

New Jersey Wheel of Fortune Cancellation by Larry Rausch

This article details those towns using the Wheel of Fortune postmark that I have identified for the states of New Jersey.

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.

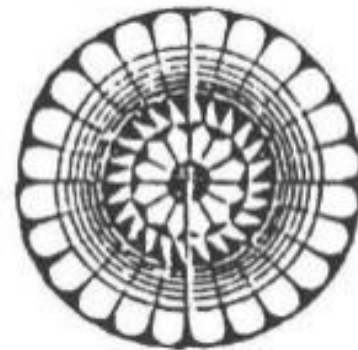


Fig. 1

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.

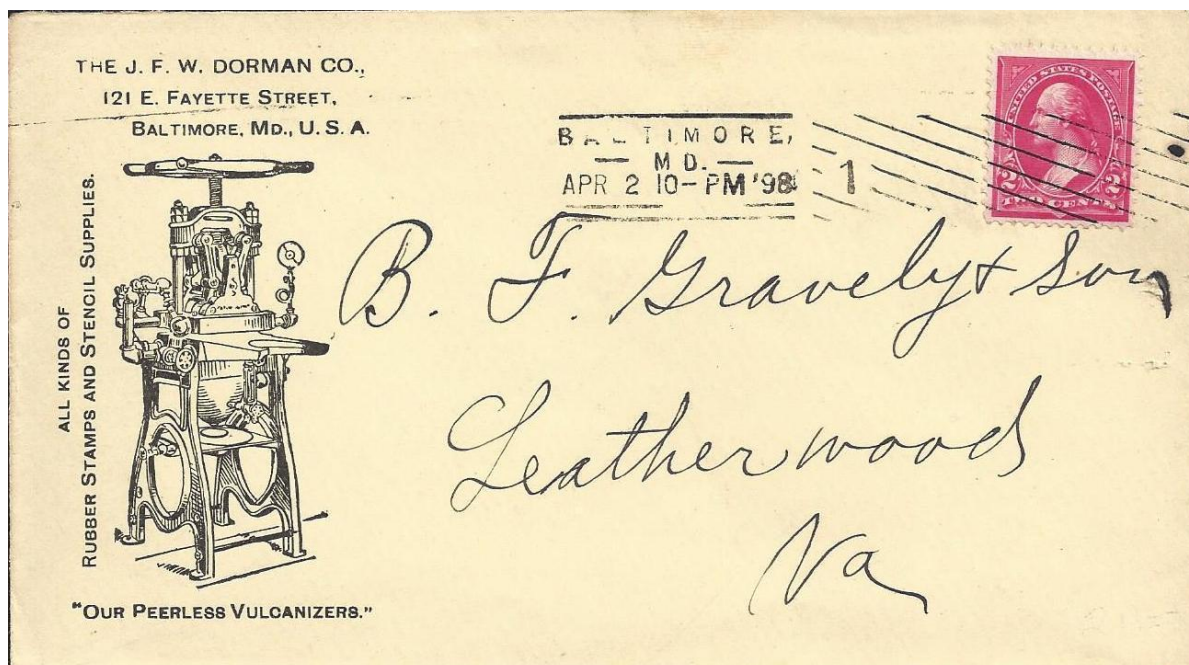


Figure 2. Illustrated advertising cover for the "Peerless Vulcanizers" which made rubber handstamp devices, like the Wheel of Fortune killer, possible.

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. The earliest from the New Jersey is dated May 10, 1883 from Clinton, New Jersey (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,


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. HARRIS, 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.



No. 530.



No. 531.



No. 532.






Fig. 3

**Clinton, New Jersey
 May 10, 1883**

Fig. 4

Wheel of Fortune cancels/killers were generally used in conjunction (as a duplex) with town postmarks, as shown (Fig. 5) in Types 1 through 6; however, the WOF is known stand-alone as well (Type 0) as shown in the Shiloh, New Jersey cover (Fig. 6).

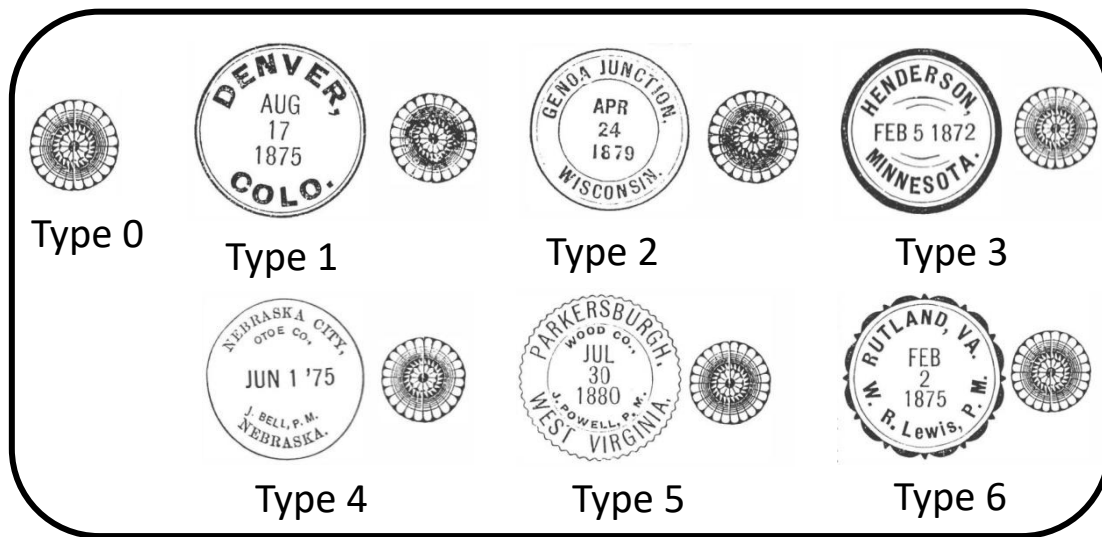


Figure 5

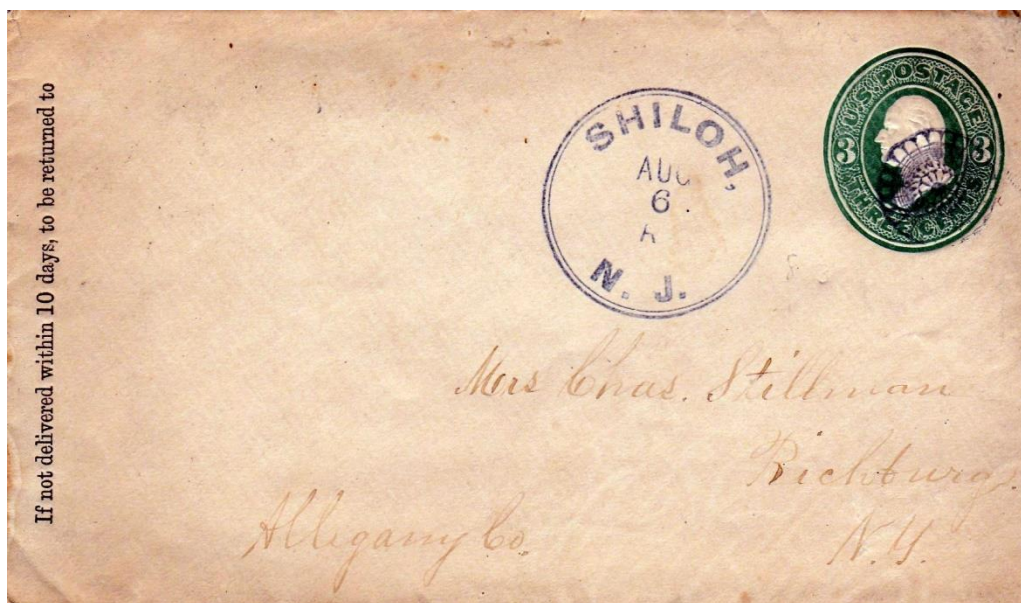


Fig. 6 Shiloh, N.J. Aug. 6, 1883

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 New Jersey he listed six towns. Also the Kelleher Auction of the 2011 Arthur Beane sale had 19 New Jersey WOF covers listed. To date, 21 different New Jersey towns have been identified (Fig. 7). Some of these Wheel of Fortune Postmark covers follow this article.

Reference:

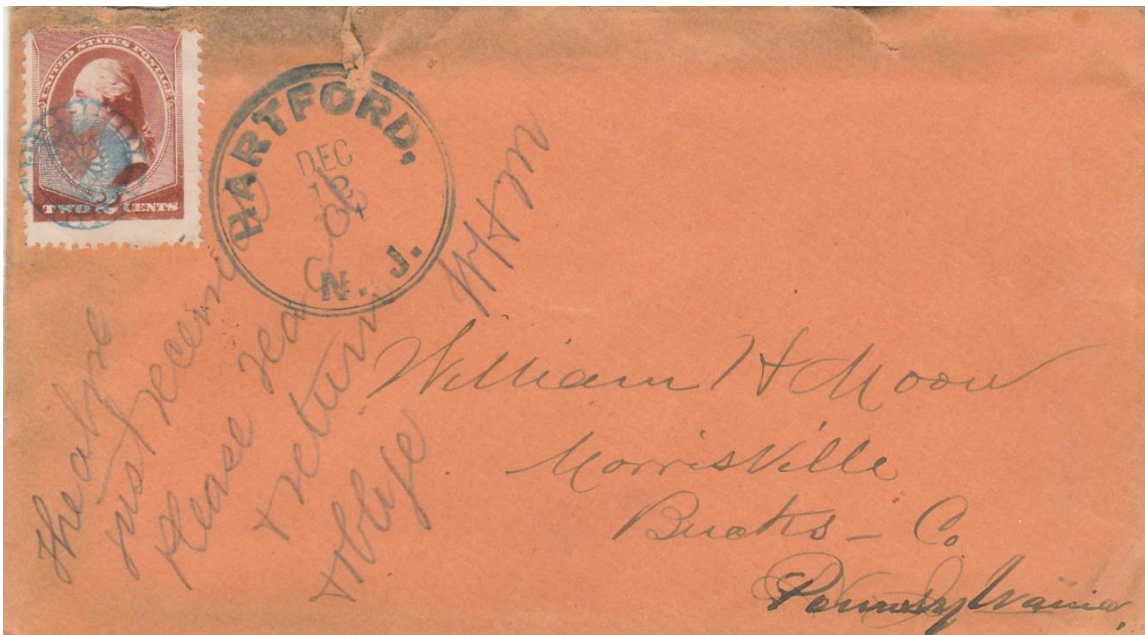
- 1) Cancellations and Killers of the Banknote Era 1870-1894 James M Cole
- 2) US Cancellation Club News
- 3) Kelleher Auctions sale #623 January 14, 2011 Arthur Beane

count		Town	Photo	Usage Range	type	County	Cover Date
1	NJ	Bloomington * **				Passaic County	
2	NJ	Cape May CH * **				Cape May County	
3	NJ	Cedar Creek **	p	1888-9	1	Ocean County	88-12-8
	NJ	Cedar Creek	p	1888-9	1	Ocean County	89-6-28
4	NJ	Clinton * **	p	1883	0	Hunterdon County	83-5-10
	NJ	Clinton	p	1883	0	Hunterdon County	83-9-19
	NJ	Clinton	p	1883	0	Hunterdon County	83-9-21
5	NJ	Delaware * **		1884-5		Warren County	84-7-18
6	NJ	Delaware Station **				Warren County	
7	NJ	Dunnfield **				Warren County	
8	NJ	Elmer **				Salem County	
9	NJ	Folsom **				Atlantic County	
10	NJ	Hartford * **		1884		Burlington County	84-10-23
	NJ	Hartford	p	1884		Burlington County	84-12-12
11	NJ	Jobstown **	p	1887	1	Burlington County	87-2-9
12	NJ	Key East **	p	1887	1	Monmouth County	87-2-8
13	NJ	Liberty Corner **				Somerset County	
14	NJ	Malaga **				Gloucester County	
15	NJ	Newell **				Monmouth County	
16	NJ	Oakland **				Bergen County	
17	NJ	Pemberton **				Burlington County	
18	NJ	Plainville **				Somerset County	
19	NJ	Pointville				Burlington County	
20	NJ	Shiloh	p	1883	1	Cumberland County	83-8-6
21	NJ	Westwood * **	p	89-95	2	Bergen County	89-9-21
	NJ	Westwood	p	89-95	2	Bergen County	90-6-30
	NJ	Westwood	p	89-95	2	Bergen County	95-7-18
		* Cole list ** 2011 Beane sale					

Figure 7. List of New Jersey post offices that used Wheel of Fortune cancels.



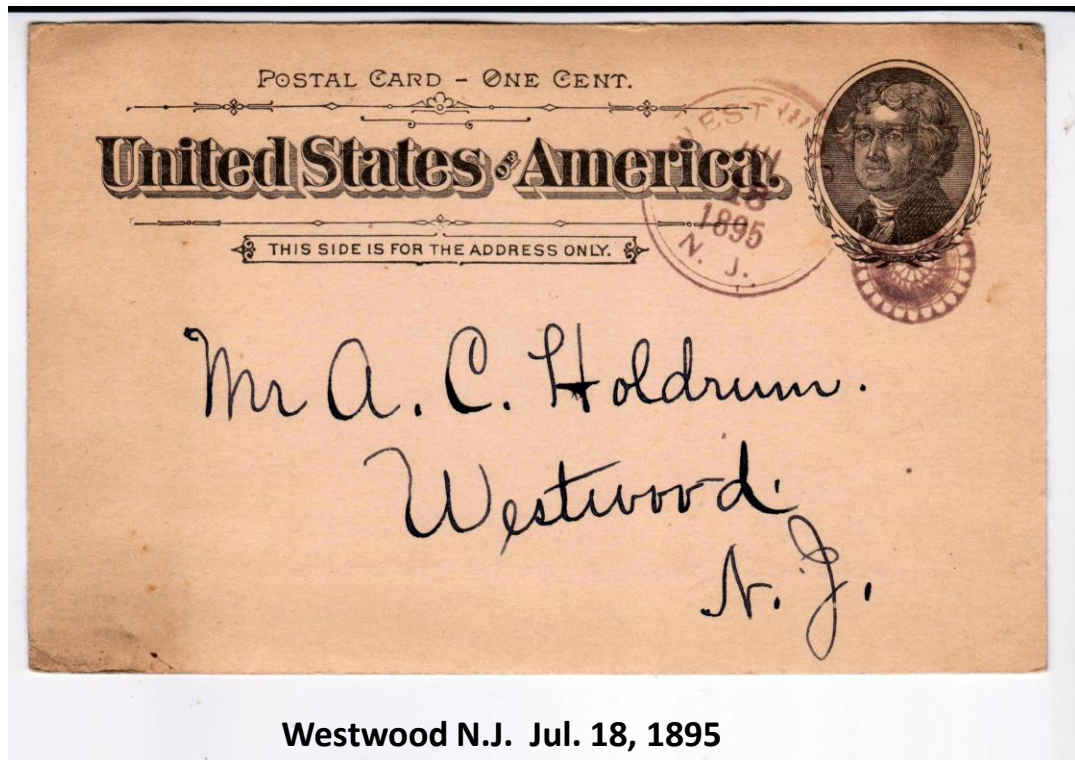
Cedar Creek, NJ Dec. 8, 1888



Hartford, N.J. Dec. 12, 1884



Jobstown N.J. Feb. 9, 1887



Westwood N.J. Jul. 18, 1895