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of the

Empire State



Postal Stories of the Empire State

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Our journal, P.S., is designed as an inexpensive research tool for students of transportation and communication history. It contains scholarly articles that include information about postal rates, special services, the utility of research documents, etc.

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Postal Route Gazetteer Volume I: New York State

comprising a postal route map (28 by 38 inches), contract specifications, & post office receipts

This is the first of a new Series of reproductions of the 13 Burr survey maps of the US postal system, published in 1839. The post routes are marked with distances between post offices. This map is folded twice in each dimension and pocketed in the back of a cerlox-bound 86 page compilation of contemporary post office and route contract information, along with an introduction to this material and its usefulness written by Robert Dalton Harris.

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Government Documents

The following 'gov docs' all come from the US Congressional Series or 'Serial Set' which compiles all those documents ordered printed by Congress. Some 6% of the 750 shelf feet occupied by these documents - 45 shelf feet - touch on postal matters. Many of those of singular interest to the Empire State postal historian are offered below, cited by Congress and Session - e.g. (36-1) - and date. All are offered as removed from the bound volumes of library discards of the Serial Set.

In addition to the following documents, we have others for sale on various topics - please write for a catalog or direct quote. We have also published an annotated listing of documents in the Serial Set, 1790 to 1836 (P.S. #31 pp 89-96 and P.S. #33 pp 17-22); an explanation and listing of the contract documents 1789-1890 (P.S.#39 pp 65 to 69); and a postal government documents chronicle, (1790-1833 P.S.#45 pp 22-32; 1833-1841 P.S. #47 pp 90-96; 1841-1849 P.S.#43 pp 65-66; 1849-1859 P.S.#50 pp 50-64.)

1. **INSOLVENT HERKIMER POSTMASTER UNRELIEVED:** Hrep626(24-1) 6 May 1836 3pp + Hrep714(25-2) 22 Mar 1838 2pp "John Mahon and Asa Munger"
Postmaster David Holt was bonded by Mahon & Munger 12 Feb 1812; held office until 27 Dec 1820 when he was \$436.03 in debt to the POD. Attempts to recover the sum in Jan 1823 prove Holt insolvent and his sureties liable. M & M petition that the POD too long delayed prosecution and that later sureties mitigate their liability. Committee denies it. Two years later, they petition again to be relieved of the liability - the sum now \$759.93. They claim that Abijah Tombling and George Petrie had become Holt's sureties 25 Dec 1818, and that Holt's financial difficulties did not begin till the spring of 1823. They are denied relief - their bond not having been legally discharged. \$10.
2. **STOCKTON, CHAUTAUQUA CO. SURETY RELIEVED:** Hrep544(25-2) 7 Feb 1838 1p "Abel A. Pasko ..."
Postmaster Orson Crane failed to account for receipts 1 Jan 1835 to 1 Oct. The POD estimated postages at \$62.21, doubled that and added damages and costs to total \$193, which they sought from sureties Abel A. Pasko & others, but Crane and the others are insolvent, so Pasko petitions remission of the penalty. Committee agrees. \$10.

25th CONGRESS,
2d Session.

[SENATE.]

[176]

MEMORIAL

OF

A NUMBER OF MERCHANTS OF NEW YORK,

PRAYING

That the express mail may not be discontinued.

FEBRUARY 9, 1838.

Laid on the table, and ordered to be printed.

3. **NEW YORK CITY EXPRESS MAIL:** Sdoc176(25-2) 9 Feb 1838 2pp "A number of merchants of New York, praying that the express mail may not be discontinued."
83 merchants listed. \$25.
4. **ERIE CO. DISPUTES DISTANCE TO NYC:** Hdoc100(28-2) 5 Feb 1845 4pp. "Post Routes - New York to Buffalo..."
As several routes may sometimes serve between two points in a postal network, it becomes a question how postage, figured according to distance, is to be calculated. Mail is despatched and postage rated over the route of the most frequent mail. Lot Clark from Lockport argues that the distance between New York City and Buffalo be counted as 349 miles as per the tri-weekly route by Geneva, Bath and Owego, rather than the 453 miles daily by Albany: 18 3/4 cents rather than 25. The POD is not prepared to equip offices with a table of distances to all other places. Subsequent postal reforms mooted such considerations. \$15.

5. **NORTHERN NY MAIL ROBBER INNOCENT:** Hrep323(29-1) 21 Feb 1846 1p. "Thomas Thody."
Thody was found guilty of mail robbery and imprisoned for 2 years and 10 months from 27 May 1835 before he was found innocent. He requests remuneration, denied. "The case thus presented is one of great hardship; but it is a hardship of a nature that governments do not relieve against." \$10.

6. **BUFFALO POST OFFICE BUILDING:** Hexdoc52(34-1) 10 Mar 1856 4pp. "Buffalo Custom-House, Post Office, etc."
The officers of the courts, customs, and post at Buffalo declare that the current plans for a new public building are, for each, insufficient space. The postal need for space, apace with the growth of Buffalo, is for mail boxes and drawers, as well as for a French and German delivery window. \$10.

7. **OLD DUTCH CHURCH PURCHASE PROPOSED FOR NYC POST OFFICE:** Sexdoc(34-1) 13 Aug 1856 9pp.
"Report of the Secretary of the Interior ... respecting the site to be selected for a post office and court house in the city of New York."
Observation that more money needs to be spent on a post office building in NY than in any other city. The site between Chambers and Reade streets, proposed by W.E. Burton, is "the only place, in the very heart of the city, without interfering with the rights of foot passengers or crowding narrow thoroughfares with mail vans and carts." - the 2 streets are under contract to be carried from river to river. Greeley and M'Elrath favor the brick church property ("situated in the 2nd ward, surrounded by Beekman, Park Row, Spruce, and Nassau streets"): "There is not the least doubt that full 8/10 of the entire business community of the city give this location a preference over every other" Martin Thompson "an architect of the highest reputation in NYC" who had been requested to survey the two highly favored properties mentioned at the end of his letter that "in connection with one of the leading members of our church" could offer for sale the Old Dutch Church which had been leased to the post office in 1845. It would be purchased in 1860, to serve until the completion in 1877 of the new building at City Hall Park [see below]. [See Diane DeBlois "NYC PO & the Old Dutch Church", P.S.#49 pp 1-23] \$35.

8. **OGDENSBURG POST OFFICE BUILDING:** Hexdoc46(34-3) 22 Jan 1857 1p. "Public Building at Ogdensburg."
A customs house post office is stalled on the provision that customs revenue must exceed expenses. \$10.

9. **ROCHESTER POST OFFICE BUILDING:** Hrep257(35-1) 15 Apr 1858 2pp. "Custom-House &c at Rochester NY"
The Secretary of the Treasury opposes erecting public buildings at either Trenton NJ or Rochester NY as they are insufficient ports of entry - but also because he has a general "opposition to the recent policy of erecting public buildings." \$10.

10. **STAGE CONTRACTOR FAILS:** Srepcom191(33-1) 3 Apr 1854 1p + Smisdoc7(35-2) 7 Dec 1858 18pp
Thomas C. Nye from 1837 carried mails between Utica, Ithaca, Binghampton, De Reuter, Cherry Valley and also between Albany and Salina, at a time when the law required that any new contractors take the stock and equipment of the former contractor at valuation. This was repealed by the act of 3 Mar 1845, Nye was underbid that year and lost his contracts, and had his horses and coaches "thrown upon his hands unemployed." The Committee recommend his relief, that the terms of his original contract be honored. Four years later, his relief was denied under the argument that this 'stock option' of the original contract was yearly renewed only at the discretion of the PMG. The new law forbade the PMG from "the incidental object of facilitating travel in connection with the carriage of the mails, and he was not to take into consideration the interests or the effects upon the department, of competing lines of stage coaches on the mail routes." [See Postal Route Gazetteer Part I: New York State 1839 for contracts numbered 542, 624, 627 and 631 which detail Nye's interest in these routes at their 1837 lettings] \$20.

11. **NYC POSTMASTER R.H. MORRIS' POSTHUMOUS REWARD:** Hrep265(35-1) 17 Apr 1858 2pp + Hrep22(36-1) 2 Mar 1860 1p "Robert H. Morris - Legal Representative of."
Morris took office on 21 May 1845 and was succeeded 19 May 1849 with the change of administration. He died in October 1855. He is known to philatelists for having introduced the New York Postmaster Provisional, but this Bill accounts for his having been victimized by the move to the Old Dutch Church, and the insufficiency of revenues according to the new postages of 1 July 1845 to pay the necessary expenses of the office. A bill for some \$9000 in relief mentions specifically \$2331.51 paid by him for clerk hire, and "for the city despatch office during the year ending 30 June 1846". \$20.

12. **BOGUS POST OFFICES IN NYC:** Hrep81(36-1) 13 Mar 1860 3pp "Unlawful collection and delivery of letters."
Horatio King describes the appearance and services of four outside or "bogus" post offices in New York City: the "Broadway Post Office", near Canal Street, the "Metropolitan Post Office" in Union square next to Station D, the "Chatham Square Letter Office," and one on Madison Square. \$35.

13. **NYC LETTER CARRIERS 1859:** Hexdoc51(36-1) 30 Mar 1860 4PP "Persons employed in delivering letters-post office, New York"
All the NYC letter carriers are named with compensations for the year ending 30 June 1859. About 110 are employed to deliver letters and under the present scheme, 17 are detailed to collect them; whereas before a D.W. Norris superintended "transporting letters to and from the sub offices or stations." \$25.

14. **NYC POSTMASTER FLEES OFFICE IN DEFAULT:** Sexdoc48(36-1) 24 May 1860 2pp "Report of the PMG ... information in relation to the defalcation of the postmaster at New York." + Hexdoc91(36-1) 6 June 1860 82pp.
The Department acted promptly but unsuccessfully to protect its interests. Isaac V. Fowler was removed from office 10 May 1860 by the president and was still a fugitive having left the US, owing more than \$129,000 to the POD. The First Assistant PMG was sent to NYC for ten days to correct "the many irregularities and abuses". His accounts are detailed for the period of his service 1853 to 1859. \$45.

15. **EXTRA TRIPS ON PITCHER, CHENANGO CO., TO CORTLAND ROUTE:** Hrep628(36-1) 14 June 1860 2pp
"Eben Adams"
Adams' contract route 1391 of 1 July 1857 provides for Cortland to Pitcher 6 times a week, but the return journey only 3 times a week. Urged by Pitcher inhabitants he carries Pitcher to Cortland 6 times a week in time for the great northern mail on the Syracuse & Binghamton RR. The route had been extended from Cortland to Norwich which required a two horse coach, and extra expenditure for Adams on all trips. The Committee is favorable to payment for extra trips but not for Adams' bad judgment in underestimating the need for the added horse. \$20.

16. **NY LEGISLATURE PUSHES POSTAL REFORM:** Hdoc210(27-1) 9 May 1842 2pp "Resolutions of the Legislature of the State of NY on the subject of Postage" and S291(27-2) 10 May 1842 1p "... on the subject of abolishing the franking privilege, and of reducing and regulating the rates of letter postage." [House and Senate versions of the same resolution] + Hdoc143(28-2) 18 Feb 1845 1p "Reduction of the Rates of Postage." + S125(29-1) 10 Feb 1846 1p "... against the increase of the present rates of Postage." and Hdoc116(29-1) 12 Feb 1846 1p "Letter Postage" [House and Senate versions] + Smis98(31-1) 12 Apr 1850 2pp "...in relation to the reduction of postage" + Smis11(31-2) 27 Jan 1851 1p "...in favor of a reduction of the rates of postage." + Smisd41(35-2) 5 Feb 1859 1p "...against an increase of the rates of postage" and Hmisd49(35-2) 5 Feb 1859 1p "Rates of Postage" [House and Senate versions] + Smisd24(37-2) 27 Jan 1862 1p "...in favor of the abolition of the franking privilege." + Smisd50(37-2) 11 Feb 1862 12pp "Petition of Citizens of NY praying a postal reform". Supplemented by State of NY Assembly doc. 14, 5 Jan 1844 2pp "Resolutions of the Legislature of Connecticut in relation to the Franking privilege."
Twelve documents showing the persistent attention of the NY state legislature to postal reform. as well the intercommunication of state legislatures in support of such policies. Over and over, the state legislature resolved that the franking privilege ought to be abolished, and that letter postage be reduced (pre 1845) or not raised (post), thereby "increasing the revenues ... and restoring the community, rich and poor, to an equal participation." NY state was in favor in 1862 of a 2 cent rate, uniform as to distance, also of free city delivery, POD reimbursement from the treasury for franked mail, dead letter return, and against compulsory pre-payment. \$100.

17. **NY COMPETITION FOR THE STAMPED ENVELOPE CONTRACTS:** Hexdoc35(41-3) 21 Dec 1870 4pp
"Stamped Envelopes" + Hmisd29(41-3) 9 Jan 1871 44pp "The contract with Dempsey & O'Toole for stamped envelopes" + Hmisd104(41-3) 28 Feb 1871 175pp "Investigation of contract for stamped envelopes with Dempsey & O'Toole"
Three documents that exhaustively trace the contract disputes over producing stamped envelopes. The first document lists the contract price of all POD envelopes and the prices at which they are sold to the public. The printers Dempsey & O'Toole had failed to fulfill their contract. The second document seeks to analyze whether Dempsey & O'Toole deserved any relief for having their contract annulled. On 1 July 1870, the stamped envelope contract was awarded to George H. Reay of the city of NY (his envelopes had a better finish). Reay furnished a \$200,000 bond, proofs of a new water-mark for security, proof impressions of new steel dies, etc. A consortium of the unsuccessful bidders filed to have Reay's contract annulled because their business was being curtailed. Consideration of this proposal resulted in the contract being rebid - with the definition for "lowest bidder" being recast to embrace both quality and price. In the interim, the only manufacturer capable of continuing the supplies was Reay, though his contract was annulled. There follow the detailed bids: from Dempsey & O'Toole, George H. Reay, and George F. Nesbitt. The discussion includes important information on dies and watermarks and the histories of the printers that made up the consortium. In the third document, there is listed in question and answer format the investigation into the contract awarded to Dempsey & O'Toole. Interviewed were Dempsey, O'Toole, POD employees, stamp agents, superintendents and craftsmen who detailed the processes of cutting, printing & embossing, folding, gunming. An

important study of the machines, the materials, and the history of envelope manufacture in New York state. Reay is listed by Scott as having manufactured in Brooklyn. Certainly the Dempsey & O'Toole factory was in Brooklyn, but there seems to be evidence that Reay's government factory was actually in NYC. The difference in site between NYC and Brooklyn would have been important with respect to the distinct Democratic machines controlling these areas. \$200.

18. **SITE OF A NEW POST OFFICE IN NYC:** Sexdoc4(39-2) 7 Jan 1866 5pp "...report of the commissions to select a proper site for a building for a post office and for the accommodation of the US courts in the city of NY." + Hexdoc190(40-2) 27 Feb 1868 8pp "Post Office and U.S. courts in New York" + Hexdoc243(40-2) 3 Apr 1868 10pp "Post Office Building, New York" + Hrep58(41-2) 14 Apr 1870 151pp "Post Office Buildings in New York & Boston" + Hexdoc101(42-3) 18 Jan 1873 1p "The suspension of work on the new post-office building in the city of NY"

Five documents which cover the investigation of the approved site for the new post office in NY. A commission had been appointed 16 May 1866 which accepted the City Hall Park location for \$1,500,000. The city had offered the site "with a condition that the property should revert to the city whenever the US ceased to use it for the purpose for which it was sold." The post office planned for the site "is designed in the pure French Renaissance style" It would cost \$3,542,930. There is a full description, inside and out, of the design - Franklin and Washington to be included among the mythic statuary.. A.B. Mullett, supervising architect, responded to the plans "...the architects who competed for the premiums have been entirely misled by the advertisement of the commission." "The most striking feature in the plans and specifications is the excessive use of iron - the excessive cost of this method of construction affords no corresponding advantages ..." He concludes with a recommendation of a standard for soliciting bids and proposals. Contracts let for granite for both the NY and Boston post offices in 1870 paid a royalty on the stone plus bankage and wharfage plus 15% commission plus wages, to questionable characters with no guarantees. In 1873, the work on the NY site was suspended because of weather. The building was finally occupied, replacing the Old Dutch Church, in 1877. [see DeBlois "NYC PO & the Old Dutch Church" op cit] \$50.

19. **NYC MONEY ORDER CLERK DEFAULTS:** Sexdoc20(42-2) 22 Jan 1872 7pp "...persons liable as sureties on the official bond of Norton, the late defaulting money-order clerk in the NY City post office." J.W. Norton, the money order clerk in the NY office since the establishment of the system in 1864 [see Diane DeBlois "Money Order" P.S.#26 pp 36-56 - this doc. says 1865] defaulted to the amount of \$32,025. Sufficient of Norton's own property was being held pursuant to an investigation upon suspicion of complicity. \$10.

20. **POSTAL-CAR SERVICE EVALUATED ON RR'S OUT OF NYC:** Sexdoc37(43-1) 23 Mar 1874 18pp "...information relative to the postal service between New York and Washington, New York and Boston, and New York, Albany, Buffalo, and Suspension Bridge."

The question was whether mail might be carried more frequently at less expense upon the trains of the regular schedule rather by the railroad postal-car service. Included are analyses of way service and the preparation of mails for close connections. Though the more important manufacturing and commercial centers exchanged direct pouches with each other "and with adjacent town and city post-offices, at frequent intervals, not depending entirely upon the railway post offices" such a practice could not be introduced among the "1350 post offices [NYS] situated upon and dependent on the lines of railways, and supplied from them by railway postal clerks, route agents, and mail route messengers, one, two, and three times daily." Charts show the mail trains between NY and DC; the RR PO service NY to Boston, and the NYC and HRR mail trains in NYS. \$45.

Commerce and the Post Office

Postmasters were in a particularly good position to be commercial leaders in their communities. See DeBlois "Postmaster as Commercial Agent" P.S.#37 pp 1 to 13; and a survey of the advertising aimed at postmasters in the US Official Postal Guide {P.S.#32 pp 111 to 128; #33 (23 to 32); #34 (59-64); #35 (87-96) with index.}

21. **JUNIUS SMITH & ATLANTIC STEAM NAVIGATION CO.** 1846 Letter written by Junius Smith, 68 South St., New York 25 Feb 1846, to Hon. George Folsom, Senator in Albany NY. 2 1/2 pages with address leaf. Smith wishes Folsom's aid in protecting his Atlantic Steam Navigation Co. from incursion by the Ocean Steam Navigation Co.. His conversations with the PMG have revealed the POD's commitment to ocean mail to the port of Bremen, exclusive of "Liverpool or Havre or any other European port ... to the [detriment of] agricultural and commercial interests of this State ..." He believes the PMG projects profit through emigration from the German states to the American West - but "Steam ships cannot afford to bring steerage passengers at steerage prices" - they need cabin passengers in addition to mail contracts. [Smith, 1780-1878, had organized the London and New York Union Steam Packet Navigation Co. in 1835. His "Sirius" with the "Great Western" arrived in NY 23 Apr 1838, inaugurating the trans-Atlantic ocean steam service. This letter was

written after his return to live in the US in 1843, after Cunard's success with British mail contracts put Smith's company out of business. The Ocean Steam Navigation Co.'s "Washington" departed June 1847 for Bremen but with a stop at Southampton to land British mail and a French mail. Smith was foiled again.] \$650.

22. **ELI BOWEN'S POST OFFICE GUIDE 1851:** Printed circular, 1 July 1851, mailed 15 July from New York to the postmaster at North Clymer, Chautauqua Co. "Circular to Postmasters, Assistant Postmasters, Route Agents and Mail Contractors" published by "Eli Bowen, Family Courier Building, No. 70 Wall Street, New York." 2pp with address leaf.

Bowen had been a clerk at the General Post Office, where he determined the need for a comprehensive postal guide to include: a history of the post office, a description of the positions and duties within the GPO, a digest of the acts of Congress with commentary, a description of the duties and functions of postmasters, rates of domestic and foreign postage, statistics of post office operation, a table of post offices in the US, and a list of the mail routes. "The publication of the book, with the stereotyped plates, cost the enterprising publishers, Messrs. D. Appleton & Co. upwards of Twenty-five hundred dollars." Bowen's circular ends with the instruction to address orders, with remittances of \$1 per copy, to the care of the Hon. William V. Brady, postmaster of NYC "to whom the author is personally known." The guide was published later in 1851. \$150.

23. **NYC POSTMASTER & NEWSPAPER SUBSCRIPTIONS 1858:** Printed circular, Union Office, Washington City, 28 May 1858, signed in type Cornelius Wendell, Publisher. Accompanied on integral leaf by a lithographed letter datelined Post Office, New York, 12 May 1858, signed in type Isaac V. Fowler.

Fowler [who would escape to Mexico 18 months later with \$155,000 in post office funds] here endorses Wendell's scheme to establish the Washington Union as "The Great Central Newspaper Organ" of the Democratic party. Fowler's instructions are addressed to postmasters: "On the fly-leaf of this letter you will find a Prospectus of the Union, and you are requested at once to get as many subscribers as possible & forward same to me." The monetary incentive to form an agency is proportional to the number of copies a postmaster orders.[See above No. 14] \$100.

TO AGENTS!

Please find below, Price List and Terms on which you can secure the exclusive agency, in your locality, for the sale of D. W. Clegg's Patent Letter-sheet Envelope, which, owing to its convenience, simplicity and cheapness, and its endorsement by the United States Government, is certain to have an enormous sale.

ONE TRIAL
will convince
you.

ENDORSED
BY THE
U. S. GOVERNMENT.

"POST OFFICE DEPARTMENT,
Washington, D. C., March 2d, 1885
Mr. D. W. Clegg, I have examined your Combination letter-sheets, and have no doubt that they will prove a convenience to the public. It is the best device of the kind that has come to my notice. Very respectfully
FRANK HATTON, Postmaster General."

ENVELOPES DISPENSED WITH AND MONEY SAVED
By using D. W. CLEGG'S Patent (Nov. 25, 1884.)

COMBINATION LETTER-SHEET AND ENVELOPE.

It is the most convenient, economical, simple, and perfect device ever invented for business or correspondence purposes, and is as sure to supersede the present separate letter-sheet and envelope as the steam cars have the stage coach. Infringers prosecuted to fullest extent of the Law.
By turning back enclosing flap it is readily Letter-Press Copied or used on Type Writer.

No.	SIZES.	50 in box or pad.		100 in box or pad.		500 in a box.		1000 in a box.	
		x	xx	x	xx	x	xx	x	xx
6	4 x 6 inches	12c.	18c.	20c.	30c.	\$0.70	\$1.05	\$1.20	\$1.80
7	4 1/2 x 7 "	15	22	25	37	.90	1.35	1.60	2.40
8	5 x 8 "	18	27	30	45	1.10	1.65	2.00	3.00
9	5 1/2 x 9 "	21	32	35	52	1.30	1.95	2.40	3.60
10	6 x 10 "	24	36	40	60	1.50	2.25	2.80	4.20
10 1/2	7 x 9 "	25	38	42	63	1.60	2.40	3.00	4.50
11	6 1/2 x 11 "	27	40	45	67	1.75	2.60	3.25	4.90
12	7 x 12 "	30	45	50	75	2.00	3.00	3.75	5.65
12 1/2	8 x 12 "	33	50	55	83	2.25	3.40	4.25	6.40

Nos. 9, 10, and 12 1/2 Bill Heads; Nos. 7 & 9 Memorandums, and Nos. 9 & 12 Statements, at same prices as above.
No. 10 Reversible (for message and answer) or ungummed for Circular use, at same price as above No. 10.
X quality is finest Manilla Writing Paper, made to order by Chemical Paper Co.
XX is a fine quality of White Writing Paper, made to order, and watermarked D. W. C., in monogram, by WHITING PAPER Co., who are the largest manufacturers of the Finest Writing Paper in the world.
They are Plain or Ruled Crosswise for Business Purposes, and Plain or Ruled Lengthwise for Family Correspondence.

C. A. CLEGG, Sole Manufacturer, 157 and 159 William Street, New York.

"We have found C. A. CLEGG, prompt and reliable in the fulfillment of his contracts."—Harper & Bros. N. Y.

"POST OFFICE DEPARTMENT, Washington, D. C., March 9th, 1885.
My Dear Sir:—I have carefully examined your Combination letter-sheet. I have never seen a more simple, convenient and economical device for correspondence purposes. It is also well adapted for enclosing remittances by mail. In my opinion, a popular demand for these letter-sheets must follow upon their introduction.
Very respectfully,
E. J. DALLAS, Chief of Dead Letter Office."

The Perfection of Convenience, Taste and Economy.

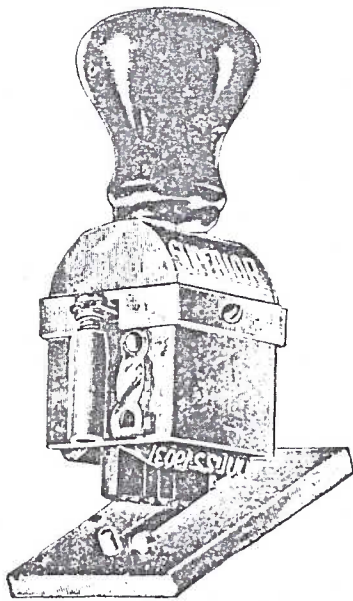
24. **PATENT LETTER SHEET 1885:** Printed circular "Combination Letter-Sheet and Envelope" on the patent stationery described. Mailed by C.A. Clegg, 157 & 159 William St., NY [June] 1885 to C.L. Moore, Dryden NY. C.A. Clegg is the sole manufacturer of this Mulready-style envelope patented by D.W. Clegg 25 Nov 1884. PMG Frank Hatton had issued an endorsement 2 Mar 1885 which anticipates the Grant letter sheet of 16 Aug 1886. The circular illustrates the envelope, with price lists, and solicits agents. Several of the testimonials are from postmasters, eg.: "I am convinced there will be a demand for them if once introduced." - O.A. Rice, postmaster at Salmon River NY. \$250.

25. **AMERICAN PHILATELIC ASSOCIATION CONVENTION IN NIAGARA FALLS** Vol. II No.17, 15 Aug 1892 issue of "The Post Office" pub. by The Post Office Publishing Company, 80 Nassau St., NYC. This convention issue reports on the event held at the International Hotel, Niagara Falls NY. Illustrations of the hotel, and of officers, including J.W. Scott, C.H. Mekeel, John K. Tiffany. The NY delegates went by special Pullman sleepers on the New York, Ontario & Western RR. Sixteen pages of ads aimed at stamp collectors. \$35.

26. **STAMP MUTILATOR PATENTED BY CORTLAND CO. MAN:** US Patent Office specification, for "Stamp-Mutilator" patented 10 July 1900 by Charles A. Skinner of Homer NY. 3pp. [some fold separation] Illustrated and described is Skinner's handstamp device to cut slits into postage stamps at the time of cancellation to prevent reuse. Skinner remarks that Revenue stamps of the higher denominations are particularly vulnerable to illegal reuse. \$65.

SUPERIOR POSTAL CLERK DATER.

Patented Nov. 26, 1901.



THE SUPERIOR POSTAL CLERK DATER is constructed the same as the Superior Rubber Type Band Dater with the exception of using three number bands in place of year band. The word Train and the year to be made in the rubber die, giving results as per specimen impression here shown.

Specimen Impression.

From CHICAGO & OMAHA R. P. O.
Train 4 2 6 SEP 30 1908
EDWARD KING.

Furnished with one size die plate (1½x2 inches) unless otherwise specified.

—READY FOR USE— With Blank Die Plates
Retail, \$2 00 Net, \$1 20 Each, \$) 70

- Superior Postal Clerk Dater....
27. **NYC HANDSTAMP DEALER;** Catalogue and Price List No. 45 of Stewart & Holihan, 201 Broadway NY "Hand Stamp Dealers' Supplies" 175pp + 4pp discount sheet + wraps. ca1900 Illustrated are many styles of daters & time stamps - including the "Superior Postal Clerk Dater", badges and medals, stencil plates, check perforators, printing presses. \$75.
28. **MARCHES & SONGS FOR JUNIOR POSTMEN:** Pamphlet "The Postman's Drill and Song" by Stanley Schell, pub. by Edgar S. Werner, NY. 1903. 16pp + wraps. Drill & the umbrella march, with diagrams, and "The Postman's Song" with music and lyrics. Designed for boys. \$25.
29. **NYC PARCEL AGENCY FOR IMPERIAL GERMAN MAIL:** Advertising folder and price list, Hensel, Bruckmann and Lorbacher, "Parcel Agency for the Imperial German Mail", 20 Exchange Place NY. 3pp. ca1905 A chart of rates for parcel shipments to Europe, from 3 to 50 pounds and each additional 20 pounds, and from New York to the German ports of Hamburg and Bremen, (the least expensive destinations) and several other countries. (the most expensive being Russia, Spain, and Portugal). In this period, pre-parcel post, the POD would carry only up to 4 pounds to Germany, at 12 cents per pound. This agency could send a 7 pound package for 50 cents. a 50 pound for 75 cents. \$20.
30. **MAIL SALES THROUGH LITTLE VALLEY:** The Brown Razor Co., Little Valley NY 1908. 4 pieces: printed typed form letter; pro forma receipt; flyer "A Man from Missouri"; contract and guarantee. Originally accompanying a razor sample. Their logo is a US. Mail bag. "...our salesman will steal in on you today ... No salary, commissions, hotel, railroad or livery expenses - that is the why of the prices he gives you." "Step into your bank and ask them to look us up in Bradstreet's or Dun's to determine our responsibility." A razor is sent on approval, with a bill for 75 cents. "If it doesn't interest you kindly return it and we will send you postage." A dozen (13) razors are offered for \$9. The POD allowed for third class mailing of samples of merchandise in 1872. \$40.

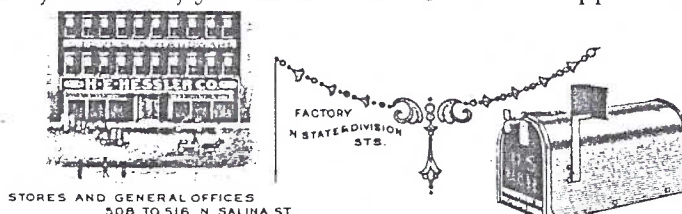
31. **ROCHESTER MANUFACTURE OF MAIL CHUTES:** Trade catalog: "The Cutler Mail Chutes" ca1908. 16pp + wraps, large format, illus. in color.
"... even more practical, convenient and efficient than before." The aim of mail chutes was to make tall buildings short in the eyes of the post. The Cutler Manufacturing Co. of Rochester had been making chutes since 1883, their systems installed in connection with the U.S. Free Collection Service. Several models are illustrated. \$100.

32. **ROCHESTER TRAINING INSTITUTE FOR MAILMAN:** Form letter & advertising for the Franklin Institute in Rochester NY, 10 June 1913. Letterhead illustrated with Franklin, and an Uncle Sam figure clutching Civil Service Appointments.

A cut rate offer for a combined course in becoming a railway mail clerk, custom house, internal revenue, rural carrier and clerk carrier. Many more of these positions will be opening because "the new Parcel Post is making a tremendous increase in mail matter." With flyers showing test schedules, testimonials, enrollment blank, and a broadside "Over 2400 City Postoffice Clerks to be Appointed" because of new law 1 Jan 1913. "If you have any idea whatever of getting a U.S. Government position, go after it NOW - or - give up your ambition forever." \$35.

33. **NY GOV. ALFRED E. SMITH, AIRMAIL & WAR SAVINGS:** Two 8" x 10" glossy black & white photographs of a ceremony 26 September 1919 announcing Thrift Registration Day.

Governor Smith designated Thrift Registration Day - urging that all children should appear at the nearest public school to register their intention to save and economize as a means of combating the high cost of living and to agree to invest in Government Thrift Stamps. Carter Glass, Secretary of the Treasury wrote an open letter to the youth of the country promoting Thrift Day. As a promotional stunt, Glass's message was carried on 29 Sept. via airplane from Roosevelt Field, Mineola, Long Island, to Quentin Roosevelt Field near Albany. These two photographs were taken in Albany. Pictured is the pilot Lieut. Douglas Campbell, the first American Ace of the US Army, winner of the Distinguished Service Cross with Four Oak Leaves, tendered by order of General Pershing, and of the Legion of Honor and Croix de Guerre with Three Palms presented by the French Government. Also appearing is his passenger Frederick C. Witsell, an ex-aviator in the American Air Force, and now manager of the School Bureau, Government Loan Organization. They are welcomed by Gov. Smith and Commissioner Finley who, for the benefit of the cameras, bought Treasury Savings Certificates in denominations of \$100 from Mr. Witsell and agreed to join the Thrifty Citizen movement. [See P.S. #29 pp17-32 DeBlois "Postal Savings"] \$75.



34. **SYRACUSE MAIL BOX MANUFACTURE 1925:** Typed business letter on illustrated letterhead of the H.E. Hessler Co., Syracuse NY, 4 Nov 1925.

The letter quotes A.H. Windslow of Bennington VT the price for #1 Hessler mail boxes (illustrated in red and black on the letterhead). Their #2 boxes will not be manufactured as there wasn't enough demand. \$30.

35. **BOYD'S DELIVERS IN 1926:** Typed business letter on illustrated letterhead of Boyd's City Dispatch, 120 East 23 St., NY, 17Dec 1926 to Berliner & Co. New York.

The logo: Mercury flying over the Brooklyn Bridge, and the fine print "Established 1830, the oldest, largest and most successful agency for circular advertising in the world" recall Boyd's local mail carrier service established in 1844 in NYC - the best known and most important of the US private posts. In 1926 they are providing junk mail service: "Departments for compiling special lists, addressing to all trades, professions, etc. facsimile letters reproduced, typewriting, wrapping, folding, mailing." They are quoting 123 names to Berliner, claiming they do not duplicate another list as they are headquarters only. [Est. in 1830, Boyd's must have had a history of handbill distribution before their 1844 carrier service.] \$60.

36. **DIRECT MAIL ADVERTISING FROM NYC 1946-48:** James Gray Inc., 18 consecutive 4 page brochures of a "Series on Carrying the Mail", in a custom binder, no. 102 of a limited edition.

Each brochure introduces a concept for conducting a good direct mail advertising campaign for which James Gray Inc. offer their services in Sales Promotion and Merchandising, as lithographers, letter craftsmen, and printers. \$50.

37. **ROCHESTER POSTAL ZONE DIRECTORY 1949:** "Rochester Postal Delivery Zone Number Guide November 1949" pub. by Drexler Print Shop. 24pp + wraps.

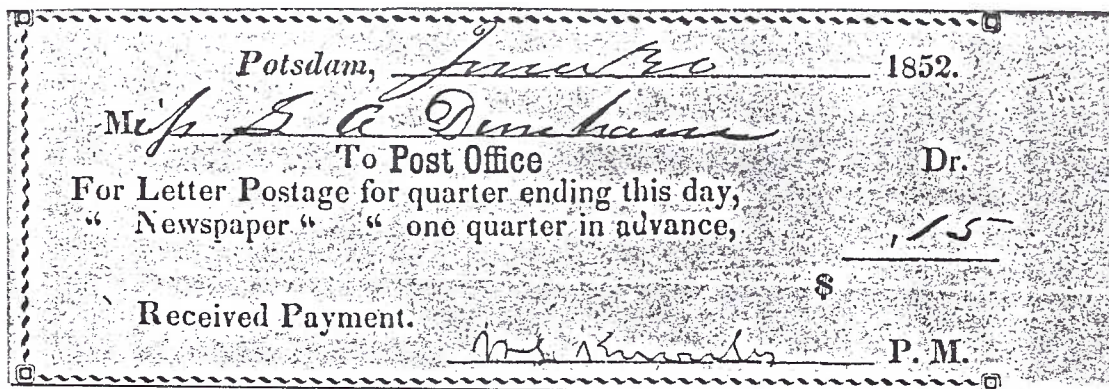
An illustration on the back cover shows the proper placing of address and return address - with the postal zone numbers pointed out. \$30.

Newspaper & Letter Postage, and Box Rent Bills

Rent of PO boxes figured in a postmaster's earnings, see DeBlois "PO Call & Lock Boxes" P.S. #19 pp 39-60.

38. ALBANY: {30 Sep 1832} "S. Van Rensselaer" receipts partly printed 'omnibus' [providing for newspaper, box, and letter postage] bill to Mr. P.V. Shankland: \$0.13 for newspaper postage only.
Among 9 clerks listed for the Albany post office in the 1831 Official Register, there are 4 Van Rensselaers: R., S., A., & another R. This, the "S". Elsewhere, Solomon Van Rensselaer is listed as postmaster. \$30.
39. ALBANY: {30 Sep 1836} "R. Strong" receipts in pencil partly printed newspaper postage bill to G. Crawford: newspaper postage, "2 qtr" in pencil as well, \$0.26
Strong is not listed as a clerk. He may be a carrier. \$35.
40. ALBANY: {1 Mar 1841} "A.C. Flagg, P.M." receipts, deleting "for the Post-Master", partly printed letter postage bill to the Canal Room for \$18.06
Flagg evidently served until 31 Mar 1841, taking the Albany postmastership between stints as State Comptroller. \$45.
41. ALBANY: {1 Apr 1843} "J. Bell" receipts partly printed omnibus bill to the "Canal Appraisers": box rent for the quarter, \$1.; and for postage, i.e.: "letter postage from the 1st of Mar 1843", \$8.69.
Joseph Bell listed as a clerk in the 1843 OR \$25.
42. ALBANY: {1 Jun 1849} "S. Van Rensselaer" receipts partly printed omnibus bill to "T.R. Beck regents" \$19.32 in letter postage.
Among 18 clerks in the 1849 OR, there is only one Van Rensselaer, S. - not the same signature as the S. Van Rensselaer in 1832 (above). Theodoric Romeyn Beck: here as secretary to the Regents of the University. \$35.
43. ALBANY: {1 Jul 1849} "Lewis Benedict" receipts (crossing out "for the postmaster") two partly printed bills to the Canal Department (for successive quarters: letter postage bill to 1 Jul \$64.72; to 1 Oct: \$64.53 letter postage; \$1.29 for newspapers and \$1 the box.
The OR gives Lewis Benedict as Albany postmaster from 1 Jun 1840 \$50.
44. ALBANY: {1 Jun 1852} "Sam Kidd" receipts "p.m." ("for the postmaster" crossed out) partly printed bill to the Canal Department for \$49.07 letter postage.
Printed at the butt of the bill: "POST OFFICE BILLS ARE REQUIRED TO BE PAID IN GOLD OR SILVER" \$35.
45. ALBANY: {31 Dec 1862} "George Dawson, P.M." printed receipt upon a bill to S.P. G (?), \$.25 for newspaper postage and \$.50 box rent.
A sidebar explicates: if 50 cents, then this must be an advance payment of a quarter's box rent. Newspapers, too, are payable in advance. The docket notes a payment upon 16 Dec. Apparently, "in advance" means, before the end of the quarter. [In 1863 advance quarterly payments for box rents were made mandatory. In 1858, the Albany PM was reported as having earned \$2004.01 in box receipts. \$25.
46. CORTLAND VILLAGE: {4 Jun 1842} "Tercius Eels / pr C. Eels Ast" receipts partly printed bill to J.D.P. Freer for letter postage due from April and May \$1.92 1/2
OR gives Tercius Eels as postmaster 22 May 1841 to 1 Jun 1842. Thus here, collecting out of quarter, to finish his accounts. \$40.
47. CORTLAND VILLAGE: {1 July 1872} "D. Merrick pr S.E.W." receipts partly printed postage bill to J. DePuy Freer for 10¢ letter postage in arrears, 29¢ newspaper postage in advance for the Albany Argus and the Northern Light.
D. Merrick served as postmaster, so the OR discloses, less than 4 months, 1 June to 14 Sept 1842 to 14 Sept, compensated \$231.53 with a net balance of \$113.47. \$35.
48. CORTLAND VILLAGE: {1 July 1843} "A. Dickson / pr D D Hale" receipts partly printed postage bill with Franklin vignette to J.D.P. Freer for \$4.10 3/4 postage due for the quarter just ended. \$35.
49. GENEVA: 30 Sept 1864 printed box rent bill with printed endorsement "William Johnson, P.M." \$0.25 for box "35" \$30.

50. KINGSTON: 1 Apr; 1 Jul; 1 Oct 1834 printed receipts for John Davis newspaper postages, 13¢ in each of the first 2 quarters, but 5¢ "to Nov 9" in the last.
Apparently, a newspaper subscription was canceled. \$60.
51. LOCKPORT: 1 Jul to 30 Sept 1867 printed box rent & newspaper postage bill with printed endorsement "L.A. Spalding, P.M." 50¢ for box "109" plus "5" for newspaper. [soiled]
Printed at bottom: "This Bill must be paid within 20 days after the commencement of the quarter, or the Box will be discontinued. By direction of the PO. Department, the use of a box is limited to one person, family or firm." \$20.
52. MOHAWK: {21 Jul 1854} "L.B. Root, P.M." receipts manuscript bill totaling \$19.16, including \$6 for 2 sheets of stamps, \$10.57 postage due from 16 May 1853, and postage for 5 newspapers, from the Mohawk Valley Bank.
Leos. B. Root is listed in the 1855 OR as having earned \$446.97 with a net balance to the gov. of \$324.49 \$75.
53. NEW YORK: 1 Nov 1838 to 1 Nov 1839 "R. Hewins" receipts printed box rent bill, \$4 for the year in advance for box "543"
R. Hewins [sic] is listed in the 1839 OR as clerk in the NYC post office earning \$1100 \$40.
54. NEW YORK: 1 Oct to 31 Dec 1865 printed box rent bill, \$3 for the quarter in advance for box "125" signed in print S.J. Strong
Strong listed in 1867 OR as clerk earning \$2583.34 \$25.
55. NIAGARA FALLS: {1 Apr to 1 July 1854} printed J.F. Murdock P.M. receipts partially printed box rent & postage on papers bill, with cut of printing press "Geo. H. Hackstaff . Printer". 13¢ quarterly box rent from Latham Gage & Co. \$35.
56. NORWICH: {1 Jul to 1 Oct} 1849, printed H. DeForest P.M. receipts partially printed letter postage bill, \$4.11 from A. Sanford.
1849 OR, Henry DeForest from 25 Apr 1849 earns \$124.36 with net postage of \$163.48. \$25.
57. POTSDAM: {30 Jun} 1852, "W. L. Knowles" receipts partially printed letter and newspaper postage bill, 15¢ for quarter in advance for newspaper
William L. Knowles is listed in Bowen's 1851 Guide as postmaster \$35.



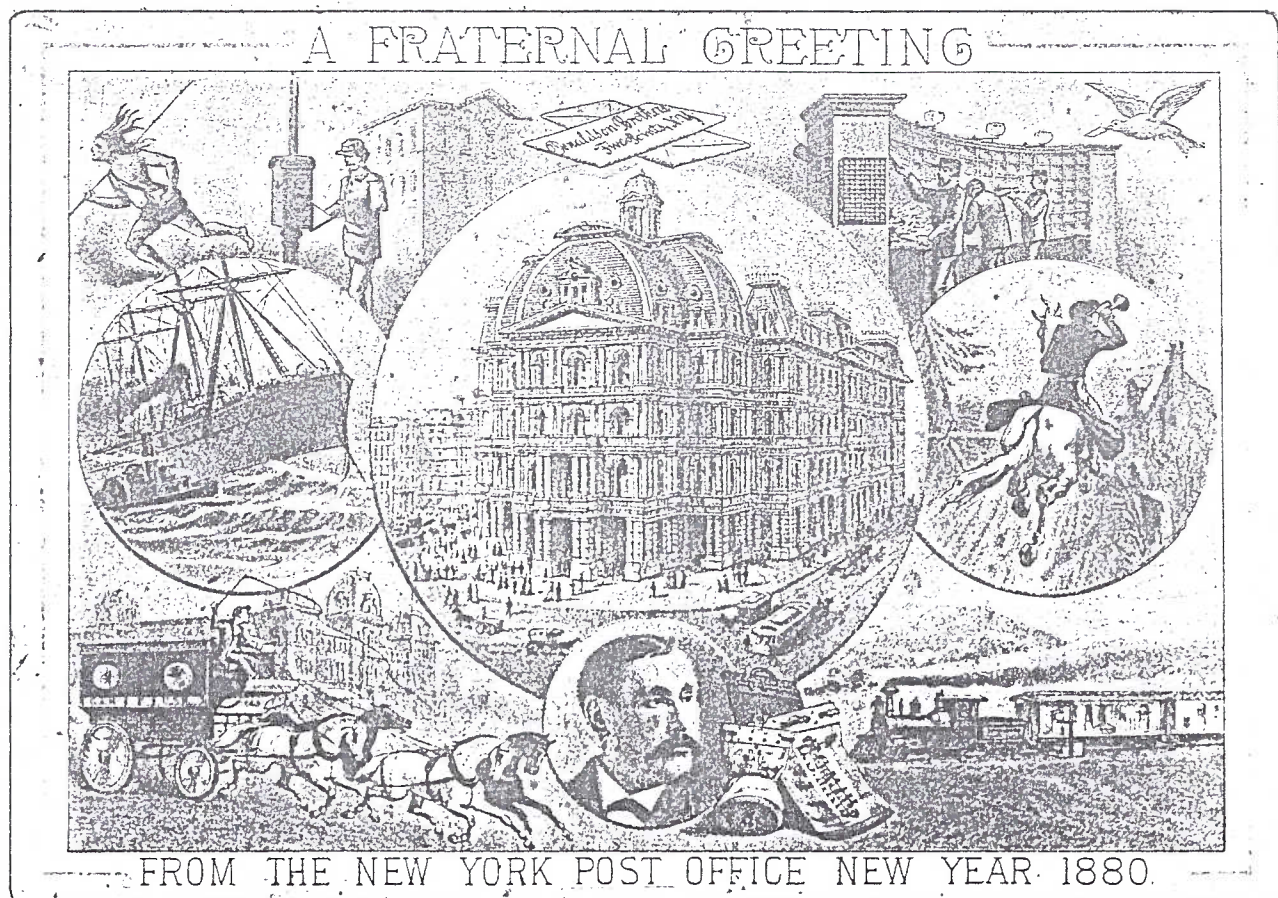
58. SYRACUSE: 1 Oct 1851 partly printed newspaper postage bill, receipted with blue handstamp PAID in shield, 20¢ for the Argus for the quarter ending 31 Dec. \$40.
59. TROY: 30 Sept 1862, "R.B. Caldwell Jr." P.M. receipts partially printed box rent bill, 50¢ for quarter from "William Hagen", box "421"
The 1863 OR lists Thomas Clowes as Troy's postmaster. R.B. Caldwell was chief clerk earning \$1200. \$25.
60. WYOMING: {5 Oct 1844} "M.B. Collar" receipts manuscript bill to "John B. Skinner" letter postage from 8 Jan 1844 to 5 Oct 1844, \$8.53 and newspaper postages from 1 Oct 1843 to 1 Jan 1845, \$1.30 for Albany Argus and 65¢ for Perry Democrat.
Skinner was much in arrears. Wm. B. Collar is listed as postmaster in the 1843 OR with \$134.38 compensation and \$235.62 net postage. The Perry Democrat comes from Genesee County though Wyoming itself had changed from Genesee to Wyoming County in 1841. \$45.

Letters from Post Masters

61. **BALLSTON:** "W.L. Williams, PM" signed on manuscript heading for the post office, 9 Nov 1864, to Union Church post master asking to complete post bill (present) for a mail of 6 Oct 1864
Evidently a request not complied with. Williams wants to repair his own records and isn't getting help. \$45.
62. **BLUE MOUNTAIN LAKE:** "J. H. Wheeler", signed on his printed letterhead for the post office, orders 2 & 4 Feb 1891 from Howe & Co. hardware.
The first letter has pencil notation added by Howe & Co. "Hold for reply to our inquiry regarding Hay Wire"; with the second Wheeler encloses the wanted wire sample. \$30.
63. **COBLESKILL:** "Edwin B. Hard" signed on his printed notehead ("Morrill Bros., Fulton") for the post office, 12 Feb 1900 to the First National Bank in Cooperstown
Accompanying a letter that was missent to Cobleskill, explaining that it had been placed in box of First National Bank there & opened by them. \$20.
64. **DELPHI FALLS:** "J.R. Fenner" signed on his printed letterhead for the post office, of three different styles. (Place identified in type as Delphi on all, corrected by handstamp "Delphi Falls, N.Y. Late."--- or by the manuscript addition of "Falls") writes 26 May, 19 Oct, 18 Nov 1904, and 21 Jun 1906 to Rev. A. F. Brown.
Paying for April's milk collected from the church farms- sent by registered letter "If you wish it otherwise please indicate it when you acknowledge the receipt of this." By Oct. milk is bringing \$1 per can. Other milk payment transactions. Evidently postmaster Fenner oversaw the change in the name of the office: Kay / Smith record the date as having been 21 Apr 1902. Fenner's stationery in 1906 was a printing he had done in the 1890s, with a vignette that had been copyrighted by Morrill Bros., Fulton NY. \$45.
65. **GLOVERSVILLE:** "Edw. Ward P.M. Gloversville NY" signed, manuscript heading for the post office, 7 Oct 1874 to William H. Tobey at Kinderhook as "one of the sureties of James Lathrop late P.M. at Kinderhook" for \$792.73
Ward was instructed by the auditor of the Treasury to make the demand of Tobey. \$30.
66. **GOUVERNEUR:** "Geo. B. Winslow" signed on his printed letterhead with eagle & flag for money order post office, 19 Mar 1878 to Wm. H. Schnell P.M. Mohawk NY "Confidential"
Requesting more information about Miss Marcy's experience as a school teacher. Reply penned at bottom that she has taken charge of all the higher branches in the Mohawk school - which is not graded but a district school. A portion of a 3¢ banknote stamp remains from the stamp proffered for the reply. \$35.
67. **HARTWICK & HARTWICK SEMINARY:** (1) "H.O. Branch Administrator" signed on printed letterhead of H.O. Branch, P.M., U.S. Post Office, Hartwick, N.Y. 2 Mar 1892 to the First National Bank of Cooperstown. (2) E.N. Higbee of Hartwick uses Hartwick Seminary P.O. printed letterhead, 22 Nov 1892
The first encloses a bank deposit to open a savings account. The second encloses a \$60 money order to his credit. \$30.
68. **MILFORD:** 4 letters to First National Bank of Cooperstown on 3 styles of printed post office letterhead: 10 & 31 Dec 1888, J. Armstrong 12 Dec 1889, E. A. Martin Col. (letterhead is printed, with flower vase decoration, for "Chester Gurney, P.M."); 6 July 1896, H.D. Blanchard (letterhead is printed for "J.E. Smith, P.M.")
The post office stationery may have been lent out to accompany registered funds - as all of these enclose cash or ³notes., none signed by the postmaster. Chester Gurney succeeded James Smith between the 1887 & 89 OR's and was himself by Smith succeeded between the 1891 & 91 OR's. \$35.
69. **NEW BERLIN:** (1) Helen E. Hayward on printed letterhead for "F.E. Holmes, Postmaster" 3 May 1899 to First National Bank (2) "Percy J. Thomas P.M" signed on his printed notehead 9 Sept 1912 to Clark Music Co.,
The first encloses a 50 cent revenue stamp for a certificate. The second encloses a letter sent to an unknown person in New Berlin, inquiring whether there might be another New Berlin. \$25.
70. **NEW YORK:** "6 June 1868" James Kelly, postmaster, printed form letter.
"Please forward Post Bill for Unpaid Letters sent by you to this Office, and state on Bill if for N.Y. City delivery or Distribution. No mail matter is to charged on N.Y. City Bill except such as is addressed to be delivered in the City of New York. Foreign or Dis. Unpaid Letters must not be billed, and must not be charged on sheets of Mails sent against D.P.O." \$20.

71. **NEW YORK:** 3 letters from Thomas L. James, postmaster, on 2 styles of printed letterhead. (1) 3 May 1880 on "Office of the Postmaster" letterhead, winged wheel logo, to Chas. D. Miller in Geneva NY; (2) 6 July 1880 from "Fourth Division" to the Postmaster in Elizabethtown; (3) 27 July 1880 to Hon. Thurlow Weed. With wood-engraved portrait "from a photograph by Mora" clipped from a newspaper. James signs himself to Weed, clerical signatures otherwise.

(1) "It doesn't appear likely that the Postmaster General's coach will stop in front of my door, but if it should I will get on and drive." (2) Asking for information on surviving relatives of Col. Burr Porter who commanded the 20th or Frontier Cavalry - recruited partly from Essex Co. (3) "will come up this afternoon." Thomas Lemuel James had been appointed by Grant as postmaster of NYC in 1873, and reappointed by Hayes in 1877. James in 1877 and again in 1880 declined Hayes invitation to be the Postmaster General, but accepted Garfield's offer in 1881, resigning after Garfield's assassination. \$175.



72. **NEW YORK:** Chromolithographed New Year's card 1880 from the New York Post Office - with James' portrait, scenes of postal activity, and the new City Hall Park post office, opened in 1877. On back, a list of the employees & the organization of the post office. 6 1/2 by 4 1/2 " (glue stains on reverse) \$150.
73. **ONEONTA:** (1) W.W. Snow uses printed letterhead for John Cope, postmaster, 19 June 1877. to F.L. Palmer. (2) "Chas. F. Shelland P.M." signed printed letterhead for the office, 16 Sep 1889 to Cooperstown Bank. (1) promising a bank note payment (2) encloses a letter which "through inexcusable carelessness of one of my clerks was thrown into the box of the Oneonta bank and opened by them." \$30.
74. **OTEGO:** "Geo. A. Hale" signs his printed letterhead for the office, 5 Feb 1879 to the County Treasurer. Enclosing money order to balance H. Hunt's account, the error was his & he apologizes. \$25.
75. **PLATTSBURGH:** "H.S.Ransom PM" signed 6 Oct 1879; while C.D. Stickney signed 28 June 1880, both on Ransom printed letterhead of differing styles (1880 illus. & with emblem for P.O.B.), both to the postmaster at Elizabethtown. (1) "Please send currency for inclosed check. You can register same free." (2) requests funds for enclosed money orders made to New Bedford MA. \$30.

76. PERRYS MILLS: "Lucien Perry P.M." signed on manuscript letter "Confidential" [n.d.] to Neemiah French. Defending the fidelity of an unnamed woman - evidently in response to lies spread by a Mr. Patteson. Perry had been postmaster upon the establishment of the office in 1831, serving until between the reports of the 1857 and 59 OR's. \$25.
77. RICHFIELD SPRINGS (1) "E.A. Hinds" signed on his printed letterhead with eagle for the post office, 28 Mar 1874 to F.L.P. [cashier of Cooperstown bank]. (2) H. Sliter on printed letterhead of S.P. Barker P.M. datelined Richfield Spa, 13 Jan 1900 to Turner [Cooperstown Bank] (1) Collecting a note from J.L. Comstock. (2) enclosing a note \$30.
78. UTICA: G. Clark on letterhead printed for the post office, 24 Jun 1878 to Cooperstown Bank. Providing for the collection of a \$4000 note. OR lists C.H. Hopkins as postmaster. \$20.

Communications from the P.O.D.

Dolls. 5. Cents. No. 48 General Post-Office, N. & E. WASHINGTON CITY, October 1, 1827.
[NOT NEGOTIABLE.]

SIR,
At sight pay to Thomas I. Magee or order,
five Dollars, Cents,
and charge to account of this office.
To Christopher Hurlbert Esquire,
Post-master at Ark Port N.Y. } Abm Bradley
Assistant Post-master General.

79. STEUBEN CO. POSTMASTER TO PAY STAGE CONTRACTOR; "Abrm. Bradley", Asst. PMG, signs 19 Oct 1827 order (partially printed form) for Christopher Hurlbert postmaster at Ark Port to pay Thomas I. Magee \$5. John Magee monopolized stage business in southwestern NY. Thomas I. Magee, contracting the mails for these lines, is listed in the 1827 OR as earning \$4719. Hurlbert's compensation in the 1827 OR is \$6.67 and the net from Ark Port for the year ending 31 Mar 1828 \$12.54. \$50.
80. CHARLTON, SARATOGA CO., POSTMASTER APPOINTMENT: The PMG informs Congressman Cramer 24 June 1836 (partially printed form) of appointment of John A. Sweetman postmaster at Charlton, because H. Lovett resigned. John Cramer (1779-1870) was a Jackson Democrat from Waterford NY. The 1835 OR lists Robert M. Brown as postmaster of Charlton with a compensation of \$22.20, then John A. Sweetman in 1837, \$94.85, and Robert Brown again in 1839, compensation back down to \$35.24. No mention of H. Lovett. \$40.
81. RHINEBECK PM CORRECTED: Auditor's Office for the POD, partially printed error memorandum with integral printed address leaf, 22 Dec 1837 to W.B. Platt, postmaster of Rhinebeck, Dutchess Co. Detailed corrections to the quarterly returns ending 1 July 1837. Especially an overestimation of letter commission by \$1.35 "Charged 50 per cent commission on the whole amount ... instead of 50 on the first \$100 and 25 on the remainder." A notation indicates Platt transported the mail and was given a voucher [presumably from the contractor] for doing so. If the contract office allows the voucher, he will have a credit with the POD auditor. The 1835 OR lists William B. Platt with the compensation \$258.73, the 1839, \$346.88. \$50.
82. NORTH CLYMER, CHAUTAUQUA CO., PAYS FOR WEEKLY MAIL: "J. Marron", 3rd Asst. PMG signs partially printed instructions "(No.1)" to the North Clymer postmaster 4 Oct 1849. At the end of each quarter he must pay over the whole amount due to the US POD to John Judson, contractor on Route 1240. The reverse illustrates a specimen order and receipt. Bowen's 1851 Guide gives Joseph R. Rhodes as North Clymer postmaster, his office served only by route 1240 which is given "from Westfield at 6 am every Tuesday by Volusia, Sherman, Centre Sherman, North Clymer, and Clymer to Columbus PA by 6 pm 30 miles and back between 6 am and 6 pm Wednesday." \$35.

83. **TUCKAHOE OUSTER RUMORED: "Horatio King"**, PMG, signs partially printed form "(No. 14)" 2 Nov 1859, to Wm. W. Laugham of Yonkers.
Asking to recommend a suitable replacement for James Dusenberry, postmaster at Tuckahoe, who has failed to submit several quarterly returns by 1 Nov 1859. Indeed, the 1859 OR gives James Dusenberry: "no returns." But as for his ouster, Dusenberry appears again in the 1861 OR: \$33.56 compensation, \$17.13 net balance. \$75.
84. **BIG NEW SALARY FOR ONEONTA PM: "J.W. Marshall"**, 1st Asst. PMG signs partially printed form 19 Sept 1873.
The Oneonta PO paid a \$468.63 compensation in 1863. The postmaster's salary is listed as \$740 in 1867. In 1869, as G.W. Reynolds was taking over the office on 10 May, the salary was \$850. It had become \$1200 by Oct. 1873 when it was raised to \$1700 as reported here, and in the 1875 OR, Reynolds is reported with a \$2100 salary. In 1877, the postmaster J. Cope, by contrast, earns just \$1000. \$30.
85. **NO DEPOSIT FROM NORTH WESTERN, ONEIDA CO.:** Printed letter "(Form No. 3002)" from A.D. Hazen, 3rd Asst. PMG 20 Feb 1885 to A.F. Sayles, postmaster.
"EXPLAIN WHY YOU HAVE NOT" deposited postal revenues for quarter ending 31 Dec 1884. The law of 4 Feb 1879 respecting deposits is quoted at bottom of form. Sayles is credited with \$218.44 compensation in the 1885 OR but by the 1887 an A.L. Teller is in the office of North Western. \$20.
86. **POD DENIES TOTTEVILLE:** Stamped signature C.P. Grandfield, 1st Asst. PMG, typed letter 1 Oct 1910 on printed letterhead to Fred H. Cozzen, Bentley Manor.
Grandfield says the POD does not contemplate changing the name back to Tottenville. However: [from Kay/Smith] Tottenville 5 Feb 1851; Bentley 14 July 1853; Tottenville 23 Dec 1861; Bentley Manor 8 Feb 1910; Tottenville 20 June 1911. \$50.
87. **POD ENCOURAGES MADISON CO. FARMER TO USE PARCEL POST:** Stenciled form letter from "Division of Rural Mails" 4th Asst. PMG, 15 Oct 1919, to Orson Hodges, Route 1, Poolville. With blank questionnaire.
The POD encourages the use of parcel post "to increase the production, improve the distribution, and reduce the cost of foodstuffs... The carrier is your postal agent ... we will help you dispose of the products of your farm - we hope you will help us reduce the cost of living to those dependent upon your products, and our distribution thereof. \$30.

Miscellaneous

88. **CRAIN'S CORNERS NET POSTAGES:** Manuscript tabulation of quarterly accounts rendered to the POD, by Rufus Crain, postmaster Crain's Corners, 1 Jan 1833 to 1 Jul 1835.
Begins with a "rendered to 31 Dec 1832" and then listed net postages by quarter along with accredited payments. The net postage of 1 Oct to 31 Dec 1833, which is missing in the tabulation is "estimated" below. Indeed, Hdoc 176(23-2) listing net postages for the year before 31 Mar 1834 disregarded this estimation. The Office was established 2 May 1828, discontinued 1857. \$75.
89. **NUNDA VALLEY PM DOESN'T PAY NUNDA:** "Amos Kendall" PMG signs 3 Sept 1835 - "Rob Johnston" POD accountant countersigns - partially printed order for Lindsey Joslyn, postmaster at Nunda Valley, to pay the surety of the late postmaster W.P. Wilcox, \$52.73; with a partially printed receipt for the transaction directing that, when completed, it be "addressed to the POD care of: 'J.W. Hand', substituted for 'David Saunders'."
William P. Wilcox was second Nunda's first postmaster from 1 May 1827 probably to the discontinuation of the office 23 July 1834. The 1833 OR lists him as having earned \$29.79. Evidently his surety did not get the money from Joselyn. \$85.
90. **CHANGE OF CONTRACTORS IN STEUBEN CO.:** "E. Bechthol" receipts partially printed form 7 Apr 1840 that F.E. Erwin, postmaster at Erwin, has paid him the full amount ordered by the USPOD paid to Cooley & Maxwell, contractor on mail route 585.
According to the Postal Route Gazetteer Part I: New York State 1839, Route 585 runs from Owego through Athens PA and via Erwin to Bath daily in 4 horse post coaches; and that the contract was awarded to Thomas J. Magee for \$7100. with Cooley & Maxwell the immediate underbidders. This document proves that Cooley & Maxwell succeeded Magee in the performance of that contract. The 1841 OR shows Cooley & Maxwell with \$14,541 in mail contracts and Magee with \$16,865. Erwin's quarterly amount due was \$23.74. F.E. Erwin was the last postmaster at Erwin, closed 22 July 1840, becoming the first postmaster at a newly formed Painted Post office. The postmaster at the old Painted Post moved to the new office at Corning. Another office at Erwin was opened 10 July 1841. \$40.

91. **CHARLTON, SARATOGA CO., QUARTERLY ACCOUNTS:** Partially printed quarterly account forms for the quarters ending 31 Dec 1848 and 31 Mar 1849, signed J.A. Sweetman, postmaster - his retained copies. *Newspaper postages decline, letter postages increase almost 20% raising overall postages 10%. The postmaster also earns 2¢ for each of 4 & 6 free letters, is reimbursed "by cash paid the mail carrier for [4, 3] way letters at one cent each."* \$60.
92. **ASSISTANT POSTMASTER SWEARS IN AT SPECIAL P.O. IN DELAWARE CO.:** Benjamin F. Gibbs, Justice of the Peace, signs partially printed oath by Allen S. Gibbs, 4 Aug 1849. *The postmaster must swear to perform his duties, abstain from anything forbidden by the postal laws, and to support the Constitution of the US. Bowen's 1851 Guide indicates that Harpersfield was served as a special post office off contract route 907. Route 907 ran from Delhi at 7 am every Fri., to Stamford by 2 pm, 23 miles and back between 10 am and 5 pm the next day. The special route [contracted for an amount not to exceed the net postages of the special post office] ran from Stamford to Harpersfield 4 miles and back twice a week. Bowen's also gives Richard B. Gibbs as postmaster. A family affair.* \$75.
93. **NYC PM CORRECTS HORNELLVILLE POST BILL:** "W.K. Dunshee / Transcript Clerk" signs for the NYC postmaster on partially printed form to pm at Hornellsville, 10 Dec 1849, with integral address leaf "FREE.- Post Office Business." *All mail sent to NY not for City Delivery should be entered on a separate post bill headed "New York Distribution". Dunshee, who is listed in the 1849 OR as a clerk earning \$699.96, fills in a sample post bill providing the signature of "Martin Adsit" as the postmaster of Hornellsville.* \$45.
94. **ALBANY CLERK PAID:** "John A. Sickels" receipts partially printed form "for services in the Post Office" from "Calvert Comstock, Post Master at Albany" 1 Jan 1859. *\$220 for services 1 Oct 1858 to 31 Dec 1858. The 1859 OR lists Sickels as clerk, earning for the year \$912.50.* \$30.
95. **WEST VIENNA, ONEIDA CO., OATH:** "Edith M. White" signs "Form of Oath for Assistant Postmasters" sworn to and signed by "Zenus J. White", postmaster and postmarked West Vienna 9 Mar 1895. *Added to the earlier oath, see above, is the defense of the US against all foreign and domestic enemies, and that she will honestly and truly report money belonging to the US. The 1895 OR gives Zenus a compensation of \$137.23 but lists nothing for Edith.* \$75.
96. **THREE DECADES OF SYRACUSE MISSING MAIL MATTER:** 2 partially printed forms: "(1518.)" 19 Dec 1889 efforts to trace letter mailed from [sic] Roxbury, signed by a clerk for postmaster C.E. Smith; and "Form 1518 C5-311" 4 Nov 1910 efforts of "inquiry division" (handstamp) to trace "parcel" to Chicago. *The missing letter was private correspondence, the missing parcel from the Clark Music Co. to St. Xavier Academy.* \$25.
97. **NYC CANCELING MACHINE MUTILATES:** Printed form from Charles W. Dayton postmaster, to 1st National Bank [Cooperstown] 19 Mar 1896. *"The enclosed letter was accidentally mutilated by a canceling machine ... if you have no particular use for the envelope please return same ... in free official envelope herewith."* \$25.
98. **NY TO MASS. REGISTRY TRACING:** 5 letters and attached forms, Nov & Dec 1897 about a registered letter from New York NY to Ashmont MA. *The letter was addressed to 18 Fuller St. - no such number. There was a person of the correct name at 8 Fuller who moved to 7 Faulkner who had remembered receiving money from a party in NY in payment of her board bill. The letter was tried at 7 Faulkner but the person claimed that "while the first name of the sender was all right she knew of no Smith party in New York." Instructed to try again, delivery was successful.* \$60.
99. **CHARLTON, SARATOGA CO., MAIL EQUIPMENT:** "James A. Slover" postmaster receipts upon an "Inventory" form of the 2nd Asst. PMG, filled out 1 Jan 1898 by Augusta Callaghan, late postmaster, transferring Eagle Mail lock and key, a leather pouch and a jute sack. Also: "Augusta Callaghan" signs "Form No. 3044" letter of transmittal to accompany final deposit of her postal funds, 8 Jan 1898 to postmaster at Albany. *A note from Callaghan on the back of the second form indicates she is short \$4.34 which was lost in the burglary of her office in Oct.* \$75.
100. **SYRACUSE THRIFT CARD:** 3 US Government Thrift Cards, in \$5 denominations, which were designed to be exchanged for a War Savings Certificate Stamp in 1918 to be paid 1 Jan 1923. No. 77632 & 3 belong to Wealthy Taber, with \$1 of stamps in each. The third has \$1.25, belonging to Lillian Jerome. *Syracuse addresses: 703 Niagara, West Genessee St.* \$20.

101. **SYRACUSE SAVINGS BOND:** Booklet of registration stubs for "5 United States / Savings Bonds", \$1000 denomination, issued in 1935: 26 June (2 to George W. Hoffman) and 29 June (3 to Florence or Stella Alt), for the postmaster at Syracuse signed "Lieb"
4 distinct handstamps were used to complete each registration stub. \$40.
102. **ROCHESTER POSTAL UNIT NUMBERS:** Stenciled form introducing Postal Unit Numbers by Donald A. Dailey, postmaster, 17 May 1943.
"Your Postal Unit No. is [7]". Since so many of the experienced PO personnel are in the armed forces, they need to simplify a system so that inexperienced workers may assist in the handling of mail matter. \$30.
103. **SABBATARIAN MOVEMENT:** Pamphlet, NY May 1829. "An Account of Memorials presented to Congress during its last session by numerous friends of their country and its institutions praying that the Mails may not be Transported nor Post-Offices kept open on the Sabbath." 32pp
The law of 1810 which required post offices to be open on Sunday multiplied the evil of Sunday mail transport. Objections at that time, and during the War of 1812, though received respectfully were denied on the grounds of public necessity. But; being "a repeal of the Fourth Commandment" and not - during "a time of the profoundest peace" - "a work of necessity and mercy", the Sunday mails "leave our land a moral desolation." Hence Dec 1829 a nationally co-ordinated petitioning of Congress stimulated in all 467 appeals, which are here listed along with extracts, selected names and "a few concluding observations." Two major objections to the Sabbatarians: Sabbath delivery promotes commercial prosperity, and discourages the expresses which arise to remedy the deficiency. \$40.
104. **GERRITT SMITH AGAINST POSTAL MONOPOLY:** Pamphlet, Washington, Buell & Blanchard, 1854.
"Abolition of the Postal System, Speech of Gerrit Smith in the House of Representatives, June 15, 1854." 8pp.
"A monopoly in the hands of a Democratic Government! - copied, in the ignorant infancy of the Government, from monarchs and despotism!" He would abolish the franking privilege, using postage as a means of excluding the frivolous. Make rates a function of the difficulty of service. He has faith in competition. Why should the North pay the South's postage. \$40.
105. **POSTMASTERSHIP & CONFLICT WITH POLITICS:** Pamphlet, "N.Y. Legislature, 1859. In Senate." "Speech of Hon. Geo. G. Scott, in the Senate, March 8, on the case of Hon. William G. Mandeville ..." Atlas and Argus, print. [Albany] 16pp
Mandeville was a state Senator from the Eleventh district. He was appointed postmaster of Stuyvesant Falls, Columbia Co. as a result of a citizen petition, forwarded a bond, but eventually declined the position believing it was a conflict of interest. He is now responding to a call to have him vacate his Senate chair. His colleagues back his allegation that by considering the postmastership he did not compromise his role as Senator. Since Presidential electors were no longer elected by the legislature, there was no longer any way that a State Senator could act against the state's interests with the Federal Government. It became a party vote. 18 Republicans voted against the Democrats en bloc, Mandeville losing his seat. \$75.

ATTENTION R. P. I.

The undersigned beg leave to state that on the arrival of the Boat from Castleton to morrow, they will be on hand with their efficient Overland Wheel-barrow Express, to convey those who are unable to navigate, to their residences.

HUES & PARRISH,

Late of the Institute.

106. **OVERLAND WHEELBARROW EXPRESS:** Printed circular "Attention R.P.I." Signed in type Hues & Parrish, Late of the Institute.
As non-graduating members of the Rensselaer Polytechnic Institute class of 1861, and during the first excitements of the Civil War, are listed William W. Parrish of Philadelphia and Andrew S. Hughes of St. Joseph MO. The identification of Hughes as "Hues" is corroborated by Hughes' St. Joseph residence - in close association with the overland mails and the Pony Express. Steamboats ran between Troy (home of RPI) and Castleton down river, the attraction for RPI students being, perhaps, Manasseh Knowlton's tavern. \$150.

The Post Office for the People, not for Politicians
and Liquor Dealers.

THE CONSPIRACY AGAINST THE RESIDENTS
NEAR KATONAH EXPOSED, AND THE
BARGAIN FOR WHITLOCK'S AP-
POINTMENT DISAPPROVED.

THE PROCEEDINGS

OF

CITIZENS OF WESTCHESTER CO.

NEW YORK,

AT

Putney's Hall, Katonah,

MARCH 27, 1862.

107. **KATONAH, WESTCHESTER CO., APPOINTMENT SCANDAL:** Pamphlet, "The Post Office for the People, not for Politicians and Liquor Dealers. The Conspiracy against the residents near Katonah exposed, and the bargain for Whitlock's appointment disapproved." The proceedings of Citizens of Westchester Co. NY at Putney's Hall, Katonah, 27 Mar 1862. 9pp
The citizens are against the removal of recently appointed postmaster M.S. Benedict (1861 OR lists Jay Gregory as postmaster of Katonah) and the appointment of Whitlock, a liquor dealer, in his stead. Lincoln is said to have favored the incumbent. John Jay was appointed among the memorialists to Congress to urge "that no post office be kept in a liquor shop..." Katonah had been established 1852 from Whitlock's and Whitlocksville. The 1863 OR gives: J.B. Whitlock Jr. as postmaster to 16 Feb 1863, thereafter Moses S. Benedict. Evidently the outcry was effective. \$75.
108. **STATE RURAL CARRIERS ASSOCIATION:** Promotional mailing by W. Floyd Conroy, Albion NY, secretary of NYC Rural Letter Carrier's Association, 25 Apr 1931.
Typed note calling for picture and article in convention booster newspaper upon a circular both sides headed by the Association mottoes "Service With a Smile" "A Better Rural Carrier Makes a Better Postal Service / Opposed to Affiliation with Outside or Striking Labor Unions." Flyers for the state convention at Malone 9-11 July. They have received a national award for 100% membership, which if maintained over 5 years would become permanent. \$35.
109. **ALBANY POSTMASTER:** 8" x 10" sepia glossy photograph by Bacharach of Dr. Edward P. McCormack, Albany's new postmaster.
Appointed 18 June 1935 serving until 6 May 1941. \$20.
110. **QUAKER HILL P.O. HISTORY:** Pamphlet "Reminiscences of Quaker Hill" by Annie M. Thomas, Pawling 1965. 40pp plus wraps. A chapter on the Quaker Hill Post Office, with statistics and human story. \$15.
111. **ALBANY INSTALLATION CEREMONY:** Program, 22 June 1988, Installation Ceremony of John T. Weeker, General Manager/Postmaster of Albany Field Division, NY 12288-9998. 4pp
Includes history of the Albany post office (including a list of postmasters). \$10.