double-Circle Dater Dials

**21 April 1900**  
"Paris Exposition - Alma"  
Paris Exposition Viewcard,  
postmarked at the "Alma"  
Postal Station, sent to  
Wurzen (Saxony),  
Germany  
Arrival Postmark:  
"Wurzen,  
22 April 1900"  
10 Centimes ...  
UPU International  
Printed-Matter Rate



**28 September 1900**  
"Paris Exposition -  
Rapp"  
Paris Exposition  
Viewcard,  
postmarked at the  
"Rapp" Postal  
Station, sent  
Munich (Bavaria)  
Germany  
Arrival Postmark:  
"Munich,  
29 September 1900"  
10 Centimes ...  
UPU International  
Printed-Matter Rate



## IV. EARLY RAPID MACHINES

United States of America  
American Postal Machine Company

1890's - 1900's

**THE FIRST EARLY EFFECTIVE HIGH-SPEED POSTMARKING MACHINES WERE DEVELOPED AND INTRODUCED IN THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA & CANADA, ELECTRICALLY POWERED, USING MORE ADVANCED TRANSMISSION TECHNOLOGY THAN EARLIER MACHINES.**

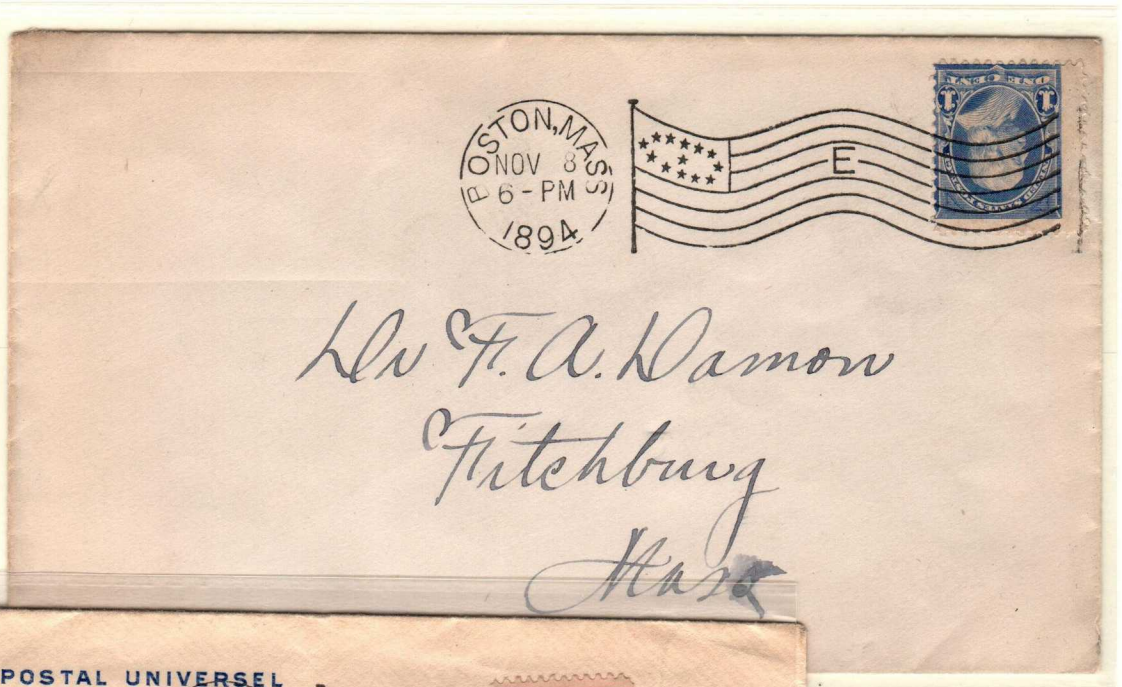
In 1894, the 'American Postal Machine Company' introduced its latest model, becoming a standard for over fifty years, postmarking with a 'patriotic flag' die soon to be emulated by other machine companies and foreign post offices.

Postmark: 22mm Diameter Dater Dial with 13-star flag obliterator

8 November  
1894

Cover,  
postmarked at  
Boston,  
Massachusetts,  
with an  
'American  
Machine'  
patriotic 'flag'  
postmark,  
sent to Fitchburg,  
Massachusetts

One Cent ..  
Third-class  
printed-matter  
rate up to two  
ounces



19 May 1897

Cover, postmarked  
with a dedicated  
flag postmark  
commemorating the  
(5<sup>th</sup>) Universal Postal  
Congress at  
Washington D.C.,  
sent to  
New York City

Two Cents ..  
First-class letter-rate  
up to one ounce



# EARLY RAPID MACHINES

United States of America  
American Postal Machine Company

1890's - 1900's

IN AN EFFORT TO DEMONSTRATE AMERICAN TECHNOLOGY & ENGINEERING AT THE PARIS WORLD'S FAIR OF 1900, AN 'AMERICAN POSTAL MACHINE' OPERATED AT THE AMERICAN PAVILLION'S POSTAL STATION APPLYING COMMEMORATIVE FLAG POSTMARKS TO OUT-GOING MAIL, SUBSEQUENTLY SENT THROUGH THE FRENCH POST OFFICE TO THEIR DESTINATIONS.

Postmark: 22mm Diameter Dater Dial with 13-star flag obliterator indicating "Paris Exposition 1900".

6 October (1900)  
Viewcard,  
postmarked at the  
'U.S. Postal Station'  
Paris World's Fair  
sent to  
Chemnitz, Germany.

10 Centimes ..  
UPU International  
Printed-Matter Rate.



16 October (1900)

Cover, postmarked  
at the  
'U.S. Postal Station'  
Paris World's Fair,  
sent to  
Enghien-les-Bains  
(Seine & Oise),  
France

30 Centimes ..  
Domestic  
single-weight  
letter-rate

Exp.



# EARLY RAPID MACHINES

Canada  
Imperial Mail Marking Company  
1896 - 1904

THE 'IMPERIAL MAIL MARKING COMPANY', LOCATED IN BOTH BOSTON AND MONTREAL, HAD ITS PRIMARY SUCCESS IN CANADA HAVING ITS BASIC MACHINE DESIGNED BY MARTIN ETHRIDGE OF THE UNITED STATES.

Its machine postmarks were patriotic in theme .. initially having line-obliterators followed with patriotic 'flag' types.

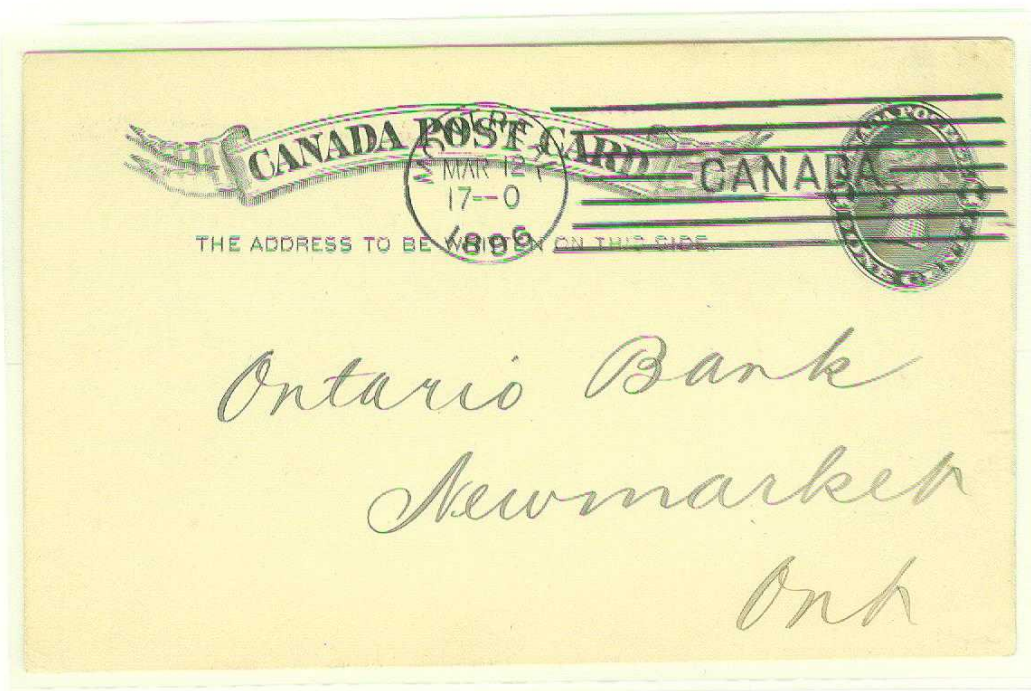
Postmark: 22mm Diameter Dater Dial with 7-line staggered line obliterator with "Canada" as centered text.

12 March 1896

Commercial-use  
Canadian Postal  
Stationery Card,  
postmarked at  
Montreal, Quebec,  
sent to Newmarket,  
Ontario

One Cent ..  
Domestic  
Postcard-Rate

Third Day of  
Postmark Use



16 February 1897

Cover,  
postmarked at  
Montreal, Quebec,  
sent to  
Alexandria, Ontario

Three Cents ..  
Domestic  
Single-Weight  
Letter-Rate



# EARLY RAPID MACHINES

Canada  
Imperial Mail Marking Company  
1896 - 1904

THE CANADIAN POST OFFICE OPERATED SEVEN "IMPERIALS".  
SIX AT MONTREAL AND ONE FOR OTTAWA.

Between 1896-1899 one or more of the Montreal trial  
machines applied patriotic wavy-line postmarks.

Postmark: 22mm Diameter Dater Dial with 7-wavy line  
obliterator with "Canada" as centered text.

24 March 1896

Canadian Postal  
Stationery Cover,  
postmarked at  
Montreal, Quebec,  
sent to Milwaukee,  
Wisconsin

Three Cents ..  
Single-Weight  
Letter-Rate  
to the U.S.A.  
(Valid until 31 Dec. 1898)

Second Day of  
Postmark Use



Return in 10 Days to

THE MONTREAL LITHOGRAPHING CO.



12 September 1899

Advertising cover,  
postmarked at  
Montreal, Quebec,  
sent to  
Toronto, Ontario

Two Cents ..  
Domestic  
single-weight  
letter-rate  
(Effective 1 January 1899)

Toronto Lithographing Co.

Cor. King and Bathurst Streets,

TORONTO, Ont.



# EARLY RAPID MACHINES

Canada  
Imperial Mail Marking Company  
1896 - 1904

BETWEEN 1896 - 1897, THE "IMPERIALS" AT MONTREAL AND OTTAWA APPLIED A MORE PATRIOTIC POSTMARK ILLUSTRATING THE SO-CALLED 'STRAIGHT' & 'UNION-JACK' FLAG POSTMARKS.

## "STRAIGHT JACK" OBLITERATOR

Use:

11 - 22 April 1896

11 April 1896

Commercial Cover,  
postmarked at  
Montreal, Quebec,  
sent to London,  
Ontario

Three Cents ..  
Single-weight  
domestic letter-rate

First Day of  
Postmark Use.



## FLAG OBLITERATOR WITH UNION JACK

Use:

21 March 1896 -  
28 October 1897

23 September 1897

Member-of-Parliament  
Cover,  
postmarked at  
Ottawa, Ontario,  
sent to Scotland.

Ten Cents ..  
Allan and Cunard  
Lines  
Double-Weight  
Letter-Rate.





TO COMMEMORATE THE JUBILEE OF QUEEN VICTORIA  
IN 1897, THE CANADIAN POST OFFICE HAD  
THEIR "IMPERIALS" FITTED WITH  
COMMEMORATIVE FLAG POSTMARKS.

Postmark: 22mm Diameter Dater Dial with Involute  
Flag Obliterator having text  
"1837 - 1897 Victoria".

Usage: 20 June - 7 August 1897

21 June 1897

Registered  
commercial mail,  
postmarked at  
Montreal, sent to local  
insurance company.

7 Cents..  
Double drop-letter  
registered city rate..  
2 Cents + 5 Cents  
registration fee

First-day use



240 Sparks St

Rolla  
L. Crain  
Printer  
Ottawa



7 July 1897

Advertising cover,  
postmarked at  
Ottawa, Ontario,  
sent to Montreal,  
Quebec

Three Cents..  
Single-weight  
domestic  
letter-rate.

To Mr. J. P. Formby Esq  
Craig St  
Montreal

FINEST  
WORK  
IN  
THE  
CITY



# EARLY RAPID MACHINES

Canada  
Canadian Postal Supply Company  
1896 - 1902

John Brooks Young, earlier associated with the Imperial Mail Marking Company and Martin Van Buren, received a patent on a new high speed electrically-operated postmarking machine in October 1896.

TESTED IN DECEMBER 1896 BY THE CANADIAN POST OFFICE WAS THE 'CANADIAN POSTAL SUPPLY COMPANY'S' SO-CALLED "BICKERDIKE" MACHINE, NAMED AFTER THE COMPANY'S FINANCIER, ROBERT BICKERDIKE.

Postmark: 22mm Diameter Dater Dial with involute flag obliterator

Use: Trial I: 2-8 December 1896  
Trial II: 28 December 1896 - 3 January 1897

## FIRST TRIAL

2 December 1896

Commercial Cover,  
postmarked at  
Montreal, Quebec,  
sent to  
Amhurstburg, Ontario

First Day Trial Usage



## SECOND TRIAL

30 December 1896

Commercial Cover,  
postmarked at  
Montreal,  
Quebec,  
sent to  
Rock Island,  
Quebec

Three Cents ..  
Single-weight domestic letter-rate.



# EARLY RAPID MACHINES

Canada  
Canadian Postal Supply Company  
1897-1898

TO COMMEMORATE THE JUBILEE OF QUEEN VICTORIA  
IN 1897, THE CANADIAN POST OFFICE HAD  
THEIR "BICKERDIKES" AT OTTAWA & MONTREAL FITTED WITH  
COMMEMORATIVE FLAG POSTMARKS.

Postmark: 22mm Diameter Dater Dial with Involute  
Flag Obliterator having text  
"1837 VR 1897".

Use: 13 April 1897 - 18 April 1898

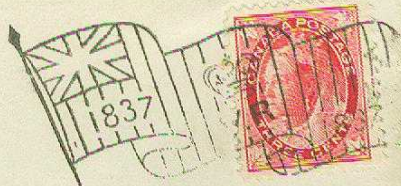
OTTAWA  
11 November  
1897

Cover,  
postmarked at  
Ottawa, Ontario,  
sent to Montreal,  
Quebec



Ex Puls/Bomar

FROM  
THE MONTREAL NEWS COMPANY  
(LIMITED)  
385 & 388 ST. JAMES STREET,  
MONTREAL.



Messrs T. C. Allen & Co.,  
Halifax,  
N. S.

MONTREAL  
15 April 1898

Commercial  
Cover,  
postmarked at  
Ottawa, Ontario,  
sent to Montreal,  
Quebec

Three Cents ..  
Single-weight domestic letter-rate.



# EARLY RAPID MACHINES

Great Britain  
Canadian Postal Supply Company  
1897 - 1907

Unsuccessful in selling postmarking machines to the United States Post Office, Brooks Young embarked on offering postmarking machines to European Post Offices.

**THE LONDON POST OFFICE UNDERTOOK A FIRST TRIAL WITH TWO 'BICKERDIKE' MACHINES IN OCTOBER-NOVEMBER 1897.**

Postmark: 22mm Diameter Dater Dial with a seven-line obliterator having "VR & Crown" in the center.

Use: 4 October - 26 November 1897

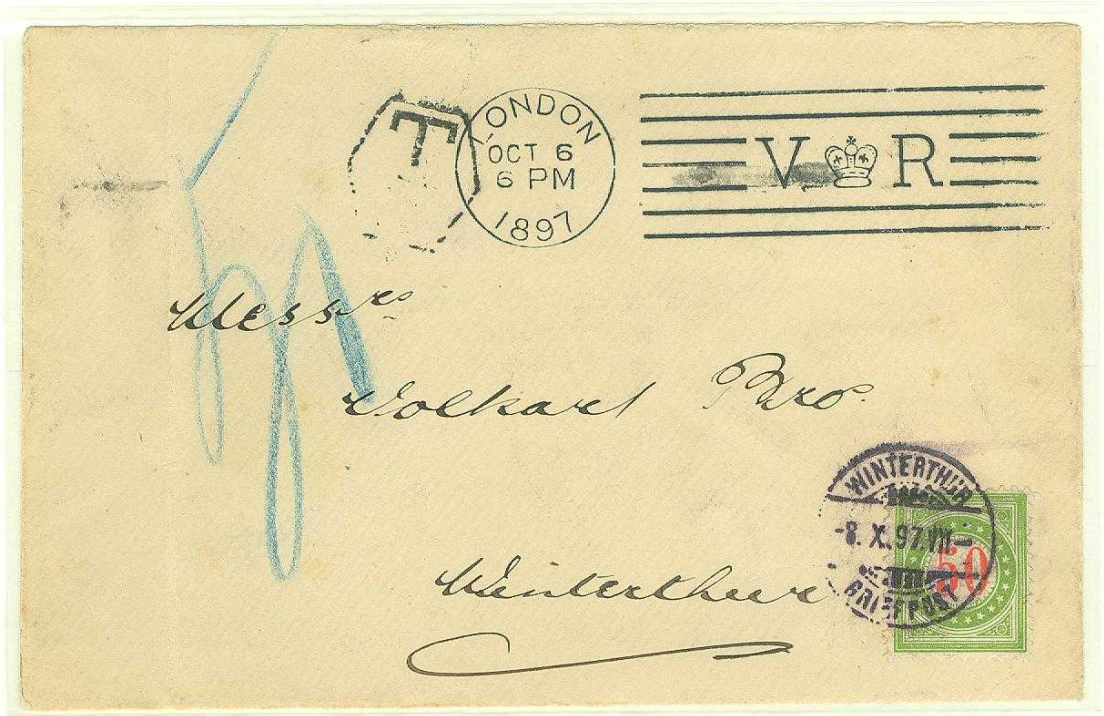
TYPE I:  
"VR" WITH SERIFS

6 October 1897

Commercial Cover,  
postmarked at  
London,  
sent to Winterthur,  
Switzerland.

50 Centimes  
Postage Due =  
2-1/2 Pence +  
2-1/2 Pence Penalty

Only known  
foreign-bound usage  
on trial mail



TYPE II "VR"  
WITHOUT SERIFS

22 October 1897

Commercial postal  
stationery cover,  
postmarked at  
London for city  
delivery.

One Penny  
Domestic  
single-weight  
letter-rate





# EARLY RAPID MACHINES

Great Britain  
Canadian Postal Supply Company  
1897 - 1907

Subsequent to a second successful trial between 1899-1900,  
**SIX ADDITIONAL 'BICKERDIKES' BECAME OPERATIONAL  
AT THE LONDON POST OFFICE.**

Postmark: 22mm Diameter Dater Dial with a seven-line  
obliterator having "ER" & Crown" in center  
and indication of machine number.

Use: 1901 - 1903

13 November 1901  
(Machine #3)

Printed-matter  
enclosure in a  
commercial cover,  
postmarked at  
London,  
sent to  
Birmingham.



7 May 1903  
(Machine #2)

Advertising postal  
stationery card,  
postmarked  
at London,  
sent to Brighton.

Half Penny  
Domestic  
printed-matter rate



# EARLY RAPID MACHINES

Germany  
 Canadian Postal Supply Company  
 1898 - 1901

**IN 1898, THE GERMAN REICHSPOST INITIALLY OBTAINED TWO 'BICKERDIKE' MACHINES from the Canadian Postal Supply Company FOR TRIALS AT BERLIN AND SUBSEQUENTLY HAMBURG.**

**Postmark:** 22mm Diameter Dater Dial without stars having a 56mm 7-line obliterator with "DR" & crown at center.

**Usage:** 14 May - 5 July 1898

25 May 1898

Commercial advertising mail sent to Cologne

3 Pfennig.. Domestic printed-matter rate up to 50 grams weight



24 June 1898

Commercial postcard sent to Büdingen

5 Pfennig.. Domestic postcard-rate



# EARLY RAPID MACHINES

Germany  
Canadian Postal Supply Company  
1901-1902

Having three years of satisfactory trial experience,  
**THE REICHSPOST EXPANDED FIELD USAGE**  
by acquiring another six machines from Canada  
**WITH THOSE MACHINES NOW FITTED WITH A POSTAL FLAG OBLITERATOR**  
resulting in the basis for a German-domiciled licensed manufacturing of  
subsequent acquired machines for operation in Germany

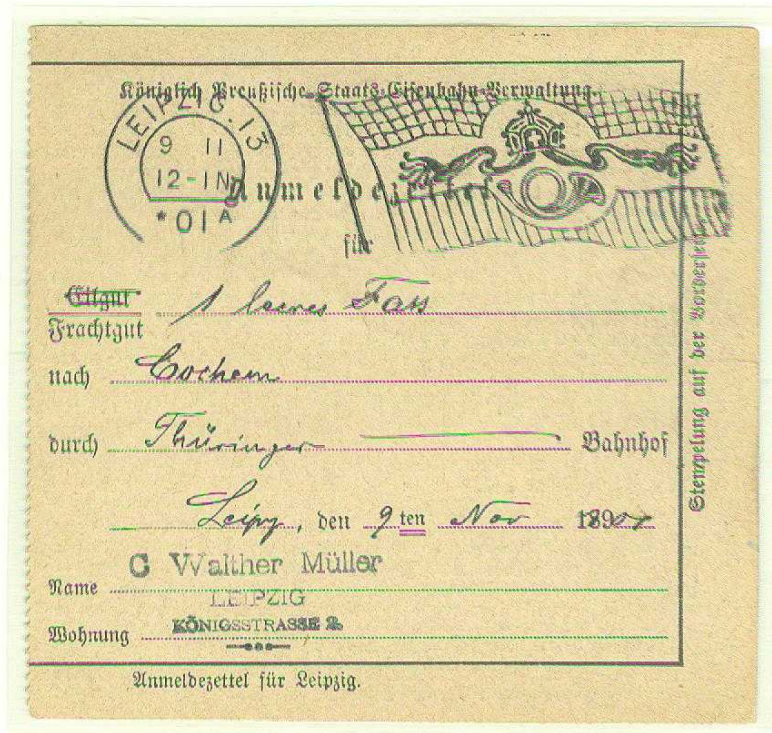
Postmark: 22mm single-circle dater dial with "horseshoe"  
configuration having year-date at the dial bottom and  
post-office flag obliterator.

Use: 1901 - 1902

9 November 1901

Free-frank  
freight pick-up  
notification sent to  
a local Leipzig City  
address

Only known type  
usage example



7 December 1901

Un-franked proof  
postmark on cover,  
applied by the Berlin  
Postal Museum  
Machine

Unique

Exp Kruschel



# EARLY RAPID MACHINES

France  
Canadian Postal Supply Company  
1898 - 1899

Similarly to the German Reichspost,  
**THE FRENCH POST OFFICE AT PARIS HELD TRIALS BETWEEN 1898-1899**  
with 'Bickerdike' Machines.

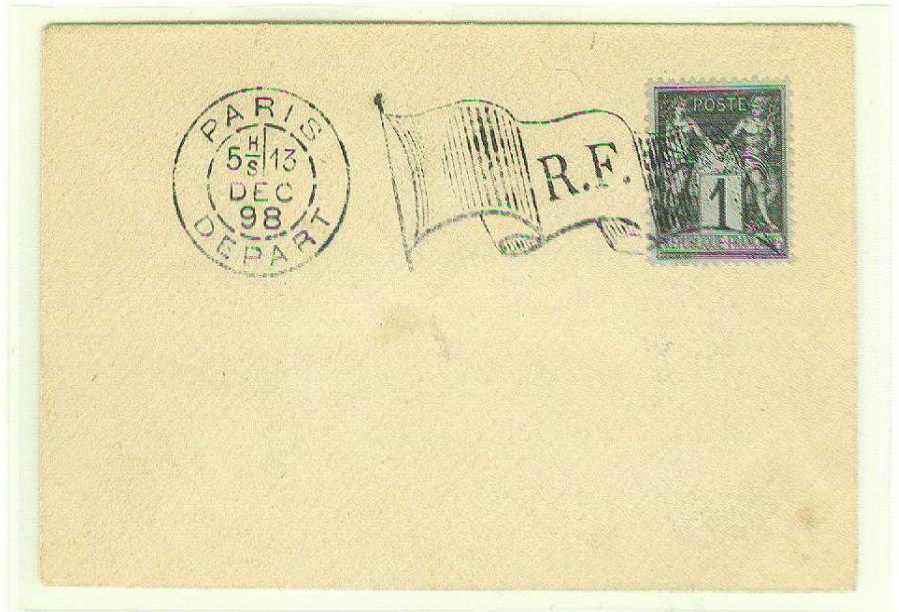
Postmark: 24mm Diameter Double Dater Dial with small or large  
involute flag obliterators having "RF" in center.

Use: 1898-1899

**SMALL FLAG  
OBLITERATOR  
(First Trial)**

**13 December 1898**

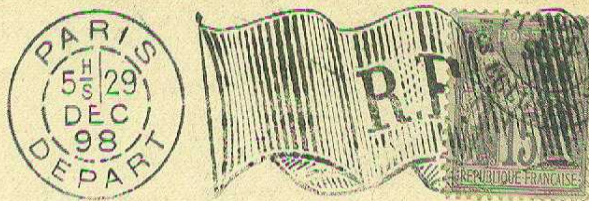
**Un-franked proof  
postmark strike on cover**



**LARGE FLAG  
OBLITERATOR  
(Second Trial)**

**29 December 1898**

**Un-franked proof  
postmark strike on  
cover**





# EARLY RAPID MACHINES

France  
Canadian Postal Supply Company  
1898 - 1899

In addition to function and efficiency, early & short trial field use determined  
**WHETHER THE POSTMARK OBLITERATOR SHOULD BE  
A 'LARGE' OR 'SMALL' INVOLUTE FLAG,**  
with the latter subsequently being selected for field machine operation.

Postmark: 24mm Diameter Double Dater Dial with small or large involute flag obliterated having "RF" in center.

Use: 1898-1899

**SMALL FLAG  
OBLITERATOR  
(Field Trial)**

28 JANUARY  
1899

Cover, Paris-City  
printed matter.

3 Centimes..  
Local city  
printed matter  
rate



**LARGE FLAG  
OBLITERATOR  
(Field Trial)**

21 JANUARY 1899

Cover, postmarked  
at Paris, sent to  
La Rochelle, France.

Arrival postmark:  
(reverse)

"La Rochelle,  
22 January 1899

5 Centimes..  
National domestic  
printed-matter rate.





# EARLY RAPID MACHINES

France  
Canadian Postal Supply Company  
1900-1906

**SUBSEQUENT TO SUCCESSFUL TRIALS, THE FRENCH POST OFFICE  
ACQUIRED TWELVE 'BICKERDIKES' FOR USE AT ITS  
PARIS POSTAL STATIONS**

**to apply origin postmarks to out-going and  
service postmarks to in-coming mail.**

**Origin Postmark:** 24mm Diameter Dater Dial with involute  
flag obliterator with "RF" in center.

**Service Postmark:** 24mm Diameter Dater Dial

**Use:** 1900 - 1906

## OUT-GOING MAIL

31 December 1902

Cover, postmarked  
at Paris, sent to  
Lignuel, France

15 Centimes..  
Domestic  
single-weight  
letter-rate

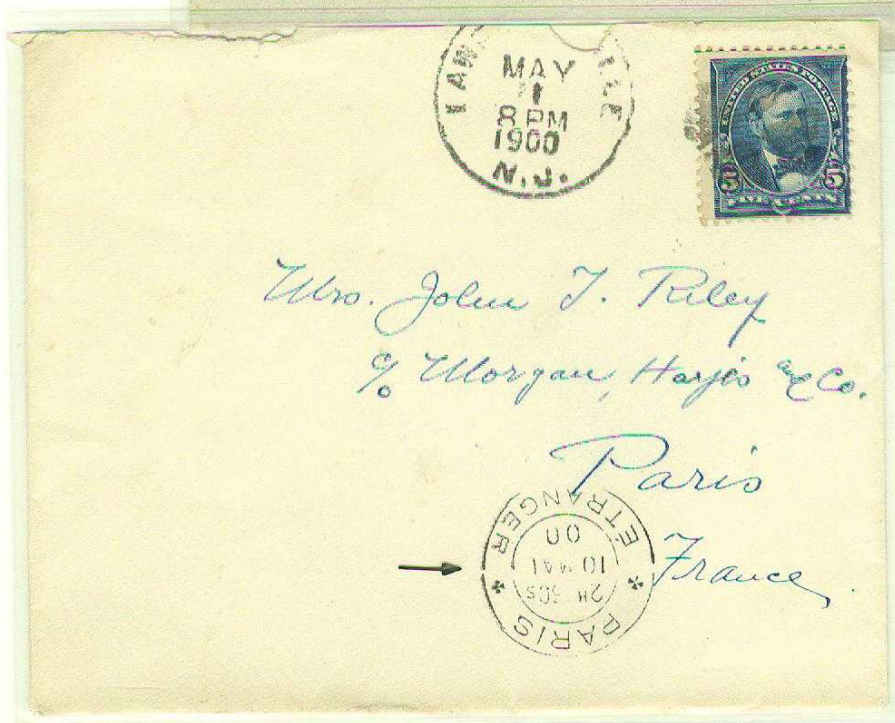


## IN-COMING MAIL

10 May 1900

Cover, postmarked at  
Lawrenceville,  
New Jersey,  
sent to Paris, France,  
with 'Bickerdike'  
service postmark upon  
arrival.

5 Cents..  
UPU International  
Single-Weight  
Letter-Rate





# EARLY RAPID MACHINES

Italy

Canadian Postal Supply Company

1901 - 1906, 1912

Of the twelve 'Bickerdike' Machines acquired by the French Post Office at least  
**FIVE OF THOSE MACHINES WERE TRANSFERRED TO THE ITALIAN POST OFFICE**  
 which allocated them to their post offices at  
 Brescia (1912), Genoa, Milan, Naples, Rome and Turin.

Postmark: 24mm Diameter Dater Dial with involute flag obliterator having "V E" ("Victor Emanuel") in center.

29 December 1903

Printed-matter cover, postmarked at Milan,  
 sent to Berlin, Germany

5 Centesmi..  
 UPU International  
 Printed-Matter Rate to 50 grams



29 January 1903

Postal stationery  
 return-card,  
 postmarked at Genoa,  
 sent to Pallanza, Italy

7-1/2 Centesmi..  
 Domestic  
 (Reply-Card)  
 Postcard-Rate

1 February 1901

Postcard,  
 postmarked at  
 Naples,  
 sent to Brewer,  
 Maine, U.S.A.

10 Centesmi..  
 UPU International  
 Postcard-Rate





# EARLY RAPID MACHINES

South Africa  
Canadian Postal Supply Company  
1899-1900

Two 'Bickerdike' Machines were tested and operational at  
the Capetown & Pretoria Post Offices in South Africa.

Postmark: 22mm Diameter Dater Dial with a seven-line  
obliterator having "C Crown C" in center.

Use: 1899 - 1900



17 October 1900

Cover, postmarked at Capetown, South Africa,  
sent to Ironwood, Michigan,  
United States of America.

2-1/2 Pence  
Single-weight UPU International  
Letter-Rate



# EARLY RAPID MACHINES

United States of America  
International Postal Supply Company  
1885 - 1900s

After several years of machine development and internal trials, George W. Hey, Emil Laass & Matthew J. Dolphin established the International Postal Supply Company in July 1885. Their machines were internationally referred to as a "Hey-Dolphin Machines".

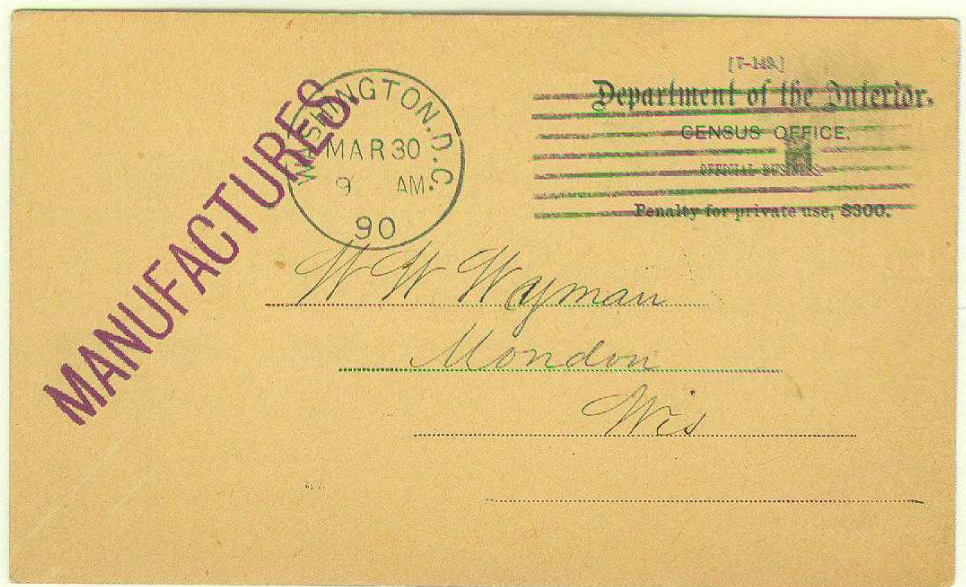
Trial machines were placed at the Brooklyn & Buffalo, New York, and Washington, D.C. Post Offices 1888-1890 and later Philadelphia

**IN 1891, THE AMERICAN POSTMASTER GENERAL SIGNED A SUPPLY AGREEMENT FOR ONE HUNDRED MACHINES WHICH COULD "COUNT, STACK AND POSTMARK 24,000 POSTAL CARDS/HOUR" (LESS FOR COVERS).**

Postmark: 25mm (1888-1890) or 19mm (1894) Diameter Dater Dial with seven horizontal bar obliterator

30 March 1890

Free-frank  
'Department of the Interior'  
Censor Office Postal Card  
postmarked at  
Washington, D.C.,  
sent to  
Mondon, Wisconsin.



WESTERN GERMAN BANK,  
CINCINNATI, O.

Return in Five Days.



10 November  
1894

Commercial  
bank mail,  
postmarked at  
Cincinnati, Ohio,  
sent to  
Fort Wayne, Indiana

Two Cents ..  
Single-weight (1 oz.)  
domestic letter-rate.  
(1 July 1885 -  
2 November 1917)

White National Bank  
Fort Wayne Ind



# EARLY RAPID MACHINES

Great Britain  
International Postal Supply Company  
1893

IN AUGUST 1893, MESSRS. HEY & DOLPHIN FURNISHED THE LONDON GENERAL POST OFFICE ONE OF THEIR LATEST MACHINE VERSIONS FOR TESTING; the electrically-operated "Flier" Model was subsequently rejected because of its high rental/leasing cost.

Postmark: 22mm Diameter Dater Dial  
with seven horizontal bar obliterator  
having numerical '1' at right.

Trial Use: 25 August - 14 September 1893



14 September 1893

Commercial Printed-matter cover,  
postmarked at London,  
sent to Mannheim, Germany

Half Penny ..  
UPU International Printed-Matter Rate  
for mail up to 50 grams.

Latest trial use date &  
only known last-day use.



# EARLY RAPID MACHINES

United States of America  
Barry Postal Supply Company  
1892 - 1912

Inventor William Barry of Syracuse, New York,  
progressed in postmarking machine development from early single impression  
slower mechanical machines to a machine type having  
**A REVOLVING POSTMARK DIE, ENABLING RAPID-SPEED POSTMARKING OF  
FACED-PRE-SORTED MAIL**

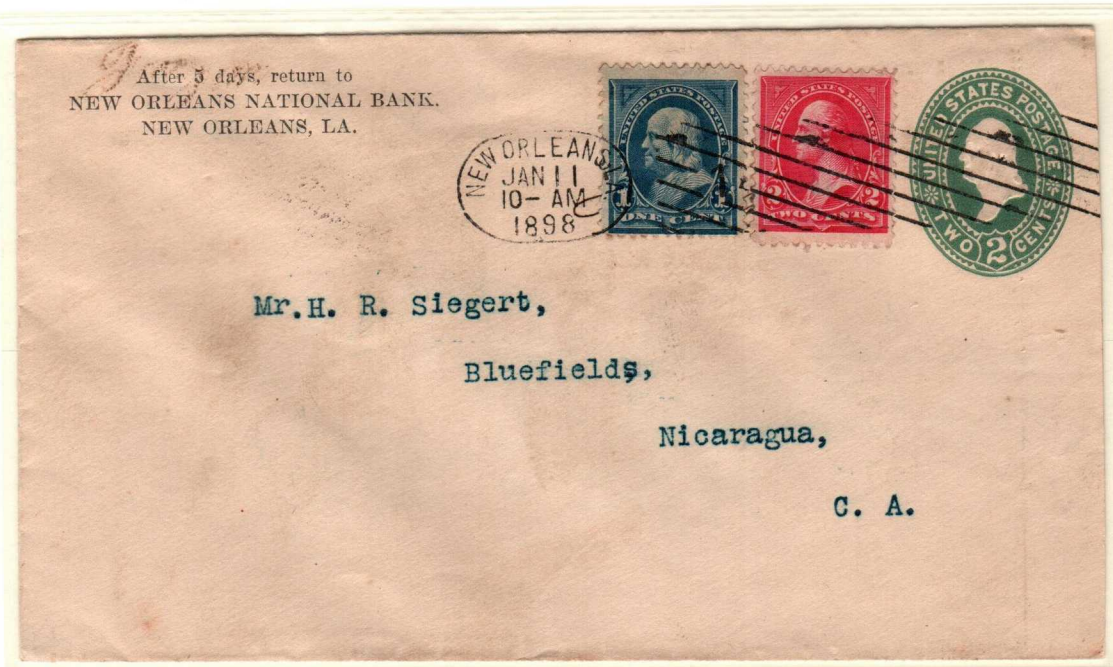
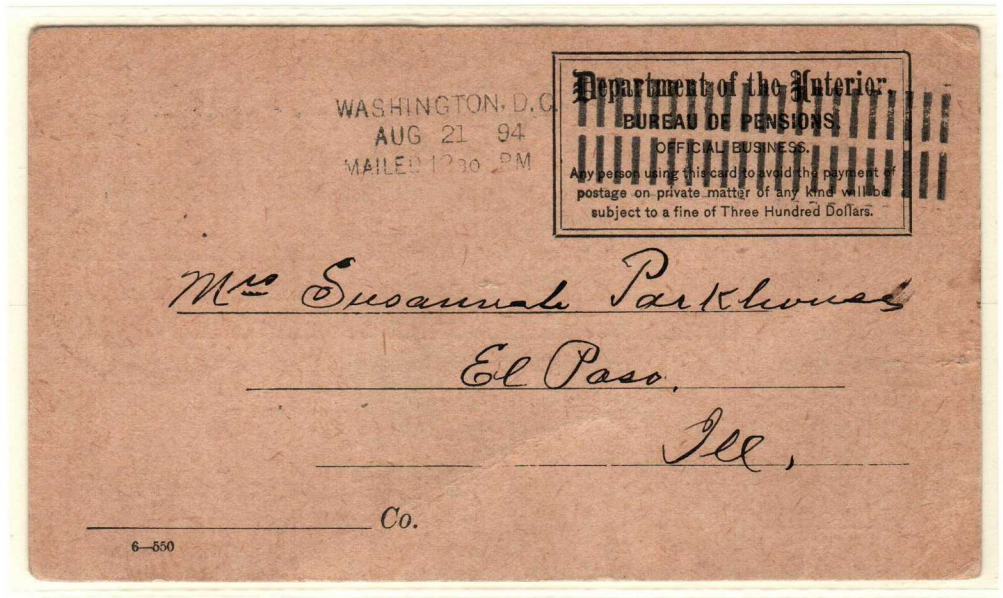
Soon after establishing his company in 1895, the 'Barry Postal Supply  
Company' supplied the United States Post Office between 100-200 machines.

**Postmark:** Various styles of dater dials and obliterated emerged over  
the period of the Barry Postal Supply Company's period of  
company's existence.

## RECTANGULAR DATER

21 August 1894

Free-frank official  
mail postal card  
(Department of the  
Interior),  
postmarked at  
Washington, D.C.,  
sent to  
El Paso, Illinois.



## OVAL DATER

11 January  
1898

Commercial  
bank mail,  
postmarked at  
New Orleans,  
Louisiana,  
sent to  
Nicaragua.

Five Cents ..  
UPU International  
Letter-Rate.



# EARLY RAPID MACHINES

United States of America  
Barry Postal Supply Company  
1892 - 1912

**BARRY MACHINES ALSO HAD THE ABILITY TO HAVE A SLOGAN INSERTED INTO THEIR POSTMARKING DIE, THE FIRST EVER IN THE UNITED STATES, as used for the 'National Export Exposition' of 1899 at Philadelphia, Pennsylvania, and the 'Pan American Exposition' of 1901 at Buffalo, New York.**

## NATIONAL EXPORT EXPOSITION

20 November 1899

Commercial mail cover, postmarked at Philadelphia, sent to Vienna, Austria.

Five Cents .. UPU International Letter-Rate



## PAN AMERICAN EXPOSITION

21 September 1900

Exposition advertising cover, postmarked at Buffalo, sent to Warren, Pennsylvania.

Two Cents .. Single-weight (1 oz.) domestic letter-rate. (1 July 1885 - 2 November 1917)



# EARLY RAPID MACHINES

United States of America  
Barry Postal Supply Company  
1892 - 1912

IN CHICAGO, BARRY MACHINES WERE ALSO OPERATIONAL TO APPLY 'RECEIVAL' AND "TRAIN LATE" POSTMARKS ON IN-BOUND MAIL.

## ARRIVAL POSTMARK AT CHICAGO (Front Center)

4 September 1898

In-bound up-rated postal stationery card, postmarked at Wilhelmsdorf, State of Württemberg, Germany, sent to Chicago, Illinois.

Ten Pfennig ..  
UPU International  
Postcard-Rate

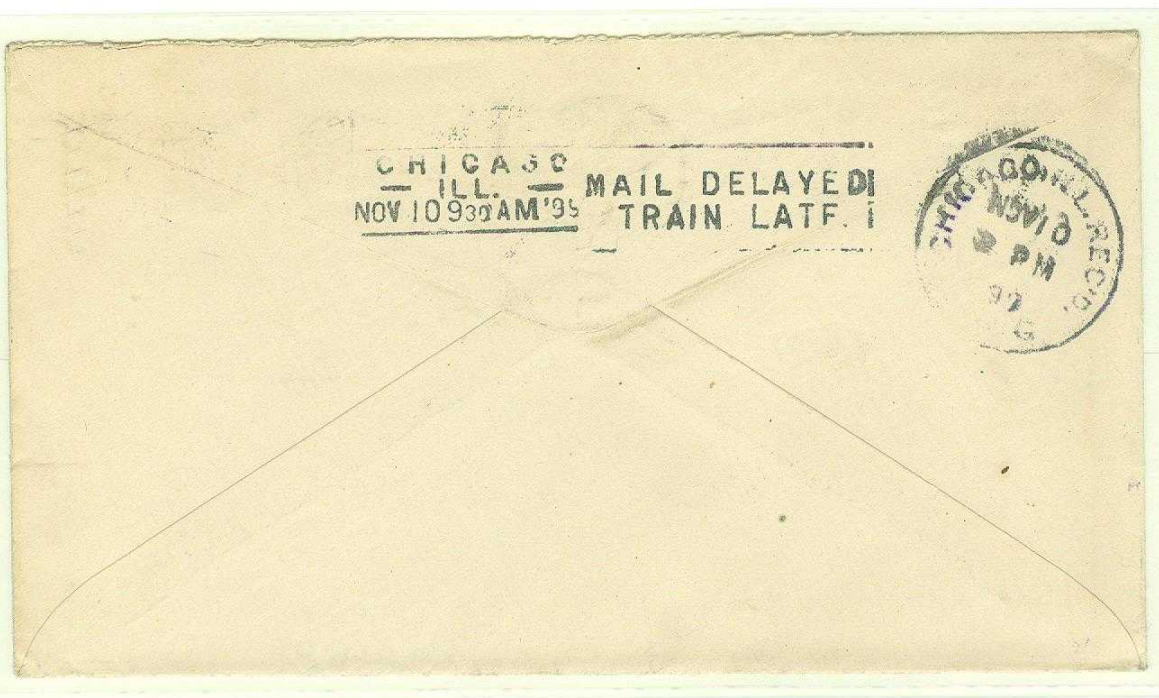


## ARRIVAL POSTMARK INDICATING "Mail Delayed Train Late" (Reverse)

10 November 1899

Commercial cover, postmarked at New York City on '8 November', sent to Chicago, Illinois.

Two Cents ..  
Single-weight  
(1 oz.)  
domestic  
letter-rate.  
(1 July 1885 -  
2 November 1917)





# EARLY RAPID MACHINES

United States of America  
Barr-Fyke Machine Company  
1896 - 1898

One of the smaller American companies having developed a rapid postmarking machine was one established by John Barr and John Fyke of Kansas City, Missouri, whose objective was to market a speed-effective inexpensive machine.

POSTMARKS APPLIED BY BARR-FYKE MACHINES SOLD WERE INOVATIVE IN THAT THE OBLITERATORS INITIALLY CONSISTED OF A LONG SERIES OF VERTICAL BARS.

## EARLY KANSAS CITY TRIAL

13 October 1896

Postal card, postmarked at Kansas City, Missouri, sent to Chillicothe, Ohio

One Cent:  
Domestic postcard-rate



2 August 1897

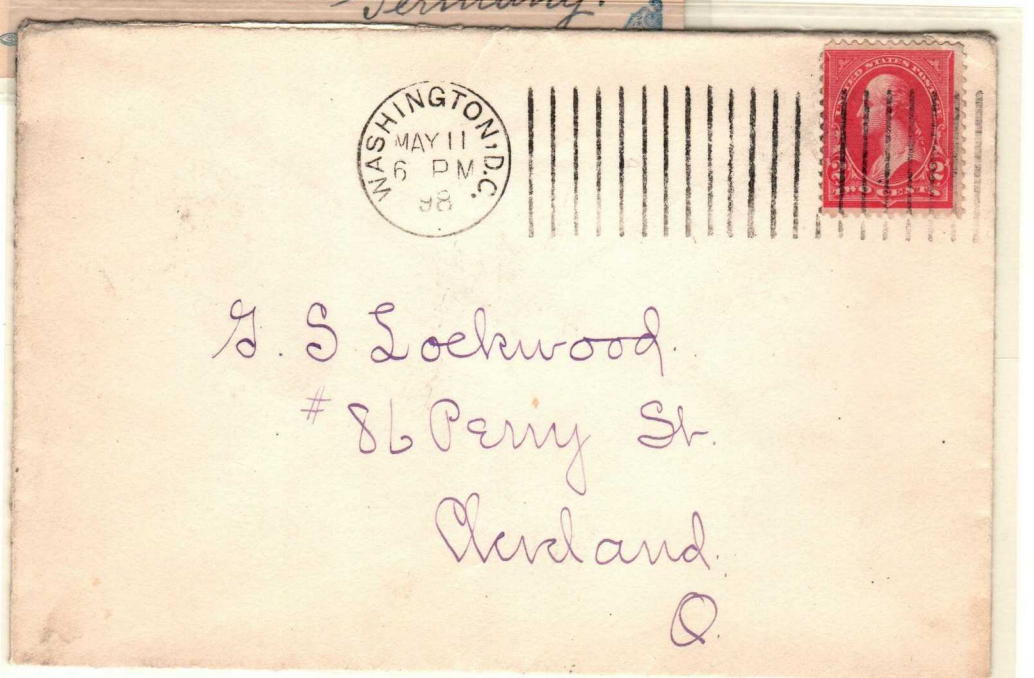
UPU Postal Stationery Card, postmarked at Washington, D.C., sent to Gotha, Germany

Two Cents ..  
UPU International  
Postcard-Rate

11 May 1898

Cover written by Attorney General John W. Griggs, postmarked at Washington, D.C., sent to Cleveland, Ohio.

Two Cents ..  
Single-weight  
(1 oz.)  
domestic  
letter-rate.





# EARLY RAPID MACHINES

Paris World's Fair 1900  
Barr-Fyke Machine Company  
1900

In an effort to promote American technology and postmarking machines, the **BARR-FYKE COMPANY PLACED ONE OF THEIR MACHINES AT THE UNITED STATES POSTAL STATION IN THE AMERICAN PAVILLION AT THE PARIS WORLD'S FAIR IN 1900,** where four postmark styles were used.

Period:  
4 May –  
21 October 1900

4 May 1900

Viewcard, first-day-use  
postmarked at the  
American Postal Station  
at the Paris Exhibition,  
sent to Mülhausen  
(Alsace),  
Germany

10 Centimes..  
UPU International  
Postcard Rate



Period:  
20 June –  
6 November 1900

11 July 1900

Viewcard,  
postmarked at the  
American Postal Station  
at the Paris Exhibition,  
sent to  
Mülhausen (Alsace)  
Germany

10 Centimes..  
UPU International  
Postcard Rate



Sender:  
Musician of the 'John Philip Souza' Marine Corps Band



# EARLY RAPID MACHINES

New Zealand  
Barr-Fyke Machine Company  
1899 - 1901

Although its success was limited in the United States of America,  
**BARR-FYKE MACHINES WERE SUCCESSFULLY USED IN SEVERAL FOREIGN COUNTRIES  
WHERE THEY APPLIED POSTMARKS HAVING PATRIOTIC OBLITERATORS.**

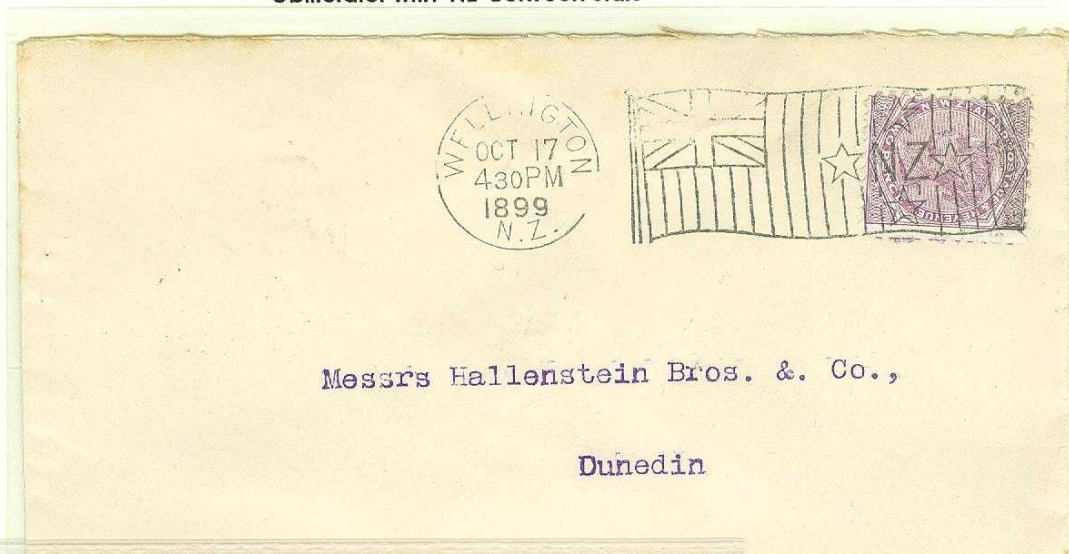
Postmark: 22mm Dater Dial with Straight Flag  
Obliterator with 'NZ' Between Stars

17 October 1899

Commercial cover, postmarked at Wellington, sent to Dunedin, New Zealand.

Two Pence .. Domestic single-weight letter-rate.

8<sup>th</sup> Day of Use.



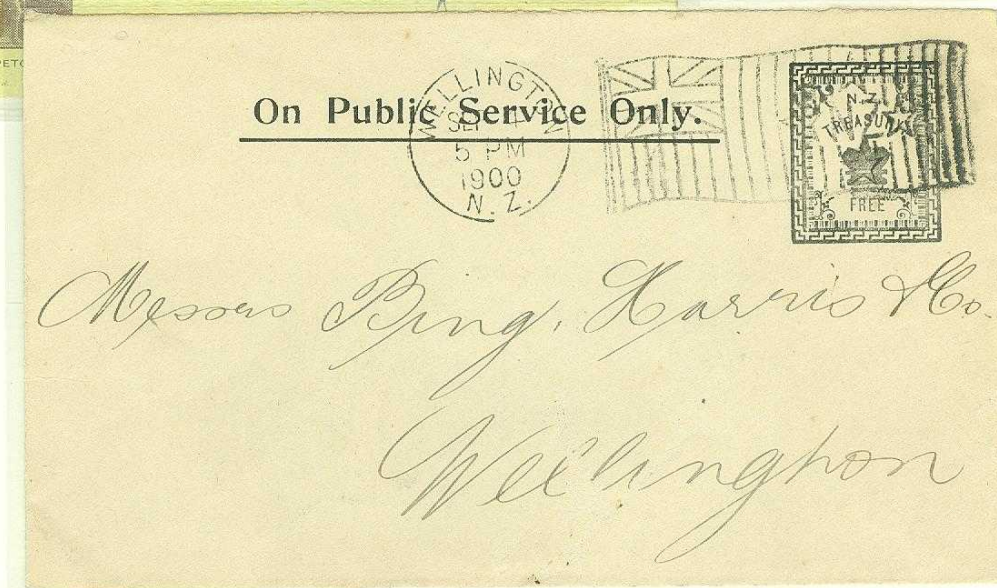
3 May 1900

'New Zealand and Australia' Postal Stationery Card, illustrating first contingent forces at Capetown, South Africa (Boar War), postmarked at Wellington for local delivery.

One Penny .. Domestic postcard-rate.

4 September 1900

Free-Frank Official Cover, postmarked at Wellington for local delivery.





# EARLY RAPID MACHINES

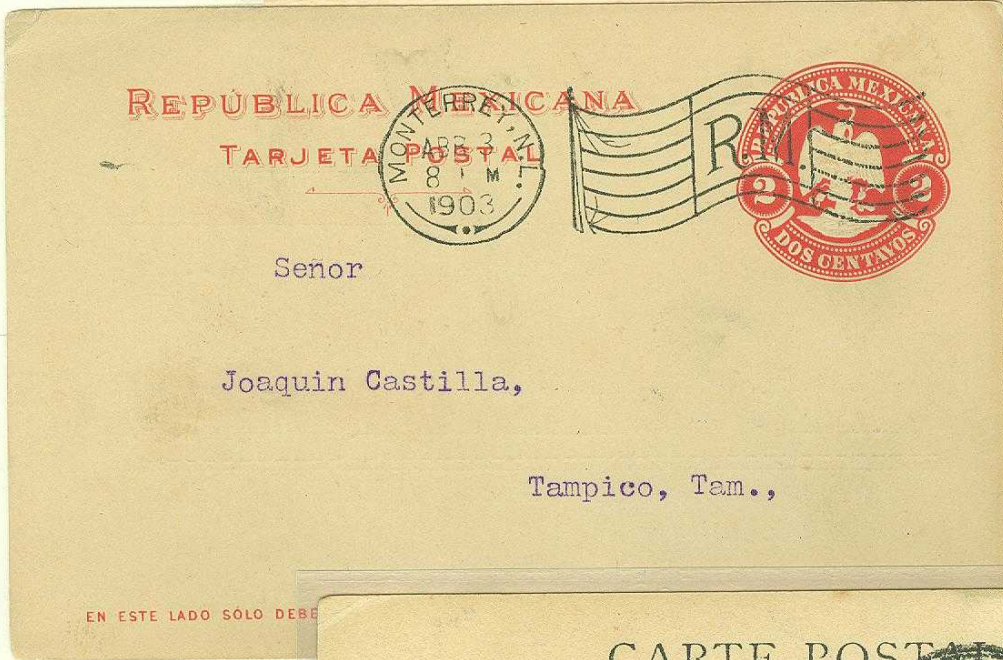
Republic of Mexico  
Barr-Fyke Machine Company  
1900 - 1908

**Barr-Fyke Machines operational in the Republic of Mexico applied a DATER-DIAL WITH FLAG OBLITERATOR AS A ORIGIN POSTMARK TO OUT-GOING MAIL AND ARRIVAL OR TRANSIT POSTMARKS TO IN-BOUND MAIL.**

22 March 1902

Postal-stationery cover,  
postmarked at  
Monterrey,  
Mexico, sent to  
Kansas City,  
Kansas, U.S.A.

Five Centavos..  
UPU International  
Letter-Rate



3 April 1903

Postal Stationery Card,  
postmarked at  
Monterrey, Mexico,  
sent to Tampico,  
Mexico.

Two Centavos ..  
Domestic  
postcard-rate.

27 July 1903

In-bound viewcard,  
postmarked at  
Falmouth, England, sent  
to Chihuahua, Mexico.  
Transit Barr-Fyke  
Postmark:  
"Nuevo Laredo,  
Tampico"

One Penny ..  
UPU International  
postcard-rate for mail  
with less than ten  
written words.

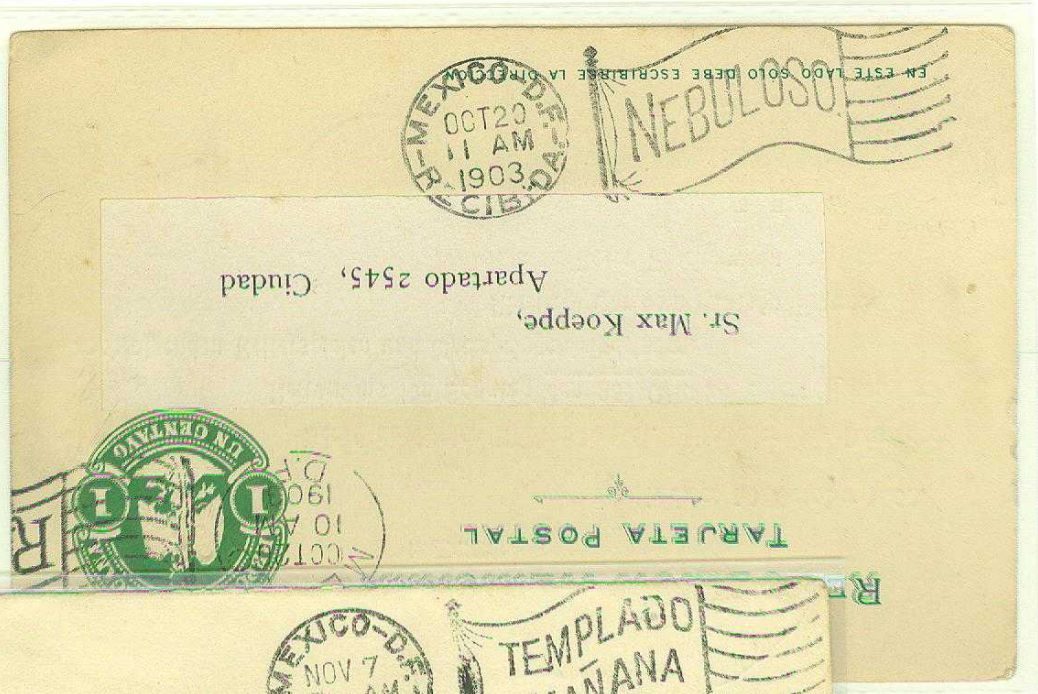




# EARLY RAPID MACHINES

Republic of Mexico  
Barr-Fyke Machine Company  
1903 - 1904

Barr-Fyke Machines operational in the Republic of Mexico  
**ALSO APPLIED UNIQUE "WEATHER FLAG"  
OBLITERATOR POSTMARKS TO IN-BOUND MAIL,**  
which indicated one of forty different weather conditions.



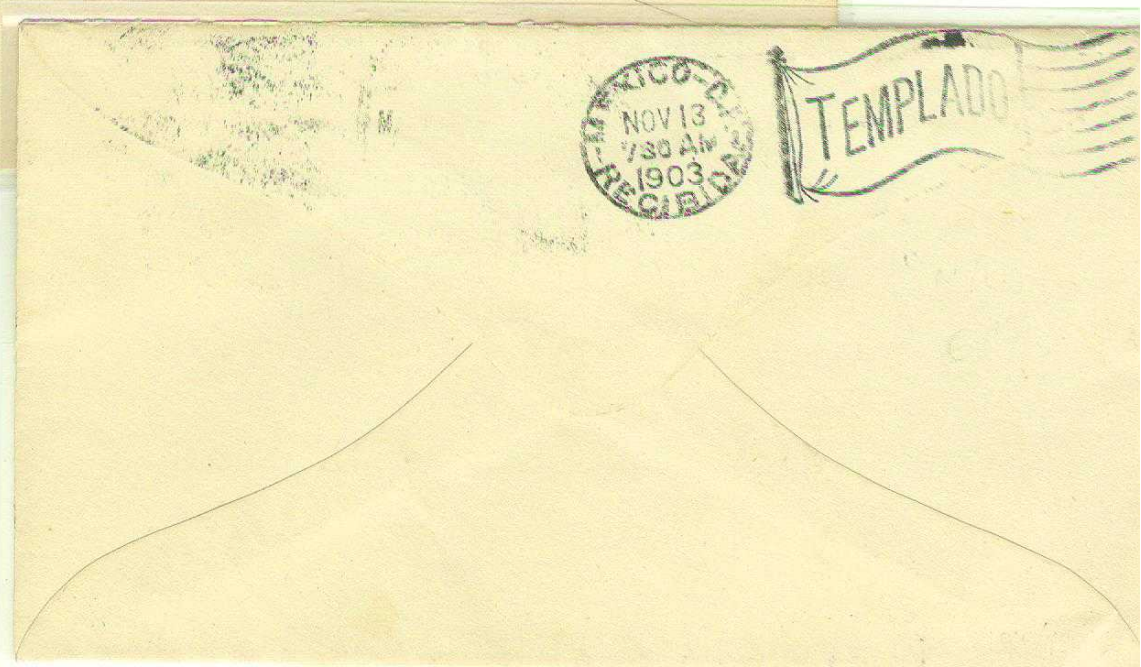
20 October 1903

"Cloudy"



7 November 1903

"Mild Tomorrow"



13 November 1903

"Mild"



# EARLY RAPID MACHINES

United States of America  
Columbia Postal Supply Company  
1900 - 1925

In 1900, German-American Fred Ielfield introduced and patented a rapid **VACUUM-FED POSTMARKING MACHINE**, in Germany and the United States of America, **HAVING SPEED AND TECHNOLOGY MOST COMPETITIVE** to the heretofore American, International & Barry-brand machines used by the United States Post Office.

An initial 1900 lease contract for twenty machines to the Columbia Postal Supply Company of Silver Springs, New York, by the United States Post Office followed by many more over the years, as the initial machine design success led to additional patents and ever increasing machine effectiveness.

Postmark: (Initially) 22mm Dater Dial with varied style obliterations over approximately twenty-five years of field operation





# EARLY RAPID MACHINES

United States of America  
Columbia Postal Supply Company  
1908 - 1912

To compete with the Norwegian-developed 'Krag' repeater or continuous-  
impression machine operating in Europe and tested in the United States,  
**INVENTOR IELFIELD INTRODUCED AND PATENTED COLUMBIA'S  
CONTINUOUS- IMPRESSION POSTMARKING MACHINE IN 1908**  
tested in Washington D.C. to apply origin postmarks to out-going mail  
and arrival marks to in-bound mail.

## OUT-BOUND MAIL

16 April 1908

Postcard, postmarked  
at Washington D.C.,  
sent to Perkinsville,  
Vermont.

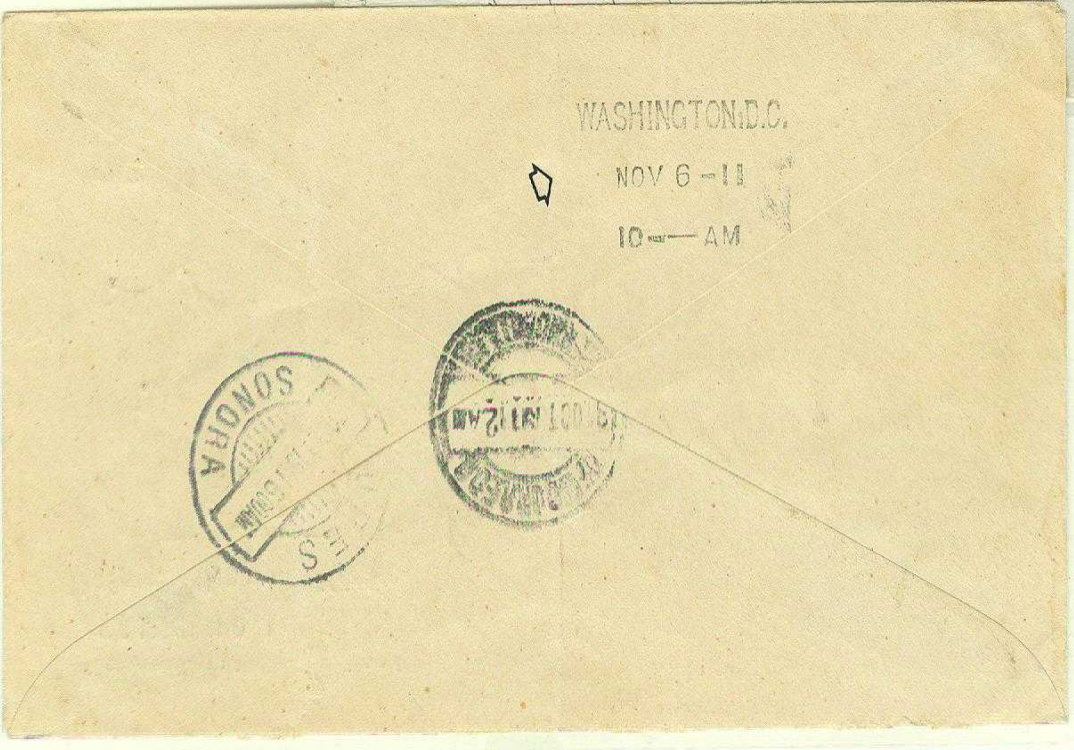
One Cent ..  
Domestic postcard-rate



## IN-BOUND MAIL

6 November 1911

Commercial cover,  
postmarked at Huepac,  
Mexico, sent to  
Washington D.C.,  
having a  
'Columbia' continuous-  
impression  
machine-applied  
arrival postmark on the  
reverse.





# EARLY RAPID MACHINES

Germany  
Columbia Postal Supply Company  
1901 - 1903

Soon after the 'Bickerdike' Machines entered field service in Germany in 1901, the Columbia Postal Supply Company submitted a first TRIAL MACHINE AT THE HAMBURG POST OFFICE NO. '11' FOR APPLYING ORIGIN-POSTMARKS TO OUT-GOING LOTTERY ADVERTISING MAIL.

Postmark: 22mm dater dial with '11' at the bottom along with a 62mm 7-line obliterator.  
Usage: 23 May 1901 - 8 December 1903



## OUT-BOUND MAIL

3 June 1901

Printed-matter lottery-advertising mail, postmarked at Hamburg, sent to "Elten" with re-direction to "Merseburg".

3 Pfennig ..  
Printed-matter rate for mail up to  
50 grams.



# EARLY RAPID MACHINES

Germany  
Columbia Postal Supply Company  
1901 - 1903

A second 'Columbia' trial machine  
**A SECOND 'COLUMBIA' TRIAL MACHINE**  
was installed **AT BERLIN** with operation between 1901-1905  
**APPLYING A POSTMARK HAVING A 'POSTAL FLAG' OBLITERATOR.**

**Postmark:** 22mm dater dial with '2' at the bottom  
along with an 'A' adjacent to the dial rim and  
with a narrow flag (having crown, banner  
with wide tassels) obliterator.

**Usage:** 14 October 1901 - 7 August 1903



## OUT-BOUND MAIL

24 October 1901

Printed-matter lottery-advertising mail, postmarked at Berlin,  
sent to Halle (Saale).

3 Pfennig ..  
Printed-matter rate for mail up to  
50 grams.



# EARLY RAPID MACHINES

Germany  
Columbia Postal Supply Company  
1906 - 1907

Despite being unsuccessful with several earlier machines, **IN 1906 THE 'COLUMBIA COMPANY' SUBMITTED** to the Reichspost **AT HAMBURG A FASTER AND MORE EFFECTIVE MACHINE** in an attempt to compete with the 'Bickerdike' Machine, which had become in wide field use in Germany.

Postmark: 25mm double-ring dater dial with 'DR' in the flag obliterator.

Use: 23 April 1906 - 9 January 1907

7 May 1906

Up-rated  
(commercial mail)  
postal stationery card,  
postmarked at Hamburg,  
sent to Blankenese.

5 Pfennig..  
Domestic  
Domestic postcard-rate.



19 May 1906

Printed-matter  
lottery-advertising  
mail, postmarked  
at Hamburg,  
sent to Leipzig.

3 Pfennig..  
Domestic  
printed-matter rate  
for mail up to  
50 grams.



# EARLY RAPID MACHINES

Great Britain  
Columbia Postal Supply Company  
1901 - 1902

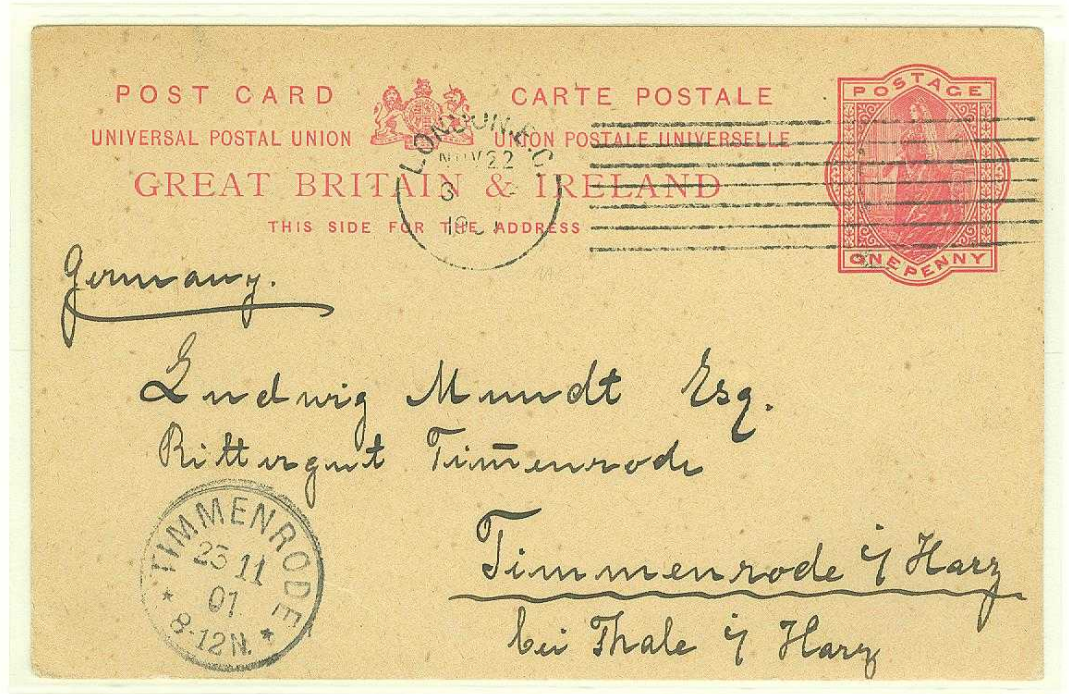
**TO COMPETE WITH 'BICKERDIKE' AND 'BOSTON' MACHINES  
ALREADY BEING TESTED IN ENGLAND,**  
the Columbia Company submitted a trial machine in 1901,  
resulting in success and a purchase order for twelve machines.

Postmark: 22mm open dater dial with 'London E.C.'  
indicated with a seven-line obliterator.  
Use: 9 November 1901 - 26 February 1902

22 November 1901

UPU postal  
stationery card,  
postmarked at London,  
sent to Timmenroda  
(Harz), Germany.

One Penny ..  
UPU International  
Postcard Rate



24 February 1902

Printed-matter wrapper,  
postmarked at London,  
sent to  
Manchester, England.

Half-Penny...  
Domestic  
printed-matter  
rate.





# EARLY RAPID MACHINES

Netherlands  
Columbia Postal Supply Company  
1905 - 1906

In a continuing effort to gain a market segment in Europe, the Columbia Company also attempted to sell machines in the Netherlands with **FIRST TRIAL AT S'GRAVENHAGE WITH MACHINES SUBSEQUENTLY IN FIELD OPERATION IN THREE CITIES: S'Gravenhage, Amsterdam & Rotterdam.**

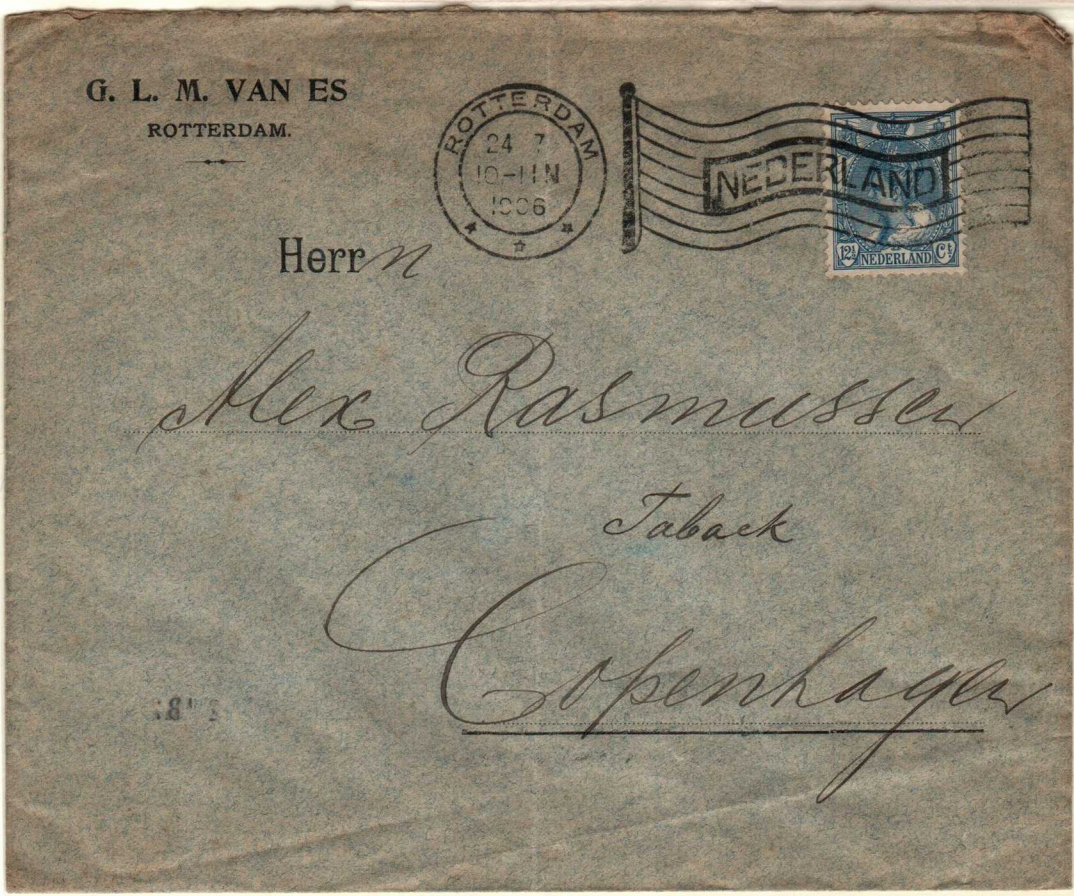
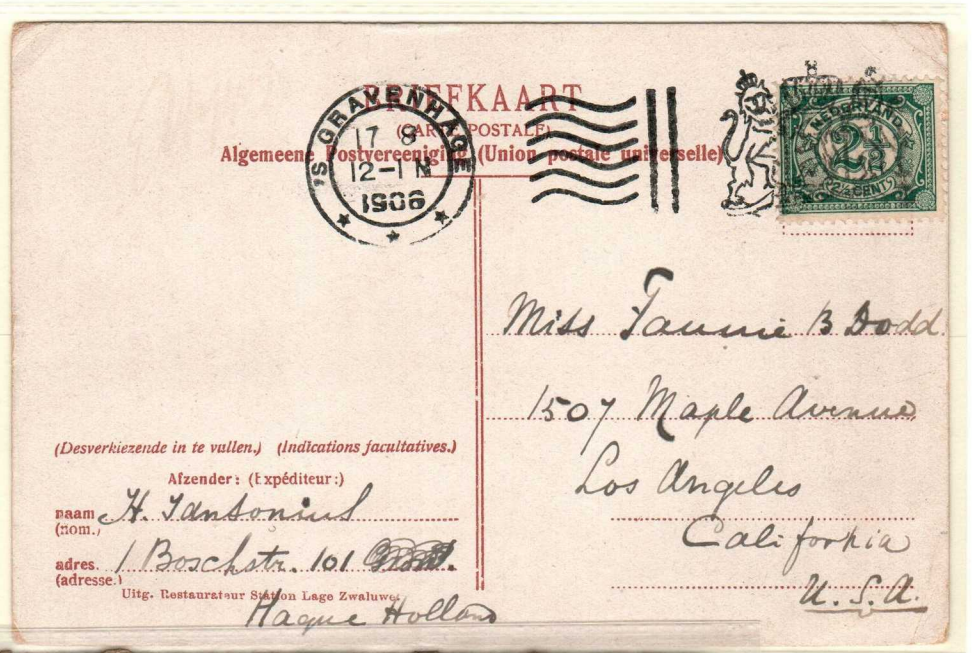
Postmark: 25mm double circle dater dial with small coat of arms obliterator (7 September 1905 - 18 October 1906) or 'Nederland' Flag obliterator (19 October 1905 - 10 August 1909).

## COAT-OF-ARMS OBLITERATOR

17 September 1906

Viewcard, postmarked at S'Gravenhage, sent to Los Angeles, California.

2-1/2 Cent ..  
International postcard-rate (printed-matter) for mail with less than ten written words.



## 'NEDERLAND' FLAG OBLITERATOR

24 July 1906

Commercial cover, postmarked at Rotterdam, sent to Copenhagen, Denmark.

Arrival Postmark: (Reverse/Krag Machine)  
"Kjobenhavn, 26 July 1906"

12-1/2 Cents..  
UPU International single-weight (20 grams) letter-rate



# EARLY RAPID MACHINES

Australia  
Columbia Postal Supply Company  
1902 - 1910

The Columbia Company was also successful in Australia with machines  
**OPERATIONAL IN THE CITIES OF BRISBANE, MELBOURNE, PERTH AND SYDNEY,**  
with each having its own obliterator style.

## OFFICIAL MAIL USE

Postmark:  
22mm dater dial  
with indication of  
the respective  
city's province/  
state in the  
obliterator.



This Envelope can only be  
carefully used by Government  
Officials on public business.  
It may be used by officials on private  
business or by others under any  
circumstances in which it is  
permissible.

VICTORIA

On His Majesty's Service.

MELBOURNE  
MAR 21  
11 AM  
1908

Dr C.M. Kyriazopoulos,  
168 Victoria St.,  
North Melbourne

PUBLIC HEALTH DEPARTMENT,  
Offices of the Board,  
Melbourne.

21 March 1908

'Public Health Department'  
local mail

One Penny...  
Single-weight  
domestic  
intra-state printed-matter  
official mail  
(perforated postage).



# EARLY RAPID MACHINES

South Africa  
Columbia Postal Supply Company  
1904 - 1912

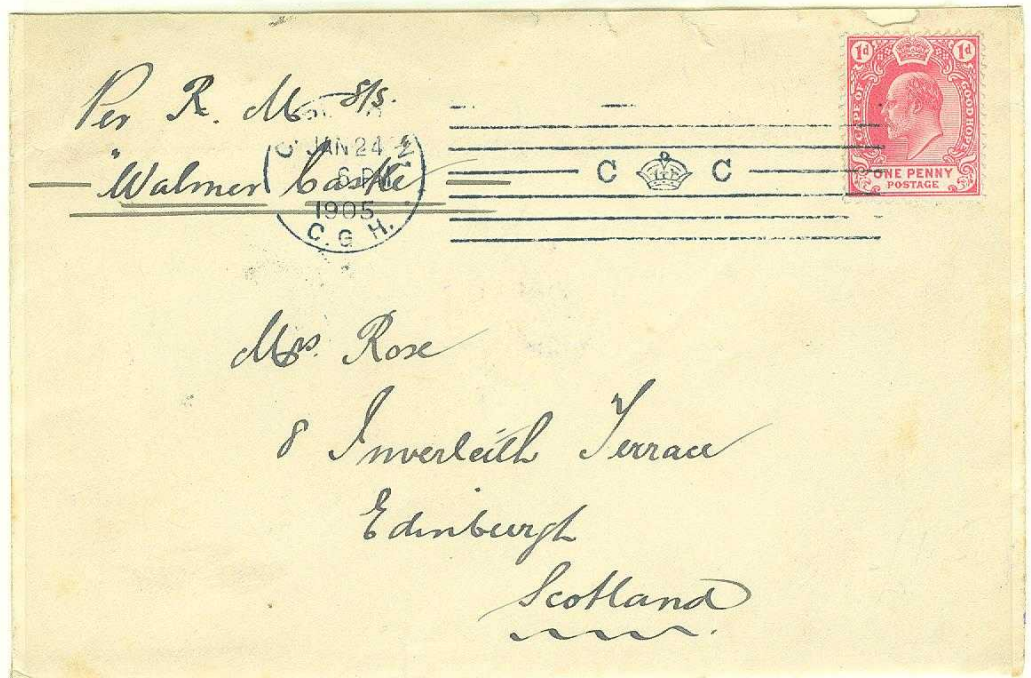
**SINGLE-IMPRESSION 'COLUMBIA' MACHINES** were tried and  
**BECAME OPERATIONAL IN TWO CITIES**  
of the former British Colonies of South Africa,  
prior to formation of the 'Union of South Africa' in 1910:  
Capetown (Cape of Good Hope) and Johannesburg (Transvaal).

CAPE OF GOOD HOPE  
USE

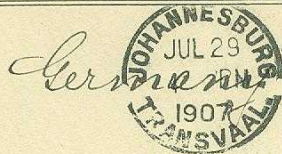
24 January 1905

Commercial bank  
cover, postmarked at  
Capetown, sent to  
Edinburgh, Scotland

One Penny..  
Empire letter-rate



W<sup>M</sup>. H. MÜLLER & CO.



TRANSVAAL  
USE

29 July 1907

Commercial cover,  
postmarked at  
Johannesburg, sent  
to Verden,  
Germany

2-1/2 Pence..  
UPU International  
Letter-Rate

*fräulein Sophie Leidler*

*Windmühlstr. 12.*

*Verden - Aller - Hannover.*



# HIGH-SPEED FLEXIBLE MACHINES

Norway  
Nils Krag Company  
1904 - 1908

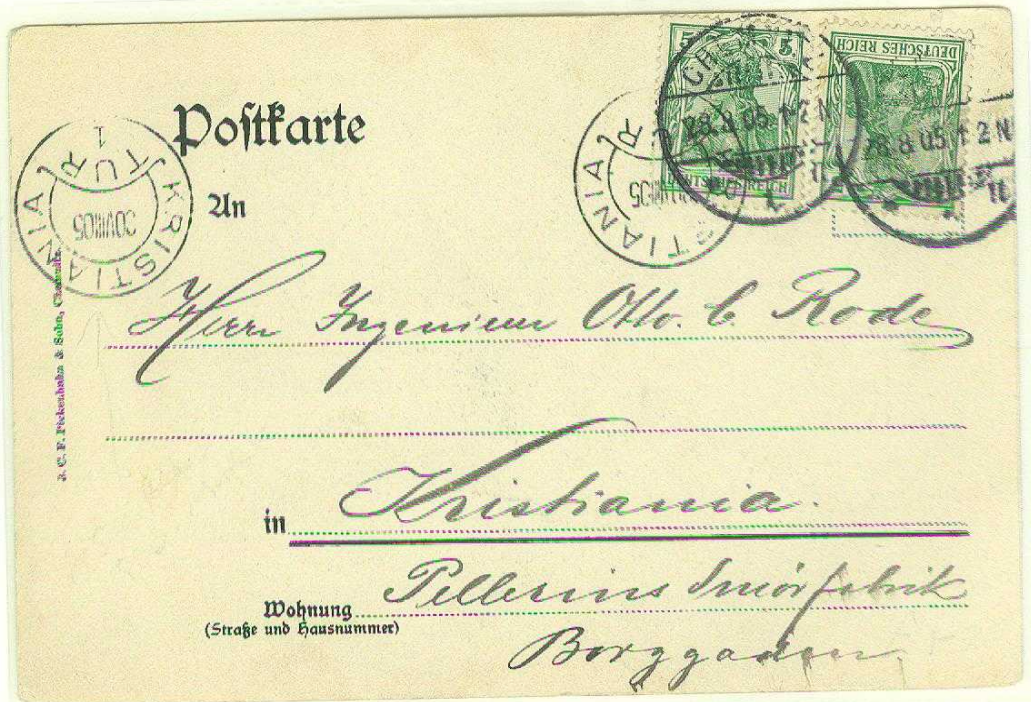
In 1904, Gustav Adolf Hansen of Norway developed a revolutionary and effective **FIRST "REPEATER" OR CONTINUOUS IMPRESSION POSTMARKING MACHINE**, in manual or electrically-operated versions, manufactured by the 'Nils Krag Company' with subsequent trials and use in many countries.

## IN-BOUND MAIL ARRIVAL POSTMARK

30 August 1905

Viewcard,  
postmarked  
at Chemnitz,  
Germany, sent to  
Kristiania (Oslo),  
Norway, with  
date dial arrival  
'Krag' Postmark.

10 Pfennig ..  
UPU International  
Postcard-Rate



## OUT-BOUND REGISTERED MAIL

3 June 1914

Registered  
commercial cover,  
postmarked at  
Kristiania (Oslo),  
Norway, with a 'Krag'  
Machine origin  
postmark indicating  
"Norge R", sent to  
Berlin, Germany.

40 Ore...  
20 Ore single-weight  
UPU International  
Letter-Rate +  
20 Ore Registration  
fee



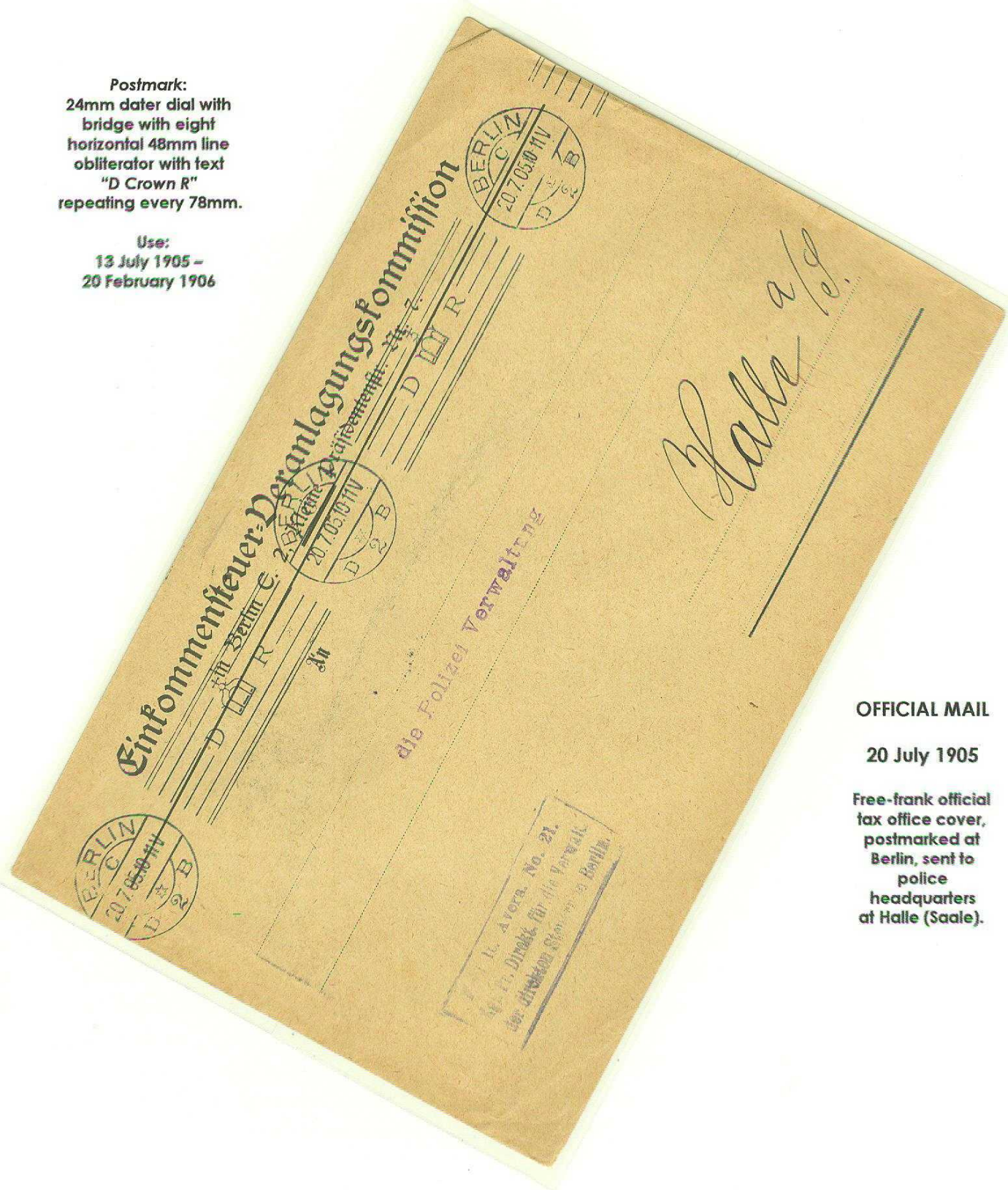
# HIGH-SPEED FLEXIBLE MACHINES

Germany  
Nils Krag Company  
1905 - 1906

Between 1905-1906, the  
**'KRAG COMPANY' DELIVERED FOUR MACHINES TO THE GERMAN REICHSPOST,**  
with three for trial at Berlin and one at Hamburg.

Postmark:  
24mm dater dial with  
bridge with eight  
horizontal 48mm line  
obliterator with text  
"D Crown R"  
repeating every 78mm.

Use:  
13 July 1905 -  
20 February 1906



OFFICIAL MAIL

20 July 1905

Free-frank official  
tax office cover,  
postmarked at  
Berlin, sent to  
police  
headquarters  
at Halle (Saale).





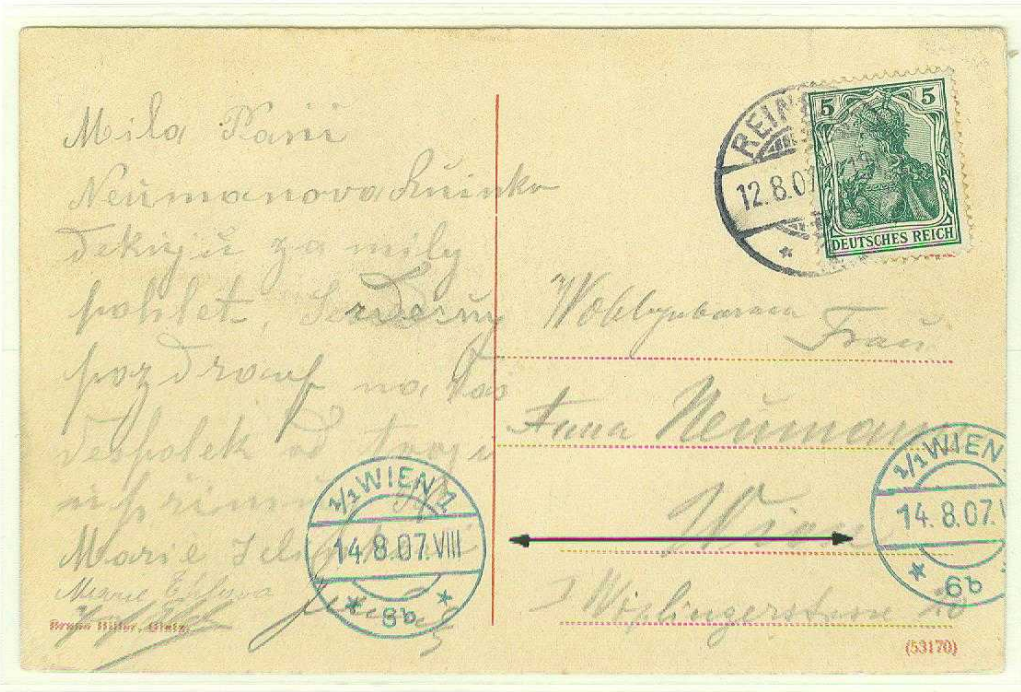
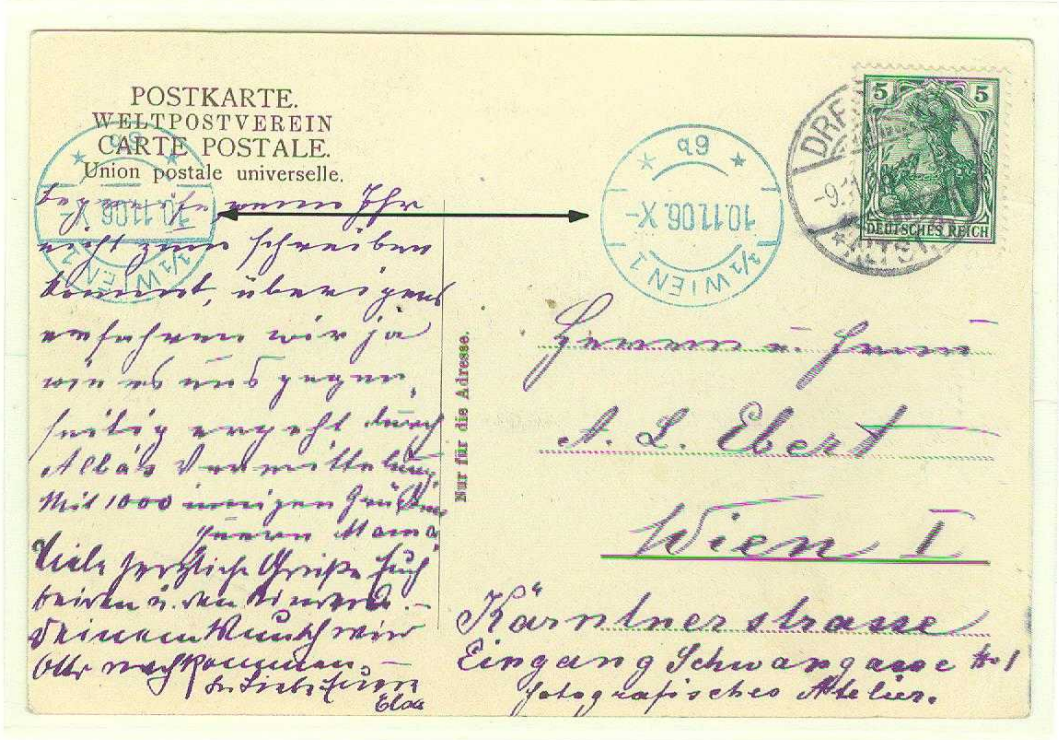


# HIGH-SPEED FLEXIBLE MACHINES

Austria  
Nils Krag Company  
1906 - 1907

A 'Krag' Machine was operational at Vienna (Austria)  
and applied  
**ARRIVAL POSTMARKS ON IN-BOUND MAIL.**

**1906 USE**  
**10 November 1906**  
Viewcard,  
postmarked at  
Dresden, Germany,  
sent to  
Vienna



**1907 USE**  
**14 August 1907**  
Viewcard,  
postmarked at  
Reinerz, Germany,  
sent to Vienna

**Five Pfennig ..  
Concession postcard-rate  
for mail sent from Germany to Austria**



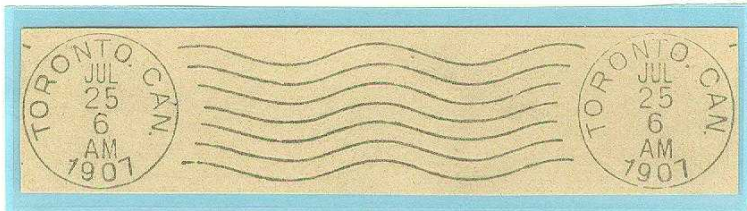
# HIGH-SPEED FLEXIBLE MACHINES

Canada & U.S.A.

Nils Krag Company

1907-1908

**ON 25 JULY 1907, A TRIAL MACHINE WAS TESTED AT TORONTO (Canada),  
not considered further, and  
SUBSEQUENTLY SHIPPED TO THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA  
for trials between 1907-1908 at Washington D.C.**



PROOF FROM TORONTO (CANADA) TRIAL ON 25 JULY 1907  
Only known example

**WASHINGTON D.C.  
TRIAL TYPE I**

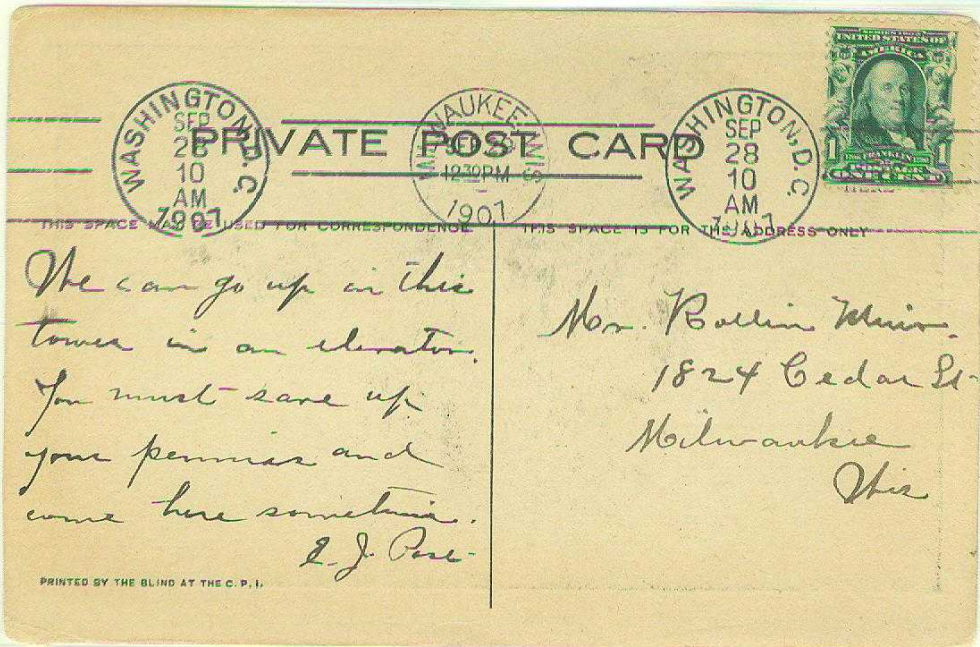
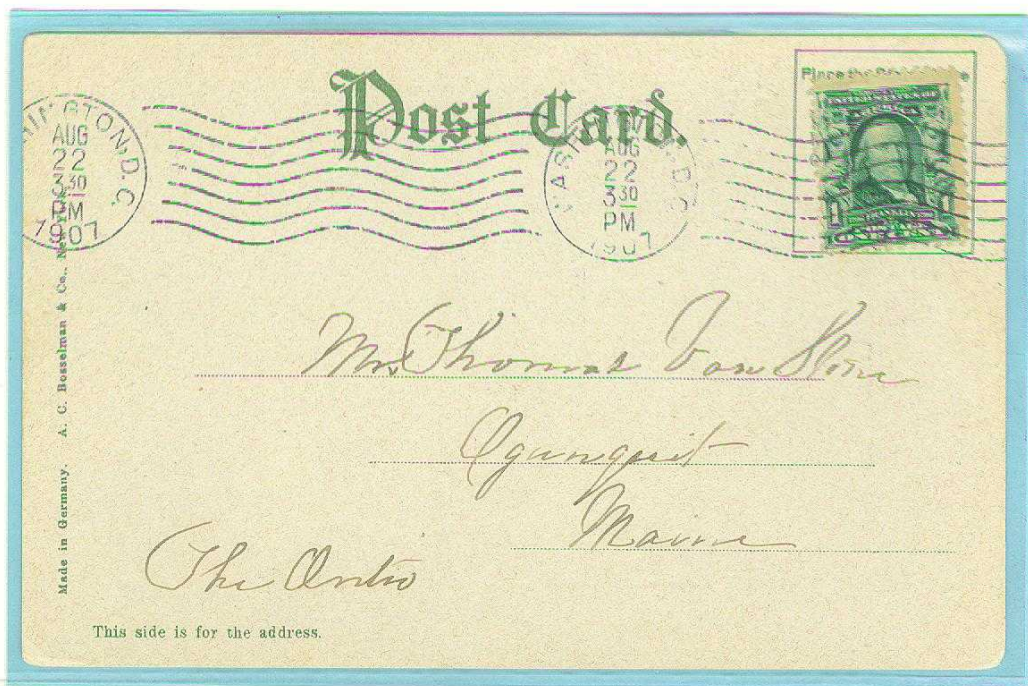
Use:  
12-27 August 1907

22 August 1907

Viewcard,  
postmarked at  
Washington D.C.,  
sent to  
Ogunquit, Maine.

One Cent ..  
Domestic postcard-rate

One of three known



**WASHINGTON D.C.  
TRIAL TYPE II**

Use:  
29 August 1907  
& February 1908

28 September 1907

Viewcard,  
postmarked at  
Washington D.C.,  
sent to  
Milwaukee, Wisconsin.

One Cent ..  
Domestic postcard-rate



# HIGH-SPEED FLEXIBLE MACHINES

Great Britain  
Nils Krag Company  
1905 - 1913

THE BRITISH POST OFFICE AT LONDON TESTED THE 'KRAG' MACHINE IN 1905 AND AGAIN SUCCESSFULLY WITH TWO TRIALS BETWEEN 1906-1907.

Where trial machines had round dater dials, field operating machine postmarks had rectangular unboxed daters.

THIRD TRIAL PERIOD  
9 -10 October 1906



10 October 1906

Viewcard,  
postmarked at London,  
sent to Milan, Italy

One Penny ..  
UPU International  
Postcard-Rate

Last Day of Two-Day Trial Period



# HIGH-SPEED FLEXIBLE MACHINES

Germany  
Sylbe & Pondorf Company  
1907-1930s

To compete with the Norwegian-developed 'Krag' continuous-impression machine, the German 'Sylbe & Pondorf' Company **DEVELOPED AND INTRODUCED THEIR DUAL DIE-HEAD POSTMARKING MACHINE HAVING SEVERAL UNIQUE FEATURES..**  
25% higher speed, ability for single or multiple impression as well as slogan postmarking.

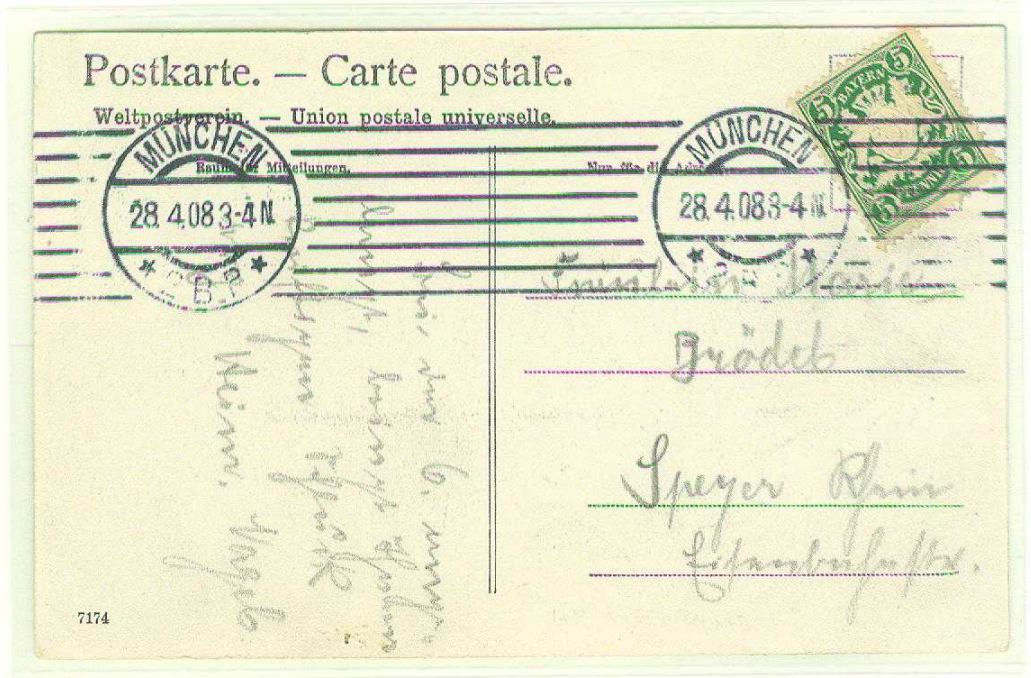
Postmark: 25 - 27mm double dater dial with bridge, repeating every 78mm, with a 7-10 horizontal line obliterator

**28mm DATER DIAL**

28. April 1908

Viewcard,  
postmarked  
at Munich, Bavaria,  
sent to Speyer

Five Pfennig ..  
Domestic postcard-  
rate



**25mm DATER DIAL**

27 April 1909

Printed-matter cover,  
postmarked at  
Stuttgart for local  
delivery.

Three Pfennig..  
Domestic printed-  
matter rate to 50  
grams.



# HIGH-SPEED FLEXIBLE MACHINES

Germany  
 Sylbe & Pondorf Company  
 1911 ...

One of the objections from business and the general public concerning 'continuous postmarking impressions' was that their length often covered the text message on postcards.

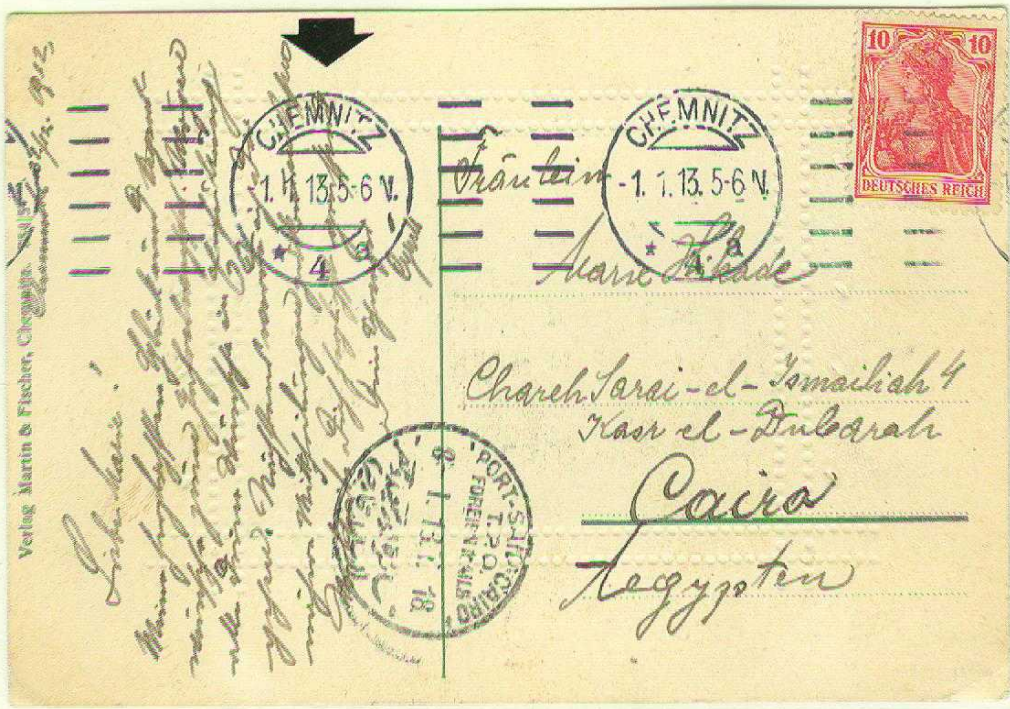
**A 1911 'SYLBE' MACHINE VERSION WAS FLEXIBLE AND ABLE TO APPLY EITHER SINGLE OR CONTINUOUS-IMPRESSION POSTMARKS.**

**SINGLE  
 (or 'Half')  
 IMPRESSION  
 POSTMARK**

23 December 1912

Postal stationery card, postmarked at Chemnitz, sent to Dresden

Five Pfennig ..  
 Domestic postcard-rate



**CONTINUOUS  
 (or 'Full')  
 IMPRESSION  
 POSTMARK**

1 January 1913

'New Year's Greeting' card, postmarked at Chemnitz, sent to Cairo, Egypt

Ten Pfennig...  
 UPU International Postcard-Rate



# HIGH-SPEED FLEXIBLE MACHINES

Germany  
Sylbe & Pondorf Company  
1913 - 1920s

One of the innovative features of the 'Sylbe' Machine was its ability to have slogans or graphics inserted into the postmark obliterations.

**THE FIRST GRAPHICS INSERTED INTO THE OBLITERATORS WERE COMMEMORATIVE POSTMARKS RELATED TO SPECIAL EVENTS COMMENCING IN 1913.**

**SINGLE  
(or 'Half')  
IMPRESSION  
POSTMARK**

**"XII GERMAN  
TURNER FESTIVAL"  
(10-18 July 1913)**

**18 July 1913**

Postal stationery  
card,  
commemorative  
postmarked at  
Leipzig,  
for local delivery

**Five Pfennig ..  
Domestic postcard-  
rate**



**CONTINUOUS  
(or 'Full')  
IMPRESSION  
POSTMARK**

**"DEDICATION OF THE  
BATTLE-OF-THE-  
NATIONS  
MEMORIAL"  
(18 October 1913)**

**18 October 1913**

Commercial printed-  
matter postcard,  
postmarked at Leipzig,  
sent to Gotha

**Three Pfennig...  
Domestic printed-  
matter rate up to  
50 grams**



# HIGH-SPEED FLEXIBLE MACHINES

Germany  
Sylbe & Pondorf Company  
1910 - 1920s

On 1 February 1910, the Bavarian Postal Administration introduced a postal prepayment service for large mailers' mailings where **THE 'SYLBE' MACHINE APPLIED THE PREPAYMENT POSTMARK,** a forerunner of meter marks, in red, green or black colors.

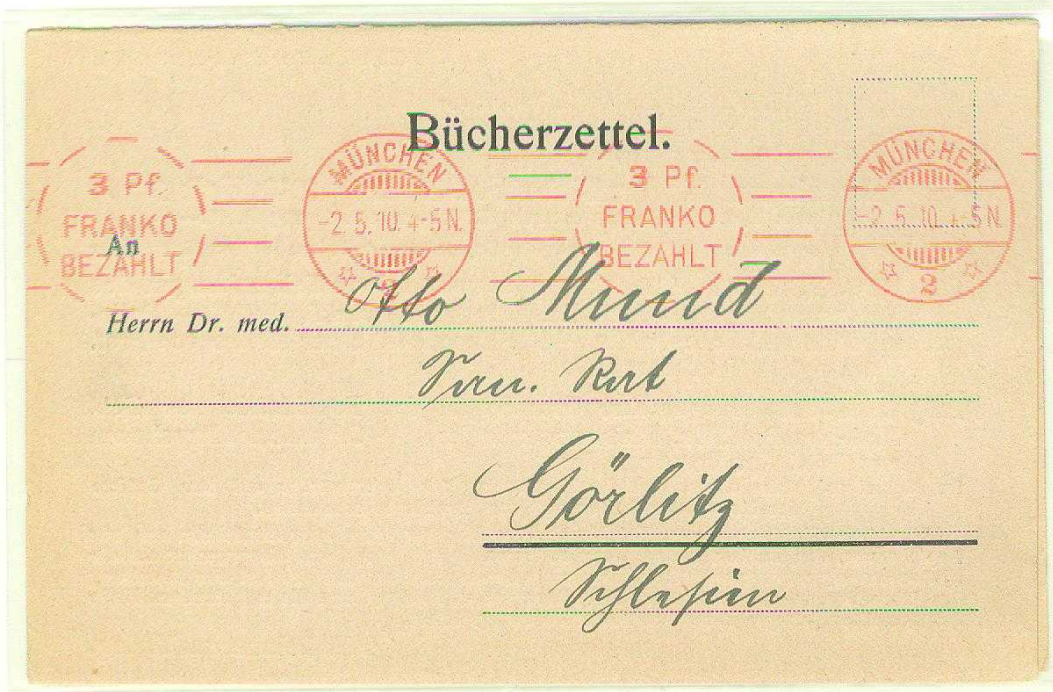
Postmark: 25mm diameter dater dial, repeating at 78mm intervals, between a four staggered horizontal line obliterator with integrated value indication .. " - Franco Bezahlt".  
(Paid to destination)

## FIRST DAY OF USE

1 February 1910

Reply-card postal stationery with reply card intact, postmarked at Munich, for local delivery and reply-postmarked on 7 February 1910.

Five Pfennig ..  
Domestic  
postcard-rate



## BOOK ADVERTISING & ORDER FORM

2 May 1910

Printed-matter book order advertising, postmarked at Munich, sent to Görlitz

Three Pfennig...  
Domestic printed-matter rate up to 50 grams



# HIGH-SPEED FLEXIBLE MACHINES

Germany  
Columbia Postal Supply Company  
1909

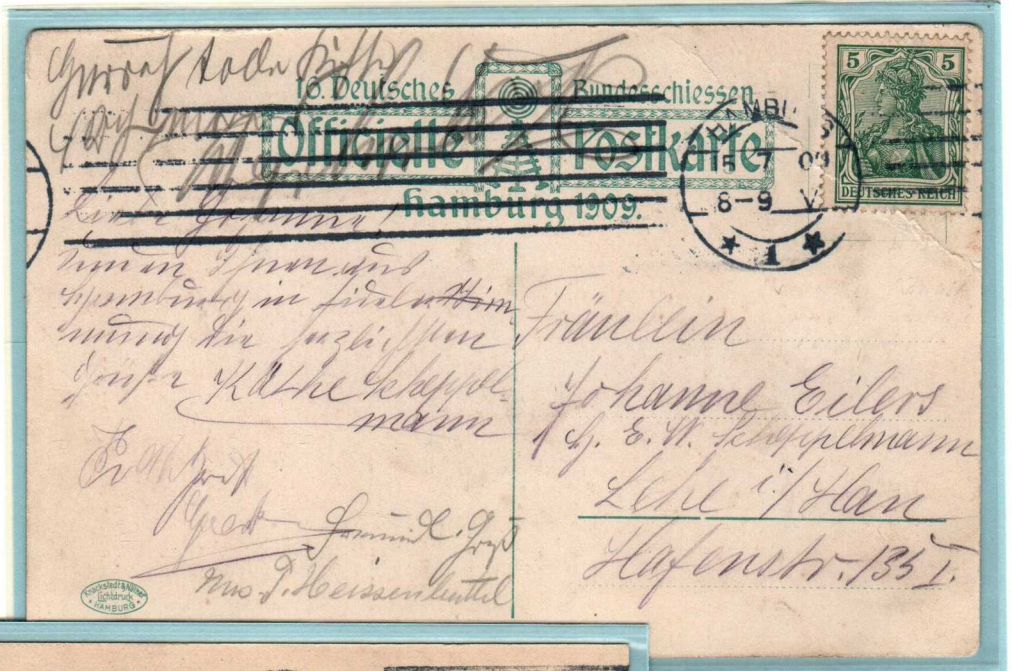
IN AN EFFORT TO COMPETE WITH 'Krag' AND 'Sylbe' CONTINUOUS IMPRESSION MACHINES, THE 'COLUMBIA' COMPANY DEVELOPED AND INTRODUCED A SIMILAR POSTMARKING MACHINE, albeit with little sales success.

**Postmark:** 25mm double dater dial with bridge with six horizontal line obliterator between repeating dials at 92mm intervals.

**Use:** 12-24 July 1909

15 July 1909

Commemorative  
'Bundesschiessen'  
(National Target Shooting Event)  
postcard, postmarked  
at Hamburg,  
sent to Lehe



17 July 1909

Commemorative  
'Bundesschiessen'  
(National Target Shooting Event)  
postcard,  
postmarked at Hamburg,  
sent to Rinteln

5 Pfennig ..  
Domestic postcard-rate

Less than ten examples known.



# HIGH-SPEED FLEXIBLE MACHINES

GREAT BRITAIN  
Sylbe & Pondorf Company  
1907-1908

Designed and manufactured by Paul Sylbe of the Schmöllner Machine Manufacturing Company of Germany, the 'Sylbe' Machine was evaluated by the London Post Office between December 1907 & November 1908 with two trials using two machine versions.

Similar to the 'Krag' Machine, it was rapid operating, electrically powered, having continuous-impression postmarking, albeit capable of adjusting to enable single-impression postmarking.

Although tested in Britain about one year, the 'Sylbe' Machine was not accepted for wider use, contrary to its wide use in Germany.

Postmark: Three line town line with '9' indicated above  
"London E.C." with date & time having a six  
horizontal-line obliterator between 60mm  
town-line-dater spacing.

Use: December 1907 - November 1908



18 AUGUST 1908

P&O Ship Lines  
litho-card,  
postmarked at London E.C.,  
sent locally to Highbury N.W.

Arrival Postmark:  
"Highbury S.O.. August 18, (19)08"

Half Penny..  
Domestic postcard rate.



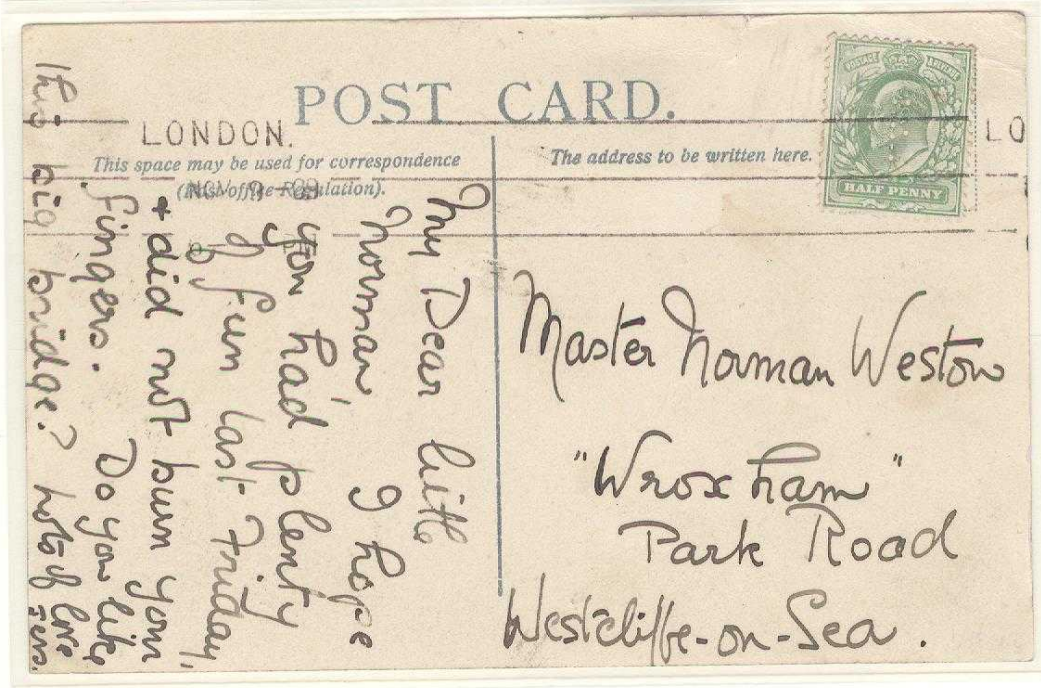
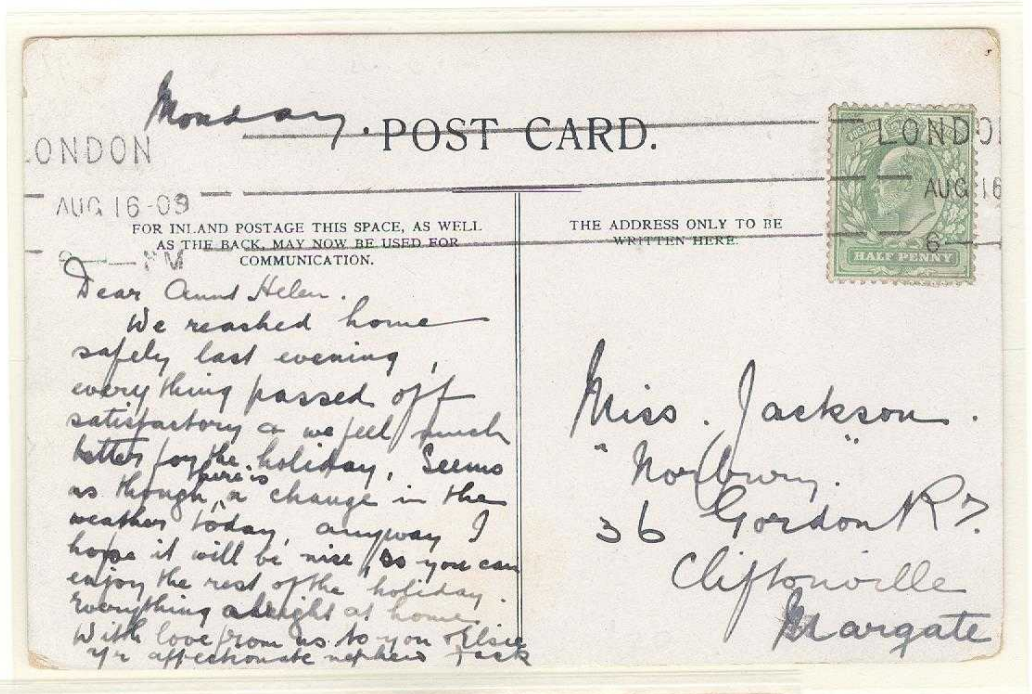
# HIGH-SPEED FLEXIBLE MACHINES

Great Britain  
Columbia Postal Supply Company  
1909 - 1910

To compete with similar postmarking 'Krag' & 'Sylbe' Machines being evaluated by the London Post Office, the 'Columbia Company' submitted their continuous-impression postmarking machine for evaluation.  
**TESTED AT THE LONDON MOUNT PLEASANT FACILITY FOR SIX MONTHS.**

**Postmark:** Three-line dater indicated "London". Time & date between a three-horizontal-line obliterator.

**Use:** 13 July 1909 - 1 March 1910



Half Penny ..  
Domestic postcard-rate

Less than ten examples known.



# HIGH-SPEED FLEXIBLE MACHINES

United States of America  
Universal Stamping Machine Co.  
1909 - 1942

**William H. Bowes acquired the Universal Stamping Machine Company in 1908 intent on manufacturing high-speed endorsing machines, albeit soon thereafter recognizing the potential for high-speed postmarking machinery using the company's existing check endorsing machine technology.**

**IN 1909, THE 'UNIVERSAL' COMPANY WAS ABLE TO PLACE A TRIAL MACHINE AT THE WASHINGTON D.C. POST OFFICE,**

**which resulted in a twenty-five machine first lease following later that year, which was subsequently the beginning of a long duration of supply of such machines to the Post Office well into the 1970s.**

*Postmark: 22mm dater dial with a 40mm seven-line obliterator*

*Trial Use: 4 - 16 August 1909*



## FIRST-TRIAL MAIL

10 August 1909

Viewcard,  
postmarked at Washington D.C., sent to  
Lancaster, Pennsylvania.

One Cent ..  
Domestic postcard rate  
(1 July 1898 - 1 November 1917)

One of five examples known



# HIGH-SPEED FLEXIBLE MACHINES

United States of America  
Universal Stamping Machine Co.  
1909 - 1942

The 'Universal' Company, later becoming 'Pitney-Bowes', manufactured high-speed manual or electric-operated machines most suitable for American post offices and stations with hundreds of machines being supplied.

**MOST RENOWNED ARE THEIR EARLY SLOGAN AND SEVEN WAVY-LINE  
OBLITERATOR POSTMARKS (MODEL 'K');**  
the latter particularly installed  
at military installations worldwide during World War II.

Postmark: 22mm dater dial with a 60mm in length slogan or  
seven wavy-line obliterator

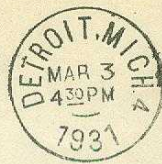
## SLOGAN OBLITERATOR

18 June 1920

Cover,  
postmarked at  
Chicago, Illinois...  
"Join the Navy  
Training-Travel",  
for local delivery.



AFTER FIVE DAYS RETURN TO  
**FRED E. FARNHAM**  
DAVID STOTT BLDG.  
DETROIT, MICH.



A. W. Claflin,  
180 Medway St.,  
Providence, R. I.

## SEVEN WAVY-LINES OBLITERATOR

3 March 1931

Commercial  
cover,  
postmarked at  
Detroit,  
Michigan,  
sent to  
Providence,  
Rhode Island.

Two Cents..  
Domestic Letter-Rate  
(One Ounce)  
(1 July 1919 - 6 July 1932)



# HIGH-SPEED FLEXIBLE MACHINES

Germany

Universal Stamping Machine Co.

1911 - 1912

In 1911, William Bowes of the 'Universal' Company offered the German Reichspost his single-impression high-speed machines ..

TESTING COMMENCED IN JUNE 1911 AT CHARLOTTENBURG AND LATER AT BERLIN W35, GEESTEMÜNDE AND HAMBURG POST OFFICES.

Purchasing of the initial machines took place in 1912 upon successful completion of trials postmarking 500 postcards/minute or 400 mixed mail types/minute.

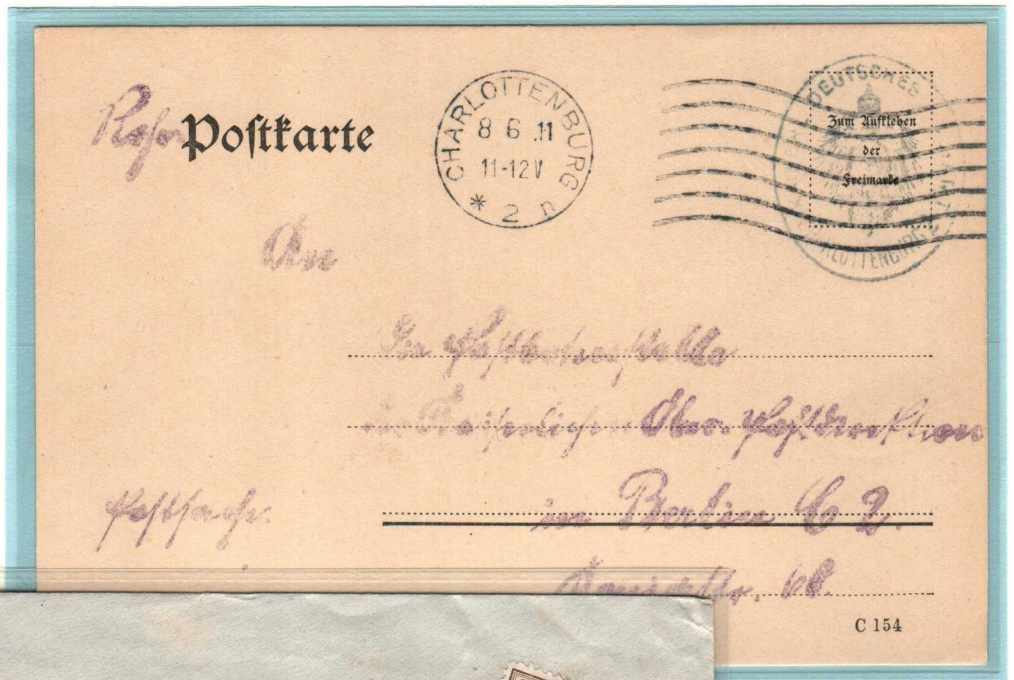
Postmark: 22mm dater dial along with a seven wavy-line obliterator 50mm in length

FIRST OFFICIAL  
FREE-FRANK  
POST OFFICE  
TEST MAIL

8 June 1911

Test mail postcard,  
postmarked at  
Charlottenburg (Berlin),  
sent to the Berlin C2  
Main Post Office.

Only Known Proof



C 154



Herr *W*  
Firma

*Herrn Warncke*



*Heiligenfelde*  
*H. Bremen*

GEESTEMÜNDE  
TRIAL PERIOD MAIL

30 September 1911

Printed matter mail,  
postmarked at  
Geestemünde,  
sent to  
Heiligenfelde

Three Pfennig ..  
Domestic printed-  
matter up to 50 grams



# HIGH-SPEED FLEXIBLE MACHINES

Germany  
Universal Stamping Machine Co.  
1912 - 1920s

In 1912, the 'Universal' Company licensed manufacturing of its machine to the 'Deutsche Post- und Eisenbahn-Verkehrswesen Aktiengesellschaft' (DAPAG) at Staaken (Berlin).

**WITH LOCAL MANUFACTURING AND SERVICE, MACHINE SALES SOARED INTO THE HUNDREDS FOR OPERATION THROUGHOUT GERMANY.**

The applied postmark was shorter in length to avoid interference with written text on postal cards, disadvantages of the 'Krag' and early 'Sylbe' Machines.

Postmark: 22mm dater dial with a 35mm seven horizontal-line obliterator

**CENSORED  
OVERSEAS-BOUND  
MAIL**

1 April 1916

Prepaid reply postal stationery commercial mail, postmarked at Leipzig, sent to Sao Paulo, Brazil, with censorship at Cologne-Deutz, Germany.

Ten Pfennig ..  
UPU International  
Postcard-Rate



**MILITARY FIELDPOST  
SOLDIER'S MAIL**

22 April 1918

Free Frank fieldpost cover, postmarked at Münster (Lager), military training base, sent to Altencelle



# HIGH-SPEED FLEXIBLE MACHINES

Germany  
 Universal Stamping Machine Co.  
 1920s

In the 1920's the 'Universal' Machine's  
**POSTMARK WAS ALTERED TO INCLUDE SLOGAN TEXT OR DESIGNS**  
 EITHER ADAPTED FOR POSTMARKING MAIL OR  
 AS NON-POSTAGE-STAMP EARLY "METER" MARKING.

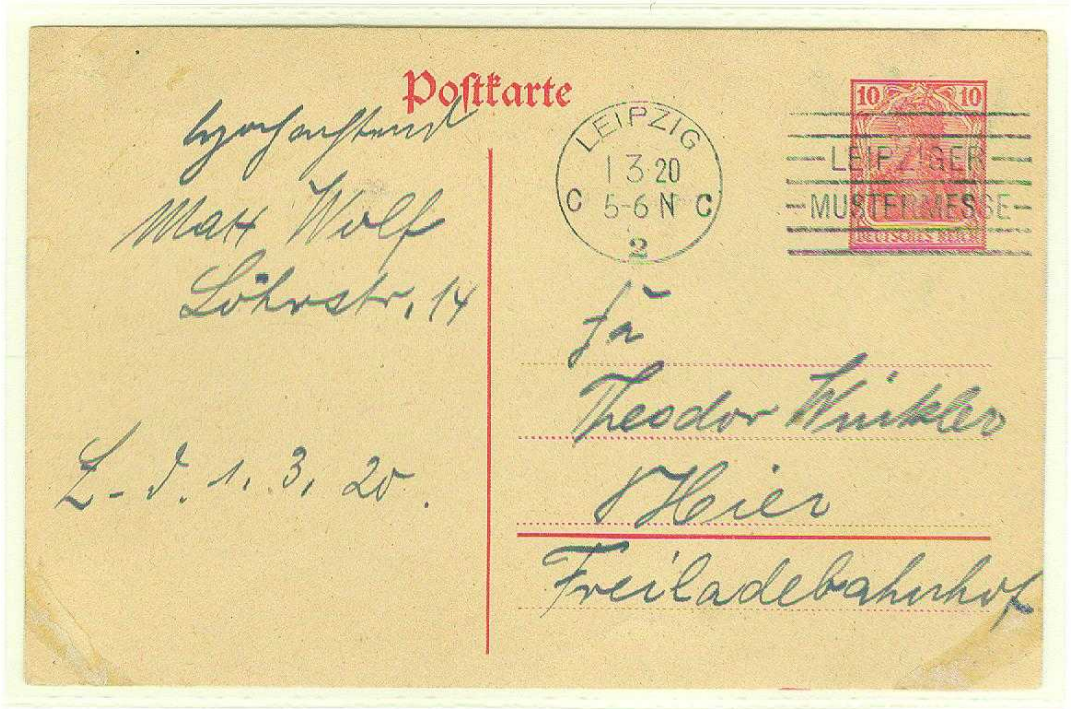
Postmark: 22mm dater dial with a 35mm seven horizontal-line obliterator having text or design with or without value indication.

**OBLITERATOR WITH TEXT ..**  
 "Leipziger Mustermesse"  
 ("Leipzig Fair")

1 March 1920

Domestic postal stationery card commercial mail, postmarked at Leipzig, sent to Greifswald.

Ten Pfennig .. Domestic long-distance mail postcard-rate.



**ALTERED METER MARKING WITH EXCISED VALUE FROM OBLITERATOR**  
 (only recorded usage 4-7 December 1922)

6 December 1922

Commercial cover, postmarked at Cologne, sent to Berlin-Charlottenburg

Six Marks.. Domestic long-distance postcard-rate (15 November - 15 December 1922)





# HIGH-SPEED FLEXIBLE MACHINES

Great Britain  
Universal Stamping Machine Co.  
1911- 1930s

**A UNIVERSAL TYPE 'D' MACHINE WAS SUPPLIED TO THE BRITISH POST OFFICE AT LONDON FOR TRIALS COMMENCING IN 1911, concluding positively later that year with purchase by the British Post Office, widespread installation & operation throughout Britain.**

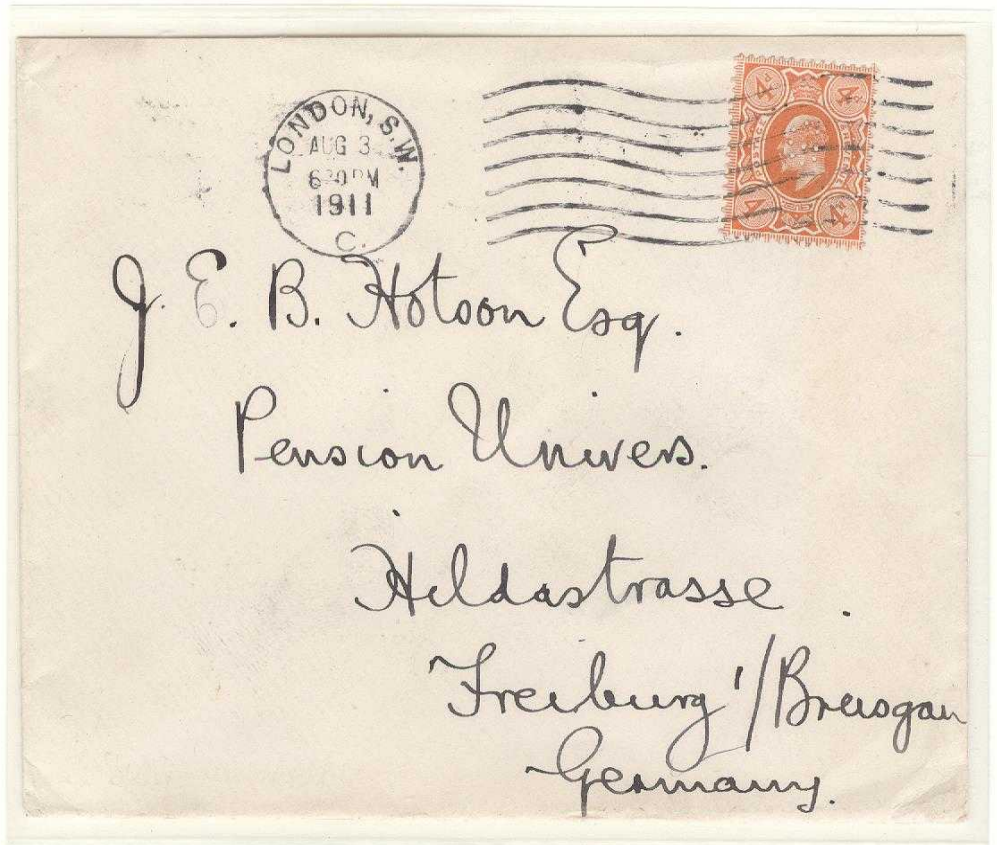
Postmark: 22mm dater dial with a seven 65mm-wavy-line obliterator on out-going mail with only a dater dial applied to in-coming mail as a service or arrival postmark.

## OUT-GOING MAIL POSTMARK

3 August 1911

Commercial mail cover, postmarked at London, sent to Freiburg (Breisgau), Germany.

Four Pence ..  
(with perfin)  
UPU International  
Single-Weight  
Letter-Rate

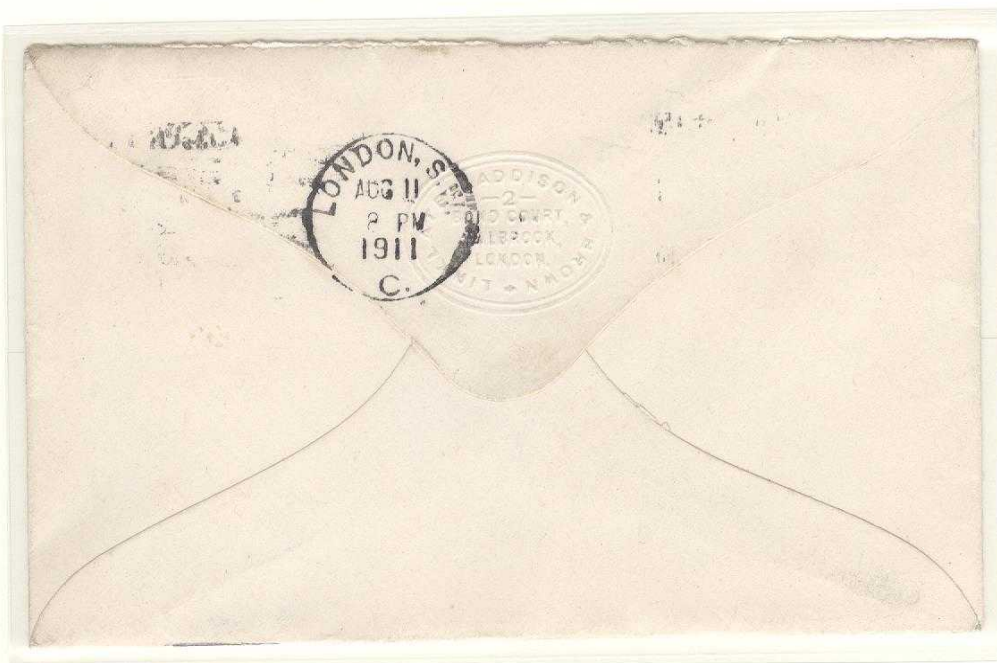


## IN-BOUND ARRIVAL POSTMARK (reverse)

11 August 1911

In-bound commercial mail cover, postmarked at London E.C. for local delivery.

One Penny...  
Domestic  
single-weight  
letter-rate.





# HIGH-SPEED FLEXIBLE MACHINES

United States of America  
International Postal Supply Company

1901-1906

In 1901, the United States Postal Service contracted the 'International Postal Supply Company' to furnish them one hundred "FLIER" MODEL MACHINES, **RECOGNIZED FOR THEIR HIGH SPEED AND SUPERIOR EFFECTIVENESS VERSUS OTHER MACHINES IN OPERATION AT THE TIME.**

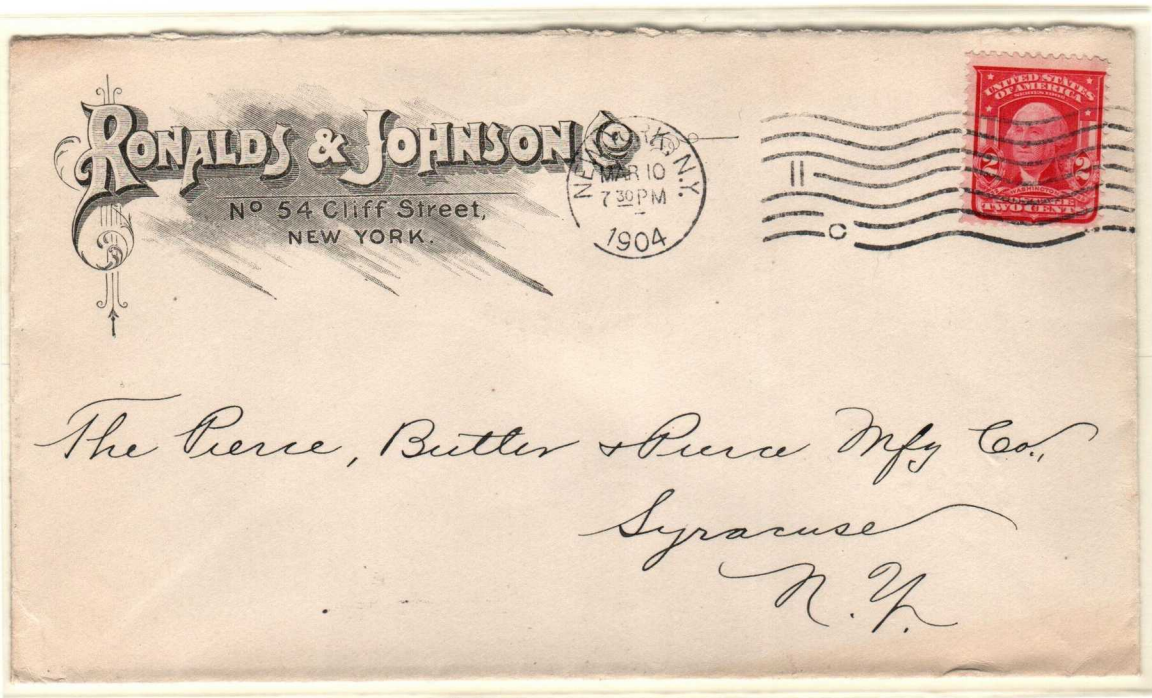
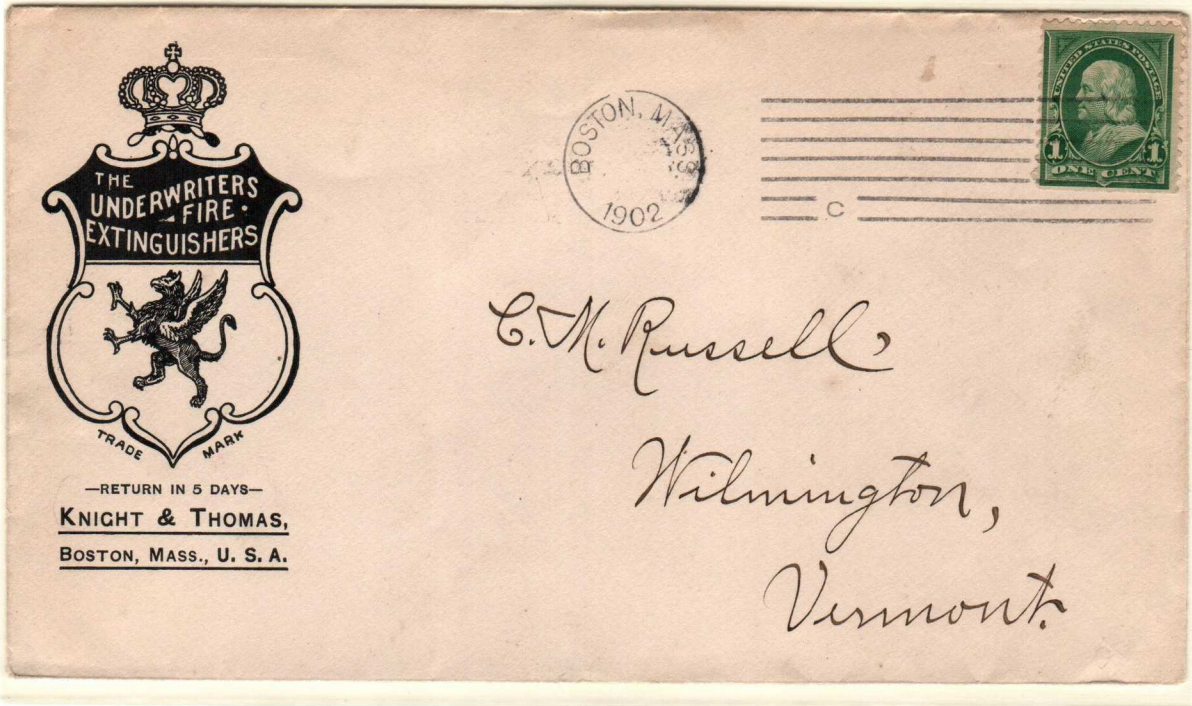
Postmark: 20mm dater dial with various seven-line obliterated applied to outgoing mail. Only dater dial applied to in-coming mail.

EARLY  
'FLIER' OUT-  
GOING  
MAIL  
POSTMARK

1902

Printed-  
matter mail,  
postmarked  
at Boston,  
sent to  
Wilmington,  
Vermont.

One Cent..  
Printed-  
matter up to  
two ounces  
(8 June 1872 -  
1 July 1998)



LATER 'FLIER'  
POSTMARK  
FOR  
OUT-GOING  
MAIL

10 March  
1904

Commercial  
mail,  
postmarked at  
New York City,  
sent to  
Syracuse, New  
York.

Two Cents..  
One ounce  
domestic  
letter-rate  
(1 July 1885 -  
2 November 1917)



# HIGH-SPEED FLEXIBLE MACHINES

United States of America  
International Postal Supply Company

1902

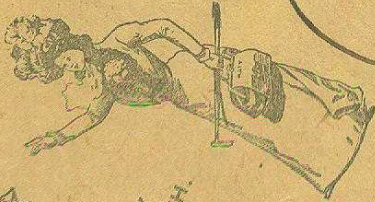
An 'International' Machine also postmarked 'St. Louis' mail advertising the "WORLD'S FAIR" of 1902.

Postmark:  
20mm dater dial with  
56mm slogan obliterator.

1098  
WORLD'S FAIR  
ST. LOUIS  
R R R

ST. LOUIS, MO.  
NOV 21  
6:30 PM  
1902

Anton Mann,  
Sweet's Clay Jones St.  
Dayton, Ohio



ST. LOUIS,  
HANNIBAL,  
KANSAS CITY  
IN THE NORTH.  
DALLAS,  
FORT WORTH,  
HOUSTON,  
GALVESTON,  
SAN ANTONIO,  
IN TEXAS.  
SOLID TRAINS.

PASSENGER TRAFFIC  
DEPARTMENT,  
ST. LOUIS, MO.

21 November 1902

Bulk-paid  
printed-matter,  
postmarked at St.  
Louis, sent to Dayton,  
Ohio.

One Cent..  
Printed-matter  
up to  
two ounces  
(8 June 1872 -  
1 July 1998)



# HIGH-SPEED FLEXIBLE MACHINES

Canada  
International Post Supply Company

1902 - 1919

The Canadian Post Office was the second largest market for the  
'International' Company with  
**THE FIRST 'FLIER' MODEL MACHINE OPERATING AT 600/UNITS MINUTE  
AT TORONTO BETWEEN 4-10 FEBRUARY HAVING A SIMPLE DATER DIAL  
INDICATING "TORONTO/DATE/1902".**

Postmark: 20mm dater dial with a 56mm seven wavy-line obliterator on  
out-going mail with only a dater dial marking for in-coming mail

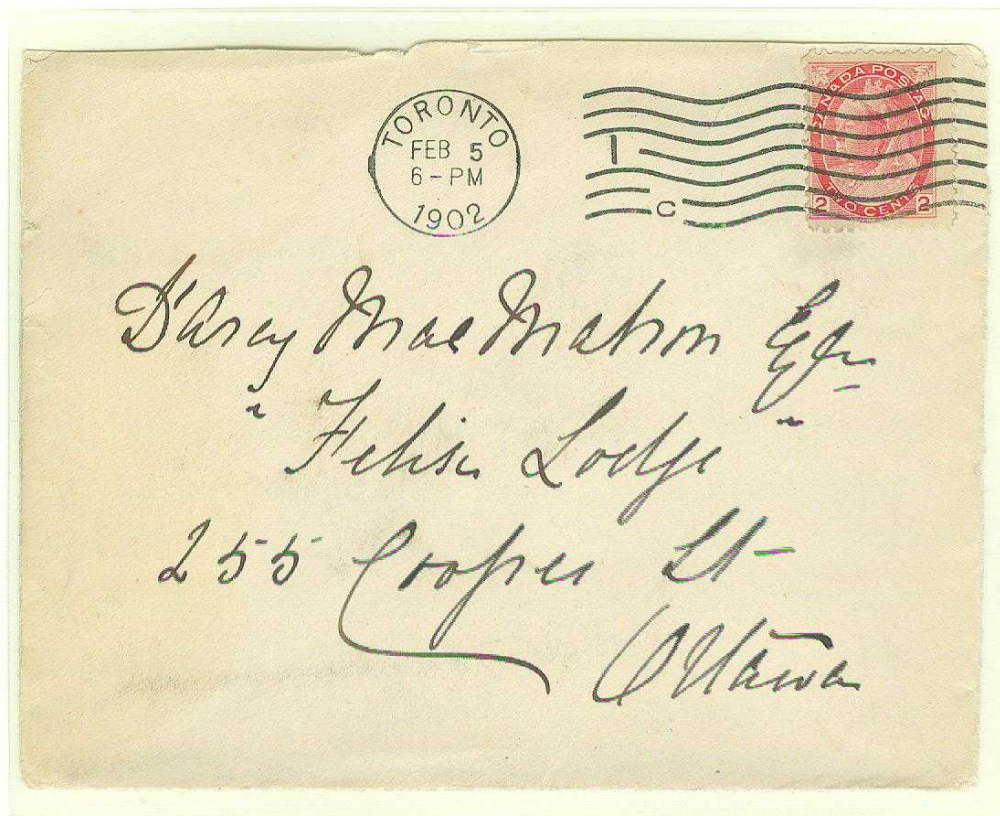
## DOMESTIC MAIL

5 February 1902

Civilian cover,  
postmarked at  
Toronto, sent to  
Ottawa, Ontario,  
Canada.

Two Cents ..  
Domestic  
letter-rate

Early Date for  
First Postmark



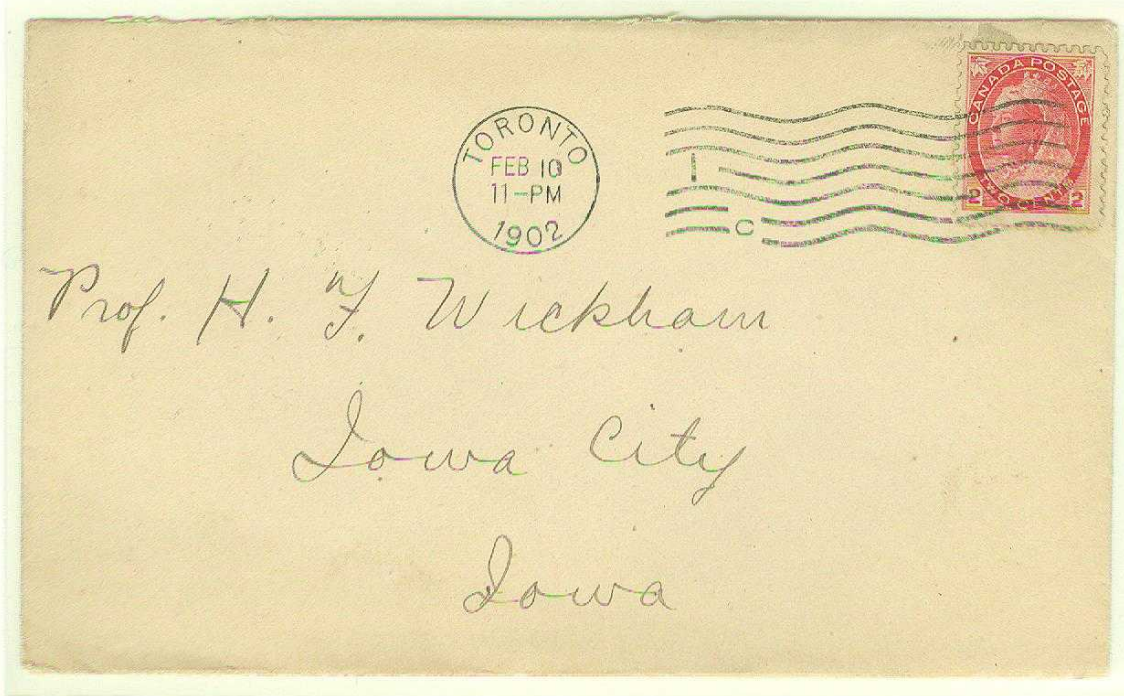
## FOREIGN-BOUND MAIL

10 February 1902

Civilian cover,  
postmarked at  
Toronto,  
sent to Iowa City,  
Iowa, U.S.A.

Two Cents ..  
Letter-rate for mail to  
the United States of  
America  
(Effective 1 January 1899)

Late Date for First  
Postmark





# HIGH-SPEED FLEXIBLE MACHINES

Britain & Germany  
International Postal Supply Company

1902

The 'International' Company  
ATTEMPTED TO SELL ITS HIGH-SPEED 'FLIER' MODEL TO BOTH THE  
BRITISH AND GERMAN POST OFFICES WITHOUT SUCCESS,  
primarily because of the high lease cost.

In Britain, an eight month trial took place 27 August 1902 – 6 April 1903,  
whereas in Germany, a three week trial between  
24 October – 14 November 1902.

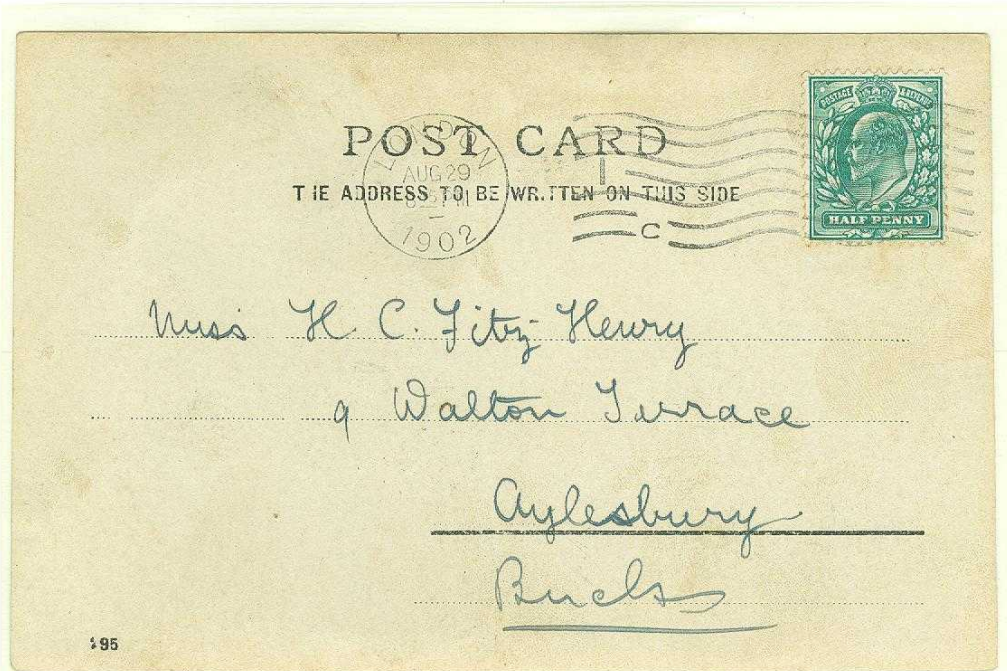
Postmark: 20mm dater dial with a 56mm seven wavy-line obliterator.

## USE IN BRITAIN

29 August 1902

Viewcard,  
postmarked at  
London,  
sent to  
Aylesbury, England.

Half Penny..  
Domestic printed-  
matter postcard-rate



## USE IN GERMANY

12 November 1902

Cover,  
postmarked at Berlin,  
sent to  
Pitschkau, Germany

Ten Pfennigs...  
Domestic single-weight  
letter-rate.





# VI. EPILOGUE.. OTHER INNOVATIVE MACHINES

# Netherlands Vulcanus Branding Machines

1901

IN AUGUST 1901, THE DUTCH POST OFFICE AT S'GRAVENHAGE TESTED A TREADLE-OPERATED MACHINE WHERE THE POSTMARKING DIE WAS HEATED AND OBLITERATED THE POSTAGE BY BRANDING.

Since the machine's output was not higher than the Roelant Machines in use and for burned mail considerations, the trial soon ended and machine no longer considered.

Postmark: 32mm triple dash-circle dial indicating "S'Gravenhage" and date.

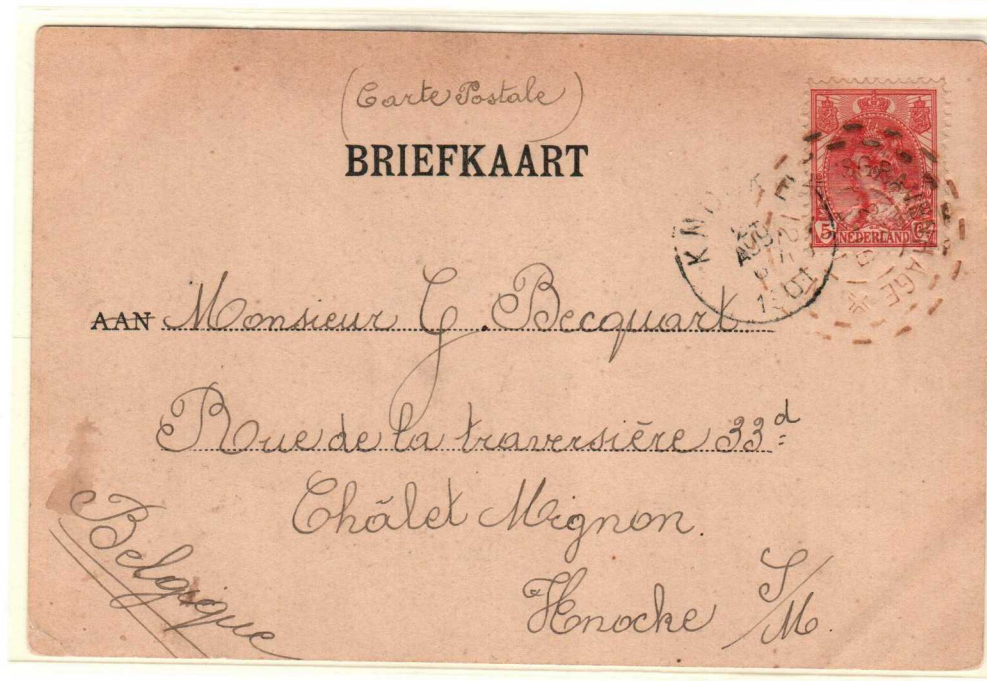
Use: August 1901

## COVER BRANDING

19 August 1901

Commercial bank  
printed-matter mail,  
postmarked at  
S'Gravenhage,  
sent to  
Amsterdam

One Cent ..  
Domestic  
Printed-matter rate up  
to 50 grams.



## POSTCARD BRANDING

23 August 1901

Viewcard,  
postmarked at  
S'Gravenhage,  
sent to  
Henoche, Belgium.

Five Cents ..  
UPU International  
Postcard-Rate



**EPILOGUE..  
OTHER INNOVATIVE MACHINES**

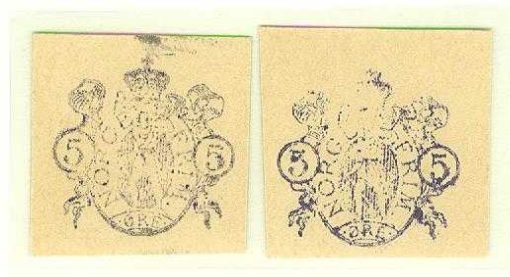
**Norway  
Uchermann-Krag  
1903 - 1904**

Two inventors in Norway between 1900-1904 developed  
'meter forerunner' machines.

The more successful of the two was the 1903-4 development by  
Messrs. Uchermann & Krag (*Krag Maskinfabrik*) which had ..

**SEVEN MACHINES IN USE BY THE NORWEGIAN POST OFFICE AND  
COMMERCIAL BUSINESSES TO PRE-MARK, OR METER-MAIL, WITHOUT  
THE NEED FOR AFFIXING POSTAGE STAMPS.**

Various colors and styles for the meter mark to be applied were  
considered with a 'green' shield variety being selected in  
accordance with UPU mail-type color guidelines.



**COLOR SPECIMENS FOR LOCAL  
DOMESTIC MAIL ( 5 Ore) :**  
Black, blue, green



**DESIGN SPECIMEN FOR LONG-DISTANCE  
DOMESTIC MAIL (10 Ore) :**  
red



EPILOGUE..  
OTHER INNOVATIVE MACHINES

Norway  
Uchermann-Krag

1903 - 1904

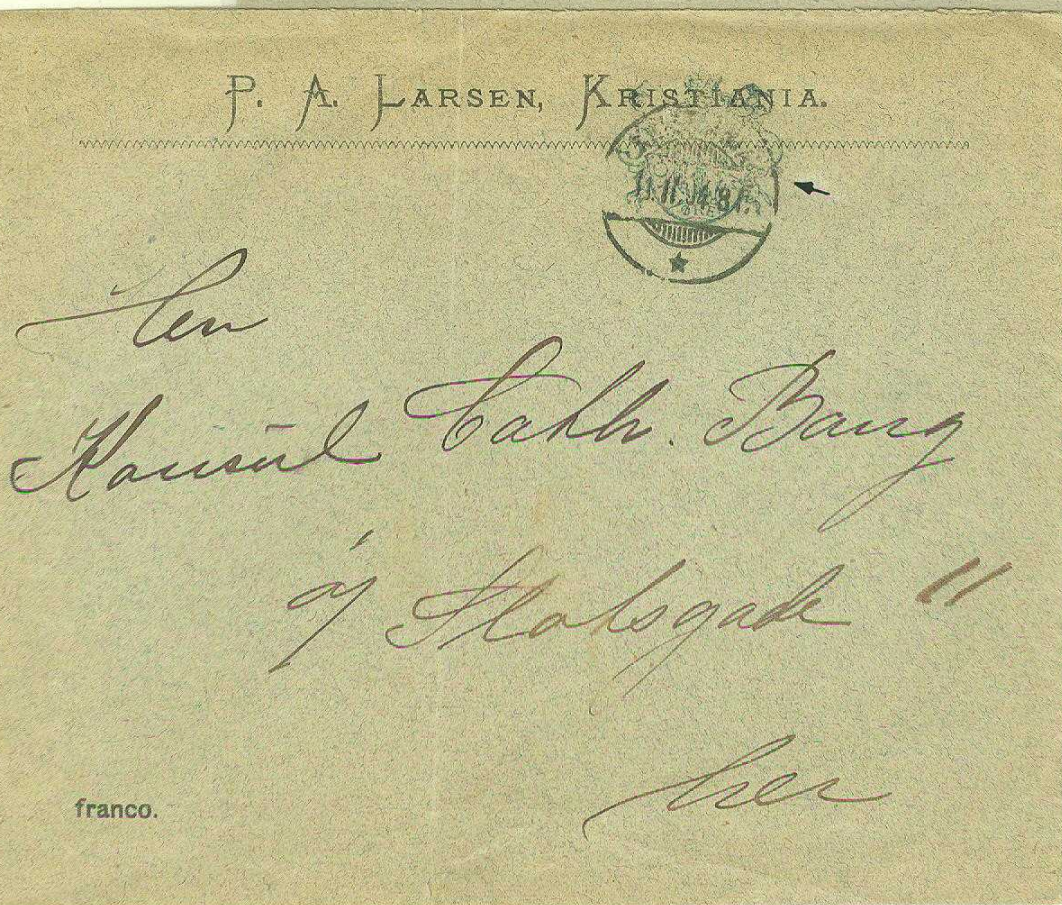
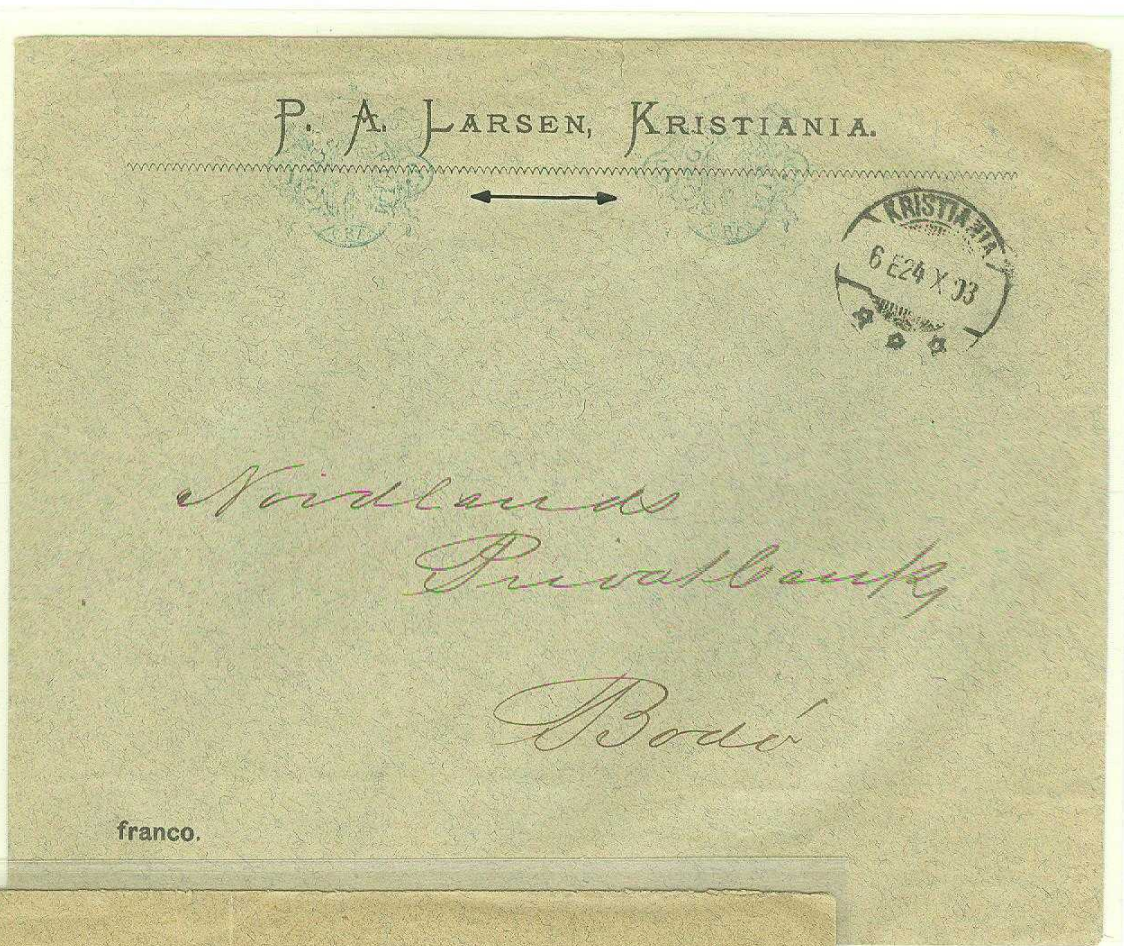
Postmark: Shield with crown at top of an oval around a standing figure with meter value at the sides

Use: 15 June 1903 - 11 November 1904

1903 USE  
24 October 1903

Commercial mail cover, double meter-marked & postmarked at Kristiania (Oslo), sent to Bodo, Norway.

Ten Ore .. Domestic long-distance letter-rate



1904 USE  
11 November 1904

Commercial mail cover, single meter-marked & postmarked at Kristiania (Oslo), sent locally.

Five Ore .. Domestic local city letter-rate

Latest known use.



**EPILOGUE..**  
**OTHER INNOVATIVE MACHINES**

**New Zealand**  
**New Zealand Franking**  
**Machine Company**

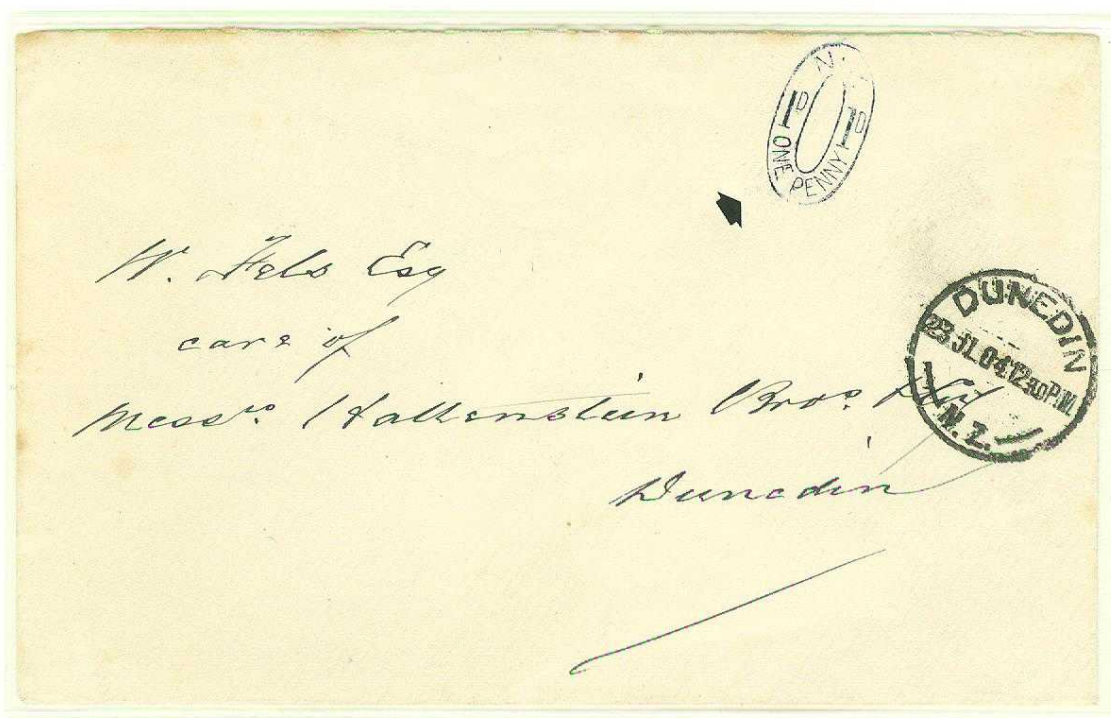
1904

Unaware of developments in Norway,  
two inventors, Messrs. Moss and Wales, in 1904 New Zealand  
introduced their so-called today  
"mefer forerunner" machines to the postal authorities.  
Primary difference between Norway's and New Zealand's inventors  
was the fact that those in New Zealand were  
**SELF-SERVICE COIN-OPERATED MACHINES FOR PUBLIC USE.**

'Moss' Machines were located outside the main post offices at  
Christchurch and Wellington while a 'Wales' Machine was located at  
the Dunedin Post Office.

*Wales' Machine Postmark: (metal die)*  
Narrow upright double ova with "N Z" at top,  
"One Penny" at the bottom, "1D" at the sides,  
and blank center.

Use: 7 July - 31 October 1904



23 July 1904

Commercial cover,  
postmarked at Dunedin,  
sent locally.

One Pence ..  
Domestic letter-rate.



# EPILOGUE.. OTHER INNOVATIVE MACHINES

## New Zealand Automatic Franking Machine Company

1904 - 1928

Competitor to Robert Wales' 'New Zealand Franking Machine Company' was Ernest Moss' 'Automatic Franking Machine Company'.

UNTIL 1922, WHEN THE UPU PERMITTED INTERNATIONAL USE ON MAIL, 'METER' MARKS WERE ONLY PERMITTED FOR DOMESTIC MAIL USE.

### Moss' Machine Postmark:

Round single or double circle dial (various diameters) until 1909 and rectangular styles from 1910.

### ROUND METER MARK

19 September 1907

Commercial cover, meter-marked and Columbia-Machine postmarked at Christchurch, sent to London, England.

'Official Paid'..  
(meter not recognized)  
One Pence..  
Empire letter-rate



### RECTANGULAR METER MARK

12 April 1911

Commercial cover, meter-marked and hand-postmarked at Christchurch, sent to Stockholm, Sweden

'Additional Postage Franked'..  
(meters not recognized)  
2-1/2 Pence..  
UPU International letter-rate





# EPILOGUE.. OTHER INNOVATIVE MACHINES

Germany  
DAPAG Company

1909

In 1909, the 'DAPAG' Company of Germany introduced  
**A PUBLIC-USE CRANK-HANDLE-OPERATED  
SELF-SERVICE  
MAIL REGISTRATION MACHINE**  
in Berlin's main post office lobby.

*The postal patron,  
whose mail had to be properly franked,  
inserted the mail into the machine, which then  
applied a dated and numbered registration mark  
in red, retaining the mail  
while issuing a receipt to the postal patron.*

**Registration Mark:**

20 x 44mm in red indicating 'Berlin',  
registration number and date.

**Known Use:**

9 & 22 Nov. and 10 Dec. 1909



Original Registration Receipt:  
'10 December 1909' Mail



22 November 1909

Cover, postmarked at Berlin C,  
sent to Nürnberg

30 Pfennigs ..  
10 Pfg.. Single-weight domestic-Germany letter-rate  
+ 20 Pfg.. Registration fee

One of four known examples to-date.



**EPILOGUE..  
OTHER INNOVATIVE MACHINES**

**Russia  
DAPAG Company  
1912 - 1917**

**ST. PETERSBURG**

**1 September 1912**

**Earliest known usage  
of DAPAG in Russia**

**Foreign-bound mail =  
"R" in circle cachet  
mark applied, sent to  
a soldier at  
Grafenwöhr Military  
Training Base in  
(Bavaria) Germany.**

**Transit & Arrival  
Postmarks  
(Reverse)  
"Bayreuth,  
16 September 1912"  
"Weiden,  
16 September 1912"  
"Lager Grafenwöhr,  
17 September 1912"**

**20 Kopecks...  
10 Kpk. Letter-rate  
+ 10 Kpk. Registration  
fee**



ex von Hofmann

**ТИПО-ЛИТОГРАФИЯ и ПИСЧЕБУМАЖНЫЙ МАГАЗИНЪ**

**И. Д. УРУСОВА**

МОСКВА, Мясницкая улица, домъ № 1 Духовн. Консист. ТЕЛЕФОНЪ № 2-32-51.



**MOSCOW**

**27 September 1913**

**Commercial mail  
postmarked at  
Moscow with revised  
style of DAPAG Mark  
(Russian & French text),  
sent to Stockholm,  
Sweden.**

**Cachet Hand Stamp:**

ПРИНТО-АВТОМАТЪ

= "processed Through  
Automat (Machine)"

**Arrival Postmark  
(Reverse)  
"Stockholm,  
13 October 1913"**

**20 Kopecks...  
10 Kpk. Letter-rate  
+ 10 Kpk. Registration  
fee**

ex von Hofmann



**EPILOGUE..**  
**OTHER INNOVATIVE MACHINES**

**Germany**  
**DAPAG Company**

1913 - 1921

Continuing to develop innovative postmarking machines, the 'DAPAG' Company in 1913 introduced a **SELF CONTAINED FRANKING AND POSTMARKING MACHINE FOR POST OFFICE USE;**

*The machine 'cut' a stamp from a coil, affixed it horizontally to the unit of mail and then postmarked it in one operation.*

The Reichspost operated 'DAPAG' Machines in eight cities between 1913-1921: Berlin, Breslau, Cologne, Hamburg, Hanover, Leipzig, Magdeburg & Stuttgart.

**Registration Mark:** 25mm in red indicating city and postal station number

**Known Example Use:** 21 February 1913 – 6 May 1914  
--June 1919, ---April 1921



4 March 1913

Printed-matter cover, postmarked at 'Berlin SW a68q',  
sent to Barmen, Germany.

Three Pfennigs ..  
Domestic printed-matter rate up to 50 grams  
(1 April 1900 – 31 July 1916)



**EPILOGUE..  
OTHER INNOVATIVE MACHINES**

**Great Britain  
Wilkinson Machine Company**

1912

In 1912, the British Post Office at London tested a **PUBLIC-USE COIN-FED SELF-SERVICE STAMPLESS POSTMARKING MACHINE**, developed by Mr. F. Wilkinson of Braintree, England...

The mailer inserted a One-Penny coin along with the cover, rotated the hand-crank, whereupon a "postage paid" circular marking was applied on the cover, retained by the machine, until retrieved by a postal clerk, who subsequently applied a second postmark indicating day and time.

During the seven month trial, 12,000 mail units were postmarked.

Postmark: 27mm single-circle postmark (red) with value & crown  
Use: 25 January – 31 August 1912

**ADVERTISING MAIL**

13 March 1912

Commercial Cover,  
postmarked at  
London (red ink),  
sent locally

**One Penny..  
Domestic  
Letter-rate**



**CLERGY MAIL**

9 Mail 1912

Cover,  
postmarked at  
London (red ink),  
sent to  
Rickmansworth,  
England

**One Penny ..  
Domestic  
Letter-rate**

