

Dakota Wheel of Fortune Cancellation

by Larry Rausch

This article details those towns using the Wheel of Fortune postmark that I have identified for the Dakota territory.

In the November 2005 U.S. Cancellation Club News issue, Arthur Beane announced a project to produce a monograph on the Wheel of Fortune cancels. I've taken up the task to complete this monograph.

Here is where you can help... by providing any additional covers that I have not identified and forward photo scans of these Covers to me at stonywoods840@gmail.com . All state towns and duplicates would also be appreciated.

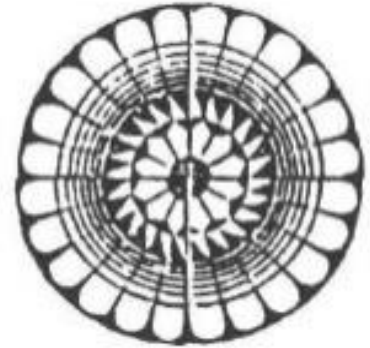


Fig. 1

In 1880 the F.P. Hammond Co. of Aurora, Illinois, introduced the canceller (Fig. 1). Today this fancy rubber canceller is called **Wheel of Fortune (WOF)**. The highly detailed stamper was made possible with the invention of vulcanized rubber. The Peerless Vulcanizer shown on the 1898 cover below (Fig. 2) may have been the type of machine to make the Wheel of Fortune device.

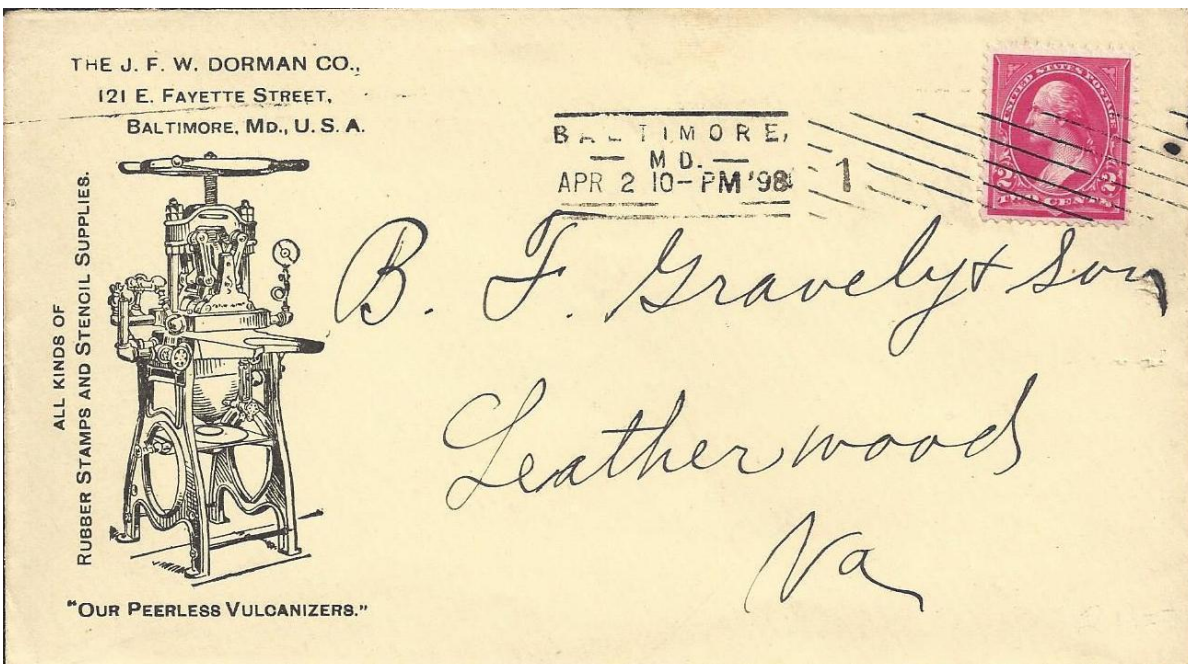


Fig. 2

The first advertisement for the WOF appeared in the January 1881 U.S. Official Postal Guide (Fig. 3). Although this ad depicts postmarks dating in the 1870's, the earliest WOF postmark found to date is February 26, 1880 from New Lisbon, Wisconsin. Dakota Territory earliest is dated October 6, 1880 from Eden (Fig.4).

(Note: In the advertisement under "Best Offer", this Cancellor and kit cost \$3.00.)

" WHEEL OF FORTUNE "

No. 529.


POST OFFICE SUPPLIES

ESTABLISHED 1872.


WE ARE HEADQUARTERS

For the most complete line of articles used by P. M.'s and their Clerks.


Engraved Letter Headings,
 " Note Headings,
 Stamp Ribbons (all colors),
 Money Order Daters,
 Post-Office Daters,
 Registered Letter Daters,
 Received Daters,
 Patent Inking Pads,
 P. O. Canceling Ink (*by Express*),
 P. O. Rubber Canceling Corks,
 Twine Cutters,
 Steel and Rubber Stamp Racks,
 Coin Detectors,
 Paper Weights,
 Letter and Package Scales,
 Check Protectors,
 Gem Type Case,




No. 530.


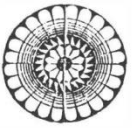

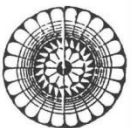


No. 531.



No. 532.



THE BEST OFFER YET.

One RUBBER P. O. Dater and Cancellor, Ink Powder, and Pads, Dates for ten years in Walnut case with tweezers, and all the single line stamps needed in a Post Office, this style type: **UNCLAIMED**

By mail, postage paid, on receipt of price, \$3.00.

PROOFS FROM POSTMASTERS.

Your Quarterly Record received, and I like it very much. J. O. CECIL, P. M., California, Md.

The \$5 Outfit ordered by me was duly received this evening. They are all A No. 1 articles, and give entire satisfaction. — JAS. S. HARING, P. M., Orangeburg, N. Y.

The Rubber Stamps, Note and Bill Heads, came to hand all right and meet with favor with those who have examined them, for cheapness, neatness, and durability. — T. W. LITTLE, P. M., Picture Rocks, Pa.

I have been using one of your Stamps and Pads for the last year and it gives satisfaction. — W. S. BOWEN, P. M., Sheffield, Iowa.

I received my Note and Letter Heads, Dater, etc., all O. K. Am satisfied with your job. It far exceeds my expectations. Wm. J. KING, P. M., Maxville, Mo.

The Dater received, and I am well pleased with it. — CHAS. COON, P. M., Albion, Idaho.

Your Box Record received, and is all O. K. — J. W. FROW, P. M., Fort Madison, Iowa.

The Pads ordered came to-day. I am very much pleased with them. — ED. S. MENARD, P. M., St. Genevieve, Mo.

Illustrated Catalogue of Post Office Supplies sent free to Postmasters only. For samples of Note and Letter Headings send 6 cts. Address

F. P. HAMMOND & CO., Aurora Illinois.

Fig. 3



Fig. 4

I show the seven different cancellations found on WOF covers (Fig. 5)--six duplex and one with only the WOF die, coupled with many different circular date stamps as shown in the cover (Fig. 6).

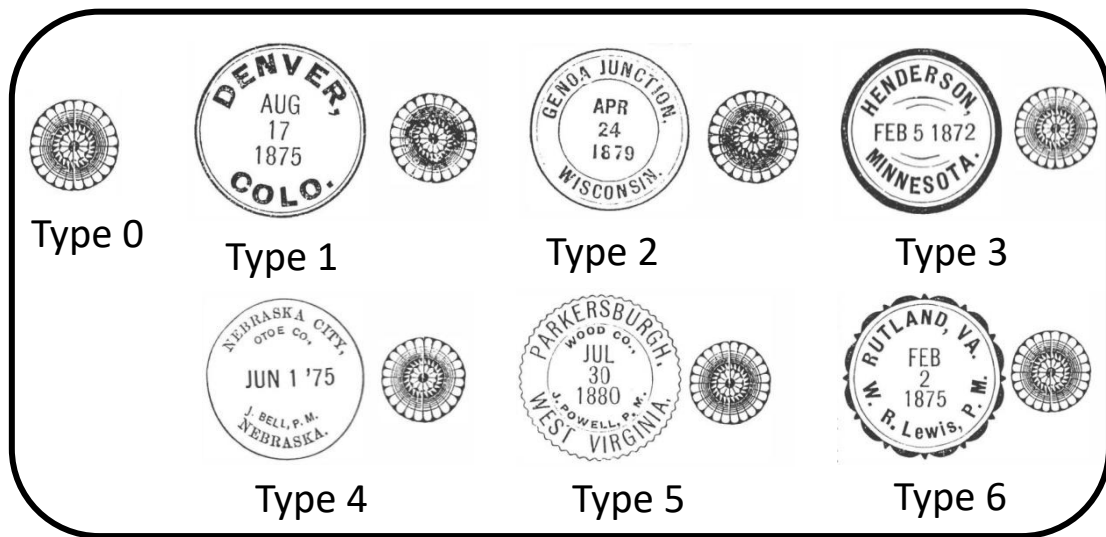


Fig. 5

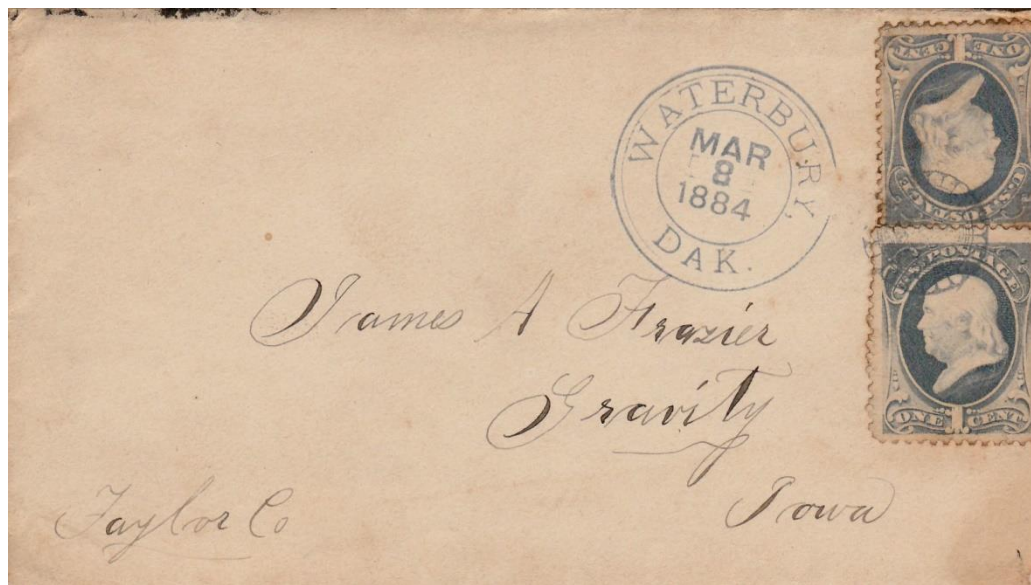


Fig. 6

The 1995 book "Cancellations and Killers of the Banknote Era 1870-1894" by James M. Cole listed a total of 353 US towns using the WOF cancel; for Dakota he listed 14 towns. Also the Kelleher Auction of the 2011 Arthur Beane sale had 22 Dakota WOF covers listed. To date, 36 different Dakota towns have been identified (Fig. 7). Some of these Wheel of Fortune Postmark covers follow this article.

Reference:

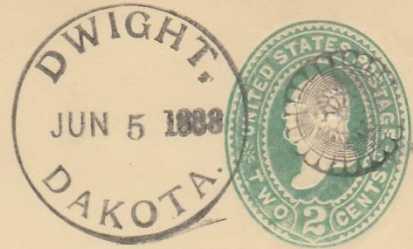
Cancellations and Killers of the Banknote Era 1870-1894 James M Cole
 US Cancellation Club News
 Kelleher Auctions sale #623 January 14, 2011 Arthur Beane

count	Town	Photo	Usage Range	type	Postmark Includes County	Cover Date
1	ND Ardoch **	p		2	Walsh County	xx
2	ND Bay Centre *	p	1888		Pembina County	88-12-9
3	ND Creel City * **	p	1884	2	Ramsey County	Co 84-1-10
	ND Creel City	p	1884	2	Ramsey County	Co 84-3-7
	ND Dwight	p	1888	3	Richland County	88-3-27
4	ND Dwight	p	1888	3	Richland County	88-6-5
	ND Dwight	p	1888	3	Richland County	88-7-20
5	ND Elgin **	p	1887	0	Grant County	87-8-10
	ND Elgin	p	1887	0	Grant County	87-9-5
6	ND Emma **				Dickey County	
	ND Kongsburg	p	1896	3	McHenry County	88-4-7
7	ND Kongsburg	p	1896	3	McHenry County	96-1-2
8	ND Lakota * **	p	1890	1	Nelson County	90-5-5
9	ND Laramore **	p	xx	1	Grand Forks County	xx-12-24
10	ND Larrabee **	p	1885	1	Foster County	85-7-7
11	ND Ludden **	p	1887	3	Dickey County	87-9-22
12	ND Niagara * **				Grand Forks County	
13	ND Oriska **	p	1882	1	Barnes County	82-10-26
14	ND Pingree * **	p	1885	1	Stutsman County	85-11-10
	South Dokota		SD			
15	SD Arlington *		1886		Brookings and Kingsbury co.	86-5-19
16	SD Artesian City **	p	1887-8	0	Sanborn County	87-8-8
17	SD Bristol	p	1883	1	Day County	83-3-7
18	SD Buffalo Gap **	p	1887	1	Custer County	87-10-11
19	SD Canty	p	1885	2	Aurora County	85-6-21
20	SD Carthage *	p	1888	3	Miner County	88-6-28
21	SD Corona	p	1889	3	Roberts County	89-10-9
22	SD Dell Rapids * **	p	1883-4	1	Minnehaha County	84-1-18
	SD Dell Rapids	p	1883-4	1	Minnehaha County	84-6-11
23	SD Eden *	p	1880-2	2	Lincoln County	Co 80-10-6
	SD Eden	p	1880-2	2	Lincoln County	Co 82-5-29
24	SD Egan	p	1888	1	Moody Co	Co 83-7-9
25	SD Estelline **	p	1884	0	Hamlin County	84-6-2
26	SD Harrison	p	1886	2	Douglas County	86-2-6
27	SD King	p	1882	2	Hand County	Co 82-6-7
28	SD Letcher **	p	1883	1	Sanborn County	83-1-3
	SD Letcher	p	1883	1	Sanborn County	83-7-25
29	SD Mellette * **	p	1883	2	Spink County	83-6-14
30	SD Miller * **	p	1882-3	1	Hand County	Co 82-5-29
31	SD Prior * **	p	1884-5	1	Roberts County	85-4-16
32	SD Redfield	p	1883	1	Spink County	83-5-3
	SD Redfield	p	1883	1	Spink County	xx
33	SD Scotland * **	p	1889	2	Bon Homme County	89-6-14
34	SD Tulare	p	1884	3	Spink County	84-12-4
35	SD Waterbury * **	p	1883-4	2	Jerauld County	83-6-19
	SD Waterbury	p	1883-4	2	Jerauld County	83-7-20
	SD Waterbury	p	1883-4	2	Jerauld County	84-3-8
36	SD Wheeler **	p	1885-7	0	Charles Mix County	87-7-29

* Cole list ** 2011 Beane sale

Fig. 7

Return to C. M. JOHNSON,
DWIGHT, Richland Co., Dakota,
If not delivered within 10 days.

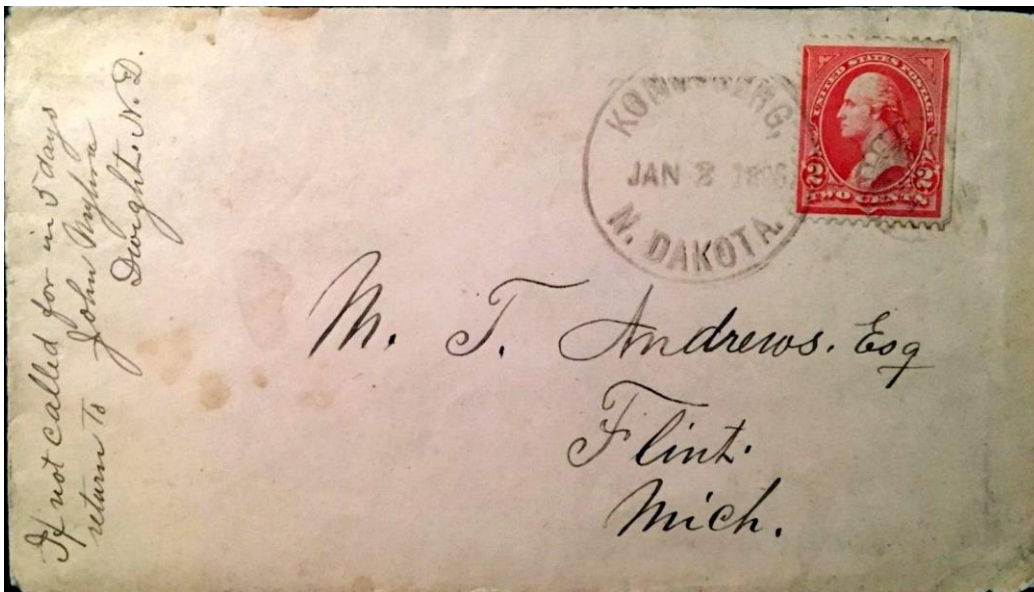


Cleveland Co Operator Stone Co
Cleveland
Ohio



Jan. 18, 1884

Mr. R. d. Kenyon,
Frederick,
Brown Co.,
Dakota



If not called for in 5 days
return to John Angora
Dwight, N. D.

Mr. T. Andrews. Esq
Flint.
Mich.

Only listing
after statehood
Kongsburg ND
Jan 2, 1896.