

# Pennsylvania 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 Pennsylvania.

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.*

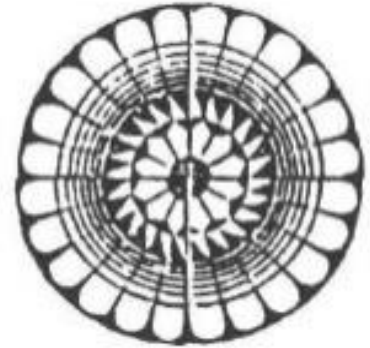


Fig. 1

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.

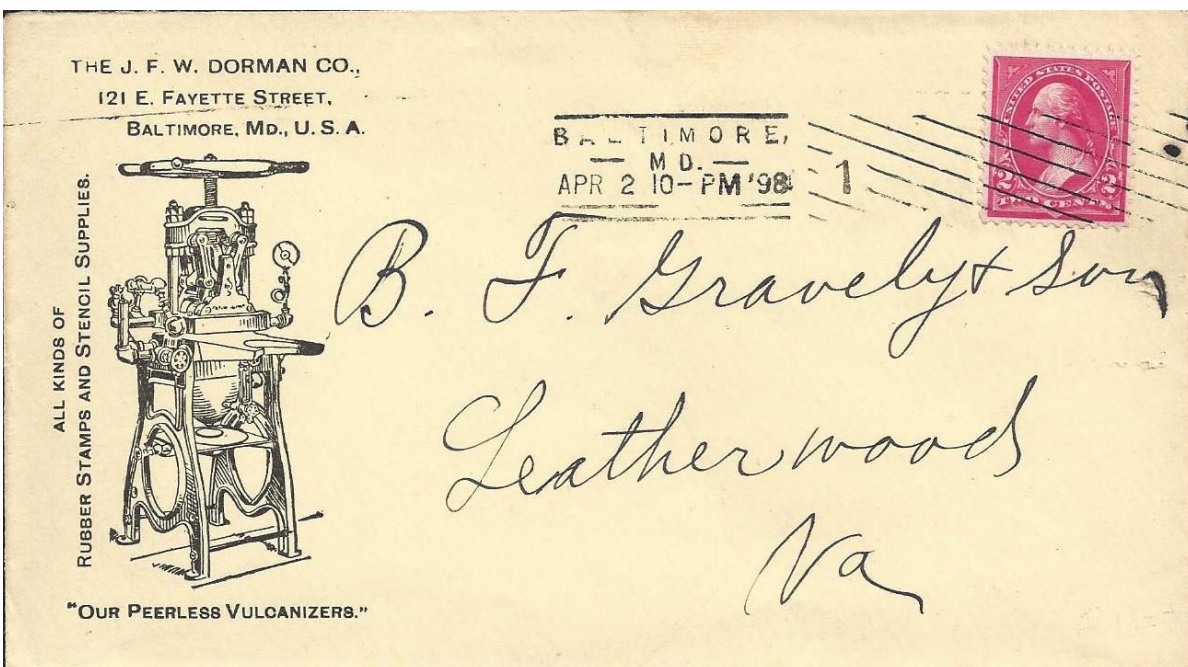


Fig. 2

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. The earliest Pennsylvania cover is dated August 22, 1882 from Gap, Pennsylvania (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. 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. 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. 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.**



*No. 530.*



*No. 531.*



*No. 532.*




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 Gilfoyle, Pennsylvania cover (Fig. 6).

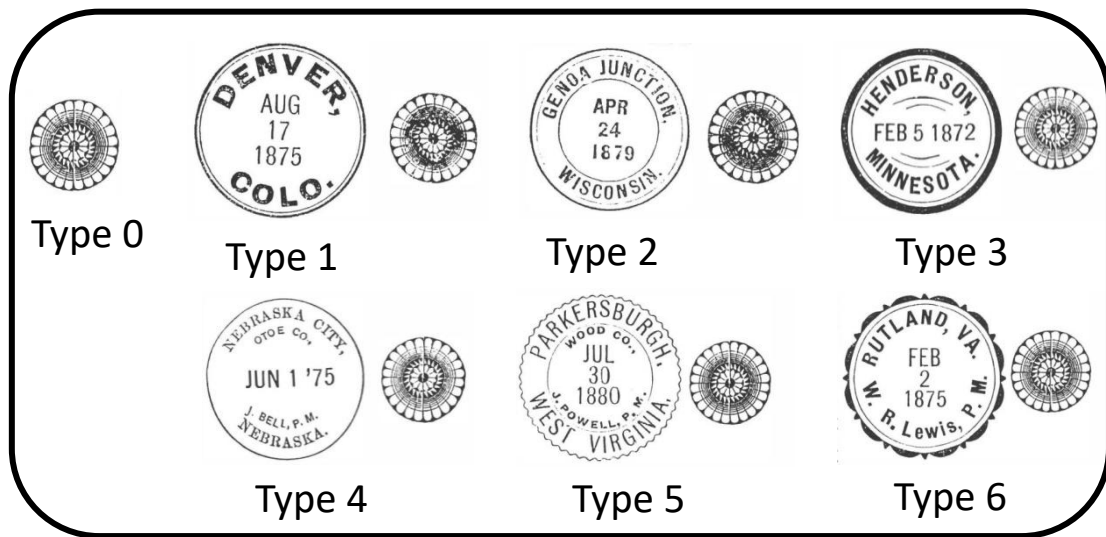


Fig. 5



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 Pennsylvania he listed 11 towns. Also the Kelleher Auction of the 2011 Arthur Beane sale had 29 Pennsylvania WOF covers listed. To date, 42 different Pennsylvania 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

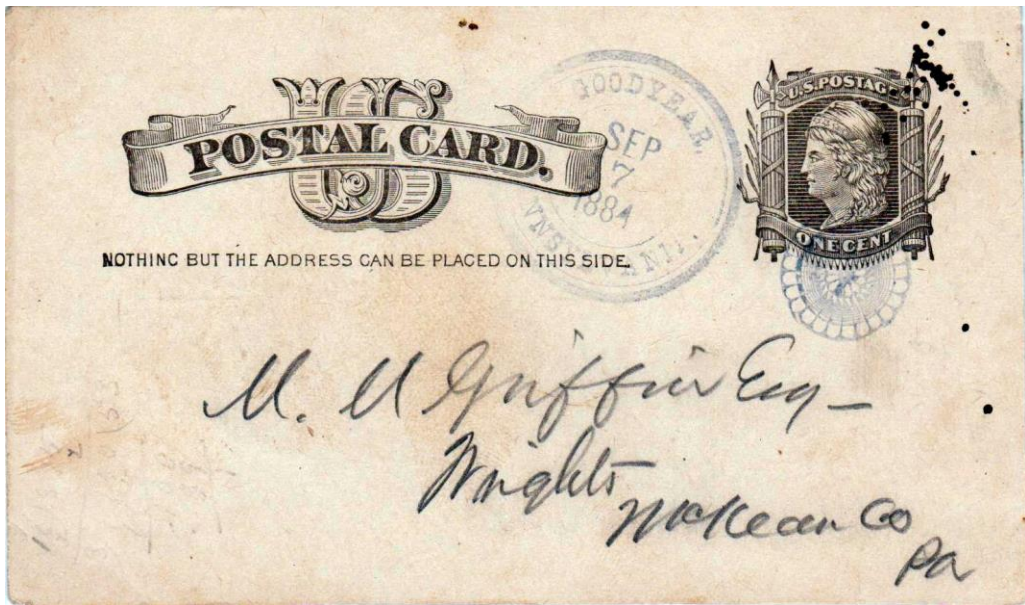
count	Town	Photo	Usage		Postmark Includes		Cover
			Range	type	County	Date	
1	PA Baxter *		1884-8	2	Jefferson County		84-1-16
	PA Baxter * **	p	1884-8	2	Jefferson County		84-11-12
	PA Baxter	p	1884-8	2	Jefferson County		86-1-29
	PA Baxter		1884-8	2	Jefferson County		86-5-14
	PA Baxter	p	1884-8	2	Jefferson County		86-6-30
	PA Baxter		1884-8	2	Jefferson County		86-12-10
	PA Baxter		1884-8	2	Jefferson County		87-3-7
	PA Baxter		1884-8	2	Jefferson County		88-6-11
2	PA Bayne * **		1890		Allegheny County		90-10-11
3	PA BoyerS		1888		Butler County		88-6-25
4	PA Burnwood **		1886		Susquehanna County		86-4-20
5	PA Cambria		1884		Cambria County		84-4-4
6	PA Cloud **		1886		Chester County		86-7-2
7	PA Coal Creek	p	1886	2	Henry County		86-1-2
8	PA Cross Creek Village**		1889		Tioga County		89-10-16
9	PA Dagus Mines * **		1884		Elk County		84-1-14
10	PA Fernwood **	p	1890	3	Jefferson County		90-7-21
	PA Fernwood		1890	3	Jefferson County		90-10-10
	PA Fernwood		1890	3	Jefferson County		90-10-16
11	PA Gap * **		1882-3	0	Lancaster County	Co	82-2-12
	PA Gap	p	1882-3	0	Lancaster County	Co	82-8-22
	PA Gap	p	1882-3	0	Lancaster County	Co	82-11-13
	PA Gap		1882-3	0	Lancaster County	Co	83-2-12
	PA Gap		1882-3	0	Lancaster County	Co	83-7-12
	PA Gap		1882-3	0	Lancaster County	Co	83-10-18
	PA Gap		1882-3	0	Lancaster County	Co	8x-7-3
12	PA Garrett **	p	1885	1	Somerset County		85-2-13
	PA Garrett		1885	1	Somerset County		85-3-30
13	PA Gilfoyle **	p	1885	0	Forest County	Co	85-7-15
14	PA Glen Riddle **		1884		Delaware County		84-12-29
15	PA Good Springs **		1894	0	Schuylkill County		94-5-22
	PA Good Springs	p	1894	0	Schuylkill County		94-9-24
	Pa Goodyear	p	1884-6	2	Cumberland county		84-9-7
16	PA Goodyear large **		1884-6	2	Cumberland county		85-10-19
	PA Goodyear large	p	1884-6	2	Cumberland county		85-12-18
	PA Goodyear large	p	1884-6	2	Cumberland county		86-6-25
17	PA Hauto		1884		Carbon County		84-9-17
18	PA Highville **		1887		Lancaster County		87-9-24
19	PA Homestead **	p	1884	1	Allegheny County		84-12-10
20	PA Iron Ore *		1887		York County		87-3-21
21	PA Ketner				Elk County		
	* Cole list ** 2011 Beane sale						

Fig. 7

count	Town	Photo	Usage Range	type	Postmark Includes County	Cover Date
22	PA Lander		1893		Warren County	93-6-18
23	PA Manor Dale **	p	1883	5	Westmoreland County	83-11-5
24	PA Mapleton Depot	p	1885	1	Huntingdon County	85-9-19
25	PA Millville Depot **		1883-4	0	Pike County	83-10-2
	PA Millville Depot	p	1883-4	0	Pike County	84-5-31
26	PA Nanticoke * **		1883	2	Luzerne County	83-4-3
	PA Nanticoke	p	1883	2	Luzerne County	83-4-19
	PA Nanticoke		1883	2	Luzerne County	83-4-24
27	PA Newtown Square		1883-9	2	Delaware County	Co 83-3-14
	PA Newtown Square * **	p	1883-9	2	Delaware County	Co 83-5-18
	PA Newtown Square		1883-9	2	Delaware County	Co 83-12-9
	PA Newtown Square		1883-9	2	Delaware County	Co 84-5-30
	PA Newtown Square		1883-9	2	Delaware County	Co 85-1-8
	PA Newtown Square		1883-9	2	Delaware County	Co 89-5-14
28	PA Paxtonville		1887		Snyder County	87-10-19
29	PA Rice's Landing **		1881-5		Greene County	pm 81-12-31
	PA Rice's Landing **		1881-5		Greene County	pm 85-6-17
30	PA Royer * **	p	1888-9	4	Blair County	Co 88-6-25
	PA Royer	p	1888-9	4	Blair County	Co 89-1-7
31	PA Schwenkville * **		1886-8		Montgomery County	86-4-1
	PA Schwenkville		1886-8		Montgomery County	86-4-6
	PA Schwenkville		1886-8		Montgomery County	88-1-24
32	PA Smethport		1884-6	1	McKean County	84-4-3
	PA Smethport		1884-6	1	McKean County	84-5-5
	PA Smethport	p	1884-6	1	McKean County	84-7-21
	PA Smethport		1884-6	1	McKean County	85-5-23
	PA Smethport		1884-6	1	McKean County	86-2-2
	PA Smethport		1884-6	1	McKean County	86-8-21
33	PA Stahlstown **		1887		Westmoreland County	87-1-29
34	PA Sterling Run		1889		Cameron County	
35	PA Sydney		1884	0	Armstrong County	84-7-12
36	PA Thomasville		1887		York County	87-2-12
37	PA Trucksville **		1887		Luzerne County	87-8-5
38	PA Weidasville **		1892		Lehigh County	92-5-24
39	PA Welsh Run * **		1888	1	Franklin County	88-2-20
	PA Welsh Run	p	1888	1	Franklin County	88-2-13
40	PA White Haven * **		1883	2	Luzerne County	83-8-6
	PA White Haven		1883	2	Luzerne County	83-8-16
	PA White Haven	p	1883	2	Luzerne County	83-8-22
41	PA Williams **		1885		Somerset County	85-6-13
42	PA Wilmore **		1883-4		Cambria County	83-8-8
	PA Wilmore		1883-4		Cambria County	84-12-11
	* Cole list ** 2011 Beane sale					

Fig. 8





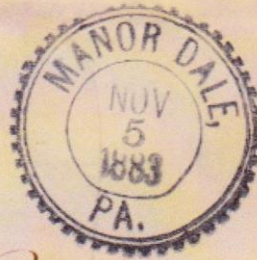




NOTHING BUT THE ADDRESS CAN BE PLACED ON THIS SIDE.

Messrs D Baker & Co  
Buckeytown  
Md

If not delivered within 10 days, to be returned to



Messrs Powell Bros  
Springboro  
Crawford Co Pa

D.P.O.



Miss Maud Mourtz  
Cove Forge  
Blair Co  
Pa.

Williamstown

D.P.O.