

# Ohio Wheel of Fortune Cancellation

## by Larry Rausch

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

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](mailto:stonywoods840@gmail.com) . All state towns and duplicates would also be appreciated.*

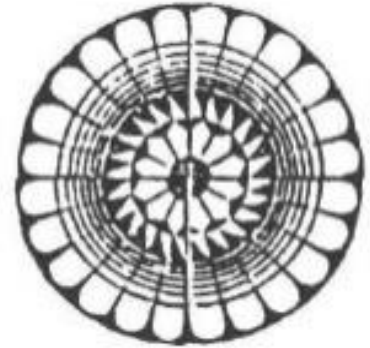


Fig. 1

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.

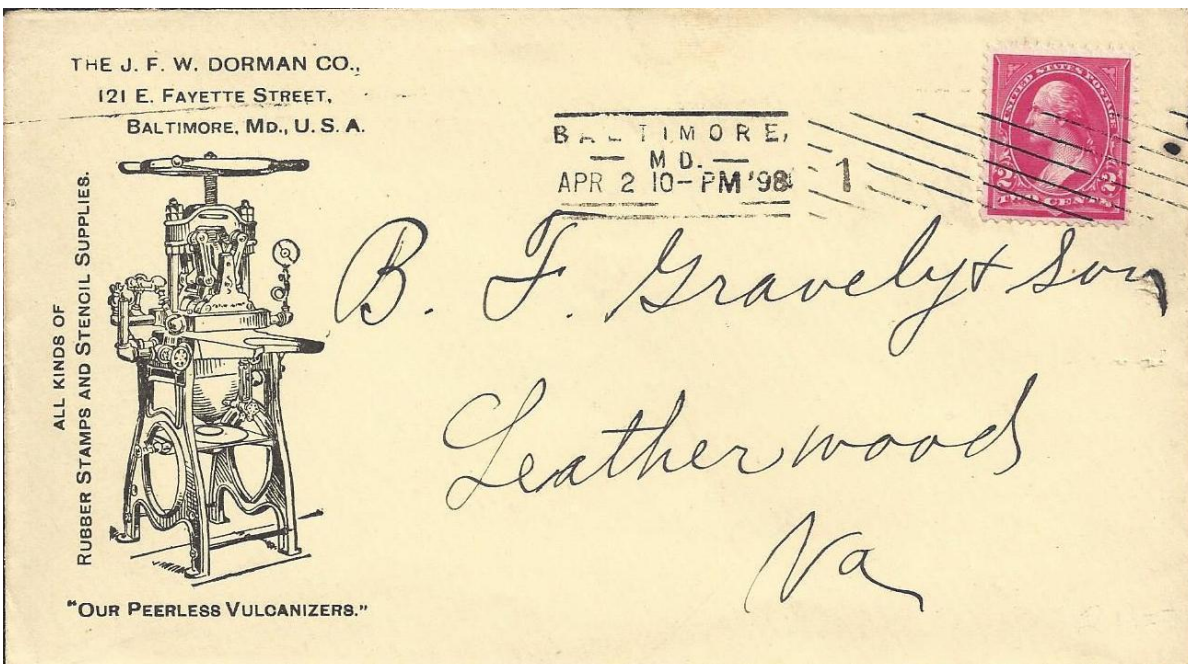


Fig. 2

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. Ohio has no covers dated in 1880--the earliest is dated Sept 9, 1881 from Bellville, Ohio (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.*

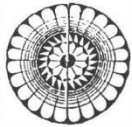
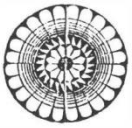



*No. 531.*



*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. Jous 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., Maxwell, 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 Lenox, Ohio cover (Fig. 6).

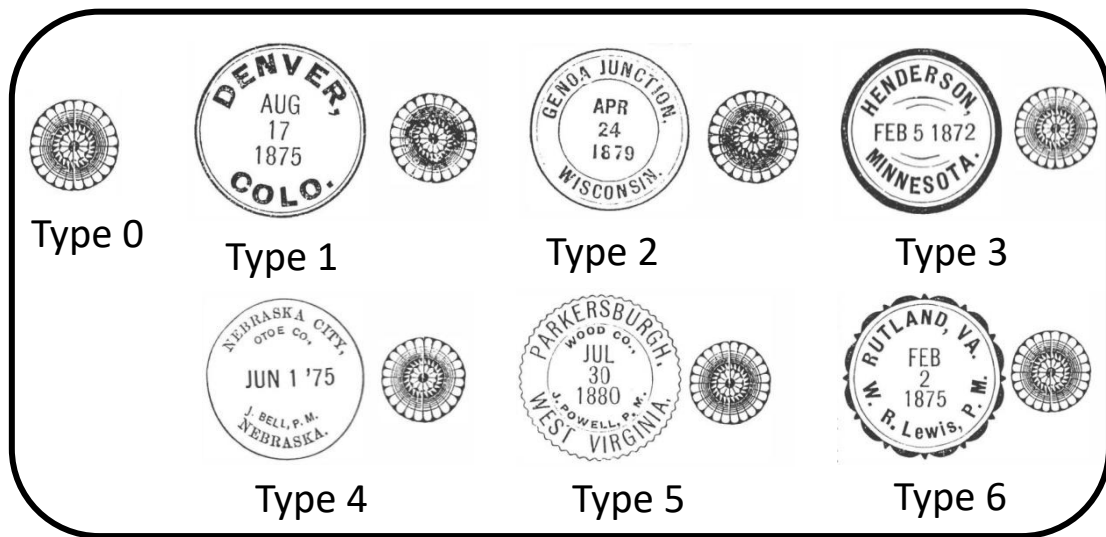


Fig. 5



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 Ohio he listed 18 towns. Also the Kelleher Auction of the 2011 Arthur Beane sale had 28 Ohio WOF covers listed. To date, 39 different Ohio 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	OH Agosta		1883		Marion County	
2	OH Armstrong				Belmont County	
3	OH Atwater * **		1890-8		Portage County	90-3-1
4	OH Bairdstown *	p	1887	2	Wood County	87-1-29
	OH Bairdstown		1887	2	Wood County	87-4-27
5	OH Baltic * **	p	1883-7	1	Tuscarawas County	85-6-1
6	OH Bellevue		1885		Huron County	
7	OH Bellville **	p	1881	2	Richland County	81-9-9
	Oh Bellville	p	1881	2	Richland County	81-12-23
8	OH Brice * **		1886		Franklin County	
9	OH Caldwell * **		1882		Noble County	82-6-27
10	OH Campbellstown *		1884-8		Preble County	
11	OH Chardon *		1882		Geauga County	
12	OH Dublin **	p	1883-4	2	Franklin, Delaware, & Union co	83-11-22
	OH Dublin	p	1883-4	2	Franklin, Delaware, & Union co	84-9-6
13	OH Eber *		1888		Ottawa County	88-6-11
14	OH Enterprise **	p	1884-6	1	Pickaway county	PM 84-7-8
15	OH Flushing **		1890		Belmont County	
16	OH Freeport * **	p	1882-8	1	Harrison County,	82-10-28
	OH Freeport	p	1882-8	1	Harrison County,	83-3-9
	OH Freeport	p	1882-8	1	Harrison County,	83-11-19
	OH Freeport	p	1882-8	1	Harrison County,	84-8-27
17	OH Gageville **		1898		Ashtabula County	
18	OH Garth's Ferry *				Unknown Town	
19	OH Hampden **		1885		Geauga County	
20	OH Hannibal * **		1882		Monroe County	
21	OH Hope **		1884		Franklin County	
22	OH Jenera		1888		Hancock County	
23	OH Lenox * **	p	1885	0	Ashtabula County	85-9-23
	OH Lenox	p	1885	0	Ashtabula County	85-11-20
24	OH London **		1884		Madison County	
25	OH Luckey **				Wood County	
26	OH McCutchenville * **	p	1886-7	1	Wyandot County	86-9-17
27	OH Martin's Ferry * **	p	1882-3	2	Belmont County	82-3-16
28	OH Mount Victory **		1882		Hardin County	
29	OH New Washington * **	p	1889	0	Crawford County	89-3-14
30	OH Ravenna *		1883-5		Portage County	83-12-25
31	OH Ridgeway **	p	1880-2	2	Hardin and Logan counties	xx-7-31
32	OH Sardis				Monroe County	
33	OH Scotch Ridge **	p	1884	1	Wood County	84-8-18
34	OH Spencer's Station **		1884-5		Guernsey County	
35	OH Sundale **		1885		Muskingum County	
36	OH Weillersville * **		1886		Wayne County	86-10-20
37	OH Westminster **		1886		Allen County	
38	OH Willow Dell * **	p	1887	1	Darke County	87-10-13
	OH Willow Dell	p	1887	1	Darke County	87-12-31
39	OH Winona **		1887		Columbiana County	
	* Cole list ** 2011 Beane sale					



**Bairdstown, Ohio Jan 29, 1887**



**Baltic, Ohio Jun 1, 1885**



**Dublin, Ohio Nov 22, 1883**



**Freeport, Ohio Oct 28, 1882**



**Scotch Ridge, Ohio Aug 18, 1884**