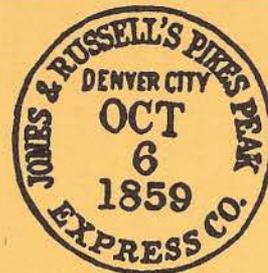


# Western Express



News-Letter of the Western Cover Society

This Issue consists \*  
of 25 pages, plus \*  
1 X photo pages. \*  
\* \* \* \* \*

\* Vol. VI, No. 3  
\* JULY, 1956  
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## THE EDITOR'S CORNER

WANTED! ONE NEW EDITOR! The undersigned has reluctantly come to the conclusion that he can no longer devote the necessary time to editing this paper; and he has advised the Officers and Directors that the October 1956 Issue will be the last he will edit. If any of you wish to volunteer for the job, please contact Mel Nathan without delay! What with Associate Editors, the job is certainly not as taxing as it used to be.

Now that I feel the mantle slipping from my shoulders, I would like to drop the editorial third person and return to the first. I feel more informal that way; and what little I have to say should be spoken as friend to friend. I regard all of you as friends, and wish to thank you for your many encouraging letters -- without them, I would have resigned years ago.

Most of you remember that Emerson Barker was our first Editor, and that he died after bringing forth the first three issues, early in 1951. I have no wish to establish the precedent of dying in office. I will have brought forth four issues in each of the years 1951 through 1956 -- twenty-four issues in six years. I feel that it is high time some one else take my place, lest "Western Express" become rather a one-man show. As a matter of fact, or opinion, I don't think that any member should be asked to edit this paper for more than five years.

If it is agreeable with the Officers and Directors and the Membership, then I would like to continue in the capacity of Associate Editor for Western Express Companies -- at least for the time being. In other words, I would like to continue as a sort of clearing house for express information; and devote my leisure time to "typing" the various express markings, as I did in the Nov. 1951 and Jan. 1953 Issues, etc. What say the Brethren?

H. H. Clifford

## A NEW DEPARTMENT FOR "WESTERN EXPRESS"

In this Issue appears the first installment of Jim BERRY's "Auction Action" -- crammed full of descriptions and prices. A most useful department, to say the least. Note that a few "patterns" have already been set: Via Nic, A1-3; Salmon River & Nez Perces, B13-14; and Wells Fargo Victoria to England, C20-22. In other words, there is no point mentioning such prices in the future, unless those prices are materially out of line with those shown in this issue. Of course, that assumes that condition is more or less the same as those covers mentioned herein.

## A NEW FORMAT FOR WESTERN EXPRESS?--?

The "U. S. Cancellation Club News" and the "Iowa Postal History Society Bulletin" are both two-column papers, which look most professional. Your editor has debated with himself whether or not to pattern WE after either of those publications. The final decision is -- "definitely not!" -- at least not while this Editor has a small finger in the pie! Let's be distinctive!

NEW MEMBERS OF WCS - Continued from April 1956 Issue

285 - Paul Berner, 391 Braeside Ave., East Stroudsburg, Penna.

CHANGE OF ADDRESS - New Addresses Shown

Rev. Constant R. Johnson, Immanuel Lutheran Church, Sherman Ave. at Lake Street, Evanston, Illinois.

R. B. Keusch, P. O. Box 111, Mt. Healthy Station, Cincinnati 31, Ohio.

Robert Beale, 1914 Greenwich St., San Francisco 23, Calif.

MISCELLANEOUS NOTES AND PERSONALS

Jim BERRY sends in a copy of "Ford Times" of April, 1956 - on pages 18-21 is an article entitled "Feather Merchant of Rough and Ready", with illustrations of three paintings, two of Rough and Ready and one of Timbuctoo (the latter spelled Timbucktoo!). Elsewhere in this Issue you will find Jim's first installment of "Auction Action", a new department of WE.

Speaking of misspellings, the August "Arizona Highways" on page 32 mentioned "The Lost Arrasta Mine", and went on to say that the Spaniards "established a small arrasta-type mine" etc., etc. The article was written by the Sheriff of Coconino County. This Editor has never heard of a mine being "typed" by an arrastra, which was a drag-stone mill for crushing ore. (The Spanish spelling is "arrastre".) It's rather comforting to find other editors letting an error or two slip by the blue pencil. Incidentally, there were probably thousands of arrastras in California; but practically all have been dug up and washed out to recover the last grain of gold, and often by the wily Chinese.

If you don't subscribe to "Arizona Highways", you ought to! It is a superb magazine, with no advertisements, believe it or not! And if you're an amateur photographer, it's a "must"! There I go, using exclamation points all over the place - but what else can you do? I pray you hazard \$3.50 for a 6 year's subscription; and send your check to: Arizona Highways, Phoenix, Arizona. You simply can't lose.

Emil ERNST is really breaking out in a rash of publications! His first article on James M. Hutchings appeared in the last Issue of WE; and the second part appears in this Issue. And as though that weren't enough, the July "Fortnight" contains his "California's First Booster" (page 32), also on Hutchings. Furthermore, the July issue of "Yosemite Nature Notes" will also publish his article (in a slightly different vein) on Hutchings' "California Magazine".

Editor - Henry H. Clifford, 639 So. Spring St., Los Angeles 14, California.  
 Assoc. Editor Territorials - Joseph M. Clary, 135 Polk St., San Francisco 2.  
 Assoc. Editor Ghost Towns - Mel C. Nathan, 200 Bush St., San Francisco 4.  
 Assoc. Ed. Auction Prices - James E. Berry, 1921 Franklin Ave., Las Vegas, Nev.  
 Assoc. Ed. Idaho - Art V. Farrell, 5821 Randolph Drive, Boise, Idaho  
 Secretary - Dr. Sheldon H. Goodman, 323 Geary St., San Francisco 2.  
 Treasurer - Henry Chaloner, 2612 Ashby Ave., Berkeley 5, California.

## FELLOW TERRITORIAL ENTHUSIASTS:

I would like to be able to give you a complete report on the Territorial aspects of FIPEX, but unfortunately I was so busy with a multitude of matters that I did not find the time to make any accurate notes. I attended FIPEX on eight days of its nine-day run. On seven of those days I was quite busy with my duties of judging. However as I was assigned to the U. S. Section, I did have a chance to look at many fine Western Territorial items. The exhibits of Paul C. Rohloff, C. C. Hart, Edwin Mayer, Hugh J. Baker, Lee Cornell, Henry F. Walton, Chas. Meroni, J. David Baker, Dr. James J. Matejka, G. Signorelli, Duane Rosselot, Ed Payne, Don Donaldson, and Milton Edelman were conspicuous among those showing Western Terr. markings. It was also pleasing to see several of our W.C.S. members win awards for Western Material. A gold medal with diamond was won by Chas. F. Meroni, gold medals by Henry H. Clifford, J. David Baker, bronze medal by Ed. Payne. To this list may be added the bronze medals won by members Wm. Aichele and Robt. Hanson for entries in other sections.

Perhaps one of the most satisfying accomplishments from our Western viewpoint was the winning of a bronze medal by the Philatelic Research Society of Oakland, California for its entry "A Century of California Post Offices", authored by our member Walter Frickstad. When one considers that a silver medal was the highest possible award in this section, the recognition given this work is all the more remarkable. This work bids fair to become a collector's item in the not too distant future.

Speaking of publications, I notice that the Society of Philatelic Americans has announced the projected printing of a limited edition of the work "POSTMARKED ALASKA" by the well known authority on the subject and W.C.S. member, Joseph J. Cavagnol. If you are interested, you should send \$5.00 to Alfred Diamond, 11 S. La Salle St., Chicago 3, Ill. without delay. The number of advance orders received will determine the size of the printing.

Further correspondence with the "Pueblo" of Albuquerque brings forth a very fine response to my request for assistance. Dr. Sheldon Dike has consented to become the Asst. Editor for the Territory of New Mexico and even offers to fill in for Arizona until some spirited enthusiast of that territory comes along. Mr. Duane Rosselot who shares his knowledge with the Dr. and who has made considerable contributions to the research efforts for this territory has very generously consented to write a group of articles having to do with the early U. S. Forts in the territory. I had the good fortune of visiting briefly with Duane at FIPEX and I understand that Dr. Dike spent about sixty minutes at FIPEX between planes.

While not winning an award the exhibit of member Donald Donaldson of Olympia, Washington at FIPEX was a very fine one. Don showed one frame of Washington Territorials. Don has gathered up several pages of photostats of newly recorded Washington Terr. markings. These will make an important addition to the markings of Chase-Cabeen. We should be able to print them in the next issue of WE. I also notice that Mr. Donaldson won a silver medal at the recent FIPEX show held at Yakima for his showing of Olympia Territorial Postal History. Now in addition to all of this Mr. Donaldson has agreed to act as Asst. Editor for Washington Territory.

While on the subject of Asst. Editors, both Dr. Dike and Mr. Donaldson have asked me to say that they would appreciate correspondence with any collector holding markings of their respective territories with the view in mind of recording any unknown marking.

President Mel Nathan sends in the following information regarding N. T. markings on covers in his collection. Thanks, Mel!!!

1. Patten & Bunker's Humboldt Express printed frank with a Carson City, U.T. circular post mark with manuscript "paid 3". Addressed to Marysville, Calif.
2. Langton's Pioneer Express printed frank with Empire, N.T. in manuscript and an oval Wells, Fargo Carson City handstamp.
3. A Langton's Pioneer Express yellow label on cover with Unionville, N.T. in manuscript.
4. An oval Wells Fargo handstamp, Washoe City N.
5. A Wells Fargo printed frank with a 10¢ brown pony express adhesive tied with a Wells Fargo oval Virginia City, N.T.
6. A Wells Fargo printed frank with a 25¢ red pony express adhesive tied with a Wells Fargo oval Virginia City.
7. A Wells Fargo printed frank with a blue 25¢ pony express adhesive addressed to Carson City, N.T.

In addition to the above, which are additions to Robt. Hanson's list in the last W.E., I can report a Wells Fargo oval handstamp: CLIFTON, N.T.

Dr. Dike reports the following: "The town of Lecompte Valley in San Pete County, Utah Terr., was founded in March 1851. Its name was changed to Manti in Sept. 1851. The town of Canal Creek in San Pete County was founded in Jan. 1854. (Dates refer to founding of postoffice)".

Probably the most gratifying experience (Western wise) for me at FIPEX was the acquisition, through the kindness of my friend Wm. Aichele of Hollister, Calif., of three beautiful maps. First, a map of Arizona and New Mexico with the inscription "Entered according to Act of Congress in the year 1873 by S. Augustus Mitchell in the Office of the Librarian of Congress at Washington." Second, a map of Northwestern America (Alaska), showing the Territory ceded by Russia to the United States (Alaska), with the inscription as above. Third, a map of Washington, Oregon and Idaho with the inscription "Entered According to Act of Congress in the year 1860 by S. Augustus Mitchell, Jr. in the Clerks Office of the District Court of the U S for the Eastern District of Pennsylvania". All three maps are in color with fancy illustrated borders. Needless to say all are safely framed and mounted on the walls of my den.

TEN PRE-TERRITORIAL POST OFFICES OF ARIZONA

By John Orr Theobald

On September 9, 1850 the Territory of New Mexico was created. This vast area covered the present states of New Mexico and Arizona. Since Arizona was made a Territory on February 13, 1863, there were some Arizona post offices in this New Mexico territorial period of twelve and one half years.

Our records show that the first two post offices in Arizona, Tucson and Fort Defiance, were established in 1856. Fort Buchanan followed in 1857 and it appears to have "held the fort", as it were, for Tucson, since there are indications that the post office, postmaster and equipment were moved from Tucson to Fort Buchanan for a few months during the latter part of 1857. This might have been caused by the extreme pressure exercised on Tucson and its travel and communication routes by the Apache. A strong detachment of dragoons was stationed at Fort Buchanan under the command of the famed Captain Richard Ewell at this time, and this group gradually established a semblance of security over the stage routes in the years preceding the Civil War.

Colorado City was also established as a post office in 1857. Three months later, in 1858, its name was changed to Arizona, and later it became Yuma. In 1858 Gila City and Maricopa were added to the postal listings. Gila City was discontinued a few years later, and question still exists as to the fate of Maricopa. Altho the name Maricopa comes back in strong associations later, its part in this early period is not clear as yet.

In 1859 Pima Vallage and Tubac came into being as post offices, and in 1860 Casa Blanca was named as the last known pre-territorial post office.

During the latter half of the New Mexico Territorial Period, in Arizona pressures were constantly brought to bear against Congress to create a separate territory of Arizona. The actual gold and silver strikes, plus the knowledge of great undeveloped mineral wealth, and other economic factors, the enthusiasm and patriotism of her citizens, politics, and her somewhat strategic geophysical location with relation to the Pacific Coast, all finally resulted in the creation of Arizona as a separate territory.

Our collection contains a cover, not an Arizona Territorial, but of some curious interest because of the address. It is addressed as follows:

OSWEGO, Apr 8 1861  
To Raphael from Mother  
Via San Antonio Texas

(Postmark: OSWEGO NY)

Mr. Raphael Pumpelly  
( Mining Engineer of the Santa Rita  
Silver Mining Company)

Tubac  
ARIZONA  
NEW MEXICO

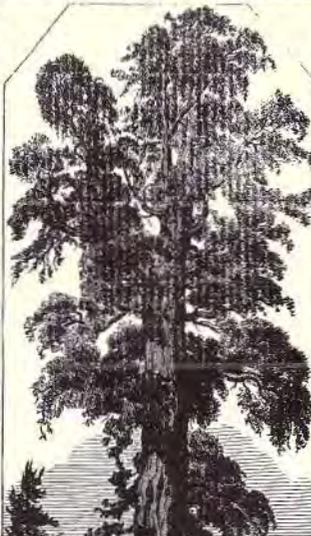
# HUTCHINGS' CALIFORNIA SCENES.

## THE MAMMOTH TREES.

Have you ever visited the Mammoth Tree Grove of Calaveras Co., California? If you have, you remember with veneration and pleasure their unparalleled and magnificent proportions. If you have not, you cannot fully conceive the awful grandeur of the scene as their giant shadows fall upon you. They must be seen, as they stand within their dark forest home, encircled by their lesser relatives to be appreciated.

Leaving Mercury's Camp, your journey upon a good mountain road for about fifteen miles, and enter a gently sloping and heavily wooded valley, situated upon the divide of the range, between the San Antonio branch of the Stanislaus river, in latitude 35 deg. north, and longitude 120 degrees, 10 min. west; about 2,500 feet above Mercury's and 5,250 feet above the level of the sea level, within an area of eighty acres and high above the surrounding trees of the forest, tower the stately heads of thirty-two of these stupendous forest giants. These are none like them upon the earth yet known to man, in size or kind, and being truly American, they are suitably named by naturalists *Washingtonia Gigantea*, although they are more generally known as The Mammoth Trees. There are twenty of these trees that will average 25 feet in diameter at the base.

The beautiful engraving below—from a daguerreotype—gives an accurate view of one of the largest of these trees. It is called the "Mother of the Forest," and has been stripped of its bark (as is shown in the engraving) to the height of 116 feet, and now measures in circumference, at the base, 81 feet, twenty feet from base, 62 feet, seventy feet from base, 42 feet 6 inches, one hundred and sixteen feet from base, 30 feet 6 inches;



circumferences at base, including bark, 217. Its height is 310 feet, and it is supposed to be 3,000 years old. The average thickness of bark is 11 inches, and has been removed by Mr. George Gole for the purpose of exhibition in the Atlantic States and Europe. This tree contains 300,000 ft. of inch lumber.

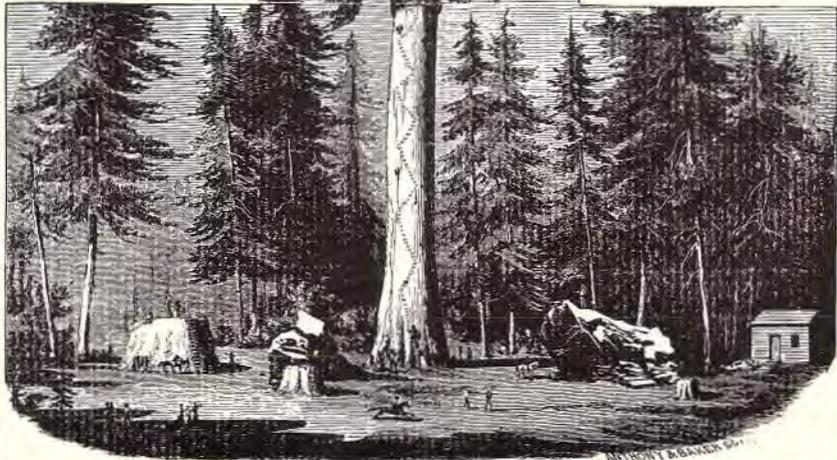
The stump and butt is shown on either side of the tree as the remaining portions of the "Big Tree," which was felled last year. The small building forms part of a boarding-camp constructed upon the upper part of the main trunk. This tree measured in circumference at the base, including bark, 92 feet, was 300 feet high, and thought to be 3,000 years old.

The majestic body of the "Father of the Forest," now lying half buried in the earth, measures in circumference at the roots 110 feet. It is 200 feet to the first branch, the whole of which is hollow and through which a person can walk over. The estimated height of this tree when standing is 450 feet.

The "Burnt Tree" is prostrate also, and is hollow for 63 feet, into which a person can ride on horseback for that distance. It is 97 feet in circumference, and 350 feet high.

There are several other trees of immense size, variously named, "Hercules," "Uncle Tom's Cabin," "Pioneers' Cabin," "Three Sisters," "Siamese Twins," "Twin Brothers," "Lone Widow," "Widow and Son," "Beauty of the Forest," "Pride of the Forest," &c. The eighty-five trees of this grove will average over 10 feet in diameter.

As we gaze in admiring wonder upon these ancient Californians, that for three thousand years have withstood the storms, earthquakes and volcanic eruptions of this mysterious land, we burn to be instructed in the fearful and changing Past, and anxiously enquire, Who will tell us its history?



# HUTCHINGS' CALIFORNIA SCENES.



GATHERING ACORNS.



GATHERING SEEDS.



NUDE OF TRAVELING.



AN INDIAN PANDANGO.

The Californian Indians are in stature short, but they are well and strongly formed. Their features are coarse, broad, and of a dark complexion, their hair is black, heavy and matted. In their habits they are unclean and indolent. Their houses are built of mud, and are very low, and are made of mud and sticks. The women do the work, the men being employed in hunting and fishing. They are very fond of their children, and are very fond of their women. They are very fond of their children, and are very fond of their women. They are very fond of their children, and are very fond of their women.

**CATHERINE'S ADDRESS.**—A large, round-shaped tree, not far from the mouth of the bay, is called by a hand running across their forehead. For a great part of the year, the trees are covered with a hard running across their forehead. For a great part of the year, the trees are covered with a hard running across their forehead. For a great part of the year, the trees are covered with a hard running across their forehead.

**GRASSHOPPER.**—This is accomplished by the female of the grasshopper, who is very fond of her children, and is very fond of her children. She is very fond of her children, and is very fond of her children. She is very fond of her children, and is very fond of her children. She is very fond of her children, and is very fond of her children.

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# THE CALIFORNIA INDIANS.



CATCHING GRASSHOPPERS.



GRASSHOPPER, &c.



COOKING FOOD.

Entered according to Act of Congress, in the year 1854, by JAMES M. HUTCHINGS, in the Clerks' Office of the U. S. District Court, for the Northern District of California.

## TEN PRE-TERRITORIAL POST OFFICES OF ARIZONA (Cont'd)

Mr. Pumpelly was a noted traveler and historian of the period, as well as a mining engineer, and a good Arizona booster. Inasmuch as he lived and visited with some of Arizona's most devoted patriots, we might assume that he instructed his correspondents to use the term "Arizona" as well as New Mexico on his mail.

\* \* \* \* \*

1956 SESCOAL IS TAKING SHAPE

This year's SESCOAL (Stamp Exhibition of So. Calif.) will be held in Los Angeles Nov. 16th through 18th, undoubtedly at the Elks Club, as usual. Anyone wishing to compete should contact Bob Myerson, 927 Stanford Ave., Los Angeles 21, Calif. As far as western covers are concerned, any member of WCS is eligible to compete, regardless of where he lives.

At this writing, it is not known just what medals or certificates WCS will award. Last year gold and silver medals were awarded in each of two categories: western express covers and ghost towns. And in addition, it is understood that some certificates were awarded. We may expect to hear more about such awards at a later date from our top brass.

WILTSEE'S GHOST TOWN ARTICLES

As many of you will recall, Ernest A. Wiltsee authored a series of 22 articles on California Ghost Towns many years ago. They appeared in "STAMPS" beginning March 24, 1934. Since many of us do not have a file of "STAMPS" going back that far, it has been decided to reprint them in WE, beginning with the October Issue this year. Fortunately, we found a complete file of them in the library of Edgar JESSUP, which comes as no surprise to anyone familiar with the scope of his philatelic reference material. Harry Lindquist gave us his permission to reprint them earlier this year.

OUR SNAPPY NEW ROSTER

Trust our old friend and fellow express enthusiast, Henry Chaloner, to think of something new and different for the 1956 WCS roster. This year it has appeared in small, loose-leaf notebooks, which makes it very handy to add pages as new members are added. Note that there are a total of 192 active members of WCS. Many, many thanks, Henry!

"POSTMARKED ALASKA" DUE TO BE PUBLISHED SOON

The April Issue of WE had no sooner gone to press than in came a letter from M/Sgt J. J. CAVAGNOL, announcing this his book "Postmarked Alaska" was about to be published by the S. P. A. Those desiring a copy or copies (@ \$5) should immediately write to Alfred Diamond, 11 S. LaSalle St., Suite 624, Chicago 3, Illinois. Even if you can't spare the money now, you should write to Mr. Diamond; for his immediate problem is to determine how large an edition to print. Here is another book which should be a "must" for the collector or student of Alaska's postal history, and the history of the private expresses which operated to and within Alaska.

THE ILLUSTRATED LETTERSHEETS AND ENGRAVED ENVELOPES  
OF JAMES MASON HUTCHINGS

by Emil F. Ernst

When Hutchings commenced his journeys to the scenes of wonder and curiosity in his adopted state of California is unknown. Without question the years of 1854 and 1855 were entirely devoted to the extensive and intensive fact finding project. Until his removal to San Francisco in the spring of 1856 he maintained his base of operations at Placerville to whence he had come in the fall of 1849. Here he accumulated his sketches, Daguerrotypes (photographs), written material, and his voluminous notes. He employed a Daguerrotyper (photographer) whose name is yet unknown except for the appellation of Ned. This individual moved about the country in a wagon specially equipped for photographic work. In those days the plates or tin types had to be prepared on the spot immediately before being exposed and developed as quickly as possible. San Francisco newspapers of 1855 often refer to such a wagon as being on its streets. Where the wagon could not be taken, because of the lack of roads, Hutchings arranged for the services of artists and sketchers such as Thomas A. Ayres and Charles Christian Nahl.

Hutchings' 1855 diary states that he was at Reece's Store in the Carson Valley some time in the late summer or early fall of 1853. At this place (the present Genoa, Nevada) he became acquainted with his lifelong friend-to-be, George H. Baker of the Sacramento publishing firm of Barber and Baker. Baker was an accomplished sketcher and he is credited with the scene of an emigrant train of covered wagons that graces what appears to have been Hutchings' next and second lettersheet. This lettersheet bears the subject title of Crossing The Plains and a master or series title of Hutchings' Panoramic Scenes. Baker made this sketch in the summer of 1853 while in the vicinity of Reece's store.

The subject of crossing the plains was one close to the hearts and the sympathies of the miners and emigrants who had come overland to California. Hutchings undoubtedly realized that a lettersheet on this subject would appeal to his fellow Californians and would be quite popular with an attendant large number of sales. With this lettersheet he began the publication of a series of lettersheets with the master titles of either Hutchings' Panoramic Scenes or Hutchings' California Scenes. There was no consistency in the use of the master or series title and these two master titles were employed rather haphazardly.

Due to the fact that the records of copyrights are incomplete for the Clerk's Office of the United States District Court for the Northern District of California and only a very few of Hutchings' lettersheets are on file in The Library of Congress, guesses must now be made for the order in which some of his lettersheets were published. Although some of his lettersheets bear notations that they had been copyrighted, no information has been uncovered to date on some of them. Postmarks on copies in the collections of collectors of this Californiana will eventually relegate the sequence of issue in proper order. On some the date of copyright is known and will be noted.

THE ILLUSTRATED LETTERSHEETS AND ENGRAVED  
ENVELOPES OF JAMES MASON HUTCHINGS - - Continued

With Crossing The Plains Hutchings set the style to his lettersheets that began with The Miner's Ten Commandments. This style, more or less, persisted in all of the lettersheets that he published. The next subject that he selected, and a very interesting one at that, was The California Indians. It carries the master or series title of Hutchings' California Scenes. Charles Christian Nahl made the eight sketches of Indian ways of life, including the gathering of acorns and seeds, catching grasshoppers, the preparation of food, the burning of their dead, and an Indian fandango or dance. Anthony and Baker made the engravings and Excelsior did the printing of the lettersheets. The copies seen by the writer are the usual approximately 9 x 11 inches four page folded lettersheet. Each scene is well described in the accompanying text material and it is obvious that Hutchings was a capable observer and a faithful recorder of his observations.

We are quite sure of the occasion and the date for the third lettersheet of 1854. It bears the master title of Hutchings' California Scenes and the subject title of The Mammoth Trees. The engraving of one of the Big Trees, Sequoia gigantea, and the accompanying text occupy  $7\frac{1}{4}$  by  $9\frac{1}{2}$  inches of space. It is also a normal folded lettersheet of four pages with the engraving and text on one of the four pages. Anthony and Baker prepared the engraving from a Daguerrotype taken on or about July 4th of 1854 in the Calaveras Grove of Big Trees. Hutchings was visiting the Grove on that date and attended a cotillion of 32 people who danced that evening on the smoothed-off stump of a felled Big Tree. At the foot of the text and illustration is the copyright date of 1854. The actual date of recording for copyright is August 22nd.

The Daguerrotype, the original or direct copies of which apparently have long since disappeared, is the first known photograph to have been taken of these marvels of the vegetative world. The Zenas Leonard diary of 1833, kept on the Joseph Reddeford Walker fur brigade overland expedition, refers to such trees in the vicinity of Yosemite National Park but they were unknown to the world until 1852 when the Calaveras Grove was discovered. Hutchings had been trained in botany and was personally very much interested in seeing these great trees. They were of intense interest to the public and here again was a fitting subject for a lettersheet. With the exception of The Miner's Ten Commandments there are no records available of the quantities of the various lettersheets published and sold by Hutchings. However, The Mammoth Trees appears to have been a popular one for it is possibly the second most common one encountered today. In the Yosemite Museum are two copies of this lettersheet printed in German but they were published at a much later date for they bear the imprint of Hutchings and Rosenfield. They shall be referred to later in this series.

Accompanying this installment on Hutchings' lettersheets and engraved envelopes are photographs of the lettersheets bearing the subject titles of The California Indians and The Mammoth Trees. Unfortunately a good photographic copy of Hutchings' lettersheet entitled Crossing The Plains was not available at this writing. A copy shall be included in the next installment.

THE ILLUSTRATED LETTERSHEETS AND ENGRAVED  
ENVELOPES OF JAMES MASON HUTCHINGS - Continued

The lettersheets from which the accompanying illustrations were taken are in the Hutchings' manuscript file collection in the library of the Yosemite Museum.

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ANOTHER PONY EXPRESS RIDER!

In the Los Angeles "TIMES" of July 7, 1956, appeared a reasonably lengthy article entitled "Ex-Pony Express Rider Recalls Old West at 96". Subhead: "S. E. Hamilton, Friend of Buffalo Bill, Has Simple Philosophy and Rules for Living." The article definitely refers to Hamilton as an "ex-Pony Express rider and one of the winners of the West" -- and later on as "a friend of Buffalo Bill Cody, who regularly visited the Hamilton homestead at Albion, Neb."

In mentioning this, we have no desire whatsoever of "poking fun" at any person, young or old. Rather, we are quoting it simply to put newspapers on notice that they are sticking their necks out when they print articles without bothering to check facts. In this case, Mr. Hamilton was apparently born in 1860, to be 96 now. Since "the" Pony Express got under way April 3, 1860, and lasted only for a year and a half, we lead the reader to draw on his own imagination as to how Mr. Hamilton managed to cling to the saddle throughout the wild dash from station to station.

Remember that Buffalo Bill was about the age of 14 when the Pony Express was flourishing; and there seems to be a very substantial question as to whether or not he was actually a "pony express rider". He might well have been a youthful helper or handler at some station; but he was a bit on the young side to have been one of the regular riders. If he carried the pony express in an emergency, that is one thing; but of that we should have some concrete evidence.

Now as regards Mr. Hamilton, it is obvious he could not have ridden the Pony Express of 1860-61 -- unless his memory is faulty and his age materially greater. It is possible that he could have ridden the "Pony Express" which operated between Panamint and San Bernardino during the 1870's -- but he still would have had to be unconscionably young to have qualified as a regular rider. Then just what Pony Express could he have ridden, legitimately, and be alive today telling about it? That is something for a newspaper to research before it makes statements such as are quoted above. This suggestion is offered in the most friendly spirit.

OF EXPRESS COMPANY MARKINGS -- A FEW ANSWERS

In the last Issue of WE, we asked about one of the three Whiting printed franks -- in what color was it printed? Fortunately for the WCS membership, and your Editor's peace of mind, John H. THIES has supplied the answer -- very simply, it's black. So that puts all Whiting franks in the black category, with only the exception of the scroll frank (which is normally found in black) which is very rarely found in purple.

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AUCTION ACTION

By James E. Berry

Since the last issue of WE, in which we outlined our plans for this section, I have had six or eight letters from various members offering comment or suggestions for same. Without exception all of the letters said that this was a very fine idea, and most of the writers offered help in the form of old auction results. In general, the concensus of opinion was that we list all types of western covers and that condition should not bar a cover from the list. One very humorous letter urged me not to let "those express nuts" talk me into eliminating post office covers from the column. So be it.

As a result of these letters, several small changes have been made in the categories. For instance, ocean and overland mail are now in one section that also includes "Via Nicaragua" covers that some consider to be express covers. The Express section is now split into two groups with Wells, Fargo & Co. covers now in a section all their own. In the case of combination covers, the rarer frank or marking will determine where it is to be listed.

What you see on the following pages is strictly my own idea of how this thing should be set up. It reads much like an ordinary catalogue, but without some of the "window dressing" that a few dealers throw in. The usual abbreviations prevail. "Blk" means black instead of block and "VF cvr #32" means that it is a very fine cover with US stamp #32 (Scott's). If the stamp is less than fine it will be noted. Ms means manuscript, SL straight line, etc. etc.

Now then, if any of you have any ideas on how to improve these listings either to make them simpler or easier to read, please let me know. And before I sign off I want to list one more dealer who has written that he will help us out with catalogues and price lists and he is MR. ROBERT A. SIEGAL, 483 FIFTH AVENUE, NEW YORK CITY. And speaking of dealers, you can see from the listing who is helping us out. If you know of some good auction coming up and haven't seen that dealer's name listed, drop him a line and tell him or ask him to send the catalogues and price lists to me at 1921 Franklin Avenue, Las Vegas, Nevada. I would like to add, however, that I am getting regular results from Harmer, Apfelbaum and Harmer, Rooke, but so far they have not had any western items listed. I am also getting catalogues from Lazarus, Colby, Mozian and Fox, but no results yet. But we are just getting started so maybe all we need is time.

One final thing, and that is the matter of old auction results. So far there have been enough current auctions to keep me busy, and if a slack period does show up, I will go through some of my older catalogues and list some of the choice items. Once they are exhausted, then I will send out an SOS for such older catalogues as the Knapp sale, etc. Until then I hope I have been of service.

## AUCTION ACTION - Continued

## A, OCEAN AND OVERLAND MAIL.

1. VIA NICARAGUA AHEAD OF THE MAILS (octagon) plus "Steam Ship" in blue on VF cvr, pr #11, no pmk Siegal 3/22/56 \$90.00.
2. VIA NICARAGUA AHEAD OF THE MAILS (octagon) in blk on F cvr pr #11, tied NY pmk, to Maine. Paige 4/13/56 \$91.00.
3. VIA NICARAGUA AHEAD OF THE MAILS (octagon) in red on F cvr, pr #11, tied NY pmk to Charlton, N.Y. Paige 4/13/56 \$84.00.
4. OVERLAND VIA LOS ANGELES with stage drawn by six horses and imprint "Published by Randal & Co., Marysville." F cvr sgl #35, tied MARYSVILLE, CAL. pmk and blue dotted grid. Siegal 3/22/56 \$92.50.
5. OVERLAND VIA LOS ANGELES. Exact duplicate of lot #5 only VF in all respects. Siegal 3/22/56 \$360.00.
6. OVERLAND VIA LOS ANGELES in blk at left on VF entire U10. Pmk SF, to Downieville. Paige 4/13/56 \$46.00.
7. OVERLAND VIA LOS ANGELES with stage and four horses in color. Cvr cut down across top and stmp def but authenticated and VF with #35 plus SL "Due 10", to Mass. Large SF pmk. Paige 4/13/56 \$58.50.
8. PER OVERLAND MAIL STAGE, VIA LOS ANGELES with stage and four horses plus imprint "Geo. B. Hitchcock, Stationer, Sansome St., San Francisco." VF cvr, pr #35 and SF pmk. Siegal 3/22/56 \$255.00.
9. PER OVERLAND MAIL VIA LOS ANGELES with stage drawn by four horses plus imprint "Geo. H. Bell, Stationer, 153 Montgomery St., San Francisco." VF cvr #35, pmk SF. Siegal 3/22/56 \$255.00
10. OVERLAND VIA LOS ANGELES in ms on VF entire U16, pmk SAN ANDREAS. Herst 2/24/56 \$13.00.
11. Stage drawn by four horses, in blue, with imprint "The Star of The Union-California" VF cvr #35, pmk SF. Siegal 3/22/56 \$260.00.
12. Stage drawn by four horses. Imprint inked out for local usage. F cvr st edge #26, pmk SF. Siegal 3/22/56 \$110.00.
13. VIA PANAMA with clipper ship and imprint "Geo. H. Bell, 153 Montgomery St., San Francisco." VF cvr #35, pmk SF. Siegal 3/22/56 \$240.00.
14. VIA PANAMA with clipper ship and imprint "Published by Randal & Co., Marysville." VF cvr #35, tied with MARYSVILLE, CAL. pmk and dotted grid. Siegal 3/22/56 \$270.00

## AUCTION ACTION - Continued

15. CHINA AND JAPAN STEAM SERVICE (oval cancel) in magenta ties pr #68 on VF cvr. "Paid All" in blk plus ms "Overland". Pmk SF, to Mass. Paige 4/13/56 \$32.50.
- B. EXPRESS COMPANIES OTHER THAN WELLS, FARGO & CO.
1. CENTRAL OVERLAND CALIFORNIA AND PIKES PEAK EXPRESS CO., ST. JOSEPH, MO. Oval hndtmp on VF cvr #26 with "Paid" cancel. Also PACIFIC CITY, IOWA pmk, addressed to Mountain City, K.T. with ms "Care C.O.C. & P.P. St. Joseph." Siegal 3/22/56 \$155.00.
  2. DIETZ & NELSON EXPRESS, BRITISH COLUMBIA & VICTORIA EXPRESS, ribbon frank on a Wells, Fargo & Co. franked envelope. Part of paste up cvr with #78 on U59 and British Columbia 3p blue. Later is tied with blue oval "Paid" cancel. Dietz ribbon tied with "NEW WESTMINSTER POST OFFICE" cancel and US stamp tied with dbl circle Dietz and Nelson cancel. Siegal 3/22/56 \$1200.
  3. FREEMAN & CO.'S EXPRESS, red ribbon frank on 3¢ 1853 entire. Faint co oval SHASTA, CAL. Herst 2/24/56 \$12.50.
  4. FREEMAN & CO.'S EXPRESS. Brwn c. card on cvr with #35 tied with blue MARYSVILLE, CAL. pmk with blue co oval MARYSVILLE on reverse and ms "Via Los Angeles Overland Mail" Siegal 3/22/56 \$45.00.
  5. LANGTON'S PIONEER EXPRESS, blk frank, co oval DOWNIEVILLE plus blue Wells, Fargo & Co. oval MARYSVILLE. Repaired. Herst 2/24/56 \$8.50.
  6. LANGTON'S PIONEER EXPRESS, blk frank on VF cvr #26. Red co oval DOWNIEVILLE also Wells, Fargo & Co. MARYSVILLE oval. Siegal 3/22/56 \$100.00.
  7. LANGTON'S PIONEER EXPRESS, blk frank ty 4 on VF entire U10. Lrg blue co oval MARYSVILLE also SL "Reply by Langton's Pioneer Express" on reverse. Paige 4/13/56 \$31.00.
  8. PACIFIC UNION EXPRESS, red frank on VF cvr, pmk SF in blue dble circle. Herst 2/24/56 \$12.00.
  9. PACIFIC UNION EXPRESS, red frank on VF entire U59. PETALUMA in lrg blue dbl circle. Laurence & Stryker 2/2/56 \$5.75.
  10. PACIFIC UNION EXPRESS, red frank on VF entire U59. YOU BET, CAL. in ms. Laurence & Stryker 2/2/56 \$18.00.
  11. PACIFIC EXPRESS, blk horseman frank on VF cvr #11. Blue co oval VOLCANO. Siegal 3/22/56 \$72.50.

## AUCTION ACTION - Continued

12. PACIFIC EXPRESS, blue horseman frank on VF cvr #11. Pmk SAN FRANCISCO, JULY 28, 1857. Siegal 3/22/56 \$45.00.
13. SALMON RIVER & NEZ PERCES EXPRESS - PAID 50 CENTS in blk at bot left. Blk Wells, Fargo & Co. frank at top on F entire U35. Blue Wells, Fargo & Co. oval LEWISTON, I. T. Paige 4/13/56 \$46.00.
14. SALMON RIVER & NEZ PERCES EXPRESS - PAID 50 CENTS in blk at bot left. Blk Wells, Fargo & Co. frank at top on VF U35. Cvr cut in at left. Blue Wells, Fargo & Co. oval FLORENCE, I. T. Paige 4/13/56 \$45.50.
15. SIDNEY SHORT ROUTE, CLARKE'S CENTENNIAL EXPRESS TO THE BLACK HILLS, Green frank ty 1 on soiled U218. Purple pmk SIDNEY, NEB. and Maltese cross. Paige 4/13/56 \$115.00.
16. TRUMAN & CO.'S EXPRESS, blk frank on VF entire U58. Mc SANTA CRUZ. Also adv of L. Schwartz, Merchant. Laurence & Stryker 2/2/56 \$12.00
- C. EXPRESS COMPANIES. WELLS, FARGO & CO. ONLY.
1. Blk frank on F entire U10. Blue co oval STOCKTON. Laurence & Stryker 2/2/56 \$4.00.
2. Blk frank on VF entire U35. Blue co dble circle SAN FRANCISCO. Laurence & Stryker 2/2/56 \$2.25.
3. Blk frank on VF entire U59. Blue co oval AUBURN. Laurence & Stryker 2/2/56 \$7.25.
4. Blk frank on F entire U226. Red co oval DAGGERTS plus blk LOS ANGELES pmk. Laurence & Stryker 2/2/56 \$12.00.
5. No frank. Vf cvr with #s 9 & 11 on U14 tied with blue co shield SAN FRANCISCO plus blk NY pmk, to Phila. Siegal 3/22/56 \$85.00.
6. No frank. VF cvr #11. Blue co Express oval SAN FRANCISCO plus blue oval "Paid". Siegal 3/22/56 \$42.50
7. Blk frank on VF legal size cvr #16 on U39. Co oval SAN FRANCISCO, to to Watsonville. Siegal 3/22/56 \$20.00.
8. Red frank on VF cvr #68 (three) on U41. Blue co dbl circle SAN FRANCISCO plus red transit markings to Germany. Siegal 3/22/56 \$310.
9. Blk frank on VG cvr U277. CALICO, CAL. J. R. Hughes 4/26/56 \$28.50.
10. Blk frank on F entire U198. Purple Co oval VIRGINIA CITY. Herst 2/24/56 \$13.00.

## AUCTION ACTION - Continued

11. Blk frank on VF entire U82. Blue co oval HAMILTON, NEV. Laurence & Stryker 2/2/56 \$6.00.
12. Blk frank on VF entire U181. Purple co oval BELLEVILLE, NEV. with c card "Levi Smith, Merchant." Laurence & Stryker 2/2/56 \$10.00.
13. Blk frank ty E. Soiled, closed tear U35. Blue co oval CLIFTON, N.T. Paige 4/13/56 \$26.00.
14. Blk frank ty E on VF entire U69 with blue co dbl circle VIRGINIA CITY, also blk circle BOYD'S DISPATCH ETC... and blk circle PAID. Paige 4/13/56 \$25.50.
15. BOISE MINES - PAID 50 CENTS imprint with red frank ty 95 on F entire U34 with blue co oval BANNOCK CITY, I. T. Paige 4/13/56 \$31.50.
16. Blk frank ty E on VF entire U59 with blk co oval ROSEBURG, O. Paige 4/13/56 \$24.50
17. Blk frank on F entire U82 with blue co oval SALT LAKE CITY, U. T., poor strike. Laurence & Stryker 2/2/56 \$5.00
18. Blk frank on F entire U231 with red co oval SEATTLE, W. T., also blue co oval SF. Laurence & Stryker 2/2/56 \$6.00
19. VICTORIA, VANCOUVER ISLAND imprint with blk frank on damaged cvr with British Columbia #7. Blue co oval VICTORIA. Laurence & Stryker 2/2/50 \$18.00.
20. Blk frank on VF cvr with #s 63 & 68 (pair) on U34. Mailed at VICTORIA, VANCOUVER ISLAND (no imprint). Blue cancel almost covered by US stmps tied with fancy rosette plus red N. YORK BR. PKT PAID 19, to England. Siegal 3/22/56 \$102.50.
21. Blk frank on F cvr with #s 68 (pair) & 73 on U41 plus Great Britain #33 to England. VICTORIA cancel on reverse. Address partly inked out. Siegal 3/22/56 \$102.50.
22. Blk frank on F cvr with #s 69 & 93 on U41 plus Vancouver Island #5 to England. VICTORIA cancel on reverse. Address inked out. Siegal 3/22/56 \$102.50.
23. MEXICAN frank ty M1 in blk on F entire U41. No address. Blue co oval GUAYMAS. Paige 4/13/56 \$8.25.

## D. POST OFFICE COVERS...TERRITORIAL

1. AUSTIN, N. T. on VF cvr, pr #65. Laurence & Stryker 2/2/56 \$11.00.

## AUCTION ACTION - Continued

2. DENVER, COLO. on VF cvr #s 113 & 116 to England. Siegal 3/22/56 \$55.00.
3. FORT GARLAND, NOV 3 (Colo), ms on VF cvr #65 not tied. Paige  
4/13/56 \$28.00.
4. NEBRASKA CITY, N. T.. on F cvr #25, wrinkles in cvr. Laurence &  
Stryker 2/2/56 \$4.00.
5. CHICO, NEW MEX, MAR 13, 1885 in blk octagonal box on F entire U277.  
Laurence & Stryker 2/2/56 \$7.00.
6. FORT UNION, NEW MEX. on VF cvr #114. Siegal 3/22/56 \$32.50.
7. SAINT PAUL, M. T. 1857, on F cvr #11 (stmp cut into) Laurence &  
Stryker 2/2/56 \$2.00
8. RED WING, M. T. on F cvr #25. Laurence & Stryker 2/2/56 \$10.00.
9. CANNON CITY, M. T. on F cvr #26. Laurence & Stryker 2/2/56 \$18.00.
10. SAINT PAUL, M. T. and "Forwarded 3" in arc, also NEW HAVEN pmk on  
VF cvr #26. Siegal 3/22/56 \$22.00.
11. SUMMER, KANSAS T. and red "19" on VF cvr with strip of four #24 and  
pair #32, to England. Siegal 3/22/56 \$235.00.
12. QUINDARO, T. (Kansas T.) on F cvr (soiled) #26. Siegal 3/22/56 \$28.00.
13. JACKSONVILLE, O. T. ms across vert strip 3 #11 with #7 on VF cvr.  
Paige 4/13/56 \$55.00.
14. PORTLAND O. T. blk pmk on blue folded letter with three #9.  
Paige 4/13/56 \$76.00.
15. PORTLAND, O. T. 1859 and grid in blk on soiled cvr with small tear  
#26. Paige 4/13/56 \$42.50.
16. PORTLAND, O. T. blk pmk on F cvr #32. Paige 4/13/56 \$28.00.
17. SCOTTSBURG, O. T. blk pmk on VF stmp's with ms "Free, E. R. Fiske,  
P. M." (1853) Paige 4/13/56 \$55.00.
18. RACINE, WISC. T. ms on F stmp's (1833) Herst 2/24/56 \$16.00.
19. FORT LARAMIE, WG. TY. and target in blk on soiled cvr with two small  
closed tears #94 not tied. Paige 4/13/56 \$25.50.
20. PORT ANGEL, W. T. VF cvr #65. Siegal 3/22/56 \$57.50..

## AUCTION ACTION - Continued

21. PORT TOWNSEND, WASH. 1881 with VF strike of KICKING MULE on each of two 3¢ greens on VF cvr. Paige 4/13/56 \$87.00.
22. PORT TOWNSEND, WASH. 1884 with nice strike of KICKING MULE on legal env #210. Paige 4/13/56 \$41.00.
23. STELLACOOM CITY, W. T. lrg blk pmk on red & blue PATRIOTIC showing female on globe. Cvr has strip of three #63 with ms cancel Paige 4/13/56 \$29.50.

## E. POST OFFICE COVERS...NON-TERRITORIAL

1. MARYSVILLE, CAL. with "Due 10", in blue to NY on VF U16. Herst 2/24/56 \$5.35.
2. GRASS VALLEY, CAL. VF cvr #32. Herst 2/24/56 \$16.00.
3. YREKA, CAL. VF cvr #33. Herst 2/24/56 \$17.00.
4. NEVADA CITY, CAL. F cvr #35. Herst 2/24/56 \$6.50.
5. COLUMBIA, CAL. reduced cvr, re-addressed from WASH., D.C. with 4 10¢ 1851 #s14 & 15 (EX Ackerman) Laurence & Stryker 2/2/56 \$100.00.
6. REDWOOD CITY, CAL. 1863, ms on VF cvr #68. Laurence & Stryker 2/2/56 \$2.00.
7. GUERNEVILLE, CAL. ultramarine pmk on VF cvr #205 (stmp torn) Laurence & Stryker 2/2/56 \$2.25.
8. S.F. TO OGDEN R.P.O. VF cvr #207. Laurence & Stryker 2/2/56 \$5.00.
9. MULBERRY, SAN BENITO CO. CAL., 1889 VF cvr #213. Laurence & Stryker 2/2/56 \$17.25.
10. MULBERRY, SAN MATEO COUNTY, CAL., 1891 VF cvr #220. Laurence & Stryker 2/2/56 \$11.25.
11. FAIRFIELD, SOLANO CO., CAL., 1886 purple dbl circle on F cvr #210 perfs cut. Laurence & Stryker 2/2/56 \$11.50.
12. SAN FRANCISCO superb #33 Siegal 3/22/56 \$22.50
13. YREKA, CAL with BISON hndstmp on VF cvr with 2 vert pairs #28 Siegal 3/22/56 \$270.00.
14. COLUMBIA, CAL. VF cvr #31. Siegal 3/22/56 \$50.00.

## AUCTION ACTION - Continued

15. MARYSVILLE, CAL. with Heart, Diamond, Spade & Club cancel in blue and "Paid by Stamp" cancel on F cvr #32. Siegal 3/22/56 \$145.00.
16. PETALUMA, CAL. VF cvr #33. Siegal 3/22/56 \$31.00.
17. TODDS VALLEY, CAL. VF cvr #33. Siegal 3/22/56 \$20.50
18. COLUMBIA, CAL. VF cvr #35. Siegal 3/22/56 \$9.00.
19. LOS ANGELES, CAL. VF cvr with pair of #63 and singles of #s68 & 71 with transit mrkngs to Italy. Siegal 3/22/56 \$55.00.
20. SAN FRANCISCO, CAL. VF cvr #65 st edge, illus. cvr Grand Hotel. Siegal 3/22/56 \$26.00.
21. BENICIA, CAL. VF cvr #65 with stage drawn by four horses in color. Siegal 3/22/56 \$125.00.
22. BIGGS, BUTTE CO., CAL., 1892 F cvr #220. J.R. Hughes 4/26/56 \$7.00.
23. COLD SPRING, CAL. (1855) VG cvr U18a. J.R. Hughes 4/26/56 \$24.00.
24. DIAMOND SPRINGS, CAL., 1857. Slightly ragged cvr U18a. J.R. Hughes 4/26/56 \$11.50.
25. FORKS OF SALMON, CAL., PAID 3¢ (1862) ms on F cvr with slight folds J. R. Hughes 4/26/56 \$22.00.
26. GEORGETOWN, CAL. (1855) VG cvr U17a. J.R. Hughes 4/26/56 \$6.00.
27. HEALDSBURG, CAL. with Flag and Union cancel (1861) F cvr #65. J. R. Hughes 4/26/56 \$60.00.
28. MISSION SAN JOSE, CAL. (1855) VF cvr pair #11. J. R. Hughes 4/26/56 \$28.00.
29. MORMON ISLAND, CAL. (1852) F cvr, ms 10¢. J. R. Hughes 4/26/56 \$15.50
30. ROUND TENT, CAL., OCT. 3, 1859, ms on F cvr U16. J. R. Hughes 4/26/56 \$24.00.
31. UPPER CLEAR LAKE, CAL. (1862) VF cvr with ms "Paid By Cash 3 For Want of Stamps, PM". J. R. Hughes 4/26/56 \$33.00.
32. FORT WRANGEL, ALASKA 1888, VF cvr U311. Laurence & Stryker 2/2/56 \$22.50.
33. CHOCTAW AGENCY, ARK. not tied on F cvr #26. Siegal 3/22/56 \$67.50.
34. FORT SCOTT, KAN. VF cvr #206. Laurence & Stryker 2/2/56 \$5.00.

## AUCTION ACTION - Continued

35. ST. ANTHONY'S FALLS, MINN. F cvr #31. Illus cvr Minne-ha-ha-Falls. To New Brunswick with "U. States" in arc. Siegal 3/22/56 \$70.00.
36. BUTTE CITY, MONT. F cvr #207, c card St. Nicholas Hotel. Laurence & Stryker 2/2/56 \$4.75.
37. CARLTON, YAMHILL COUNTY, OREGON, 1884 trimmed cvr #187 on U232 Laurence & Stryker 2/2/56 \$6.75.
38. NEEDY, OGN. ms on F cvr with #s 63, 65(4) & 68(2). Harmer, Rooke & Co. 5/22/56 \$9.50.
39. GOLD HILL, NEV., NOV. 22, '67 on VF cvr #78 to England. Siegal 3/22/56 \$21.00.
40. BEAVER, UTAH VF cvr #158. Laurence & Stryker 2/2/56 \$4.00.
41. BRAZOS/FEB 23 (Texas 1848) SL pmk and "10" in blk on VF stmpls Paige 4/13/56 \$28.00.
42. HOUSTON, TEXAS and "X" in red (1846) on VF stmpls to NY. Paige 4/13/56 \$36.00.
43. FORT CONCHO, TEXAS, 1879 on VF cvr pair #158. Laurence & Stryker 2/2/56 \$6.75.

## F. MISCELLANEOUS.

1. ROCKING THE CRADLE pictorial miner's envelope, no markings with a 10¢ 1851 #14. Herst 2/24/56 \$35.00.
2. NEW YORK OCEAN MAIL VF cvr #31, to S. F. with ms "Str. Star of the West". Siegal 3/22/56 \$92.50.
3. NEW YORK OCEAN MAIL VF cvr #32 to S.F. Siegal 3/22/56 \$26.00.
4. ADAMS EXPRESS, blk of 4 #113 25¢ adhesive, superb, so-called "POKER CHIP CURRENCY" of gold rush. Herst 2/24/56 \$9.50.

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NEVADA TERRITORY MARKINGS -- ADDITIONS

Stan HERBRUCK phoned the other day, to say he had covers with the following markings: Clifton, N. T., and Nevada, N. T.

Your Editor also went through his meager collection, and came up with the following: Virginia City, Utah (blue pmk tying a 10¢ 1861), and Truckee Meadows, N. T. (red pmk on stampless, franked Holland Morley, addressed to Ophir, Washoe County, N. T.).

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HISTORY OF THE BOUNDARIES OF NEW MEXICO

By S. H. DIKE

## PART ONE

The history of the land of New Mexico might be said to begin some sixty million years ago when this area emerged from the sea for the last time at the close of the Mesozoic Era. At first there were low swamps which produced the coal that later was important to the growth of the territory. Finally the great Laramide Mountains, the first generation of the Rockies, were thrust upward, and all was dry land.

The history of the people of New Mexico might be said to start with the entry into this area of the migration from the north which began by crossing the ice-locked Bering Straits some 25,000 years ago.

The history of trade routes in New Mexico goes back to prehistoric times. The Turquoise Trail from Santa Fe and the ancient pueblos of the north to the Indian settlements in old Mexico is the oldest road in America. During the days of Spanish occupation it was known over much of its route as El Camino Real.

The history of the transport of the written message in New Mexico starts with the entry of the first European white man into this area. The first Spanish expedition across the North American continent was made by Alvar Nunez Cabeza de Vaca. He crossed the Rio Grande in 1536, but there is some doubt as to his exact route, and he may never have entered New Mexico. Twitchell<sup>1</sup> claims he crossed the Rio Grande about fifty miles north of the present site of El Paso. Bandelier is very sure he never entered New Mexico at all but crossed the Rio Grande about one hundred fifty miles south of El Paso. This version is supported by Douglas.<sup>2</sup> Horgan<sup>3</sup> shows his route as looping through southeastern New Mexico and crossing the Rio Grande at about the present site of El Paso. Even earlier, however, there seems to have been another expedition, because at El Morro, an enormous sandstone rock in west central New Mexico, the earliest inscription is dated February 18, 1526. It was made by Don Joseph de Basconzales, who crossed the center of Arizona towards the Great Canyon and penetrated at least as far as Zuni. No record remains of this first expedition into New Mexico, save the bare memento of the fact carved on the side of El Morro (Inscription Rock). None of the expedition ever returned to tell of their adventures.

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1. Twitchell, R. E., Leading Facts of New Mexican History, The Torch Press, Cedar Rapids; 1911.
  2. Douglas, E. M., Boundaries, Areas, Geographic Centers and Altitudes of the United States and the Several States, U. S. Government Printing Office, Washington, Plate 4; 1932.
  3. Horgan, Paul, Great River, Rinehart and Co., New York, Vol. I, p. 82; 1954.

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HISTORY OF THE BOUNDARIES OF NEW MEXICO - Continued

But the history of interest to us, of New Mexico as a United States possession, begins with the Louisiana Purchase of 1803. The boundaries of this vast territory were never precisely described but all agreed that the western drainage basin of the Mississippi River was included. This includes the Canadian River and hence the northeastern corner of New Mexico. Actually, the United States claimed that all land east of the Rio Grande was part of the purchase, and based this claim on the original proclamation of La Salle. However, Spain did not agree to this definition and the boundary was finally settled in the treaty of February 22, 1819 with Spain. The treaty line of 1819 followed the Arkansas River to the 100 degree Meridian, so that all of New Mexico was excluded. Later this same boundary was reconfirmed in the treaty with Mexico of June 12, 1828, since Mexico had by then gained her independence from Spain. But a part of New Mexico was legally a part of the United States from 1803 to 1819, although this area contained no organized white settlements. From 1804 to 1805 it was part of the District of Louisiana. From 1805 to 1812 it was part of the Territory of Louisiana. From 1812 to 1819 it was part of Missouri Territory.

The U. S. history of New Mexico begins again with the difficulties which Texas was having with Mexico, and which finally led to her declaration of independence in 1835. In 1836 she claimed her boundaries to extend south and west to the Rio Grande and northward from its source to the 42nd parallel. The northern and eastern limits were to coincide with the western boundary of the United States as defined in the 1819 Treaty with Spain and the 1828 Treaty with Mexico. Texas defeated the Mexican forces in 1836 and signed a treaty with General Santa Anna, who, among other things, agreed to accept the Rio Grande boundary. Hence all of New Mexico east of the Rio Grande became a part of the Republic of Texas. The government in Mexico City repudiated Santa Anna's boundary agreement, but poverty and political instability delayed any immediate recurrence of full scale hostilities. Also, the authorities of the time in New Mexico had no intention of agreeing that its territory east of the Rio Grande was part of the new and free Republic of Texas. In the meantime Texas became stronger, and her independence was recognized by the leading powers of the world. Attempts by Texas to maintain and enforce the Rio Grande boundary led to numerous military skirmishes, and finally after several years of military and political developments, Texas was offered Statehood by the United States on March 1, 1845. In September the people of Texas ratified the annexation resolution, one of the provisions of which was that "questions of boundaries with other nations are to be adjusted by the United States." The area which Texas claimed as hers and which should constitute the annexed area of the new state of Texas was defined by her as being bounded as follows: "Beginning at the mouth of the Sabine River and running west along the Gulf of Mexico three leagues from land to the mouth of the Rio Grande, thence up the principal stream of said river to its source, thence due north to the forty-second degree of north latitude, thence along the boundary line as defined in the treaty between Spain and the United States to the beginning."<sup>4</sup> So now it was up to the United States to make good the Texas boundary claim. Mexico claimed that the western boundary of the Lone Star Republic was the Nueces River.

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4. Laws of the Republic of Texas, Houston, Vol. 1, p. 133; 1838.

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HISTORY OF THE BOUNDARIES OF NEW MEXICO - Continued

President Polk had proposed to Mexico that any dispute over Texas be settled by peaceful negotiation. Mexican President Herrera agreed to talk it over with a United States representative, and in November 1845, John Slidell was sent to Veracruz as envoy extraordinary. He was instructed to offer Mexico twenty-five million dollars for a boundary following the Rio Grande from its mouth to El Paso and from there due west to the Pacific Coast. In return for recognition of the Texas boundary claim of the entire Rio Grande from mouth to source, the United States would pay all claims of her citizens against Mexico.

But Herrera found that his agreement to negotiate with the United States was met with opposition at home, and in December he was overthrown. General Mariano Paredes y Arillaga took office in January and promised to defend Santa Anna's old claim to all of Texas to the Sabine River. When Slidell reported this to Polk, the President sent orders to General Zachary Taylor to march for the Rio Grande. The "Army of the Rio Grande" took up positions opposite Matamoros in March 1846, and began to build "Fort Texas". General Taylor was notified by Mexican General Ampudia to break up his camp and to retire beyond the Nueces River within 24 hours, or else war must follow. And follow it did on 24 April 1846, when General Arista, who had meantime relieved General Ampudia, advised General Taylor that "he considered hostilities commenced, and should prosecute them." On the 11th of May, President Polk asked Congress for "prompt action to recognize the existence of war..." A bill authorizing the President to call up a force of 50,000 men, and giving him other necessary powers passed both Houses of Congress on 13 May 1846.

The story of the successful campaigns of General Taylor into the heart of Mexico, and of the capture of Mexico City by General Scott does not belong to this history. But mention should be made of the "Army of the West" which was organized in June at Fort Leavenworth under command of Col. Stephen W. Kearny. Its mission was to occupy the broad area of New Mexico west to California. Kearny's army left Bent's Fort on the Arkansas River on August 2, 1846, and on the 14th, 15th, and 16th, respectively, he arrived at Las Vegas, Tecolote, and San Miguel de Vado. Kearny, now a brigadier general, rode into the plaza of Santa Fe at 5 o'clock on August 18, 1846. By the skillful use of advance agents, not a shot was fired. At each town, General Kearny absolved the people from their allegiance to Mexico and promised protection to the life, property, and religion of all who peacefully submitted to the new order. He organized a civil government for the Territory and appointed Charles Bent, part owner of Bent's Fort, as Governor.

A code of laws, founded mainly on the laws of Missouri and Texas, was prepared by Colonel Doniphan, who was an accomplished lawyer. This code of laws was in force in New Mexico as late as the year 1885, and was known as the Kearny code.

After performing this work, General Kearny sent Col. Doniphan south with 2000 men to capture Chihuahua, and on September 26, 1846, he commenced his march to California.

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HISTORY OF THE BOUNDARIES OF NEW MEXICO - Continued

Several covers are known which were mailed from Santa Fe during the period following its "capture" by Gen. Kearny. These are all stampless and were carried by military express to the nearest United States postoffice. Typical of these is one seen by the author some years ago bearing "Santa Fe, New Mexico; Sept. 17th, 1846" in manuscript, plus the circular postmark of Fort Leavenworth Mo., dated Oct. 19. The cover is addressed to Washington, D. C. and also bears the manuscript markings "On Service" and "10". The present owner of this particular cover is not known, but similar covers are in the Wagner collection.

To be continued

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STEAMER ANTELOPE -- APPEAL FOR INFORMATION AND HELP

Mel NATHAN received an inquiry regarding the Steamer "Antelope", which first operated between Panama and San Francisco, and later on the Sacramento River. The inquirer apparently assumed that the ship was owned by Wells Fargo when it was operating on the river.

Mel questions the ownership, stating that he has a picture of the "Antelope" flying Freeman & Co's Express flag on the fore-mast and Wells Fargo & Co's flag on the after mast. "Would this be possible if Wells Fargo & Co. were the owners?"

Mel goes on to say: "I am of the opinion that many of the Wells Fargo 'Steamboat' covers were carried between Sacramento and San Francisco on the 'Antelope', although I have never seen any markings to indicate it. The picture I possess would indicate too that other express company mail was carried on the 'Antelope'." Mel's letter in reply was addressed to W. P. Lillard, President, Perkins Products Co., 7400 South Rockwell St., Chicago 29, Illinois.

Subsequently, your Editor received an inquiry from Mr. O. A. Schoning of Schmidt Lithograph Company of San Francisco, repeating the original inquiry and asking if by chance a cover could be obtained showing carriage on the "Antelope". Mr. Schoning had been referred to us by the Wells Fargo Bank. Thank you for the compliment, Irene SIMPSON! Our answer was to the effect that the chances of finding a cover which could be "proved" to have been carried on the "Antelope" was practically nil. If any WCS member has any information along these lines, please give! If you write to Mr. Lillard or Mr. Schoning, please send a carbon copy to ye poor old editor!

And why doesn't some WCS member, preferably one in the Chicago area, approach Mr. Lillard with the idea of his becoming a member of WCS? Let's not leave a stone unturned! New members are always welcome! (Advt.)

WESTERN EXPRESSES CONNECTING WITH EASTERN EXPRESSES

Following the challenge appearing at the bottom of page 9 of the last Issue of WE, several members have volunteered information and data gleaned from their collections. Stan HERBRUCK reports a red Wells Fargo frank addressed to Philadelphia, and showing the handstamp of Blood's Penny Post. Your Editor can add a Boyd's City Express Post handstamp (black oval) on a San Francisco cover with ms "Via Nicaragua" -- August 1853 -- no other markings.

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WESTERN EXPRESSES CONNECTING WITH EASTERN EXPRESSES - Continued

Dr. A. Jay HERTZ adds a few: Wells Fargo showing Boyd's Dispatch in one case, and McIntire's Post in another; Freeman & Co. showing Boyd's City Express Post. Jay also adds Hunter & Co. "through their connection with Adams & Co., which firm had connections in the East. This is printed on the corner-card of a Hunter & Co's Express cover". (Jay also mentions Gregory, Pacific Union and Wines as having agents or offices in New York; but your Editor submits that that is quite different than a "connection" with another express.

Apropos of eastern offices for western companies, your Editor can enlarge the list by the following: Adams (various), Berford (No. 2 Astor House, N.Y.C.), Freeman & Co. (59 Broadway, N.Y.C.), J. Hawes & Co's S.F. & N.Y. Express, Pacific Express (early company, 124 Broadway, N.Y.C.) and Wells Fargo. In addition, we might mention another intriguing cover: an Adams & Co. New York corner card addressed to San Francisco, with a ms "Gregory's Express" and a Gregory's red "Paid" handstamp. Also, a westbound "Via Nicaragua" handstamp, with an Adams & Co. San Francisco handstamp, both on a cover addressed to Stockton.

But the one your Editor would like help with is the following, which he picked up within the past year or two. It is a manila stampless, small size, addressed to George H. Grueby Esq., Merchant, San Francisco, California. It bears a black-on-orange label reading "Forwarded by Pullen, Virgil & Co's New York, Montreal & Quebec Express -- New-York, Albany, Troy, Saratoga, Whitehall, Burlington, Montreal, and Quebec." In manuscript on the cover is "Paid Through" in ink, and "Feb 12" in pencil. Question: how did this cover get to California, and what western express connected with Pullen, Virgil, and where? (Note: the entire cover appears to be completely legitimate in every respect, with contemporary ink and handwriting, etc.)

And now comes Ezra COLE with a few ideas of his own -- and very sound ideas, too! He refers to the Wells Fargo- Boyd's combination mentioned in the April WE. Ezra's letter is largely quoted as follows: "I do not think that Wells Fargo had any connection with Boyd's. In other words I have seen many covers handled by Wells Fargo to the East (New York City) that were not handled by Boyd's or any other Local or Express Company. (Regarding the cover in question) an arrangement was undoubtedly made between Boyd and the addressee to pick up and deliver any mail addressed to them, and they paid the fee to Boyd. They could make this arrangement not only with Wells Fargo, but with any other express office, or with the U. S. Post Office, for there was no delivery of mail by the P. O. at that time in N. Y. City."

Your Editor feels that Ezra's point is well taken -- because the addressee had a "connection" with Boyd (or McIntire or Blood), that by no means signifies a connection between that local post and the western express company. A "connection" has to be a standard procedure, such as Cram Rogers always connecting with Adams & Co.

MISCELLANEOUS NOTES AND PERSONALS

Howard MADER of Salem, Oregon, dropped into your Editor's office June 12th -- unfortunately the latter was out to lunch. Howard left a note, reading in part: "Still teaching school at Willamette University, and also in the investment business. I'll drop in when we get back to L. A. later in the year. Ed Payne said to say hello." For the benefit of eastern members of WCS, Willamette is pronounced with the accent on the second syllable.

And speaking of pronunciation, we were rather disturbed the other day at an eastern friend's "sounding" of Placerville. According to all rules of English, the "a" should be "long", as though you were "lacing" up your shoes. But in mining terminology, placer mining is always pronounced "plasser" with a short "a". This pearl of wisdom is offered to fellow members gratis (again a short "a"), just in case they might tangle with some resident of that celebrated place (long "a") originally called Old Dry Diggin's, and then Hangtown, and more recently Plasterville.

And while we're on the subject, maybe there are some other names on which other members would like to be brushed up. (And there's a preposition up with which I will not put!) If so, jot the name down on a post card and send it in -- you can't lose, and you might learn something! Most of you probably know enough to pronounce your "Js" like "Hs" as all good Spaniards do -- as in La Jolla and San Jose. But then, every now and then someone slips up and pronounces the "ll" of La Jolla as "L" instead of "Y". And so it goes. This Department of Pure Pronunciation will try to give you names as they are locally spoken, and without the lisping complications of the Cathtilian or Andaluthian accents. We will simply call a thpade a thpade!

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ANOTHER PONY EXPRESS! COLLECTORS ATTENTION!

Fresno, Calif. celebrated its centennial on April 20th of this year. The brethren of E. Clampus Vitus erected a plaque to a ghost town which was at the bottom of a lake -- don't know whether to say "was" or "is", as the water is too deep to see whether or not the ghost town is still there. And nobody wanted to go down to find out. But in connection therewith, a genuwine (!) PONY EXPRESS was run by the Fresno County Sheriff's Posse from Fresno to Friant, the closest town to the original county seat which is now at the bottom of Lake Millerton. (And for the benefit of you Easterners, Lake Millerton is quite a chunk of water backed up behind the Friant Dam.) Anyhoo, there were some cachets issued, which were carried willy nilly on horseback, as outlined above. If any of you want one, it will cost one solid buck for a cover. The price is purposely set high, so that the Editor won't have to be bothered forwarding a copy. I dare you!

