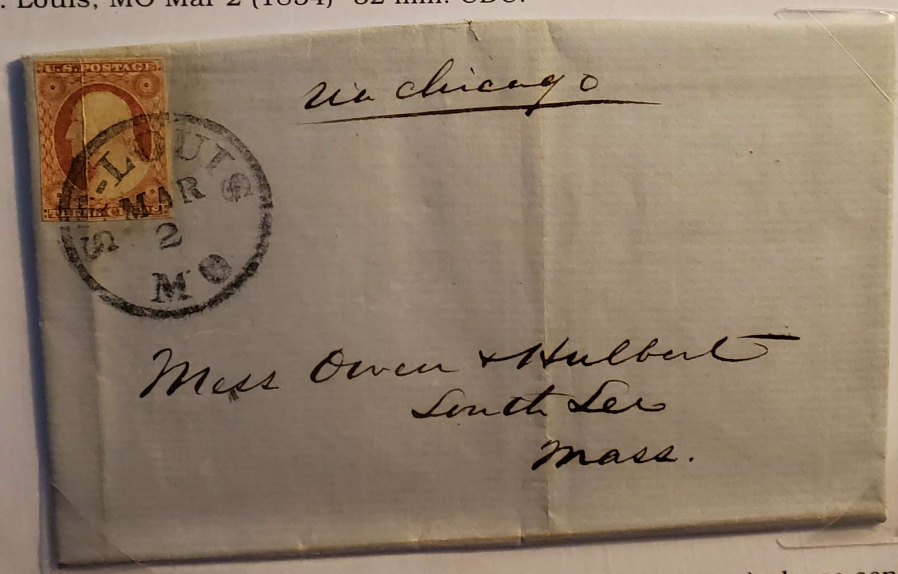


## Chapter 13: Chicago and the Midwest

Chicago had begun as railroad hub, but it grew rapidly in the 1850s and the majority of its postal history is related to paper warehouses. With its multitude of water power canals, Ohio was the 4th largest paper producing region in the country, with the larger metropolitan cities of Cleveland and Cincinnati being the principal beneficiaries.

With the coming of wood-pulp paper the Fox River Valley in Wisconsin, otherwise known as the "Paper Valley" became the 2nd largest paper producer in the country.

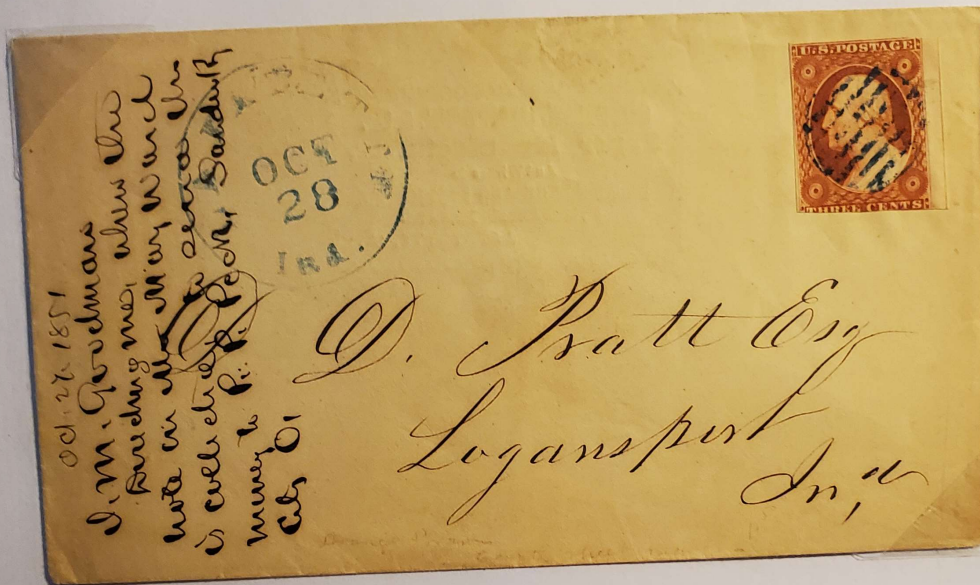
(Below) SFL to South Lee, Mass. Manuscript directive, "via Chicago." Black "St. Louis, MO Mar 2 (1854)" 32 mm. CDC.



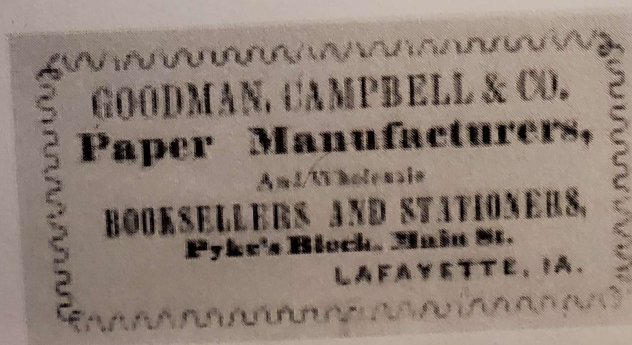
Content: "If you have not already shipped it (order paper) please send it by railroad to Cincinnati with instructions form them to forward it immediately." Amos H. Schulyz & Co.. St. Louis, March 1, 1854

### 13.1 First Paper Mill in Indiana

(Below) Envelope to Logansport, Indiana. Blue "Lafayette, Ind, Oct 28 (1851). Matching 8-bar circular killer. Franked by 3-cts. 1851 (orange brown) paying 1st class rate.



Content: "Regarding when the note on Mr. May Ward is all due. . . ." I.M. Goodman, Goodman, Campbell & Co., Paper Manufacturers, Lafayette, Ind., October 28, 1851.

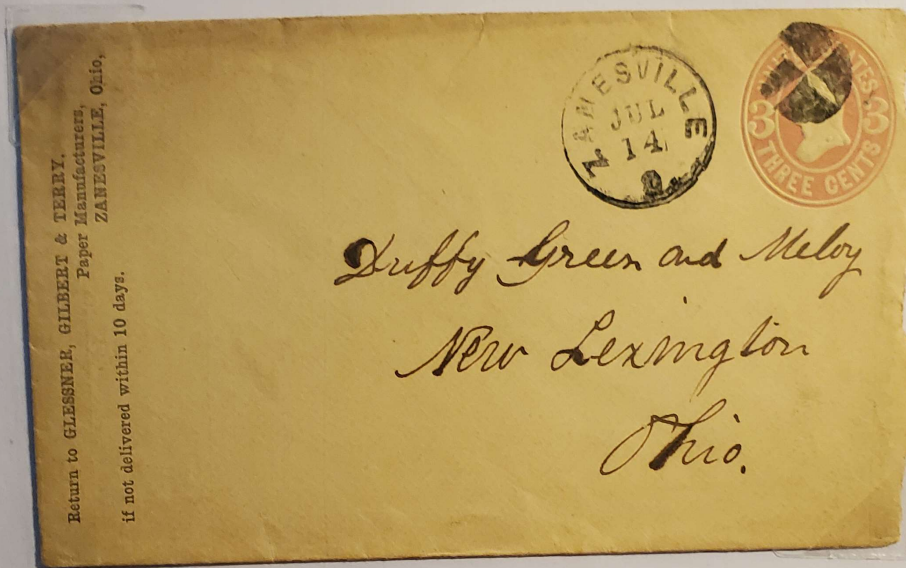


(above) Advertising on backflap of Cover

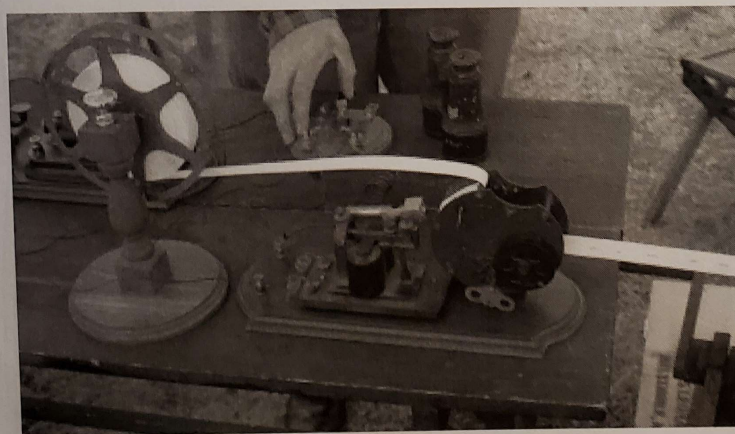


### 13.2 Manufacture of Telegraph Paper

(Below) Envelope to New Lexington, Ohio. Black "Zanesville, O., July 14 (1865)" CDC with duplex cut cork killer. Stationery envelope, 3-cts pink, 1864 paying 1st class rate.



Corner card stationery of Glessner, Gilbert, & Terry, Paper Manufacturers, Zanesville, Oh. July 14, (circa 1865)

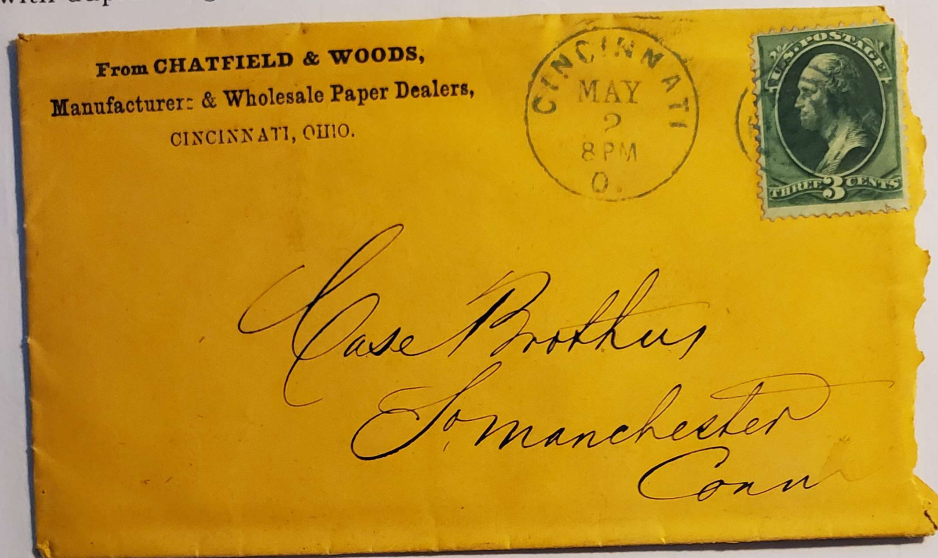


(above) Photograph of Civil War Telegraph Machine and Paper

(Historical Note: During the Civil War the Zanesville mill manufactured telegraph machine paper for the U.S. Government.)

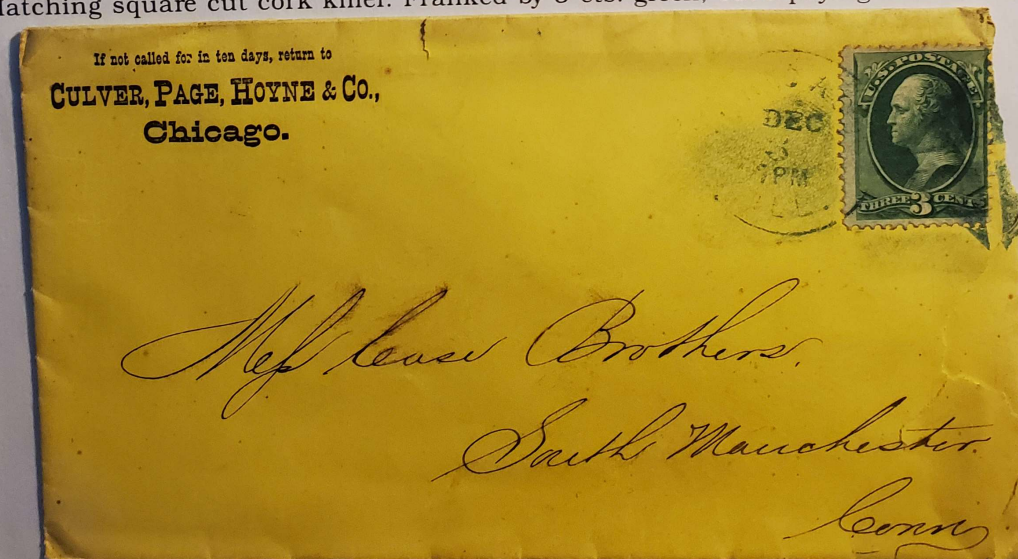
### 13.3 Delays in Shipping Paper to the Midwest

(Below) Envelope to South Manchester, Ct. Blue "Cincinnati, Oh. May 2 (1874)"  
CDC with duplex target killer. Franked by 3-cts. green, 1873 paying 1st class rate.



Content: "We thank you to hurry the press papers. The printers are waiting for them, and delay of a few days will greatly disappoint them." Chatfield & Woods, Paper Dealers, Cincinnati, May 2, 1875.

(Below) Envelope to South Manchester, Ct. Blue "Chicago, Ill. Dec. 3 (1875)" CDC.  
Matching square cut cork killer. Franked by 3-cts. green, 1873 paying 1st class rate.



Content: "We must have the goods, and if you cannot supply same without further delay we shall be compelled to order elsewhere." Culver, Page, Hoyne & Co., Paper Dealer, Chicago, Ill. Dec. 3, 1875.



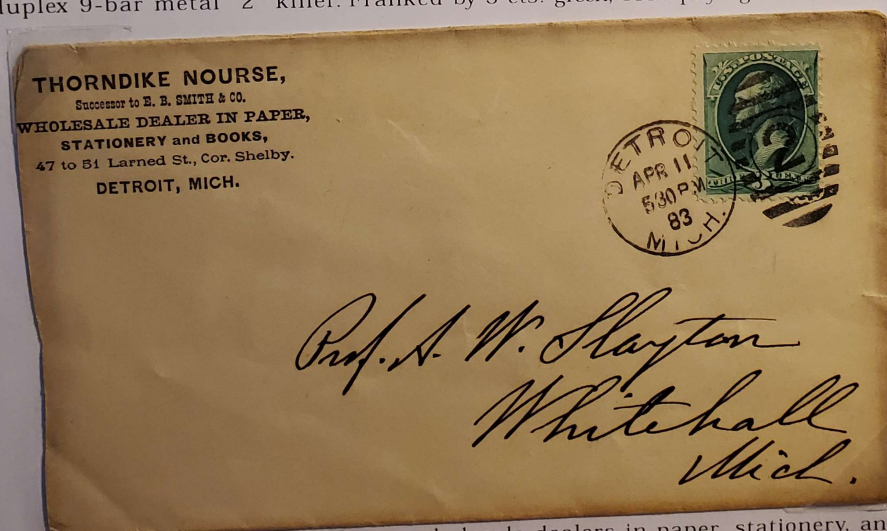
### 13.4 Cleveland and Detroit Paper Warehouses

(Below) Envelope to Smithville, N.J. Black "Cleveland O. May 19 (1877)" CDC with duplex cut cork killer. Franked by 3-cts. green, 1873 paying 1st class rate.



All-over Advertising Envelope: Cleveland Paper Co. Manufacturers of All Kinds of Paper" Lithograph of 4-story building dated 1876. (also see 13.10)

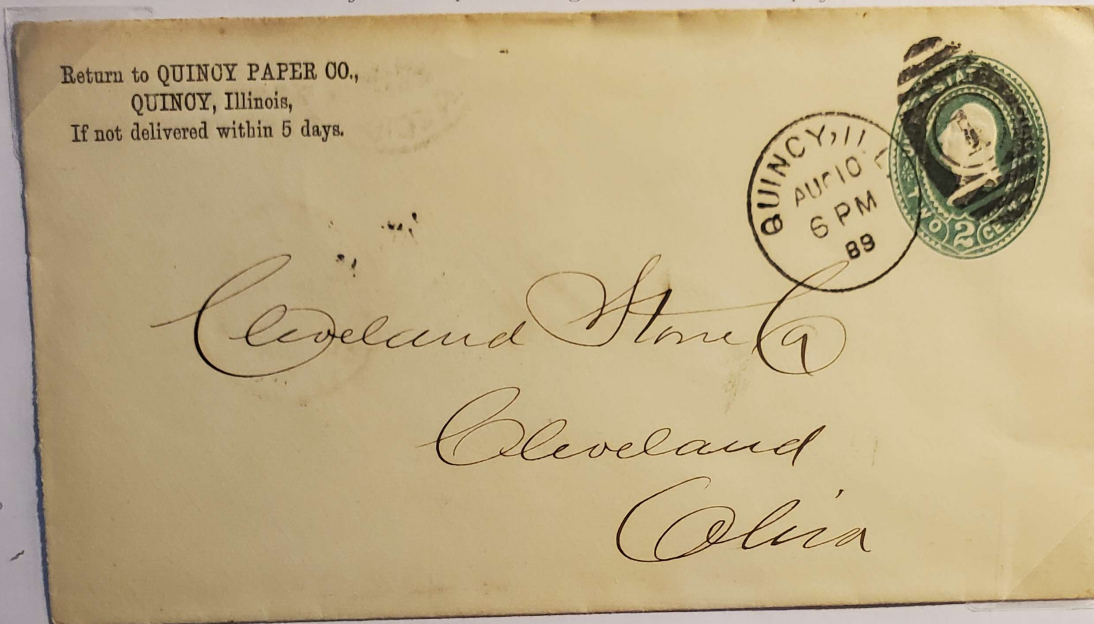
(Below) Envelope to Whitehall, Mi. Black "Detroit, Mi. Apr. 11 1883" CDC, with duplex 9-bar metal "2" killer. Franked by 3-cts. green, 1880 paying 1st class rate.



Corner card of "Thorndike House, wholesale dealers in paper, stationery, and books. Detroit, Mich.

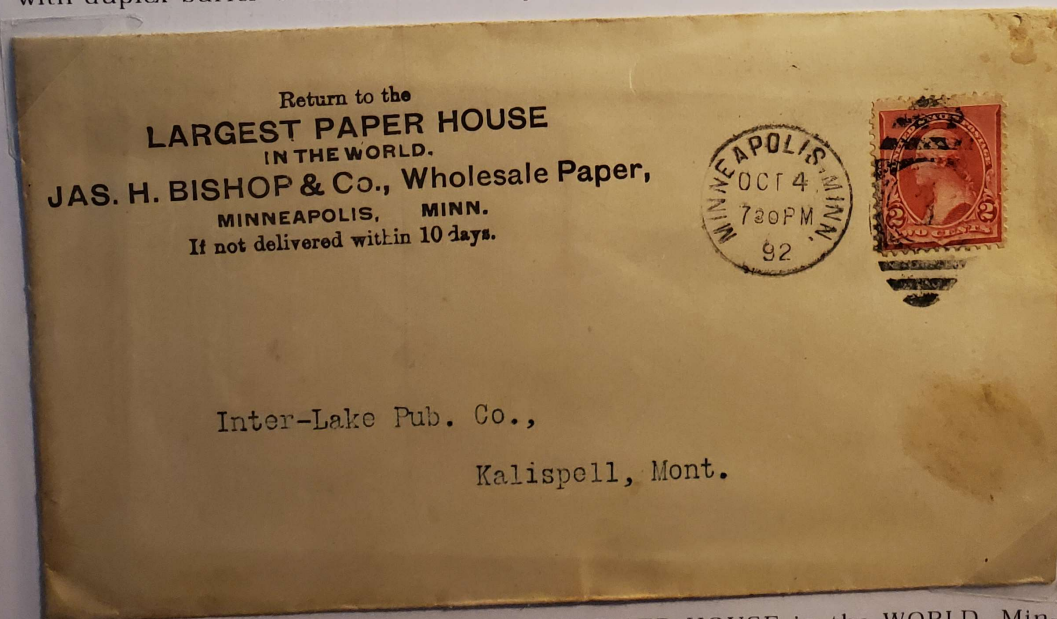
### 13.5 Paper Warehouses of Quincy Ill. and Minneapolis

(Below) Envelope to Cleveland, Ohio. Black "Quincy, Ill Aug 10, 1889" CDC with duplex barrel "1" killer. Stationery envelope 2-cts green die II, 1887 pays 1st class rate.



Corner card of Quincy Paper Co. Quincy, Ill, August 10, 1889.

(Below) Envelope to Kalispell, Mont. Black "Mineapolis, Minn. Oct. 4, 1892" CDC with duplex barrel "1" killer. Franked by 2-cts. carmine 1890 paying 1st class rate.

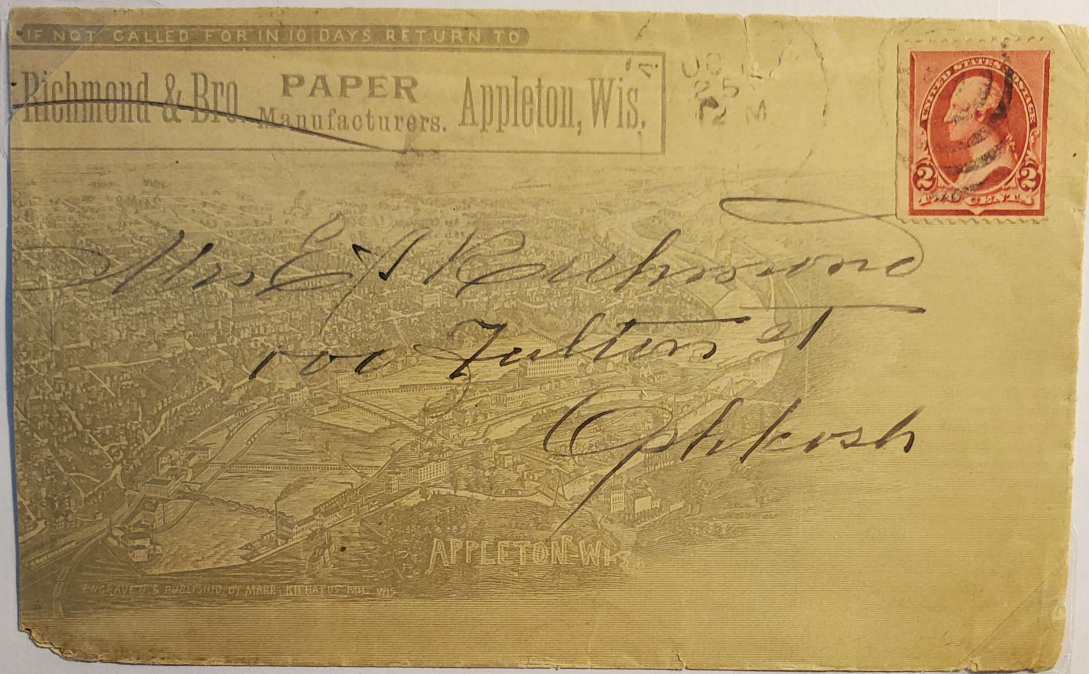


Corner card of Jas. H. Bishop, LARGEST PAPER HOUSE in the WORLD. Minneapolis, Minn. October 4, 1892.



### 13.6 First Paper Mill in Appleton, Wis.

(Below) Envelope to Oskosh, Wi. Black "Appleton, Wi., Aug 25 (1890). with duplex oval target killer. Franked by 2-cts. carmine 1890 paying the 1st class rate.



Illustrated advertising cover of Richmond & Brother paper manufacturers showing the city of Appleton and its waterpower canals. (circa 1890)

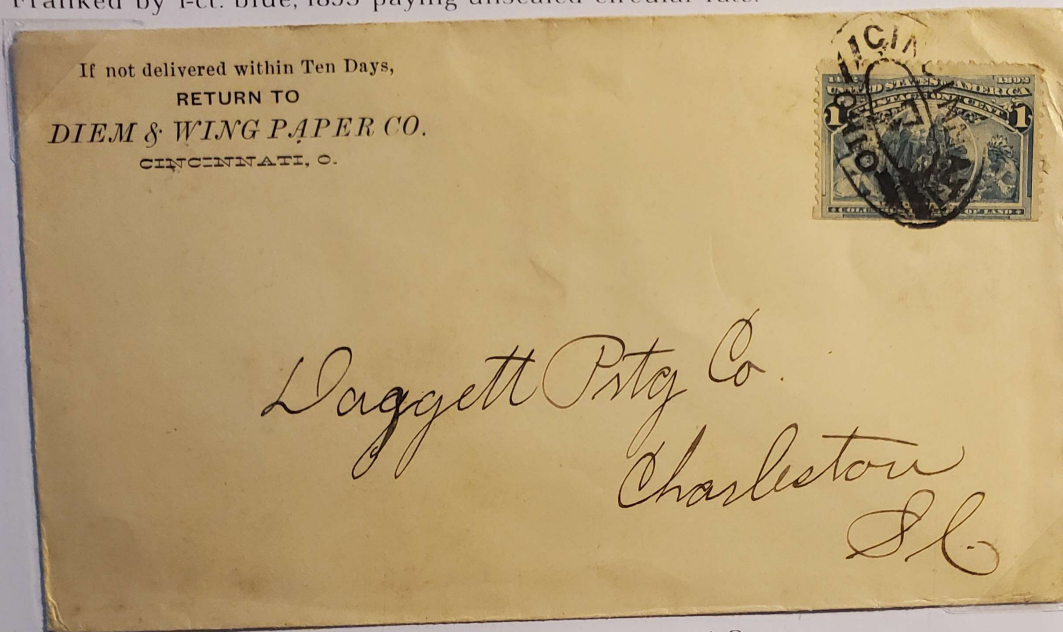


(above) Photograph of Richmond Brothers Paper Mill circa. 1860.  
(source, **250 Years of Papermaking in America**)



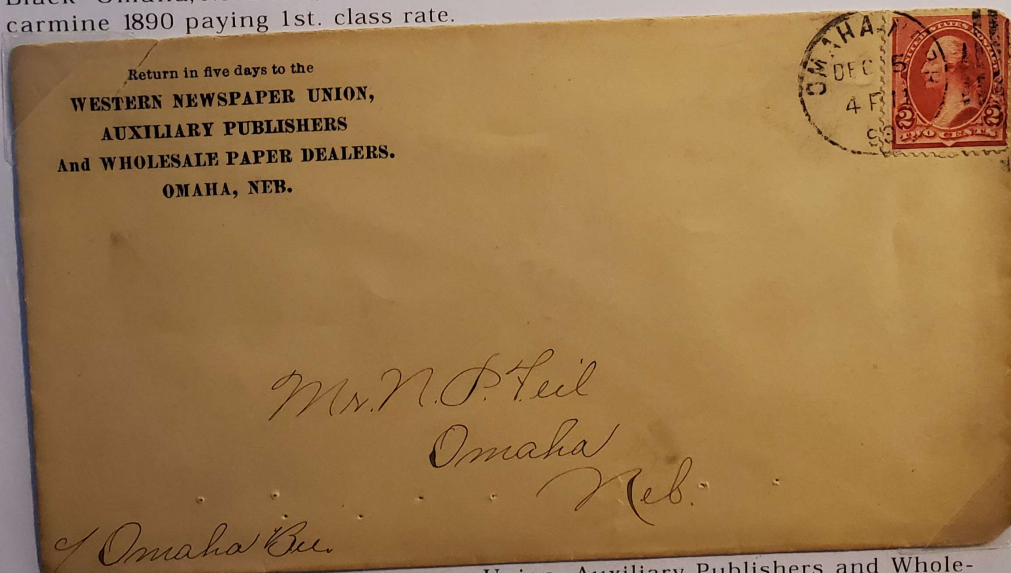
### 13.7 Paper Dealers in Cincinnati and Omaha

(Below) Envelope to Charleston, S.C. Black "Cincinnati, Oh.)" oval killer "7".  
Franked by 1-ct. blue, 1893 paying unsealed circular rate.



Corner card of "Diem & Wing Paper Co.." Cincinnati O.

(Below) Envelope Omaha local deliver. Manuscript directive, "C/o Omaha Bee".  
Black "Omaha, Ne. Dec 5, 1893" CDC. with duplex metal killer. Franked by 2-cts.  
carmine 1890 paying 1st. class rate.



Corner card of "Western Newspaper Union, Auxiliary Publishers and Wholesale Paper Dealers Omaha Neb." Dec. 15, 1893.



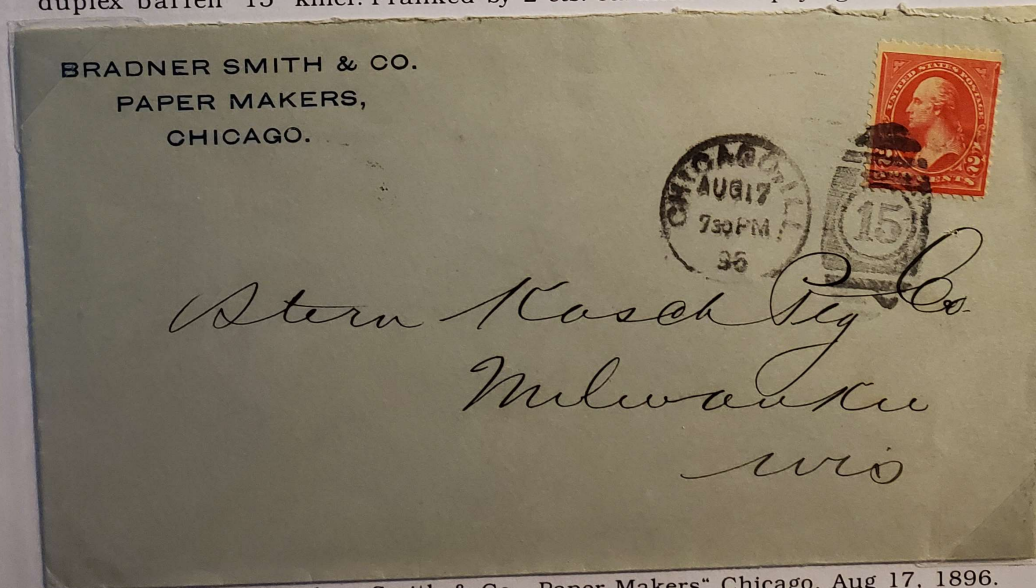
### 13.8 Paper Dealers in Chicago

(Below) Envelope Chicago local delivery. Black "Chicago, Ill. Jan 31, 1894" machine cancel. Franked by 2-cts. violet 1893 paying 1st class rate.



Corner card of "Chicago Paper Co.." Chicago.

(Below) Envelope to Milwaukee, Wi. Black "Chicago, Ill. Aug 17, 1896" CDC. with duplex barrell "15" killer. Franked by 2-cts. carmine 1893 paying 1st class rate.



Corner card of "Bradner Smith & Co., Paper Makers" Chicago, Aug 17, 1896.

### 13.9 Cleveland Paper Mfg. Co. Patriotic Cover

(Below) Envelope to Lee, Mass. Black "Cleveland, Ohio, Aug. 11, 1899" machine cancel. Franked by 2-cts. red 1899.



Spanish American War Patriotic Cover of "Cleveland Paper Mfg. Co." with crossed flags of United States and Cuba (also see 13.4).

(right) Advertisement for Cleveland Paper Co. from souvenir book of the Cleveland Industrial Exposition, June 7-19, 1909.

#### Cleveland Paper Co.

OFFICE AND WAREHOUSE,

128 St. Clair Street,

Cleveland, Ohio,

Manufacture all kinds and every variety of

**PAPER,**

Also, Manufacturers' Agents for the sale of all kinds of

**Papers, Envelopes,**

and Board and Glazed Papers, Merchandise Tags,

**PRINTERS' INK,**

STRAW & BINDERS' BOARD, BLANK BOOKS, PAPER BAGS,  
TWINES, &c.

**Roofing and Building Paper.**

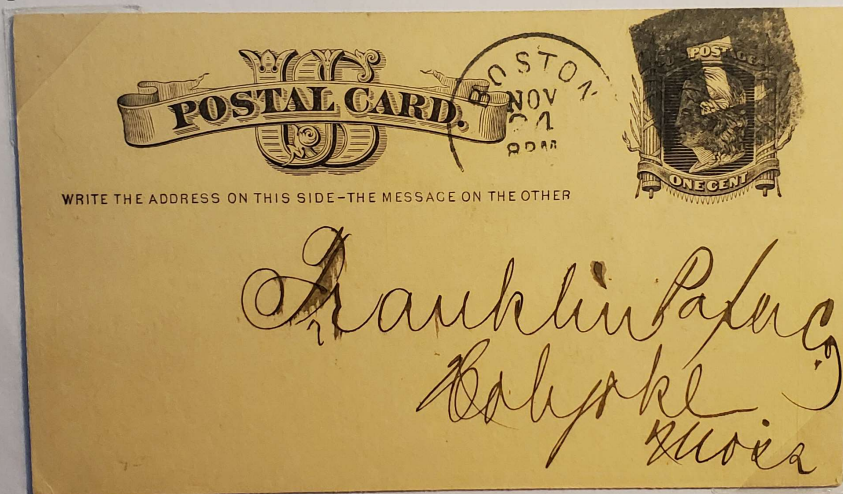
N. W. TAYLOR, Agent.



## Chapter 14: Holyoke, the Paper City

The town of Holyoke was created in 1848 when developers dammed the Connecticut River at Hadley Falls to construct a waterpower canals for textile manufacturers. So successful was the original plan that two additional waterpower canals were later added, enabling dozens of paper mills to be erected. By the mid-1870s Holyoke had the largest concentration of paper mills in the nation, earning it the title, "Paper City." Naturally, the postal history centers around paper mills and related activities.

(Below) Postal card to Holyoke, Mass. Black "Boston, Mass. Nov 24 (1879)" 30mm. CDC. Black square wood-cut "L" killer. One-cent 1875 black postal card paying post card rate.



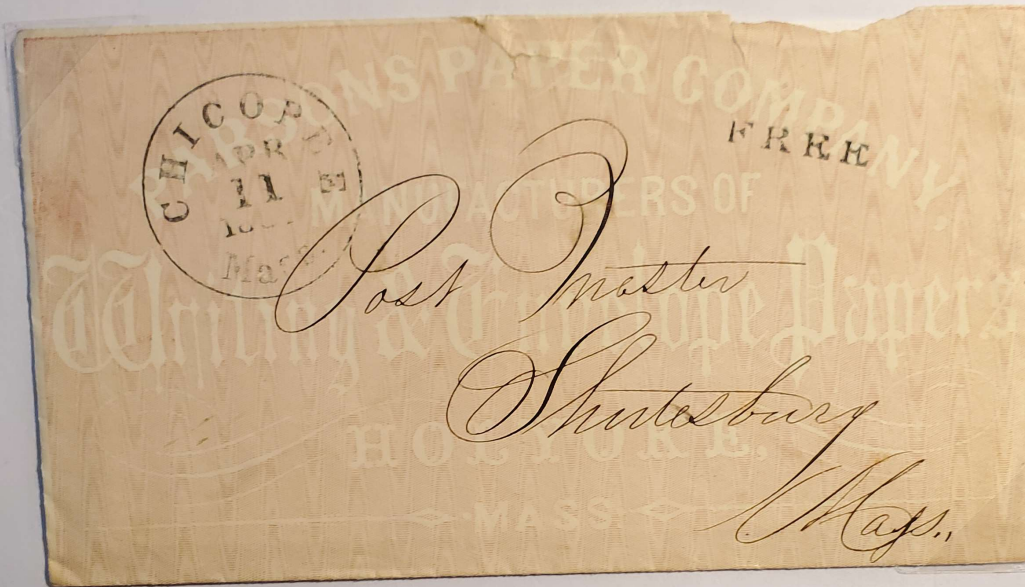
Content: "Please hurry the double cap along." Carter, Rice Paper Co. Boston, November 23, 1879.

(right) Woodcut engraving of the Franklin mill (est. 1866) (from *Rag Paper Manufacturing in the U.S., 1801-1900*)

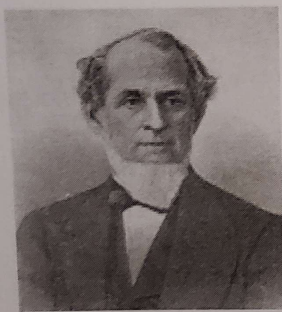


## 14.1 First Paper Mill in Holyoke

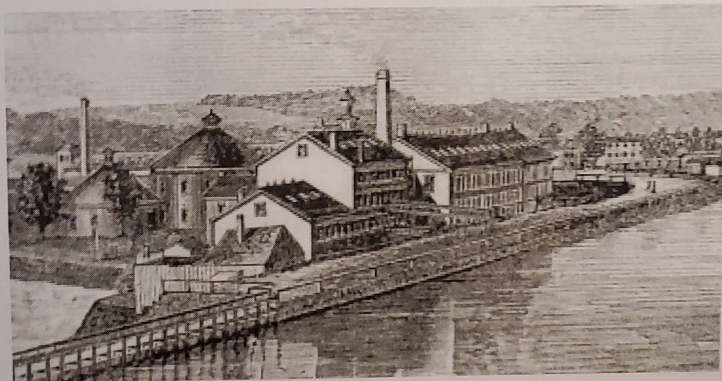
(Below) Envelope to Shutesbury, Mass. Black "Chicopee Mass. Apr 11, 1861" 33mm. CDC with black "Free." Addressed to "Post Master" comprising the rural postmaster Free Mail rate.



All-over illustrated envelope of "Parsons Paper Co., manufacturer of writing and envelope papers, Holyoke, Mass." postmarked April 11, 1861.



Joseph C. Parsons



Woodcut engraving of Parsons Paper Mill

(from *Rag Paper Manufacturing in the U.S., 1801-1900*)

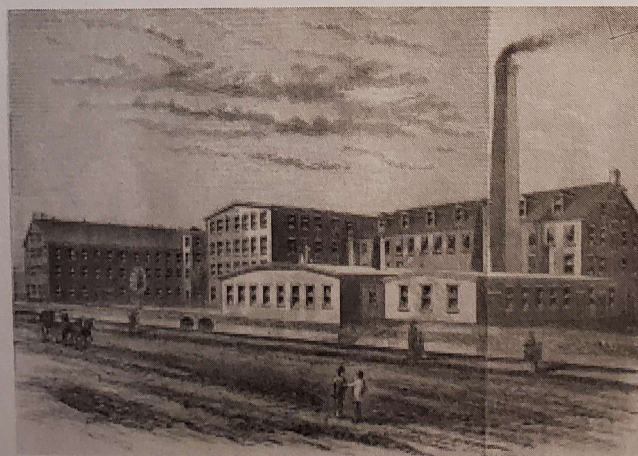


## 14.2 Second Paper Mill in Holyoke

(Below) Envelope to Concord, Mass. Black "Holyoke, Mass. May 5, 1864"  
30mm. CDC with black 8-bar killer. Franked by black 2-cts. 1863 paying  
the circular rate.



Content: "As required by law, I herewith make to you a return of the  
Share-holders in the Cororation, with the number of shares held by  
them this day." Stehen Holman, Treasurer, Holyoke Paper Co., May 1st,  
1864.



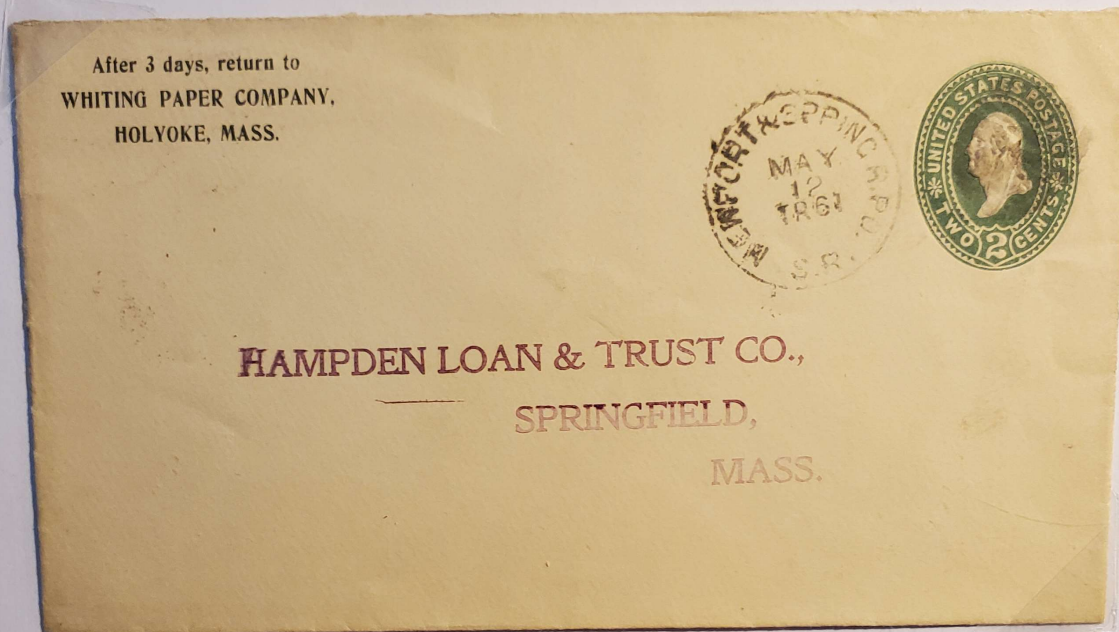
Woodcut engraving of Holyoke Paper Mill

(from *Rag Paper Manufacturing in the U.S., 1801-1900*)



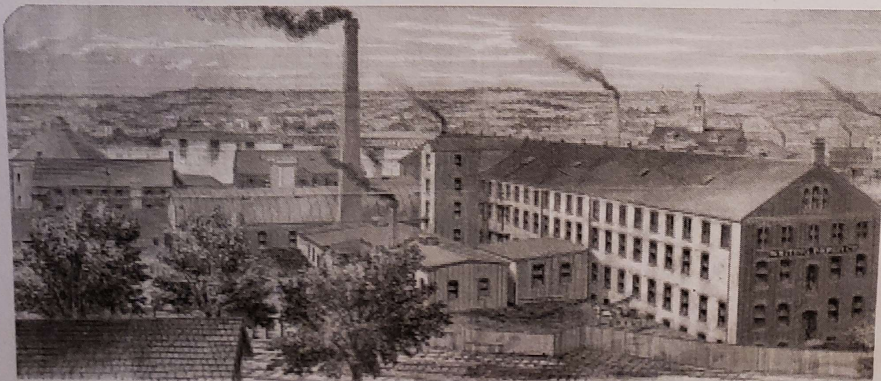
### 14.3 Whiting Paper Co., Manufacturer of Stationery Paper

(Below) Envelope to Springfield, Mass. Black "Newport & Springfield RR May 12, 1891" 30 mm. CDC, with black cork killer. Stationery envelope, 2-cts green die II, 1887 pays 1st class rate.



Corner card of Whiting Paper Co. on U.S. stationery envelope also manufactured by Whiting. May 12, 1891.

(Only known copy to date of Whiting Paper Co. correspondence)



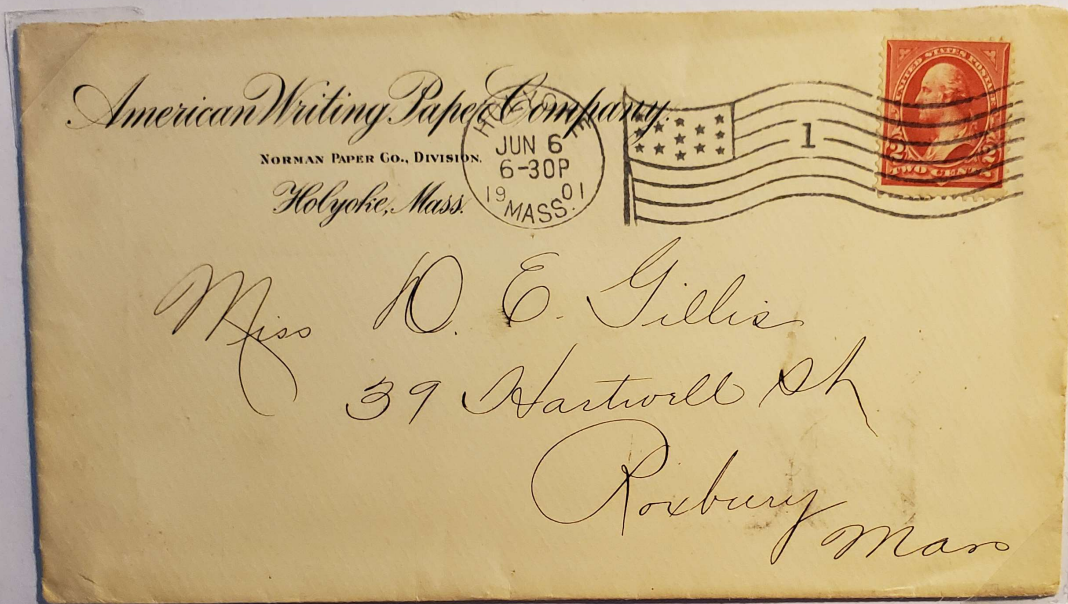
Woodcut engraving of Whiting Mill No. 1  
(from *Rag Paper Manufacturing in the U.S., 1801-1900*)

(Philatelic Note: USPO STATIONERY PAPER for Plimpton, Morgan, was manufactured here from 1888 to 1899.)



#### 14.4 First U.S. Paper Manufacturing Conglomerate

(Below) Envelope to Roxbury, Mass. Black "Holyoke, Mass. June 6, 1901" 28 mm. CDC, with duplex flag killer. Franked by 2-cts red Ty. III, 1898 paying 1st class rate.



Corner card of the American Writing Paper, Norman Paper Co. division, postmarked June 6, 1901. (Note: The American Writing Paper Co. consisted of 13 mills in Holyoke, and 10 more in other parts of the country.)





## Epilog:

In the early part of the century the American rag paper industry essentially mirrored developments in England, with the exception being the development of manila and straw papers, which helped alleviate pressures on the rag market. By mid-century the growth of paper machines began out-stripping the supply of rags, causing acute shortages (i.e. rag recession). It was not until 1858 with the invention of refined rag paper (low rag content) that paper prices returned to normalcy. Unfortunately, the Civil War caused prices to skyrocket once again. Following the War paper prices were slow to recover, initiating the introduction of wood-fiber manufacture from Germany. Initially, wood pulp paper was made for the benefit of newspapers, but eventually it expanded to replace most other kinds of paper. By 1890, competition and overproduction by pulp mills caused a catastrophic crash in paper prices, signaling the end to long tradition of rag paper manufacture in the United States.

## Suggested Reading:

Cathleen Baker, *From the Hand to the Machine*

Dr. Dard Hunter, *Papermaking, The History and Technique of an Ancient Craft*

AJ Valente, *Rag Paper Manufacturing in the U. S., 1801-1900* (also available in e-book).

## Index

- Alum, 7.13  
American Writing Paper Co., 14.4  
Ames, John, 2.4  
Appleton, Wis., 13.6  
Banknote paper, 3.6, 10.3  
Beach, Moses Y., 6.1  
Bleaching, white paper, 2.3, 6.2; clay, 7.10; powder, 7.8, 7.10  
Boiler, rag, 6.7  
Book paper, 10.1  
Bookbinding, 3.1  
Calender roll, 11.7  
Canada, duty, 4.3  
Cheney Brothers, 11.9  
City Dispatch Post, 7.7  
Clay, Paper, 12.2  
Columbia mill, 6.8  
Congress paper, writing, 8.4, 8.6  
Copperas dye, 3.4  
Crane, Crane & Co., 3.6; Crane Brothers mill, 11.8; Crane, Z & Wm., 11.8; Old Red mill, 3.6  
Digester, wood pulp, 12.10  
Dryer, tandem, 2.3, 6.5  
Envelope, 7.4, 8.2, 10.7  
Erie Canal, 1.6, 4.4  
Express Mail, USPO, 4.4, 10.2, 10.3  
Express, Adams, 8.4; Hales & Co., 2.2, 7.6, 10.1; Thompson & Co. 3.8  
Field, Cyrus W., 2.9, 7.9, 7.14, 7.19  
Field, David D., 7.3  
Filter pond, 9.3  
Forwarding agents, 9.6  
Germany mails, 12.9  
Great Western, steamship, 6.3  
Handmade paper, 8.3  
Hats, paper, 4.2  
Hibernian mill, 11.7  
Hoe & Co. 2.10  
Howards Hotel, 7.5  
Hudson River towboat, 3.2  
Hurlbut, Thomas Postmaster, 1.3  
India mails, 2.10  
Jordan, Eban D., 10.5; Jordan, March & Co., 10.5  
Kendall, George W., 9.1  
Lafin, Walter, 7.3  
Laid paper, 3.2, 8.0  
Leaflet paper, 7.8  
Leghorn rags, 7.7  
Lock Haven mill, 12.6  
London mails, 1.5  
Lumsden, Frances A., 9.1  
Manila paper, 3.3  
Manufacturers Paper Co., 12.9, 13.9  
Megargee & Co., 5.1, 5.3, 5.4  
Mercantile Exchange, NY, 7.1  
Money letter, 4.1  
Musie paper, 10.1  
New York & Pennsylvania Paper Co., 12.6  
News paper, 3.5, 4.5, 9.1  
Oakland mill, 11.9  
Owen & Hurlbut, 1.3; South Lee Mill, 1.3  
Pagenstecher & Co., 12.9  
Paper City, 14.0  
Paper machine manufacturers, 2.1, 12.4, 12.5  
Paper machine, Chain-mould, 2.10; Cylinder, 2.0, 2.9; Fourdrinier, 6.1, 6.9  
Paper Mill & Wood Pulp News, The, 12.0  
Paper Mill Village, 11.2  
Paper Mill News, The, 10.0  
Paper Town USA, 3.0  
Paper Valley, 12.7  
Parsons, Joseph C., 14.1  
Patent Office, 6.5  
Phelps, James, 6.2  
Philadelphia, No-Nothing Riots, 5.1  
Picayune, New Orleans, 9.1  
Plate paper, 2.5  
Platner & Porter mill, 11.6  
Platner & Smith, 3.4  
Postage stamps, 1847 issue, 8.4  
Postal Card paper, 11.9  
Postal Riders, 1.4  
Pulp regulator, 2.6  
Quatro post, 8.1  
Rag cutter patent, 2.2, 6.1  
Railroad, Boston & Albany, 6.5; Houosatonie, 3.7; Newport & Springfield, 14.3; Philadelphia, 5.1, 5.2, 8.5; Washington, 8.3  
Ream trimmer patent, 2.4  
Record, Alvin, 12.8  
Ruling, paper, 2.8  
Silk paper, 11.9  
Sizing, paper, 7.6  
Smith, Elizur, 7.1  
Stacking, machine, 2.7  
Stamp paper, American BNCo. issues, 11.8, 12.6; BEP issues, 12.6; Continental BNCo. issues, 11.8, CSA issues, 9.2; National BNCo. issues, 11.8; USIR issues, 11.8; RWH&E issues, 10.3; TC&Co. issues, 3.6, 10.3  
Stamping, initials, 10.8  
Stationery paper, Nesbitt, 11.7; Plimpton, 11.6; Plimpton, Morgan, 14.3;  
Stationery paper, 5.2  
Steamer, coastal via Norfolk, 9.5  
Stock Exchange, NY, 7.1  
Telegraph paper, 13.2  
Ultramarine dye, 7.11  
Vulcanized Rubber rollers, 11.6  
Water wheel, 6.6  
Watersbury, Ct., 11.0  
Watersheds mill, 2.1  
Whiting Paper Co. mill, 14.3  
Willcox, James M., 10.3; Ivy Mill, 10.3  
Wood pulp grinder, 12.9  
Wood-Pulp paper, 12.1, 12.3, 12.7, 12.8  
Wave paper, 5.6, 8.0