

# Pacific NW 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 Idaho, Montana, Oregon, and Washington.

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.*

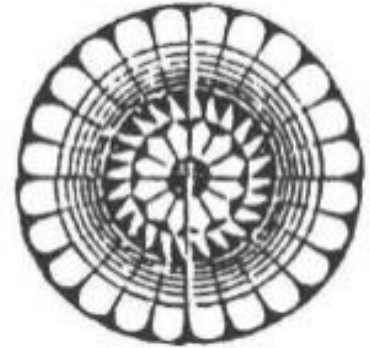


Fig. 1

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.



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 Pacific NW is dated May 11, 1881 from Fort Benton, Montana (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,

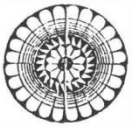
*No. 530.*






*No. 531.*







*No. 532.*





*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., Maxwell, Mo.  
 The Dater received, and I am well pleased with it. — CHAS. COOP, 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

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 Stella, Washington cover (Fig. 6).

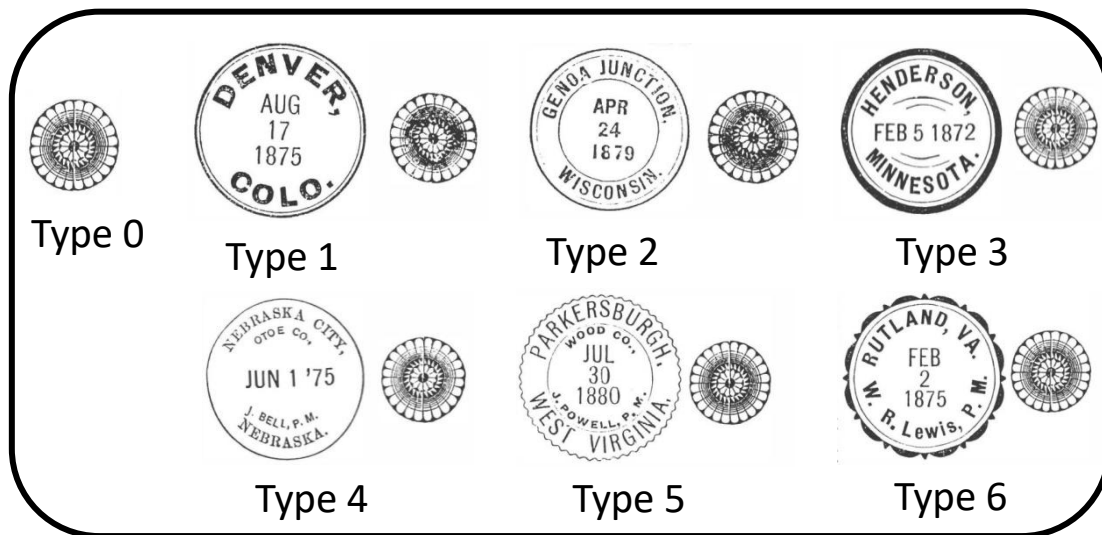


Figure 5

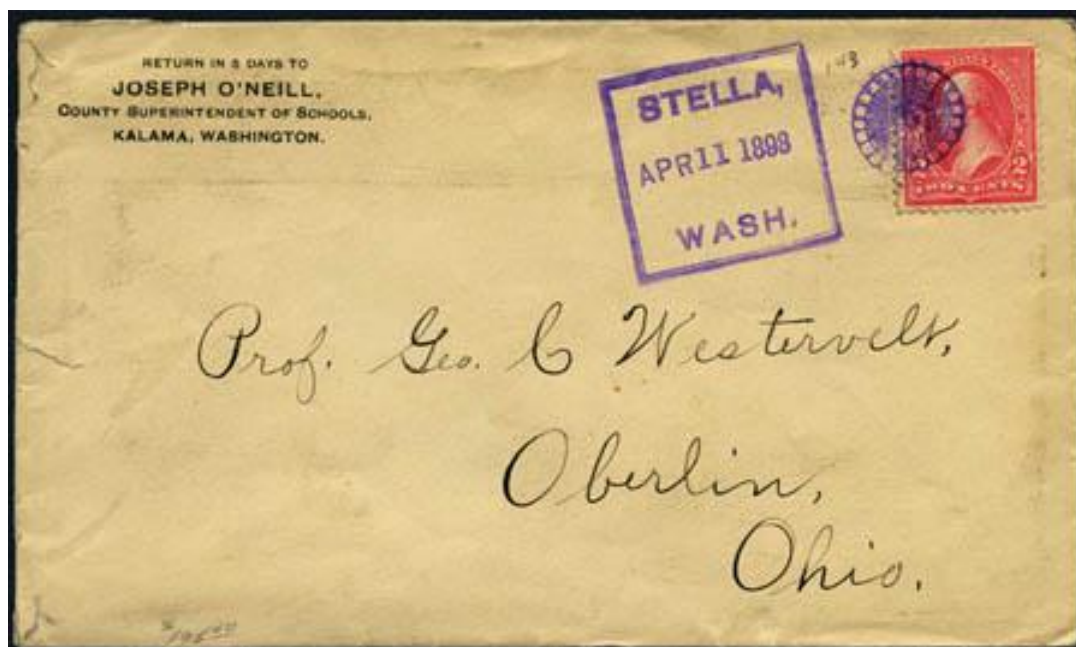


Fig. 6

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 Pacific NW he listed 38 towns. Also the Kelleher Auction of the 2011 Arthur Beane sale had 52 Pacific NW WOF covers listed. To date, 76 different Pacific NW towns have been identified (Fig. 7,8,). 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	ID	Town	Photo	Usage		Postmark Includes County	Cover Date
				Range	type		
1	ID	Aetna * **		1883		Custer County	83-10-13
2	ID	Blackfoot * ** #945	p	1881-2	2	Bingham County	82-8-16
3	ID	Bullion **				Alturas County	
4	ID	Rocky Bar *		1883		Alturas County	83-4-27
5	ID	St Charles *		1887		Bear Lake County	87-4-6
1	OR	Baker City * **	p	1886-8	2	Baker County	86-7-2
2	OR	Bridgeport * **		1883-4		Baker County	84-9-20
3	OR	Drain * **	p	1887	1	Douglas County	87-9-8
4	OR	East Portland * **	p	1887	1	Multnomah County	87-8-18
5	OR	Forest Grove * **	p	1887-90	2	Washington County	87-11-19
6	OR	Ft Klamath *	p	1886-7	2	Klamath County	87-2-7
7	OR	Fossil * **	p	1894-7	3	Wasco County	97-8-7
8	OR	Gold Hill **	p	1888	2	Jackson County	88-7-8
9	OR	Hubbard **	p	1886-8	2	Marion County	88-8-28
10	OR	Jacksonville * **	p	1886-8	2	Jackson County	86-4-18
11	OR	Junction City **	p	1889	2	Lane County	89-3-29
12	OR	Lexington *		1894		Morrow County	94-1-20
13	OR	Lookingglass **				Douglas County	
14	OR	McCoy * ** #966	p	1886-8	2	Polk County	86-12-24
15	OR	Medford * ** rev	p	1888-9	1	Jackson County	88-4-6
16	OR	Monroe **	p	1887	2	Benton County	87-3-2
17	OR	Moro	p	1887	3	Sherman County	87-6-6
18	OR	Myrtle Creek *		1887		Douglas County	87-7-8
19	OR	Myrtle Point **	p	1888-96	4	Coos County	88-11-9
20	OR	Newport * **	p	1887-90	2	Lincoln County	88-5-16
21	OR	Orencia		1913	1	Washington County	13-12-24
22	OR	Perrydale **	p	1890	2	Polk County	90-3-20
23	OR	Tangent **	p	1889	3	Linn County	89-4-17
24	OR	The Dalles	p	1887	2	Wasco County	87-7-11
25	OR	Tygh Valley * **		1886-7	2	Wasco County	87-7-25
26	OR	Union * **	p	1887-90	3	Union County	90-6-7
27	OR	Wheeler		1915-7	1	Tillamook County	15-5-26
28	OR	Yaquina **	p	1887-8	1	Lincoln County	87-6-16
* Cole list ** 2011 Beane sale							

Fig. 7

count	Town	Photo	Usage		Postmark Includes		Cover Date
			Range	type	County		
1	MT	Altyn **				Glacier County	
2	MT	Belknap	p	1888	1	Sanders County	88-01-24
3	MT	Big Timber ** #958	p	1892	2	Sweet Grass County	92-3-21
4	MT	Canyon Ferry **				Meagher County	
5	MT	Como **		1883		Missoula County	83-01-06
6	MT	Florence **				Lewis & Clarke County	
7	MT	Ft Benton * **	p	1881	2	Choteau County	81-05-11
8	MT	Fort Keogh **				Custer County	
9	MT	Lavina **				Meagher County	
10	MT	Nelson				Choteau (Lewis & Clarke) County	
11	MT	Roundup **				Yellowstone County	
12	MT	Thompson **				Missoula County	
13	MT	Wickes	p	1888	2	Jefferson County	88-7-13
1	WA	Avon *		1889-90	1	Skagit County	89-1-14
2	WA	Burge	p	1884-6	1	Kittitas County	84-06-23
3	WA	Colby * ** #896	p	1889	0	Kitsap County	89-6-3
4	WA	Covello *		1887		Columbia County	87-8-7
5	WA	Edmonds *				Snohomish County	
6	WA	Ellensburg * **	p	1885-8	2	Kittitas County	87-12-2
7	WA	Elma	p	1883-7	1	Gray's Harbor	86-02-08
8	WA	Endicott **		1886-91	2	Whitman County	
9	WA	Farmington * **		1888-90	2	Whitman County	
10	WA	Freeport *		1887-91	3	Cowlitz County	87-9-2
11	WA	Gray's River *		1887-90	2	Wahkiakum County	87-11-11
12	WA	Jackson *		1885		Cowlitz County	85-10-2
13	WA	Kalama * **		1887-90	2,3	Cowlitz County	91-11-8
14	WA	Kelso * **		1887-9	1	Cowlitz County	87-12-20
15	WA	Larene	p	1883-90	1	Lincoln County	83-07-14
16	WA	Marengo **				Columbia County	
17	WA	Miles **				Lincoln County	
18	WA	Mt Vernon * **		1888-91	3	Skagit County	90-2-2
19	WA	Port Ludlow *		1888		Jefferson County	88-1-21
20	WA	Purdy	p	1890-91	2	Pierce County	91-11-25
21	WA	Rosalia **		1886-90	2&3	Whitman County	
22	WA	Sidney *		1889-90	2	Kitsap County	90-5-31
23	WA	Snohomish **		1886-7	2&3	Snohomish County	
24	WA	Stanwood **		1887-9	2	Snohomish County	
25	WA	Stella *	p	1898	0	Cowlitz County	98-4-11
26	WA	Sumner * **	p	1885-90	0	Pierce County	90-2-27
27	WA	Union City **				Mason County	
28	WA	Walla * **		1886-7	2	Walla Walla County	86-8-14
29	WA	Washougal ** #970	p	1892	3	Clark County	92-5-18
30	WA	West Ferndale * **		1886-9	2	Whatcom County	87-5-22
* Cole list ** 2011 Beane sale							

Fig. 8



NOTHING BUT THE ADDRESS CAN BE PLACED ON THIS SIDE.

*H. S. Jesuick Esq  
Attorney  
Idaho*



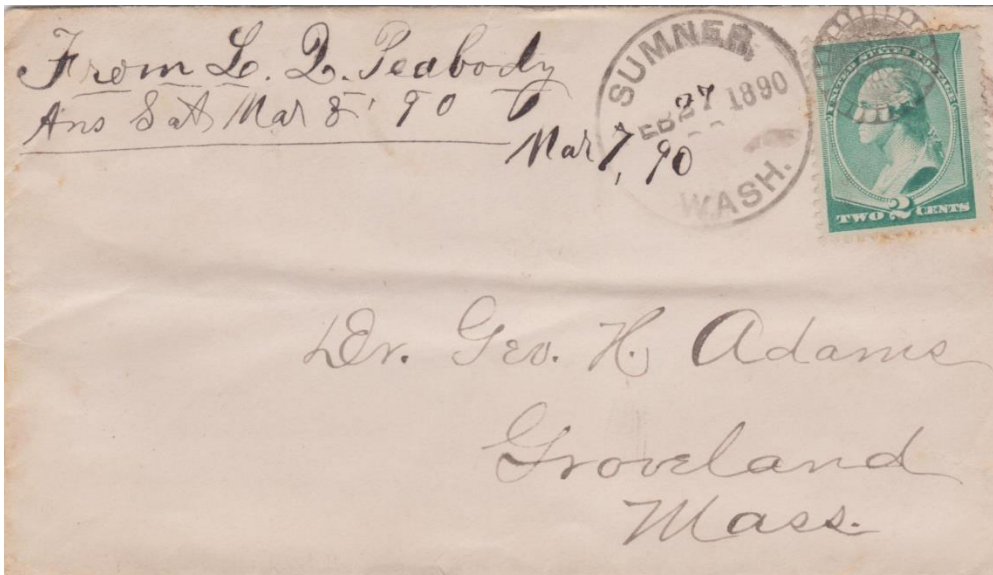
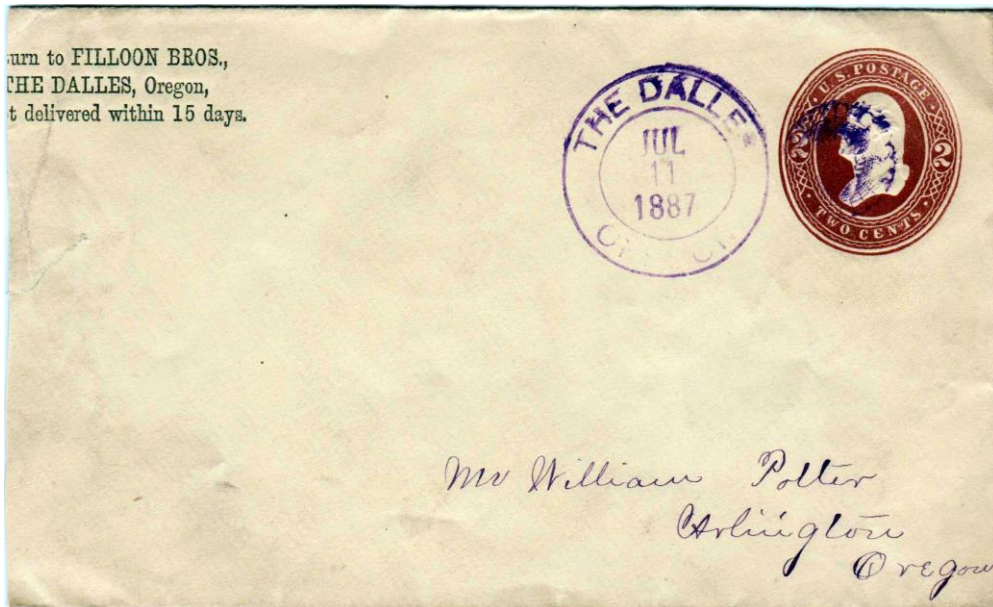
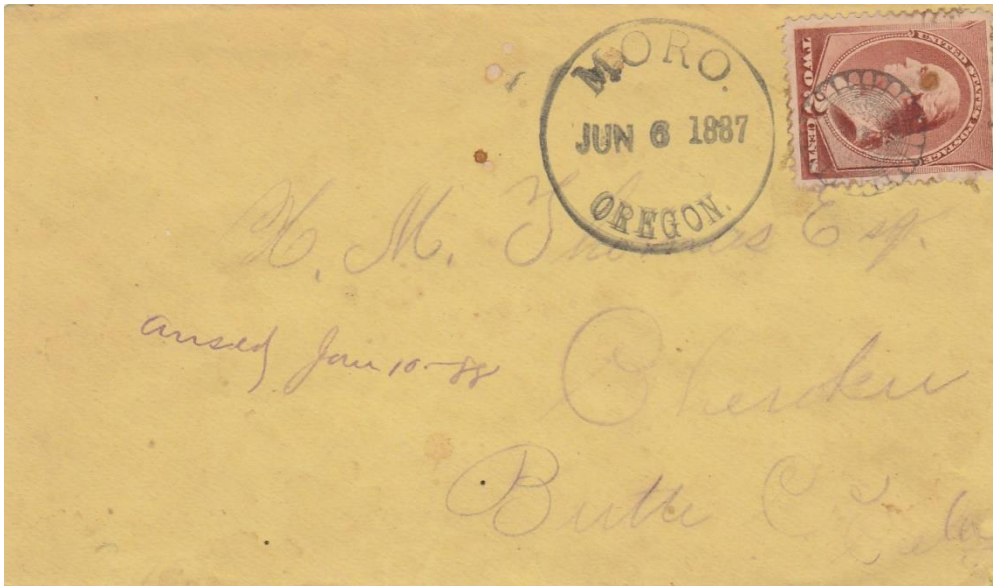
*Mr. Selby  
Glosser  
Basil*

*Fairfield Co Ohio*



*Mr. W. Holden  
Salmon  
Oregon*







Miss Alice Wright  
Washington  
D.C.

Per M 36  
96



**T. M. GANDY,**  
**Chester,**  
**Conn.**



6-25-92