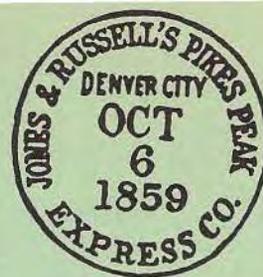


Western Express



Research Journal ~~News Letter~~ of the Western Cover Society

This issue consists of *
18 pages and a supple- *
ment of 8 pages. *

* Vol. IX No. 2 *
* April 1959 *

CONTENTS

	<u>Page</u>
Editor's Corner.....	1
Oregon Territorial Post Offices and Handstamped Postal Markings by Edwin R. Payne	2-3-4-5-6-7 8-9-10-11
Ghost Towns - Mokelumne Hill - By Ernest A. Wiltsee with notes by Basil C. Pearce and Edgar B. Jessup.....	12-13
Contents of the Letter - By M. C. Nathan	14-15
Expresses That Ran Within Or From Nevada - By Robert A. Hanson, Dr. A. Jay Hertz, Edgar B. Jessup, M. C. Nathan and E. W. Thrall	16-17-18-19
Territory And Statehood Dates	20
The Postal History Of New Mexico Territory - Addenda and Corrigenda - By Sheldon H. Dike.....	21
Auction Action - By James E. Berry.....	22
Treasurer's Annual Report.....	23
Membership Changes	24
Second General Assembly.....	25
Advertisements.....	26

PLEASE ADDRESS all communications intended for WESTERN EXPRESS to the Editor,
M. C. Nathan, 15 Manderly Road, San Rafael, Calif. But note that advertising
copy and payment therefor, should be sent to Henry Chaloner, 2612 Ashby Ave.,
Berkeley 5, Calif., and inquiries regarding membership should be sent to Dr.
Sheldon H. Goodman, 323 Geary St., San Francisco 2, California.

THE EDITOR'S CORNER

Just one year from now, 1960, marks the Centennial of the famous Pony Express. In anticipation of this great event Western Express is preparing a series of articles on the Pony Express to run through the entire period corresponding to the time the Pony was in operation. These articles will not only give an authentic history of the Pony Express but will also contain much research data never before published; also pictures of every known Pony cover. We realize this is going to be a colossal undertaking. In order to be good it can hardly be a one man job. To assure its success a key committee of co-editors has been appointed consisting of Edgar B. Jessup, Dr. A. Jay Hertz and your Editor. There will be as many associate editors as care to help out in this ambitious project; we hope there will be many. The work has already started. At this time we are accumulating photographs of every known Pony cover. So please send photographs of your Pony covers to me as soon as possible. You can also send any other data you now have that is different than has already been published or entirely new. All of this material will be carefully guarded and returned intact to the owners as soon as we are through with it. We are also working on a plan to have the entire story published in pamphlet form for those desiring a handy reference.

We are indeed grateful to Edwin R. Payne for his fine piece of research on "Oregon Territorial Post Offices And Handstamped Postal Markings" appearing in this issue. Despite his many years of study on this subject he is always eager to learn more. So if you have any comments or additional information, please contact him. We also have received from Harry L. Fine an article on Montana Territorial Post Offices together with a list of five hundred and forty-one post offices during the territorial period, May 26, 1864 to November 8, 1889. This will be published in the July issue. Contributions such as these are of great value to all collectors and makes the job of editing a joyous one.

The response to our new classes of membership has been most gratifying. We have already received six patron memberships, seventeen sustaining and twelve members saw fit to make contributions in addition to the regular dues. The result is about three hundred and fifty dollars additional revenue. This will all be used toward publishing a bigger and better Western Express. It will also help us do an outstanding job on "Pony Express" next year. The list of members who so generously contributed to the cause can be found elsewhere in this issue.

Belatedly we say, "Orchids to Frank Burns". Frank is one of our very enthusiastic members. He is also one of the leading florists of the San Francisco Bay Region. His beautiful establishment in Marin County is a veritable paradise of blooms in all seasons of the year. Our thanks to you Frank for the lovely flowers you so generously donated to us during the convention last October.

Mel C. Nathan

OREGON TERRITORIAL POST OFFICES and HANDSTAMPED POSTAL MARKINGS

By Edwin R. Payne

One hundred years ago on February 14, 1859, Oregon Territory was admitted to the Union as the thirty-third state. This news telegraphed to St. Louis, from Washington, D. C., was put on the Butterfield Overland Stage, going via Los Angeles, to San Francisco. A fast steamer then carried the news to Portland, then by pony rider to Salem, where the news was celebrated 31 days after actual date of admittance.

At this time, a letter from the East to Oregon took much longer, usually as long as two months. At the time of Statehood, there were 99 post-offices in Oregon. Nine of these offices were later discontinued that same year. Up to this time, 173 post-offices had been established and recorded on the Oregon post office ledger in Washington, D. C. Only 28 of these offices are known to have used a handstamped postal marking, prior to Statehood. Since six of these offices used more than one type of handstamp, there are 35 different Oregon Territorial handstamped markings shown by tracings with this article. Of a possible 173 post-offices, only 62 offices, are known to have used pen and ink to make manuscript postal markings. The offices which used manuscript markings that have been verified, are checked under "Ms." on the attached listing. The 28 offices using handstamps have been checked under "HS."

In the early 1840's the vast unsettled region west of the Rockies, and north of California, was known as the Oregon Country, and was claimed by Great Britain. Early missionaries, like Jason Lee and Marcus Whitman, who came to convert the Indians, were instrumental in further settlers coming to Oregon, and to eventually claim the territory for the Union. Hundreds of books have been written on this migration over the Oregon Trail, and will be written for years to come. This brief summary, will only give the highlights of Oregon's Postal History, from the cover collector's standpoint.

The Jason Lee house, later to house Salem's first post office, was built in 1841 and is Oregon's oldest house still in use. In 1843, two hundred families braved the hardships of the 2,000 mile Oregon Trail to come to the green cool Willamette Valley. This same year the Oregon Provisional Government was organized at Champoag, beseeching Congress to recognize the Oregon Country as a part of the Union. Any mail to or from Oregon at this time was either carried back and forth by emigrants, or left at Fort Vancouver for some ship's captain to pick up. A letter written by Narciscus Whitman at this time, complained to a friend in the East, that it took two years to get a reply to her first letters home. Mail piled up at Independence, Missouri for the Oregon settlers, and the Post Office Department tried to get someone to contract to carry the mail to Oregon; but after one futile and costly attempt, the plan was abandoned. Two years later in 1845, the Provisional Oregon Territorial government, appointed Wm. T'Vault as Postmaster General for the territory, with an appropriation of fifty dollars. T'Vault was also the first editor of the (Oregon City) Spectator, Oregon's first newspaper, and in the first issue he advertised for riders to carry the mail. But as there were no post offices, no roads, no funds, and little mail; the high rates did not pay the expenses and the plan was abandoned the following year. The rates were, 15¢ up to 20 miles and up to 50¢ for over 200 miles. Letters carried by these riders, show no postal markings, altho a letter has been seen with "50¢" in manuscript, which is assumed to be a rate marking from the distance to destination; altho it may be a dealer's price.

The first post office west of the Rockies was established at Astoria, on an order from the Post Office Department, dated March 9, 1847. However, it is unlikely that this order arrived in Oregon before the middle of that year. The earliest postal marking on a folded letter from Astoria, is dated April 25, 1849 and is in manuscript. It shows a "40" also in pen and ink, the collect rate to Ohio. The Oregon City post office established March 29, 1847, was the territory's main mailing center.

Oregon was admitted to the Union as a Territory on August 14, 1848, at which time Astoria and Oregon City were the only two post offices in the territory. No letters are known with postal markings prior to this date. The Territory included what is now the State of Washington. When Washington was cut from Oregon, and admitted as a Territory on March 2, 1853, there were 11 post offices north of the Columbia River. Postal markings, with "O. T." designations have been seen for five of these eleven offices: Cascades, Cathlamet, Columbia City, Olympia and Pacific City.

By the first of 1850, there were four post offices in Oregon; Portland and Salem having both been established on an order dated Nov. 8, 1849. It is unlikely either office opened for business until the spring of 1850. Little if any mail was received in Oregon the last half of 1849, as all mail ships were held up in San Francisco, where the crews left their ships for the gold fields. It should be understood that the majority of the dates of establishment of early post offices, are the dates of the orders and are not the actual dates the offices were opened for business.

Oregon Territorial Post Offices and Handstamped Postal Markings - Continued

Prior to 1855, letters were usually mailed "collect" with the amount of postage to be collected, written or hand-stamped on the upper left hand corner of the envelope. Up to June 30, 1851, the rate for a $\frac{1}{2}$ ounce letter, to or from the West to the East, was 40 cents, with a ruling "that all letters conveyed from one to any other of the said places on the Pacific (coast) shall pay $12\frac{1}{2}$ cents postage." While California postmasters complied with this $12\frac{1}{2}$ cent rate for local letters; no evidence can be found that Oregon postmasters ever used this $12\frac{1}{2}$ cent local rate. Instead, we have noted that they used the 5 cent local rate, which was applicable at that time in the East for letters up to 300 miles. No letters have yet been seen showing a $12\frac{1}{2}$ ¢ rate from Oregon to California. So far, only four letters have been seen, which show the $12\frac{1}{2}$ ¢ rate from California to Oregon.

On June 30, 1851, postage rates were reduced, and with a further reduction to be made on letters mailed prepaid. The collect rate was 5¢ for $\frac{1}{2}$ ounce letters going up to 3,000 miles, and 10¢ if over 3,000 miles or across the Rockies. To encourage prepayment of postage, a 40% discount was in effect, with 3¢ for letters up to 3,000 miles and 6¢ on letters from coast to coast. The rates were changed again, April 1, 1855, when payment was required in advance on all letters, with 3¢ for letters up to 3,000 miles and 10¢ for letters over 3,000 miles or across the Rockies. This was the rate in effect when Oregon became a state, February 14, 1859.

As stamps were not sold in Oregon until 1852, 40¢ stamped letters from Oregon are unknown. So far, no letters have been recorded showing the 40¢ rate prepaid with stamps from the East to Oregon. This is a possibility, to look for.

The following early dates have been noted for Oregon Postal History:

Earliest Manuscript postal marking:	Astoria, O. T., April 25, 1849
Earliest Handstamped postal marking:	Oregon City, ORgn. Mar. 1, (1850)
Earliest use of stamps:	Portland, O. T., Jan. 19, (1852)
Earliest year dated Handstamp:	Umpqua City, O. T., 1857.

The 28 offices which used handstamps, have been checked on the following post office listing, under "H. S." These are also shown on the page of tracings. The 62 offices which used pen and ink for postmarking letters, are checked on this list under "Ms." for manuscript. As further collections and archives are checked, the list of manuscript markings will undoubtedly be increased, and should be recorded for the aid of future Oregon Postal History students.

On the page of Oregon Territorial Handstamps, ten markings are shown, which were unknown when the U. S. Territorial Postmark Handbook was published in 1950. The following six handstamped markings have been dropped, as no evidence can be found, to show use before Statehood:

CHAMPOAG, OR. (small circle) CORVALLIS, O. R. (large circle) NO. CANYONVILLE, OR. (sm. cir.)
PORTLAND, OR. (Small double circle) ROSEBURGH, OR. (Large circle) WASCOPUM, OR. (small circle)

The following observations from my experience are noted for the collector of Oregoniana:

ASHLAND MILLS, O. T. This handstamp was altered after Statehood, the O. T. being replaced with OREGON in smaller type. The name Ashland Mills, was changed to Ashland on June 14, 1871.

ASTORIA, ORgn. This handstamp used thru 1852, is much scarcer than the later, "ASTORIA, OGN." handstamp, which was used from about 1855 on thru Statehood, and into the middle 1870's.

COLUMBIA CITY, O. T. This handstamp ordered from the East, did not arrive until after Washington had been created a Territory in 1853. However the handstamp was used with the "O. T." even after the Department had ordered the name changed back to VANCOUVER, W. T. in 1854.

CORVALLIS, OREGON This handstamp was carved from wood with the "S" in reverse, when it was learned that the Department had ordered the name changed from MARYSVILLE, Feb. 18, 1854.

DEER CREEK, OREGON This office was changed to ROSEBURG on July 16, 1857. Only two copies of this postmark are known. (The Wiltsie Memorial Collection and the Ore. Hist. Soc. archives.)

EUGENE CITY, O. T. The larger handstamp was used past Statehood into the middle 1860's, with the "O. T." These late covers are consistently sold as Territorials at Eastern Auctions.

FT. KEARNEY, O. R. This handstamp used June 5, 1852, is a startling discovery, recently made by Floyd Risvold (WCS #140). Like the O. R. used in the FT. LARAMIE handstamp, we assume O. R. stands for OREGON ROUTE, as both were in unorganized territory on the OREGON TRAIL.

FORT LELAND, OREGON is the name in the first handstamp, but the Dept. records show as LELAND.

LAFAYETTE, O. T. This handstamp was used for a period after Statehood with the "T" removed.

PORTLAND, O. T. The handstamp with late 1858 or early 1859 year date slugs, is much scarcer than the earlier large PORTLAND, O. T. used without year dates, from 1852 until late 1858. The year dated marking was used past Statehood with the "O. T." for a short period until a small double circle marking (PORTLAND, OR.) was received. The provisional 21.5 mm circle handstamp is a rarity, being used only a short time in late 1851, and on into early 1852.

STARR'S POINT, O. T. This handstamp was used with the "O. T." designation over into Statehood and until the office was moved two miles south in 1874 and the name change to MONROE.

UMPQUA CITY, O. T. The larger handstamp, with the "T" removed, was used over into Statehood.

Due to the great number and varieties of manuscript markings used in the Oregon Territory no attempt at this time will be made to picture them, only to record those known at this time.

It is hoped that the Oregon Territorial Express markings can be recorded at a later date.

TERRITORIAL OREGON POST OFFICES

1	NAME	COUNTY NOW IN	First P.M.	Other Data	Ms.	H.S.	First Established	Discontinued or name change. Current (*)
	ALBANY	Linn	John Burkhart See New Albany		✓	✓	Jan. 8, 1850	x
	ALDERBROOK	Douglas	Chas. Smith				July 18, 1855	July 12, 1859
	AMITY	Yamhill	J. B. Walling		✓		July 6, 1852	x
	APPLEGATE	Jackson	John O'Brien				Aug. 30, 1858	x
	ASHLAND MILLS	Jackson	A. HELLMAN TO "ASHLAND" 6-14-'71		✓	✓	MAY 17, 1855	x
	ASTORIA	Clatsop	John Shively FIRST P.O. WEST OF ROCKIES		✓	✓	Mar. 9, 1847	x
	AURORA MILLS	Marion	WM. KEIL TO "AURORA" 12-10-'94				Dec. 30, 1857	x
	AVERY'S	Benton	J. C. AVERY See Marysville + Corvallis				Jan. 8, 1850	Sep. 9, 1850
	BLOOMINGTON	Polk	E. W. Foster				May 25, 1852	Jun. 24, 1863
	BRIDGEPORT	Polk	Sam Scott		✓		Jun. 1, 1854	Jan. 13, 1874
	BROCKVILLE	Wash.	Dan Brock				Oct. 12, 1853	Oct. 4, 1855
	BURLINGTON	Linn	W. M. McCorkle P.O. moved to Peoria				Nov. 17, 1855	Nov. 7, 1857
	BUTTE CREEK	Clack.	J. JACK NOW "MARQUAM"				Jan. 24, 1851	Nov. 3, 1851
	BUTTEVILLE	Marion	F. X. MATTHIEU		✓	✓	SEP. 9, 1850	AUG. 18, 1905
	CALAPOOYA	Linn	H. H. Spaulding ALSO "KALAPOOYA" NOW BROWNSVILLE		✓		Jan. 8, 1850	May 18, 1859
	CASCADES	WASH. STATE	TRANSFERRED TO WASH. TER. 3-2-'53		✓		Nov. 5, 1851	(Mar. 2, 1853)
	CATHLAMET	"	" "			✓	AUG. 8, 1851	"
	CENTRAL	Linn	J. KETCHUM				JUN. 13, 1852	APR. 19, 1861
	CHAMPOAG	Marion	Robt. Newell Also "CHAMPOEG"		✓		Jul. 10, 1851	AUG. 2, 1864
	CHEHALEM	Yamhill	D. Bayley				Mar. 14, 1851	Jan. 16, 1852
	CHINOOK	WASH. STATE	TRANSFERRED TO WASH. TER. 3-2-'53				Oct. 19, 1852	(Mar. 2, 1853)
	CINCINNATI	Polk	J. SHAW CHANGED TO EOLA				JUN. 5, 1851	MAY 23, 1856
	CLACKEMAS	Clack.	J. Foster				SEP. 29, 1852	OCT. 18, 1853
	COLUMBIA CITY	WASH. STATE	Est'd - Vancouver, O. 1-8-'50 TO COLUMBIA CITY, 12-12 TO WASH. TER. 3-2-'50		✓	✓	Dec. 12, 1850	(Mar. 2, 1853)
	CORVALLIS	BENTON	J. C. AVERY See MARYSVILLE		✓	✓	FEB. 18, 1854	x
	COTTAGE GROVE	Lane	G. C. Pearce		✓		Mar. 3, 1855	x
	DALLAS	Polk	John Lyle		✓		Oct. 22, 1852	x
	DALLES	Wasco	W. R. Gibson TO WASCO, 9-3-'50 TO THE DALLES 3-22-'60		✓		NOV. 5, 1851	SEP. 3, 1853
	DARDANELLES	Jackson	WM. G. T'VAULT				Oct. 19, 1852	DEC. 2, 1878

**TERRITORIAL
OREGON POST OFFICES**

2	NAME	COUNTY NOW IN	First P.M.	ms.	H.S.	First Established	Discontinued or name change Current (*)
			Other Data				
	DAYTON	Yamhill	CHRIS TAYLOR	✓		JUN. 5, 1851	x
	DEER CREEK	Douglas	Wm. Perry changed to ROSEBURG	✓	✓	SEP. 28, 1852	Jul. 16, 1857
	DIAMOND HILL	Linn	J. Pierce			SEP. 16, 1858	SEP. 28, 1869
	ELK HORN	Douglas	A. N. FOLEY			SEP. 3, 1853	OCT. 6, 1854
	ELKTON	Douglas	DAVID WELLS			SEP. 26, 1851	*
	EMINENCE	Columbia	C. E. FOX CHANGED TO RAINIER			JUN. 5, 1851	Jan. 6, 1852
	EMPIRE CITY	Coos	J. J. JACKSON NOW "EMPIRE" 10/20/94 ✓			APR. 30, 1858	Oct. 20, 1894
	EOLA	Polk	JOSHUA SHAW WAS CINCINNATI			MAY 23, 1856	Mar. 19, 1901
	ETNA	Polk	Thos. RIGGS			SEP. 4, 1856	May 8, 1868
	EUGENE CITY	Lane	EUGENE SKINNER WAS "SKINNER'S" "CITY" DROPT 5-29-89	✓	✓	SEP. 3, 1853	x
	FAIRFIELD	Marion	J. C. Peebles			Mar. 24, 1852	Dec. 22, 1902
	FOREST GROVE	Wash.	DAVID HILL			DEC. 31, 1858	x
	FORKS of MARYS RIVER	Benton	John Lloyd			APR. 5, 1850	Jan. 9, 1852
	FORT KEARNY	NEBR. STATE	ON OREGON ROUTE NOT ON O.T. P.O. LIST BUT Postmark shows "O.R"		✓	JUL. 7, 1849	APR. 5, 1878
	FORT LARAMIE	WYO. STATE	JOHN TUTT. ON O.T. P.O. LIST. TRANS. TO NEBR. TER. 3-30-54 TO IDAHO T. 3-3-63 TO DAK. T. 5-26-64 TO WYO. T. 7-29-68		✓	Mar. 14, 1850	Mar. 30, 1854
	FORT LELAND	Josephine	M. S. HARKNESS P.O. Shows as "LELAND"	✓	✓	Mar. 28, 1855	APR. 30, 1943
	FRANKLIN	Lane	E. ELMAKER			Mar. 3, 1855	Nov. 17, 1902
	FREEDOM	Lane	T. Awbrey Now Junction City			Feb. 17, 1858	May 7, 1866
	GALESVILLE	Douglas	G. F. Hall			Oct. 14, 1854	Jan. 31, 1916
	GARDINER'S CITY	Douglas	G. L. SNELLING ReEst'd as Gardiner 1864	✓		JUN. 30, 1851	Dec. 31, 1858
	GOLD RIVER	Jackson	DAVIS EVANS			APR. 18, 1855	Jul. 18, 1859
	GRAND PRAIRIE	Lane	J. BUTLER			JUN. 22, 1854	Mar. 30, 1860
	HARRISBURGH	Linn	DAVID McCulley			NOV. 7, 1855	x
	HARRIS FERRY	Wash.	Philip Harris			Mar. 4, 1851	Jan. 6, 1852
	HILLSBOROUGH	Wash.	Abraham Sulger To "Hillsboro" 4-20-'92	✓	✓	AUG. 5, 1850	x
	HOOD RIVER	Hood River	NATHAN BENSON Est'd in Wasco Co. "1858"			SEP. 30, 1858	x
	INDEPENDENCE	Polk	LEONARD WILLIAMS	✓		APR. 3, 1852	x
	JACKSONVILLE	Jackson	R. DUGAN	✓	✓	FEB. 18, 1854	x

TERRITORIAL OREGON POST OFFICES

3	NAME	COUNTY NOW IN	First P.M.	ms.	H.S.	First Established	Discontinued or name change Current (*)
			Other Data				
	JENNYPOLIS	Benton	RICHARD IRWIN	✓		MAR. 24, 1852	APR. 18, 1857
	KELLOGG'S	Douglas	J. J. KELLOGG changed to Smiths Ferry			FEB. 18, 1856	APR. 19, 1877
	KERBY	Joseph.	JAMES KERBY ON MAPS "KIRBYVILLE"			SEP. 4, 1856	x
	KINGS VALLEY	Benton	R. Chambers			APR. 13, 1855	x
	LACKEMUTE	Polk	H. Linville also "LUCKIMUTE"			MAR. 14, 1851	NOV. 23, 1874
	LAFAYETTE	Yamhill	H. D. MARTIN	✓	✓	MAR. 14, 1851	x
	LATSHAW'S MILL	Linn	WM. LATSHAW CHANGED TO "PINE"			AUG. 19, 1853	JAN. 3, 1855
	LAUREL	Douglas	WILLIS JENKINS			OCT. 14, 1854	NOV. 1, 1855
	LAWN ARBOR	Polk	M. B. BURKEE WAS South Yamhill			APR. 12, 1855	FEB. 22, 1865
	LEBANON	Marion	J. S. HUNT No Connection With LEBANON IN Linn Co. ✓			JUNE 5, 1851	JUN. 21, 1858
	LEXINGTON	Clatsop	DAVID PEASE	✓		NOV. 28, 1850	FEB. 24, 1853
	LIBERTY	Benton	JAMES JINGLES			APR. 23, 1856	MAY 30, 1867
	LINN CITY	Clack.	JAMES MOORE CHANGED TO WEST LINN			JAN. 8, 1850	FEB. 18, 1854
	LOCUST GROVE	Douglas	RICHARD SMITH			FEB. 9, 1858	SEP. 10, 1863
	LONG TOM	Lane	A. L. Humphrey			SEP. 3, 1853	SEP. 19, 1904
	LOWER ASTORIA	Clatsop	Jos. Jeffries			JAN. 14, 1854	APR. 2, 1858
	McKENZIE	Lane	Geo. Armitage	✓		JAN. 21, 1854	OCT. 8, 1859
	McMINNVILLE	Yamhill	E. G. Edson			MAY 29, 1855	x
	MANSENETTA	Jackson	WM. R. ROSE			OCT. 12, 1853	JUN. 28, 1855
	MARYSVILLE	Benton	Alfred Rinehart changed to Corvallis	✓	✓	SEP. 9, 1850	FEB. 18, 1854
	MILWAUKIE	Clack.	Lot Whitcomb	✓		FEB. 1, 1850	x
	MOLALLA	Clack.	Harrison Wright			APR. 9, 1850	x
	MONTICELLO	WASH. STATE	Transferred to WASH. TER. 3-2-'53			Nov. 28, 1850	(Mar. 2, 1853)
	MOUNT HOOD	Yamhill	John Richardson			OCT. 14, 1854	JAN. 29, 1862
	MOUNT SCOTT	Douglas	A. J. Chapman			OCT. 14, 1854	OCT. 5, 1886
	MOUNT SYLVANIA	Wash.	I. Mitchell			AUG. 6, 1852	AUG. 31, 1856
	MOUTH of WILLAMETTE	Mult.	Ellis Walker changed to Sauvies Island			JUN. 30, 1851	MAR. 5, 1852
	MUDDY	Yamhill	Geo. Davis changed to BELLEVUE			MAY 29, 1855	APR. 29, 1869
	MYRTLE CITY	Douglas	LEVI SCOTT			JUN. 30, 1851	JUL. 27, 1852

TERRITORIAL OREGON POST OFFICES

4	NAME	COUNTY NOW IN	First P.M.	Other Data	Ms.	H.S.	<i>first</i> Established	Discontinued or name change Current (*)
	MYRTLE CREEK	Douglas	L. Wright				FEB. 18, 1854	x
	NEEDY	Clack.	John Bacon		✓		FEB. 16, 1855	SEP. 10, 1908
	NESMITHS	Polk	J. W. Nesmith was O'Neil's Mills.		✓		AUG. 21, 1850	OCT. 22, 1852
	NESQUALLY	WASH. STATE.	CHANGED TO Olympia, O.T. - 8-29-'50				JAN. 8, 1850	AUG. 28, 1850
	NEW ALBANY	Linn	John Burkhart changed to Albany				Nov. 4, 1850	JAN. 3, 1853
	NORTH CANYONVILLE	Douglas	John T. Boyle Now Canyonville '92		✓		July 6, 1852	JUN. 1, 1892
	NORTH YAMHILL	Yamhill	Ben Stewart changed to YAMHILL '08				MAR. 14, 1851	MAY 9, 1908
	OAKLAND	Douglas	David Underwood		✓		FEB. 21, 1852	*
	OAK POINT	WASH. STATE	Transferred to Wash Ter				FEB. 18, 1851	MAR. 2, 1853
	OCEOLA	Mult.	Lawrence Hall		✓		JUN. 24, 1854	FEB. 9, 1863
	OLYMPIA	WASH. STATE	Michael Simmons		✓	✓	AUG. 28, 1850	MAR. 2, 1853
	O'NEIL'S MILLS	Polk	James O'Neil changed to Nesmiths				JAN. 8, 1850	AUG. 21, 1850
	OREGON CITY	Clack.	David Hill		✓	✓	MAR. 29, 1847	x
	OSWEGO	Clack.	Wesley Hull		✓		DEC. 31, 1853	x
	OTHELLO	Lane	J. B. Zumwalt				Mar. 28, 1855	JUL. 8, 1859
	PACIFIC CITY	WASH. STATE	Transferred to Wash. Ter.		✓		DEC. 26, 1850	MAR. 2, 1853
	PALOS	Linn	Sam Thompson				MAR. 4, 1856	OCT. 30, 1857
	PARKERSVILLE	Marion	F. E. Eldridge				SEP. 29, 1852	DEC. 2, 1862
	PEORIA	Linn	John Worth Formerly BURLINGTON				NOV. 7, 1857	AUG. 10, 1900
	PHOENIX	Jackson	Sam Miller				JAN. 3, 1857	x
	PINE	Linn	Thos. Weger Was Latshaw's Mill		✓		JAN. 3, 1855	OCT. 7, 1887
	PINE GROVE	Wash.	D. Miller				FEB. 29, 1856	MAR. 16, 1858
	PINEY	Lane	Ben Richardson				JUL. 6, 1852	NOV. 18, 1852
	PLEASANT HILL	Lane	Elijah Bristow		✓		APR. 9, 1850	AUG. 15, 1922
	PLUM VALLEY	Polk	A. H. FRIER		✓		NOV. 30, 1854	AUG. 13, 1863
	PLYMOUTH	Col.	Henry Knighton changed to Saint Helens				APR. 9, 1850	NOV. 4, 1850
	PORT CLATSOP	Clats.	Thos. Kane				NOV. 10, 1852	FEB. 15, 1855
	PORTLAND	Mult.	Thos. Smith		✓	✓	NOV. 8, 1849	x
	PORT ORFORD	Curry	Reginald Smith		✓	✓	MAR. 27, 1855	x

TERRITORIAL OREGON POST OFFICES

5	NAME	COUNTY NOW IN	First P.M.	Other Data	Ms.	H.S.	First Established	Discontinued or name change Current (*)
	PORT TOWNSEND	WASH. STATE	Transferred to Wash.Ter.				SEP. 28, 1852	MAR. 2, 1853
	PRESTON	Lane	Henry Small				OCT. 11, 1853	MAR. 30, 1855
	RAINIER	Col.	Chas. Fox WAS EMINENCE				JAN. 6, 1852	x
	RICKREALL	Polk	NATHANIEL FORD	✓			JUN. 30, 1851	APR. 11, 1857
	ROME	Marion	C. C. Cooley				JUN. 30, 1851	MAR. 19, 1852
	ROSEBURG(H)	Douglas	R. H. Deerborn was Deer Creek		✓		JUL. 16, 1857	x
	ROUND PRAIRIE	Douglas	James Burnett	✓			NOV. 22, 1853	APR. 20, 1918
	SAINT HELEN(S)	Columbia	WM. TAPPAN WAS PLYMOUTH	✓	✓		NOV. 4, 1850	x
	SALEM	Marion	J. B. McClaine	✓	✓		NOV. 8, 1849	x
	SALT CREEK	Polk	J. B. Riggs	✓			JUL. 6, 1852	AUG. 12, 1903
	SANDY	Mult.	E. R. Scott NOT THE PRESENT SANDY				JUN. 1, 1854	FEB. 26, 1868
	SANTIAM CITY	Marion	Sam Miller	✓			OCT. 16, 1852	JUN. 13, 1861
	SANTYAM	Linn	RUSSELL Hill changed to Washington Butte				MAR. 14, 1851	JUL. 30, 1852
	SANTYAM FORKS	Linn	Jacob Conser				APR. 9, 1850	JUL. 27, 1852
	SAUVIES ISLAND	Mult.	Ben Howell was Mouth of Willamette				MAR. 5, 1852	OCT. 14, 1881
	SCOTTSBURG	Douglas	S. F. Chadwick	✓	✓		OCT. 8, 1851	x
	SEATTLE	WASH. STATE	TRANSFERRED to Wash.Ter.				OCT. 12, 1852	MAR. 2, 1853
	SILVER CREEK	Marion	changed to SILVERTON				NOV. 16, 1854	JUL. 16, 1855
	SILVERTON	Marion	Chas Miller				JUL. 16, 1855	x
	SIUSLAW	Lane	James Heatherly	✓			AUG. 23, 1852	APR. 8, 1898
	SKINNER'S	Lane	Eugene Skinner changed to EUGENE CITY				JAN. 8, 1850	SEP. 31, 1853
	SLATE CREEK	Joseph.	O. J. EVANS				SEP. 30, 1858	AUG. 12, 1878
	SLOUGH	Mult.	John Switzler				NOV. 25, 1850	JAN. 6, 1852
	SOAP CREEK	Benton	DAVID DAVIS changed to TAMPICO				NOV. 4, 1854	DEC. 3, 1854
	SOUTH YAMHILL	Polk	M. B. BURKE changed to LAWN ARBOR				JUL. 6, 1852	APR. 12, 1855
	SPENCER'S BUTTE	Lane	M. S. RIGGS				JUL. 14, 1853	APR. 2, 1855
	SPRING VALLEY	Polk	Sanford Watson				MAR. 5, 1852	SEP. 1, 1855
	STARRS POINT	Benton	Sam Starr RO. MOVED TO MONROE		✓		APR. 22, 1852	FEB. 2, 1874
	STEILACOOM	WASH. STATE	ALSO "Steilacoom City" Transferred to Wash.Ter.				JUL. 6, 1852	MAR. 2, 1853

TERRITORIAL OREGON POST OFFICES

6	NAME	COUNTY NOW IN	First P.M.	Ms.	H.S.	first Established	Discontinued or name change Current (*)
	CHANGED TO		Other Data				
	STEPHENSVILLE	Douglas	W. P. POWERS			DEC. 31, 1857	APR. 2, 1859
	SUBLIMITY	Marion	James Denny	✓		SEP. 29, 1852	x
	SYRACUSE	Linn	Jacob Conser	✓		OCT. 4, 1850	JUL. 27, 1852
	TAMPICO	Benton	WM. S. CROUCH WAS SOAP CREEK			DEC. 3, 1854	NOV. 3, 1860
	THURSTON	Linn	Camaliel Parrish			DEC. 31, 1853	DEC. 3, 1856
	TUALATIN	Wash.	ALVIN SMITH P.O. MOVED TO TUALITY PLAINS			FEB. 1, 1850	MAR. 14, 1851
	TUALITY PLAINS	Wash.	P.O. MOVED TO TUALITIN			MAR. 14, 1851	JAN. 6, 1853
	TUALITIN	Wash	EARLY RECORDS CONFUSING AT PRESENT "TUALATIN"	✓		JAN. 6, 1853	x
	UMATILLA	Umatilla	A. F. ROYER ON OREGON TRAIL NOT PRESENT UMATILLA			SEP. 26, 1851	JAN. 6, 1852
	UMPQUA CITY	Douglas	Amos E Rogess	✓	✓	SEP. 26, 1851	MAR. 19, 1869
	UNION POINT	Linn	Wm. B. Blaine	✓		FEB. 18, 1854	AUG. 18, 1859
	VALFONTIS	Polk	A. J. DOAK			SEP. 29, 1854	AUG. 8, 1865
	VANCOUVER	WASH. STATE	Changed to Columbia City			JAN. 8, 1850	DEC. 12, 1850
	VANNOY	Joseph.	James Vannoy			SEP. 4, 1856	OCT. 11, 1859
	WALDO	JOSEPH.	Lyman Guthrie			SEP. 4, 1856	DEC. 15, 1928
	WALLAMETTE	Yamhill	Robt. Shurt			AUG. 19, 1853	OCT. 5, 1857
	WAPATOO	Wash.	Wm. Molthrop	✓		JUL. 14, 1853	AUG. 4, 1865
	WASCOPUM	Wash.	M. N. CUSHING NOW "The Dalles"	✓		SEP. 3, 1853	MAR. 22, 1860
	WASHINGTON	Yamhill	Ed Dupuis			SEP. 30, 1858	OCT. 13, 1860
	WASHINGTON BUTTE	Linn	John W. Bell Was Santyam Now Lebanon	✓	✓	JUL. 30, 1852	NOV. 2, 1859
	WASHOUGAL	WASH. STATE	Transferred to Wash. Ter.			AUG. 6, 1852	MAR. 2, 1853
	WEST LINN	Clack.	Was Linn City			FEB. 18, 1854	x
	WILLAMETTE	Yamhill	John M. Forest Not the present Willamette			MAR. 14, 1851	JUL. 27, 1852
	WILLAMETTE FORKS	Lane	Wm. Spores P.O. moved to Coburg	✓		JAN. 10, 1851	DEC. 18, 1884
	WILLAMINA	Yamhill	James Brown Out from 1866 to 1878			MAY 29, 1855	x
	WINCHESTER	Douglas	A. R. FLINT Out from 60's to the 90's	✓	✓	NOV. 3, 1851	x
	YAMHILL FALLS	Yamhill	Jacob House			JAN. 8, 1850	JAN. 6, 1852
	YAMHILL	Yamhill	Thos. Bailey NOT THE PRESENT Yamhill			SEP. 4, 1856	SEPT. 25, 1857
	YONCALLA	Douglas	James Riggs	✓		MAR. 14, 1851	x

OREGON TERRITORIAL HANDSTAMPS

ALBANY
MAR
1
OGN

ASHLAND MILLS
11
22
O.T.

ASTORIA
APR
26
Orgn.

ASTORIA
JUN
7
OGN

BUTTEVILLE
May 27/58
OGN.

CATHLAMET
Feb. 1st
O.T.

COLUMBIA CITY
JAN
21
O.T.

CORVALLIS
FEB
1
OREGON

DEER CREEK
AUG
24
OREGON

EUGENE CITY
OCT
24
O.T.

EUGENE CITY
FEB
3
O.T.



FT. LARAMIE
O.R.

FORT LELAND
DEC
16
OREGON

HILLSBOROUGH
WASH.
CO
OREGON

JACKSONVILLE
MAY
29
OGN.

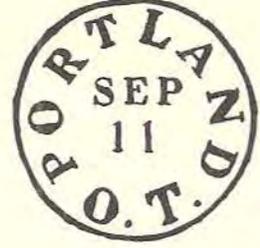
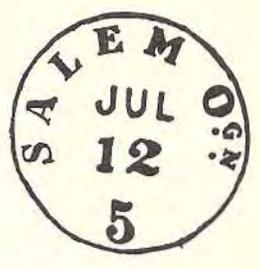
LA FAYETTE
NOV
11
O.T.

MARYSVILLE
MAR
15
OREGON

OLYMPIA
FEB
28
OGN.

OREGON CITY
MAR
5
ORGn.

OREGON TERRITORIAL HANDSTAMPS

Stamps February 2, 1935

GHOST TOWNS

MOKELUMNE HILL

AFTER climbing rapidly from the bridge over the Mokelumne River, just above Big Bar, the traveler is suddenly confronted with the once powerful early day camp of Mokelumne Hill, now partially in ruins. For "The Hill" was situated in one of the richest regions of

Mokelumne Hill the third County Seat of the great mining county of Calaveras; and this it retained until 1868, when Amador County having been cut away from Calaveras, and Mokelumne Hill thereafter being on the northern edge, the County Seat was moved to San Andreas as being more central.



The Old Hotel, Mokelumne Hill

early day California, square upon the Mother Lode, with a profusion of placers of all descriptions, drift mines on the ancient river channels and rich quartz mines, all around it. This made it the headquarters for the region, with its many dependent camps of Campo Seco, Butte City, Comanche, Jenny Lind, Lancha Plana, Chili Gulch, Jesus Maria, San Antonio, Rich Gulch, West Point, and many other historic early day names, many of which are today only a memory.

To the south fourteen miles away is the present county seat of San Andreas; while to the north fifteen miles distant, the early day camps of Jackson and Sutter Creek are still prosperous, and in no way "ghost," due to the continued prosperity of two great Mother Lode Mines, the "Argonaut" and "Kennedy."

In the earliest days "Double Springs" was the first county seat of Calaveras but in the summer of 1850 the County Judge backed up a wagon to the Courthouse and moved himself, his furniture, and the archives to Jackson. Direct but simple action was the rule in those days. The County Recorder objected and got killed. The result was an election in 1852 which made

It was a large and flourishing camp, as its numerous two story stores still remaining bear witness. Business boomed.



Main Street, Mokelumne Hill

EDITORIAL COMMENT:

Mokelumne Hill was one of the earliest and most important mining centers of that part of the great Mother Lode. Large quantities of gold were discovered in 1848 and '49 and it soon became the richest as well as the most notorious mining camp of the entire Foot Hills.

By the early fifties there was an estimated population of 15,000 miners working the immediate vicinity making the "Hill" their headquarters.

The Camp was repeatedly destroyed by fire -- three of the most disastrous occurring in 1854, 1865 and 1874. But the uniquely rich "placers" in the area encouraged its immediate and complete rebuilding on each occasion.

Mokelumne Hill was undoubtedly the toughest hell roaring pioneer camp in the entire Mother Lode country. The record shows that for seventeen successive "Saturday Nights" killings occurred -- sometimes more than one.

California's pioneer expressman, Alexander H. Todd, early recognized "The Hill's" great mining activity. He scheduled his 'Todd & Co's Express' to make regular trips in and out of "The Hill" country-transporting mail, express and specie between there and the base towns of the lower country.

Later Todd's Express merged with Reynolds & Co forming the Reynolds-Todd & Co Express which in turn later joined the Wells Fargo combine.

Freeman & Co's Express also served "The Hill" for a period as evidenced by the beautiful Freeman cover illustrated on the following page (Courtesy of Mel Nathan). Like so many other courageous and pioneering individual expressmen Freeman eventually "merged" with Wells Fargo.

Basil C. Pearce ECV

Edgar B. Jessup CHS

Gambling rooms, saloons, and fandango houses were on every side. In a well appointed theatre traveling companies played to crowded houses. Several express companies served it. The output from the "diggings" in the surrounding hills was tremendous. The gold was coarse; and "nuggets" from one ounce to eight pounds gave proof of the richness of the "diggings."

In October, 1851, the first number of the "Calaveras Chronicle" was printed, which under its original name was published for a longer period than any other newspaper in the State.

Gold mines, no matter how rich and how extensive the region, will unfortunately eventually be worked out. And Mokelumne Hill, with many of its important buildings in ruins, due to fires and decay, although struggling bravely on, is today only a shadow of its former greatness. Its early day prosperity is evidenced by the large number of its postal cancellations.

However, the revival of gold mining that has taken place in the latest years, is bearing fruit. And who knows? Mokelumne Hill may soon awake from her slumber, and join her sister camps of Jackson and Sutter Creek in a revived prosperity.

—ERNEST A. WILTSEE.

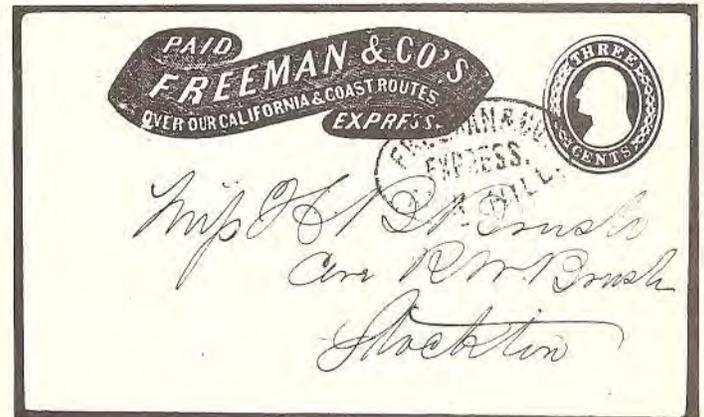


The above illustrations show two of the early types of post marks used at Mokelumne Hill. Both were used during the 6¢ period — the first PAID and the second COLLECT. The small 24mm circular was used for some time but the 42mm straight line must have been for a short period as it is the only example that has come to our attention.

Note: The record shows this office did not open until the 6¢ rate period but history indicates an earlier date tho no one seems to have located a 40¢ cover.



The first cover above shows the original spelling of MOQUELUMNE HILL and is seldom seen. Unfortunately it is in the conventional blue oval difficult to reproduce. The other cover shows the rare Wells Fargo mark of MOKELUMNE STN which early directories show in San Joaquin County at a point on the established transportation lines of the 'lower country' in closest direct contact with Mokelumne Hill.



The first cover above shows the conventional postmark used during the 10¢ period. The final cover shows the customary abbreviation "MOK HILL" and indicates that Freeman served "The Hill" and maintained an office there in the early fifties.

CONTENTS OF THE LETTER

BY THE EDITOR

In his inaugural message President Ed Jessup eloquently stated among other things, "To be a member of this Society one must be greatly intrigued by the thrilling romance always associated with the courageous pioneer of the early West All such findings should be permanently recorded for posterity in the pages of our Western Express. This would make it an outstanding periodical of recorded Western lore." This gave me an idea. While western covers and folded letters are an integral part of philately, and we shall continue to treat them as such, they also contribute greatly from an historical standpoint to Western lore. It is indeed a thrill to read what some of these pioneers wrote home. Many books about the early West have grossly distorted the facts, so it is a revelation to find letters with first hand information concerning the real stories of the experiences and observations of those present.

To start the ball rolling I have selected a folded letter from my collection, written in San Jose, California, on December 15, 1850. San Jose, one of the first eight Post Offices established in California under United States jurisdiction, was the first capital of California, the legislature having met there in 1851 after the State was admitted to the Union on September 9, 1850. Philatelically, the markings on the outside of the folded letter are a red circular San Jose, Cal, Dec 31 post-office handstamp and a manuscript "40" (the prevailing 40 cent per one-half ounce rate to the East), a muchly desired rarity in itself. It is hoped that others will follow suit, submitting letters concerning all parts of the West, to be recorded for posterity as interesting historical reading to both present and future members of our Society.

San Jose, Dec. the 15, 1850

De(ar) Cousin, I embrace the present opportunity of informing you of my whereabouts and what I am doing. I am at the City of San Jose or in English St. Joseph. We all speak spanish here, I am laboring at the carpenters trade yet get \$10 per day, board myself, keep bachelors hall and have fine times, live well and work not hard. It rains about half of the time business rather dull on account of the wet season. I have work about half of the time, the Cholera has raged here to a considerable extent, mostly the natives that have died, some few Americans have died among whom are Dr Townsend and wife who died on the 8th. I helped to build him a very large splendid cottage cost \$20,000 worked there about 3 months he was very wealthy and will be much missed he was the first man that brought a wagon over the mountains to California. I attended the funeral he was buried in Masonic order which was not interesting to me, we have a passably good state of society three Churches and congregations, we have a paper printed here a very respectable one for a new country, the Legislature will soon meet then I will send some papers to our folks and others, we have a great variety of amusements peculiar the Spanish people, such as horse racing, Lassoing wild cattle and horses, this is a splendid sight they ride at full speed and throw the lasso with great accuracy a distance of 30 or 40 feet. their horses are so trained that as soon as

CONTENTS OF THE LETTER (cont'd)

the animal is caught they immediately wheel and brace themselves so as to hold a large bullock, they also lasso the largest grizzly bear and tie them and bring them to town and then catch a wild bull and put them in a strong corral, tie the bear and bull together and let them fight, if the bear is not too much hurt by catching, a sanguinary conflict ensues, it is hard to tell which is the most ferocious animal, many times the bear will kill the bull, then to change the scene they catch another bull and men fight him this is a very exciting scene, the bull will frequently catch the men on his horns and toss him from five to ten feet high, I saw one bull fight where there was two men killed, I think it was the most barbarous sight I ever beheld, but this is only sport for the natives, when one of them gets caught by the bull they all shout and laugh at the misfortune of their comrade. they are truly a cruel people, I have witnessed several of these exhibitions of cruelty it is fully what it is represented to be in history, when I read of them little did I think I would ever witness them, but time works mericles, they have the finest cattle here I ever saw and the best beef fat all the year, this is the greatest country for raising stock in my opinion in the world, they need no care whatever summer or winter, when the grass dries up there is an abundance of clover seed and wild oats so that they fatten faster than when the grass is green, as fine clover as ever grew of three distinct kinds one like ours.

I have given you a short history of the manners of the people here, now with regard to the fruit we have the most luscious grapes and pears I ever ate but apples and peaches are very inferior, figs and olives grow fine, this comprises the variety of fruit, we have the best and largest vegetables I ever saw potatoes that weigh 3 to 6 lbs each, and beets accordingly large and cabbage that weighs 40 lbs. melon in abundance but when you hear the price vegetables bring you will say they ought to be fine, potatoes 12-1/2 cents per lb and other things in proportion flour \$13 per 100 lbs. pork \$50 per barrel fresh beef 12-1/2 cents per lb. butter fresh \$1.50 per lb eggs 25 cents each. dry goods are more reasonable, boots are in fair demand, the miners have not generally done as well this year as formally although some have made fortunes while thousands have made nothing, I think that farming is the best business to embark in to make money here, at half the present prices a man can make \$5000 a year with good luck, some few have made fortunes this year by raising vegetable. I think some of the farming next year myself. I know with ordinary yields and half the present prices a man can do a fair business, it is rather hard for me to find matter to write that will be worth reading I had forgotten I promised to write to you. Sarah says you told her I promised to, so I will endeavor to redeem my pleg (I suppose you are married or soon will be or at least might be) I am anxious to see you all. I think I could enjoy home, well I must close give my respects to all enquiring friends please answer this and give the news from Leroy.

P V & c,

P. N. McCollum

To David T. Wilsey
Ann Arbor
Michigan

EXPRESSES THAT CARRIED THE MAIL WITHIN OR FROM NEVADA

By Robert A. Hanson, Dr. A. J. Hertz, Edgar B. Jessup,
M. C. Nathan and E. W. Thrall

This is the start of an endeavor to list expresses by States. Nevada was chosen on account of the relatively small number of express companies that operated there. The list is the result of information contributed by the above members from their records. Known covers are indicated by initials representing a key as to the type of frank used. In as much as Wells, Fargo & Company carried most of the express mail to and from Nevada, a separate listing of their stations with its own key is also presented. As time and material becomes available, additional lists of other States will be published. Additions and corrections are invited and should be sent to the Editor.

KEY TO TYPE OF FRANK

PF - Printed frank
HS - Handstamp
MS - Manuscript
AS - Adhesive stamp

- Adelphia Express, 18 , Dayton to Carson City
Captain Agers Truckee & Humboldt Express Mail and Passenger Line, 1863,
Truckee, Calif. to Unionville, Nevada
Alta Express, 18 , Reese River, Virginia City and Carson City
H. W. Baker's Fast Freight & Passenger Line, 1867, Virginia City to
Placerville and Sacramento, Calif.
Bart's Carriers, 1866, Austin to ? HS
Bennett & Crandall's Letter Express, 1867, Virginia City to Calif.
as far as possible by stage and pack animals, then over
the mountains on snow shoes.
Berthouds Mule Team Express, 18 , Treasure City to ? HS
Fred Bishop and Mr. Dritt, 1853-56, Carson Valley to Placerville,
Calif. - alternated trips on snowshoes.
Carson Valley Express, 1857, Genoa to Placerville, Calif.
(Col. J. B. Crandall)
George Chorpenning and Absalom Woodward, 1851-58, Salt Lake City,
Utah to Placerville, Calif., via Carson Valley. (First mail
16 days Placerville to Carson City)
Devil's Gate Express, 1863, Devil's Gate District to Virginia
City and Carson City HS
D. W. Earl's Express, 1862 or 1863, Virginia City to Sacramento, Cal. HS & PF
Elko & Mountain City Pony Express, 1865-70, M. P. Freeman & Co., Prop PF
J. T. Enright's Weekly Express, 18 , Elko to Cope District
Fast Freight & Express Line, 1864, Virginia City to Sacramento, Cal.
Curry Foster's Express, 1859, Washoe Mines to Nevada City, Calif.
via Henness Pass
N. P. Fritt's Flint Express, 1867, Silver City to Flint District
Gray's Express, Virginia City to San Francisco, Calif, 1863 PF
(Blue frank going west; black frank going east)
Hammond & Wilson's Express, 1874, Reno to Susanville, Calif. PF
J. A. Hardgraves & Son, 1864, Reno & Virginia City to Greenville, Cal.

EXPRESSES THAT CARRIED THE MAIL WITHIN OR FROM NEVADA (cont'd.)

Huelot's Granite Creek Express, 1864, Granite Creek District to
Virginia City PF

Huff, Bryant & Co., 1861, Carson City to Esmeralda

Humboldt & Owyhee Accommodation and Express Line, 1863,
Humboldt District to Owyhee, Idaho

Humboldt & Red Bluff Express, 1863, Humboldt to Red Bluff, Calif.

Humboldt Express Co., 1864, Humboldt to Owyhee, Idaho (Pony
Express, Idaho City, Idaho to Starr City) PF

Jones & Edgar's Canyon City Express, early 60's, PF
(Operated from the Dalles, Ore. to Owyhee River in Nevada)

Langton's Pioneer Express, 1860-64, Virginia City to Downieville, Cal. PF & HS

Langton's Humboldt Express, 1860-64, Humboldt District to
Virginia City & Carson City PF, HS & AS

Langton's Pony Express, 1860, Virginia City to Starr City PF

E. Lobenstein's Semi-Weekly Express, 1864, Starr City to Humboldt City

Geo. McCarter, 1859, Placerville, Cal. to Walker River via Carson City

J. E. McFarlane's Express, 1860, Washoe to Sonora and Mono Lake, Calif.

Thomas J. Mattison & J. D. Garland. 18 , Carson Valley to Calaveras
County, Calif.

Miller & Ripley's Express, 1867, Virginia City to Austin

Morgan & Shares Stage & Express Line, 1864, Ione up Reese River
Valley to Austin

Morgans Austin & Ione Stage & Express Line, 1864, Austin to Ione

Murphys & Carson Valley Express, 1858, Carson Valley to Murphy's, Cal.

Pacific Express Co. (Second one), 1864, San Francisco, Sacramento,
Auburn & Nevada Territory PF

Pacific Stage & Express Co., 1860, Virginia City to Sacramento, Calif. PF

Pacific Union Express Company, 1868-69, Nevada & California
and east to New York PF & HS

J. F. Parker's Mono Express, 1860, Carson City to Mono via Genoa

Patton & Bunker's Humboldt Express, 1861, Humboldt Dist. to Carson PF

Pioneer Stage Company, 18 , Virginia City to Placerville, Calif. ... PF

W. L. Pritchard's Palisade & Pioche Express, 1875 PF

Raum's Ruby Hill, Schellburn & Rubyville Express, 1871-72 PF

Raum and Lovell's Ruby Hill, Schellburn and Rubyville Express, 18 PF

Red Bluff & Humboldt Express (R. B. Fargo), 1862, To the Humboldt
mines via Honey Lake Valley

Reese River & Humboldt Weekly Express Line, 1864, Jacobsville
to Unionville.

A. J. Rhodes, 1860-62, Placerville, Calif. to Carson via Genoa

Sale & Barber's Humboldt Express, 1863-64, Humboldt to Virginia City PF

Sale's Stage & Express Line, 1860-61 for Virginia City

Sanders & Dixson's Express, 1860, Virginia City to Genoa MS
(Snowshoe Thompson took to Placerville, Calif.)

Saunders & Co.'s Placerville and Carson Valley Express, 1858,
Placerville to Carson Valley (Genoa)

Swasey & Thompsons Stage & Express Line, 1867, Dayton to Pine Grove

Thomes & Skadan's Express, 1870-73, Reno & Susanville, Calif. ... PF

Thompson's Carson Valley Express, 1857, Genoa to Mokelumne Hill, Calif.

J. A. Thompson & Judge Child, 1859-61, Placerville, Calif., to Genoa
via Strawberry Valley and Carson Valley. Winter on sleighs.

J. A. Thomson's Snowshoe Express, 1856-61, Carson Valley to
Placerville, Calif.

EXPRESSES THAT CARRIED THE MAIL WITHIN OR FROM NEVADA (cont'd.)

Grant Tilford, 1859-60, Carson City to Susanville, Calif.
 Theo. F. Tracy & Company's Express, 1857, Carson Valley to Placerville,
 Calif.
 Tracy & Freeman's Express, 1857, Carson Valley to Placerville, Calif.
 Turner's Pony Express, 1863, Jacobsville to Reese River Mines PF
 Wellington, Dorsey & Co., 1866, Aurora to Kearsage HS
 Wells, Fargo & Co., 1860-1895, Nevada & California PF & HS
 Wells, Fargo & Co., Pony Express, 1862-64, Virginia City to
 Sacramento and San Francisco, Calif. PF, HS & AS
 Granville Woods, 1866-67, Virginia City to Susanville, Calif.
 Wrightts Virginia City & Honey Lake Express, 1863.
 Wylie & Co., 18 , Esmeralda & Monoville
 Yarnold's Express, 1857, Carson Valley to Placerville, Calif.
 (Bought out Tracy's Express)

WELLS, FARGO & CO. STATIONS IN NEVADAPRINTED FRANKS
KEY TO ADDITIONAL MARKINGS

M - Manuscript - no handstamp
 P - Postal marking only
 S - Handstamp - Statehood period
 T - NT or UT - Territorial period
 SL - Straight line handstamp

<u>TOWN</u>	<u>KEY</u>	<u>TOWN</u>	<u>KEY</u>
AURORA	S	LOVELOCKS	
AUSTIN	S & T	MASON VALLEY	S
BATTLE MOUNTAIN STA.	S	MILL CITY	
BELLEVILLE	S	MINERAL HILL	S
BELMONT	S & SL	MOREY	
BEOVAWE	S	MOUNTAIN CITY	S
BERNICE	M	OPHIR	S, T & M
BRISTOL	S	PALISADE	S
BROWNS		PARADISE	
CAMBRIDGE		PIOCHE	S
CANDELARIA	S	RENO	S
CARLIN	S	RUBY HILL	S
CARSON CITY	S	RUBY VALLEY	S
CARSON VALLEY	S	RYE PATCH	
CHERRY CREEK		SHERMANTOWN	S
CLIFTON	T	SILVER CITY	S & T
COLUMBUS	S	SILVER SPRINGS	S
CORNUCOPIA	S	SILVER PEAK	S
CREANANE	S	SODA SPRINGS	S
CRYSTAL PEAK	S	SPRING CITY	
DAYTON	S & T	SPRUCEMONT	S & M
DEETH		STARR CITY	S & T
DUN GLEN	S	SUTRO	
ELKO	S	TECOMA	S
EMPIRE CITY	M	TOANO	
EUREKA	S	TREASURE CITY	S
FRANKTOWN	P	TREASURE HILLS	M
GALENA	S	TUSCARORA	S
GENOA	S	TYBO	S
GOLCONDA		UNIONVILLE	S & T
GOLD HILL	S & T	VANDEWATER	
GRANTSVILLE		VERDI	
HALLECK	P	VIRGINIA	S & T
HAMILTON	S	WADSWORTH	S & P
HAWTHORNE	S	WARD	S
HUMBOLDT		WASHOE CITY	S
JACOBSVILLE	T	WELLS	
LEWIS	S	WINNEMUCCA	S

Blank spaces indicate no covers known.

For list of Post Offices - see "A Century of Nevada Post Offices"
 By Frickstad & Thrall

TERRITORY AND STATEHOOD DATES

On account of the many requests we have received for information on dates of organization of Territories and subsequent Statehood, we have compiled a schedule that can be used as a handy reference. Post offices were established in many places before official organization. Therefore we find covers that can be designated as pre-territorial, territorial, pre-statehood, as in the case of California and Texas which were never organized as territories, and statehood.

	<u>ORGANIZED AS TERRITORY</u>	<u>STATEHOOD</u>
ALASKA	Aug. 24, 1912 (1)	Jan. 3, 1959
ARIZONA	Feb. 24, 1863	Feb. 14, 1912
ARKANSAS	July 4, 1819	Jun. 15, 1836
CALIFORNIA	(2)	Sept. 9, 1850
COLORADO	Feb. 28, 1861	Aug. 1, 1876
HAWAII	Jun. 14, 1900	Mar. 18, 1959
IDAHO	Mar. 3, 1863	Jul. 3, 1890
IOWA	Jun. 12, 1838	Dec. 28, 1846
KANSAS	May 30, 1854	Jan. 29, 1861
MINNESOTA	1849	May 11, 1858
MONTANA	May 26, 1864	Nov. 8, 1889
MISSOURI	1805	Aug. 10, 1821
NEBRASKA	May 30, 1854	Feb. 9, 1867
NEVADA	July 11, 1861	Oct. 31, 1864
NEW MEXICO	Dec. 13, 1850	Jan. 6, 1912
NORTH DAKOTA	Mar. 2, 1861 (3)	Nov. 2, 1889
OKLAHOMA	(4)	Nov. 16, 1907
OREGON	Aug. 14, 1848	Feb. 14, 1859
SOUTH DAKOTA	Mar. 2, 1861 (3)	Nov. 2, 1889
TEXAS	(5)	Dec. 29, 1845
UTAH	Sep. 9, 1850	Jan. 4, 1896
WASHINGTON	Mar. 2, 1853	Nov. 11, 1889
WYOMING	Jul. 25, 1868	Jul. 10, 1890

- (1) Alaska was transferred from Russia to the United States on October 18, 1867. Alaska was called a District until the Territory was organized Aug. 24, 1912.
- (2) The California Bear Flag was raised at Sonoma on June 14, 1846 and the United States Flag was raised at Monterey on July 7, 1846. California was never an organized territory.
- (3) Dakota Territory was divided into two States, North Dakota and South Dakota. Both became States at the same time.
- (4) Oklahoma as a whole was not organized as Indian Territory, only a portion, the Cherokee Nation, was organized as a Territory on May 2, 1890.
- (5) Texas was never a territory. It was recognized by the United States as a Republic until the citizens petitioned to become part of the United States as a State.

THE POSTAL HISTORY OF NEW MEXICO TERRITORY

By Sheldon H. Dike

ADDENDA AND CORRIGENDA

The following new towns have appeared since the last issue of my article:

ALBEMARLE	LA PLATA
AMISTAD	LEWISTON
ANDREWS	MACY
ARREY	NUTT
BRAZOS	OROGRANDE
CARTER	OSCURO
CENTERVILLE	PLATEAU
COLD SPRINGS	PORVESSIR
CUATES	PUERTOCITO
DAYTON	RICHARDSON
DELPHOS	RICHMOND
DES MOINES	ROMERO
DORA	SAINT VRAIN
FAULKNER	SAN JOSE (SAN MIGUEL CO.)
FLORA VISTA	SHIPROCK
GOULD	TAIBAN
HAYDEN	TIERRA BLANCA
HAYNES	UPTON
IONE	ZUNI
JEWETT	

The addition of these thirty-nine new towns brings the total of post offices from which markings are known up to four hundred seventy-seven. Of the earliest examples recorded of each of the above new towns, twenty-four are in the S. H. Dike collection, six are in the N. L. Persson collection, two are in the G. L. Wall collection and one each in the collections of H. H. Longfellow and J. R. Pemberton.

In addition, there have been fifty-three new types of strikes reported and many changes in earliest and latest dates known of others. It appears that a new edition of the postmark data will be needed before long.

EDITOR'S NOTE: The interest in Dr. Dike's series of articles has been of two-fold benefit. Many of our members have written to Dr. Dike, submitting new information and making some corrections. He has welcomed all of this most graciously because he realizes as most of us do that there is no end to research in our field. Then too, the publishing of this kind of material has attracted others with the result that we have gained quite a few new members on account of it.

AUCTION ACTION
by
James E. Berry

As most of you members who attend or bid at auctions already know, there wasn't too much doing in the way of western covers during the first quarter of 1959. As a matter of record, the thirty-odd lots in HERMAN HERST'S sale was about the biggest of the year so far. HARRY GRAY had a fairly nice showing during this time, but as most of you know one has to drop by his shop or attend his sale in order to get a really good rundown on what he has. He keeps me posted on the prices certain Nevada items bring, but that is about it. Two very nice sales are taking place as this is being written and will be covered in the next issue of Western Express. They are the March sales of friends SAM PAIGE in Boston and JOHN FOX in New York. If any of you have any special sales you want covered in this publication please let your dealer, or me, know and we'll try to get together for the mutual benefit of all.

The following covers are from the February sale of HERMAN HERST, JR.:

LEAVENWORTH CITY, K. T. with st line MISSENT struck twice
with add'l LAWRENCE, K. T. on VF #26. \$19.50.

SANTA FE, N. MEX. on VF #114 to Wash. with carrier pmk
on reverse. \$21.00.

SALT LAKE CITY, U. T. (1851) in st. line pmk with italics
on VF stmplss. Enclosed letter headed "Great Salt
Lake City, Deseret". \$185.00.

SALT LAKE CITY, UTAH T. in blue on VF #11. \$37.50.

DOLOMI, ALASKA 1902, on F #279b with RR cor card and KETCHIKAN
on reverse. Env. slightly ragged at one end. \$17.00.

TREASURER'S ANNUAL REPORT

Cash in bank, January 1, 1958		\$ 754.40
Receipts during 1958:		
1958 dues collected	\$1139.00	
1959 dues collected in December, 1958	772.00	
Miscellaneous contributions	50.65	
Sale of extra copies and back issues of W.E.	42.15	
Advertisements	47.30	<u>2051.10</u>
		\$2805.50
Disbursements during 1958:		
Publishing Western Express	\$1400.65	
Advance for January, 1959 issue (New Mexico sup.)	132.50	
Incorporation expense	66.44	
Administration expense	9.27	<u>1608.86</u>
Balance on hand, December 31, 1958		<u>\$1196.64</u>

Respectfully submitted,
Henry Chaloner, Treasurer

Approved: M. C. Nathan, Jr. Chairman, Auditing Committee

Following is the list of Patron, Sustaining and Donating members reported by the Treasurer as of March 3, 1959:

PATRON MEMBERS

Carl Berkson	Mel C. Nathan
Henry H. Clifford	Mel C. Nathan, Jr.
Edgar B. Jessup	J. R. Pemberton

SUSTAINING MEMBERS

J. David Baker	Francis S. Murphy
Robert Beale	Robert Myerson
Harry L. Fine	Dr. W. Scott Polland
Robert A. Hanson	Marden F. Ross
Bernard D. Harmer	Tracy Simpson
Stanley L. Herbruck	Gerald B. Smith
Herman Herst, Jr.	John Tyler
Barrett S. Hindes	Irwin R. Vogel
Philip Manly	

DONATIONS (in addition to dues)

Myrl Ball	Percy Murray
Herbert T. Darlington	Elliot R. Pearson
Dwight D. Deter	George N. Ponnay
H. A. Dobson	Oscar Salzer
Harry Gray	Fred Starr
Luther Little	Elmer T. Tvedt

MEMBERSHIP CHANGES

NEW MEMBERS

WESTERN COVER SOCIETY welcomes the following new members to the fold. It is hoped they will enjoy the association and assist in the search for further knowledge on western covers.

- #333 Hugh J. Baker, Jr. 3907 Washington Blvd., Indianapolis, Indiana
- #334 L. E. Gay, Box 968, Lordsburg, New Mexico
- #335 Anton Rudert, 26-15 212th St., Bayside 60, New York
- #336 Henry E. Abt, 108 East 38th St., Apt. 1404, New York 16, N.Y.
- #337 Dr. Walter J. Jacobus, 15 West Palisade Ave., Inglewood, New Jersey
- #338 Jesse L. Austin, Box 1027, Lordsburg, New Mexico
- #339 Charles J. Molnar, 1246 Summit Drive, Cleveland 24, Ohio
- #340 Rev. Roger Robison, 2214 Meadowood, Billings, Montana
- #341 Ernest Vogt, 71 Lakeview Ave., Piedmont 11, Calif.
- #342 David T. Vernon, 2444 Hartrey Ave., Evanston, Illinois
- #343 L. Vernon Aaserude, P. O. Box 875, Quincy, Calif.
- #344 Sol Salkind, 3306 Rochambeau, Bronx, 67, New York

RESIGNATIONS

- #229 M/Sgt. Jas. J. Cavagnol

DROPPED FOR NON-PAYMENT OF DUES

- # 83 Sgt. William A. Frye, Jr.

NECROLOGY

With sincere sympathy to their dear ones we regretfully report the following:

- # 87 Thomas D. Perry
- #268 Fred H. Hayward, Jr.

CHANGE OF ADDRESS

- # 17 Parker Johnson, 2752 Marconi Ave., Sacramento, Calif.
- # 29 Mel C. Nathan, 15 Manderly Road, San Rafael, Calif.
- #198 Emil F. Ernst, 3543 N. Mariposa St., Fresno 3, Calif.
- #251 Mel C. Nathan, Jr., 9 Sutter St., San Francisco, Calif.
- #256 Robert A. Hanson, 527 Coventry Road, Berkeley 7, Calif.

CORRECTION

- #323 Richard W. Crowson, 930 Arlington Way, Martinez, Calif.

* * * * *
 * * * * *
 * GENERAL STORE *
 * * * * *
 * * * * *

Rates per issue are as follows:
 Full page \$20.00; half page \$10.00;
 quarter page \$5.00; one-eighth page
 \$2.50. Yearly contract, 20% discount.
 Mail direct to the Treasurer, Henry
 Chaloner, 2612 Ashby Ave., Berkeley
 5, California

WESTERN COVERS WANTED:

Expresses, Ships, Territorial Packets,
 Postmarks, Covers of all types during
 1845-70 period. Letter Sheets and
 other Collateral material also desired.
 We can supply Western Material for
 the Collector who is first beginning to
 accumulate Western Covers, and we
 can add rare and choice items to en-
 hance the albums of a well known
 collection, anything from a Ghost
 Town Cover to a rare Pony Express
 Cover. Write and let us know your
 wants or ask for our auction catalog
 which often contains fine Western
 items.

JOHN A. FOX
 110 West 42nd Street
 New York 36, N. Y.

APPROVAL SERVICE

Will try to handle a few collector's re-
 quests for Western Covers on approval.
 Have in stock a limited number of nice
 Wells Fargo and other Express items.
 Also, a fair showing of Calif. town
 postmarks, including a few 'town & Co.'
 combinations, etc. Depending on in-
 coming supply, can occasionally offer
 a few towns of Ariz., N. Mex., Nev-
 ada, Oreg. and Wash. Both territorial
 and statehood on some of these.

WE WANT TO BUY

any, and all, of this material you may
 have to offer. Entire collections, or
 single items. Will also EXCHANGE!
 Correspondence invited, but, for many
 reasons, we are chronic slow to reply,
 so patience is a necessity.

Marden F. Ross

Box 98

Oakdale, Calif.

"EVERYBODY GET AT LEAST ONE NEW MEMBER"

That is the slogan of the Membership Committee for 1959. As you
 all know our principal revenue comes from dues. You also know
 that our principal outlay is for WESTERN EXPRESS. The more we
 receive the better job we can do. We are always planning ahead.
 Perhaps some day we will blossom forth with a beautiful PRINTED
 journal. It is strictly up to you. We already have a good start.
 Keep up the good work. Also please send in good material -- we
 can always use it.