



# THE PHILATELIC FREEMASON

Journal of the  
MASONIC STUDY UNIT



Editor  
Robert A. Domingue  
59 Greenwood Road  
Andover, Mass. 01810

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JULY-AUGUST 1985

WHOLE NO. 48

## SYLVANUS THAYER



Sylvanus Thayer, the Father of West Point, was born in Braintree, Mass., on June 9, 1785. He was the valedictorian for his graduation from Dartmouth in 1807 and was offered an appointment to West Point before leaving college. After a brief course at the military school, he entered the Army as Second Lieutenant of Infantry in 1807 and was commissioned Second Lieutenant of Engineers on Feb. 22, 1808. He served under the command of Maj. Gen. Dearborn in the campaign of 1812 and was sent to Europe in 1815 to study the French fortifications and the science of war as practiced by Napoleon. Upon his return, he became Superintendent of the U. S. Military Academy at West Point on July 28, 1817, embarking on a career which made the academy so celebrated as a school of military science.

He left West Point in 1833, at his own solicitation, and took charge of the fortifications in Boston Harbor until Feb. 1857. He retired with the rank of Brigadier General in 1863 after serving an apparent record of 55 years without leave in the U. S. Army. He later established and endowed the Thayer School of Engineering at Dartmouth College and provided funds for a public library in his home town. He died in So. Braintree on Sept. 7, 1872, and was buried at West Point.

Investigation into the Masonic background of Sylvanus Thayer has proven to be a very complex and, as of this writing, inconclusive exercise. The task at hand has been to provide a tie between the Gen. Thayer of West Point fame and the Sylvanus Thayer who was a member of King David Lodge of Taunton, Mass. The later Sylvanus Thayer was initiated on March 24, 1847, and raised on April 28, 1847. (Grand Lodge records show he was initiated on June 16, 1847.) He was named Tyler on Dec. 15, 1847, serving through 1849. On Dec. 26, 1849, he was elected Junior Warden for one year. He sat in the station of Senior and Junior Warden several times afterwards but was never elected. He last occupied the West in 1852. He was suspended from King David Lodge in 1870 for non-payment of dues.

Back in 1934 there was a series of correspondences between Rt. Wor. W. K. Walker,

SYLVANUS THAYER (Cont'd)

Librarian of the Grand Lodge of New York, and Wor. Edward W. Burt, Secretary of King David Lodge, along the same line of investigation. Copies of the correspondence and the related letters to and from the Weymouth Historical Society, Braintree Town Historian, Taunton Town Clerk and the Great Grandson of a Sylvanus Thayer have just recently been provided to me by Rt. Wor. Robert N. Williams III, presently the Secretary of King David Lodge and managing Editor of the TROWEL magazine published quarterly by the Grand Lodge of Massachusetts. These letters do not lead to any specific conclusion but do tend to indicate that the Sylvanus Thayer of West Point fame is not the same Sylvanus Thayer who was a member of King David Lodge. Wor. Bro. Burt, in fact, believed that the tastes of Gen. Thayer ran in other directions. Further research indicates that the Sylvanus Thayer who belonged to King David Lodge was born on Nov. 20, 1803, in Taunton, Mass., according to the records of births in Taunton before the year 1850 published by the New England Historical and Genealogical Society of Boston. The Gen. Thayer of West Point was born on June 9, 1785, as stated earlier.

More recent correspondence received from Col. Alan P. Thayer included a copy of the write-up on Gen. Sylvanus Thayer as it appears in the Thayer Genealogy by Bezaleel Thayer, 1874. It mentions nothing of the Masonic Order and Col. Thayer believes Gen. Thayer was too fine a character to become deficient in Lodge dues. He identifies that there are several other Sylvanus Thayers who descended from Richard or Thomas in the Braintree area and that the group located in Taunton is not included in this list. The Thayers in Taunton descended from Nathaniel, a cousin of Richard and Thomas. They all came from Thombury, England, in the mid 1600's. The Braintree Sylvanus Thayers were born in 1774; Oct. 1, 1781; June 9, 1785; March 24, 1786; July 9, 1798; Nov. 28, 1803; Aug. 9, 1806; 1809; Dec. 27, 1827; Dec. 30, 1834; and June 1839.

One further lead, however, is that Gen. Thayer is reported as having tried to organize a Masonic Lodge while at West Point. I am pursuing this path with officials at the U.S.M.A. and will not stop the research until all avenues have been explored. In the meantime, I will continue to carry Gen. Thayer on the list of probable Masons.

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MEMBERSHIP INFORMATION

NEW MEMBERS

None - WHY??????

ADDRESS CHANGE

72 Kit Carson Price, 309 Moo 1, Tambon None Soong, Udorn 41330 THAILAND.

CLOSED ALBUMS

374 C. Colin Jackson, No. Vancouver, B.C. CANADA (Dec. 27, 1984)

LODGE ACTIVITIES

Bro. James Hogg, Member #231 of Fort Myers, Fla., (also a Masonic cover producer) is currently serving as Worshipful Master of Ft. Myers Beach Lodge No. 362 F. & A.M., Principal Conductor of the Work in Ft. Myers Council No. 25 R. & S.M., Royal Arch Captain of Poinciana Chapter No. 50, R.A.M., and Standard Bearer of Ft. Myers Commandery No. 32, R.Y.. In his words, "Needless to say, I am quite busy".

ILLNESSES

In a very relieved manner, Bro. Dick Needham was able to report that the tumor removed from his leg was non-malignant and he is on a rapid road to recovery. Congratulations Dick.



NEW ISSUES

The following new issues have relationship to a Masonic Philatelic collection:

- Feb. 28    Sierre Leone - 40th Anniversary of International Civil Aviation Organization - 4 Values + S/S  
              70¢ Capt. Eddie Rickenbacker & 1918 Spad XIII  
              2 leones Charles Lindbergh & Spirit of St. Louis
- Mar. 23    Argentina - Famous People - 4 Values  
              30p Jose Hernandez  
              40p Vincente Lopez y Planes
- Mar. 29    Romania - Famous Romanians - 4 Values  
              1 leu Grigore Alexandrescu
- Apr. 16    Yugoslavia - Osimo Agreements/Road of Friendship - 1 Value  
              6d symbolic emblem with handshake
- Apr. 25    Hungary - 300th Anniversary of the Totfalusi Bible - 1 Value  
              2 ft Title page of the Bible
- May 15    Australia - Conservation - 4 Values    33¢ Hourglass (see separate article)
- May 25    United States - 22¢ AMERIPEX - shows stamp picturing B. Franklin
- June 7    United States - 9¢ Sylvanus Thayer (see separate article)
- June 7    Jamaica - 85th Birthday of the Queen Mother - 4 Values + S/S  
              \$5 S/S with Queen Elizabeth, Prince Philip and Princess Anne
- June 7    Solomon Islands - 85th Birthday of the Queen Mother - 4 Values + S/S  
              12¢ with Winston Churchill on balcony at Buckingham Palace
- June 10    Liechtenstein - The Four Cardinal Virtues - 4 Values  
              35 r - Justice, 50 r - Temperance, 70 r - Prudence, 1 F - Fortitude
- June 11    United States - 11¢ Stutz Bearcat (Harry C. Stutz) (see separate article)
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The Republic of South Africa issued a pair of stamps on March 11 for the Centenary of Mafikeng. The 11¢ stamp pictures Chief Montshiwa while the 25¢ stamp shows Sir Charles Warren. (A separate article discusses his Masonic ties.) Copies of the set and maximum cards are available, postfree, from Philatelic Services and Intersapa, Private Bag X505, Pretoria 0001, Republic of South Africa. The cost (in RSA currency) is 36¢ per set for the stamps (mint or cancelled) and 56¢ per maximum card set; a per-order service charge of 20¢ is levied for all orders for stamps.

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CORRECTION TO "US POSTAGE FIRSTS"

Bro. Roy Schwartz, member No. 67 of Ringwood, N.J., informs us of a correction he has to the "US Postage Firsts" which was provided with the last newsletter. On page 8 of the booklet Bro. Kane identifies the Kennedy brothers as the first brothers pictured on individual stamps. Bro. Schwartz points out that the Perry brothers were the first (and that both were Freemasons as well). Oliver H. Perry first appeared in 1870 (Scott 144) and his brother Matthew C. Perry appeared in 1953 (Scott 1021). Thank you, Bro. Schwartz for pointing this out.

MASONIC PHILATELY RESEARCH

A recent series of events related to Masonic Philately research has prompted this article, explanation and editorial - all rolled up into one. First, let me indicate that not everyone can or wants to conduct true research into our hobby. This activity requires a good reference source, an inquisitive nature, a probing desire for further information and a careful eye to attempt to discern fact from fiction or fantasy. I would dare say that of the 300 members of our Unit, no more than 10 percent or 30 members are or want to be so inclined. The others are content to read the works of others and decide what he or she wants to collect. It is this ten percent which is forging our hobby ahead - identifying new cases of Masons on stamps; renewing and amplifying information on Masons previously identified and, in some instances, repudiating information on persons previously identified as Masons.

Next, let us all recall that early Masonic records were, at best, sketchy and far from complete. This historian's nightmare persisted well into the twentieth century in many Lodges and some Grand Lodges. Fires and other disasters took their toll of records as well as the fears of the unfortunate "Dark Period". All in all, research into Masonic affiliations and memberships of more than 75 years ago is a very imperfect art and in many instances the data are ambiguous and subject to interpretation. The lead article on Sylvanus Thayer is an excellent example of this problem.

In those situations where an interpretation is possible which might sway the evidence one way or the other, I like to be able to perform the interpretation myself. I want to see the data and hear both sides of the discussion for my own evaluation. I carry that philosophy to the way I present information in this newsletter. I do not want to dictate which way the opinion should go - I want to present all information so each of you can assess and determine the solution you want to adopt.

The particular case in point which has highlighted this discussion was Bro. J. Hamill's letter which I included in the previous newsletter. It identified certain alleged inaccuracies in articles submitted by Bro. Sid Martin of South Australia. I did not necessarily agree with some of the findings reported by Bro. Hamill but I believed he should be heard - just as my predecessor included Bro. Martin's articles. Those readers and collectors who are truly interested in resolving an apparent controversy will research their files for supporting evidence one way or the other.

The point/counterpoint proceedings which we see should not show unfavorably on either individual. Each is conducting research in the way and manner which he sees fit; each should be looked upon as one who had the capability and desire to perform research - they should be commended for that. Bro. Martin should not be looked down upon because his information was questioned. (He has provided me with the back-up data to "prove" his contentions - now it is Bro. Hamill's turn to do the same.) Unfortunately we do not have a one-on-one debate platform capability to try to draw a unified conclusion to the research activities.

A similar situation appears in this newsletter in the article provided by Bro. Edsel Hatfield on John James Audubon. Researchers back in the 1960's and earlier, led by Mirt and Beltmann concluded that Audubon was a Mason and included him in their lists of Masons on stamps. In the 1970's Marshall Loke took another look at the available information and concluded that he was not a Mason - this belief is also shared by Rt. Wor. Alan Boudreau who has also had opportunity to review some of the data. Now Bro. Hatfield has re-looked at the information with a new outlook. Are we now to think any less of Bro. Loke - I think not.

In summary, I believe that any Masonic Philately researcher should be commended for performing the task and that his findings should be evaluated on their own merit as well as in conjunction with related findings in the same field. Keep up the good work, we need it.



MSU/ATA COVERS

A series of Masonic First Day Covers are now in final preparation by your Editor:

- #6 USS Constitution - Old Ironsides, noting Masons who were  
Commander or Captain of this famous vessel.  
(Stamp issued May 3)
- #7 Sylvanus Thayer - Father of West Point. Even though this  
issue has not yet been settled, I don't want to  
miss the opportunity. (Stamp issued June 7)
- #8 Harry C. Stutz - Designer of the Stutz Bearcat. (Stamp  
issued June 11)

The cost of these covers is the same as before: \$1.00 each plus a SASE, ordered from the Editor. at 59 Greenwood Rd., Andover, Mass. 01810.

There are still copies of covers #1 to #5 available for sale although the quantities of #3 (St. Lawrence Seaway) and #3A (both U.S. and Canada St. Lawrence Seaway cancels) are getting very low. (The cost of #3A is \$1.50).

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SIR CHARLES WARREN  
1840-1927

Sir Charles Warren was educated at Cheltenham College and received his military training at Sandhurst. He became a Lieutenant in the Royal Engineer Corps serving from 1861 to 1865. He was stationed in Gibraltar where he made a through survey of the Rock and participated in archaeological explorations in the Holy Land, writing two works on the subject. He served in Africa three times, the third as Lieutenant General commanding the 5th Division of the Army in the second Anglo-Boer War. He served as Chief of the London Metropolitan Police from 1886 to 1888.

Sir Charles Warren was a Founder Member and the first Worshipful Master of the Quatour Coronati Lodge No. 2076, London, the premier Masonic Research Lodge.

Bro. Warren is pictured on a recent release of the Republic of South Africa as described on page 487.

-Information provided by Trevor Frey in the Masonic  
Philatelic Club (of Great Britain) Bulletin.

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MORE MASONIC PHILATELIC "GET-TOGETHERS"

Edsel Hatfield and his wife Jessie spent May 22 to 30 in the eastern Massachusetts area on vacation. As part of the trip a dinner "get-together" was planned for club members in the area. Unfortunately reasons of business, health, vacation and travel distance kept many away but on Thursday evening, May 23, some of us gathered at Oliver's Restaurant in Lowell, Mass., for a fine meal and an evening of relaxation and good conversation/fellowship. On hand to greet Edsel and Jessie were Bill Otenti, our newsletter mailer, Gary Gozomba, a former co-worker of mine who had met the Hatfields in St. Louis, your Editor and his wife, Joyce. Later on in their visit, Edsel and Jessie journeyed to Nantucket to meet with Unit member Bob Grimes.

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Bro. Kemp recently underwent surgery for a knee replacement. All appears to be well after his April 25 ordeal and he is on the therapeutic road to recovery.

JOHN JAMES AUDUBON

As mentioned elsewhere in this newsletter, it is refreshing when new sources of information are uncovered; when old sources are re-evaluated the results can also be exciting - but sometimes contraversal especially when the findings reverse previously accepted theories. Back in the 1960's the general trend was to accept John James Audubon as being a Mason. This outlook was reversed by Bro. Marshall Loke and others in the 1970's. In conjunction with the recent U.S. 22¢ Great Americans issue of April 23, 1985, which pictures J. J. Audubon, Bro. Edsel Hatfield has re-examined the available records and strongly believes that this interpretation should be reversed ( or rather re-reversed). His treatise on the subject is presented below:

Occasionally there have been persons reputed by others to be Masons who never claimed to be Masons themselves by word or deed. Lacking Lodge records, we have regrettably dismissed the claims in later years - persons such as Nathanael Greene, General Marion, Rochambeau, General Gates, Mad Anthony Wayne to name but a few.

However, in the case of John James Audubon, we have a case where, throughout his career there are personal references and letters referring to his membership in the Fraternity and, to my knowledge, not a single denial by any of his contemporaries. The references are carefully documented for all to read in his various journals.

I must admit that I have not taken the time to read every journal he ever wrote (apparently numbering some 26 volumes) and the attendant books written about him which are also numbered in the dozens. Those each maintained some reference to his Masonic membership. In his 1826 Journal, edited by Alice Ford, Audubon comments in a letter to Lucy Audubon (his wife) that he can still see his good friend, DeWitt Clinton, Grand Master and Governor of New York, presiding over the Masonic Knighting of Lafayette in New York with Robert Bakewell Atterbury, Lucy's first cousin, standing beside the Marquis at the ceremony. A footnote by Alice Ford seems to confirm that the recollection he speaks of was of an actual scene witnessed. Incidentally, it is known that he spent quite some time in a rooming house in New York City at about this time. In the same Journal, in the chapter Manchester revisited (page 225), Audubon sent a letter to Lucy stating in part, "Mr. Bentley to whom, I repeat, I am under many obligations, presented me with a nice foot rule for my pocket, my name engraved on it by the side of his. Lucy, Mr. Bentley is a brother Mason." Mr. Bentley is identified as a merchant who sold him various supplies located in St. Mary's Gate, Manchester, England. Incidentally, although Audubon was a born story teller after the fashion of the frontiersman who told tall tales the way people expected to hear them, in his personal dealings, his veracity is unquestioned. So, his letter to Lucy, the extremely astute woman who spent most of her life educating children on the private tutor level, would hardly have been a vehicle for him to express a flagrant untruth.

In "Audubon's America", edited by Donald Culross Peattie, Houghton Mifflin Company, 1940, the editor states, "When psychoanalytic biographers get hold of a man, they can see predetermining factors in such details as, that he owned slaves, took snuff, swore roundly on occasion, was subject to seasickness, and belonged to the Masonic order, incidently, Audubon answers to all these details." Also in Peattie's book, along with various plates produced by J. J. Audubon, he included appropriate journals written by Audubon at the time and place where the bird specimens were gathered. In the chapter, "New Orleans 1821", Audubon's journal entry for Sunday, March 18, 1821, describes the Masonic initiation ceremony of one Mr. Liautaud and states, "My being a brother entitled me at once to a seat." Again, as we all know, he would not have been welcome had he not been a Mason.

I am inclined to think that with the many verifications of Audubon's meticulous adherence to the truth in all matters related in his journals, which, by the way, he had no way of ever knowing would ever become exposed to public scrutiny, that there is very



JOHN JAMES AUDUBON (Cont'd)

little chance that any of the activities described were in any way not factually accurate. The journals themselves seem to have been written as a documentary that would help with the eventual labeling of specimens and description of locale for the assistance of those people who were supplying background additions to his bird drawings.

The time has long passed when verification by examination would have been possible and we are dealing with dozens of different references in letter and journal to his membership in the Fraternity. Also, all of his Boswells attach keen significance to his veracity and all agree that he has taken his place among the giants of all time. I am inclined to accept his simple statement: "Being a Brother entitled me at once to a seat."



HARRY CLAYTON STUTZ

Harry C. Stutz was born on Sept. 12, 1876, in Ansonia, Ohio. He began his auto career working for a machine shop in Dayton, Ohio, in 1897. He later joined Marion Motor Car Co. in 1906 and designed his first "underslung" pleasure car as an engineer for them; he rose to be factory manager and left in 1910 to organize the Ideal Motor Car Co. in 1911 to manufacture the Stutz car. In 1913 he formed and became President of Stutz Motor Car Co. The Bearcat was the most popular of its breed, in spite of its high price. The total production of the Stutz company grew from 759 cars in 1913 to 2,207 cars in 1917. Sales fell in 1928 and the company started making cheaper cars but not under the Bearcat name; in 1931 they came out with a DV 32, multicylinder, car to compete with the other car manufacturers. The Stutz Motor Car Co. discontinued production of the Bearcat and Super Bearcat in 1935, victims of the Great Depression. Harry Stutz died in Indianapolis, Ind., on June 26, 1930.

Harry Stutz was a member of Ancient Landmarks Lodge No. 319, Indianapolis, Ind. He was initiated on Sept. 14, passed on Sept. 28 and raised on Oct. 12, 1908.

The U.S.P.S. issued an 11¢ transportation coil stamp on June 11, 1985, which pictures the Stutz Bearcat.

MORMONISM & FREEMASONRY

As a follow-up to the article on the non-issued cover from Utah in the last newsletter, Bro. John Cunningham has forwarded a paper prepared by the Research Lodge of Utah. This 19 page treatise by Mervin B. Hogan, "What of Mormonism and Freemasonry", attempts to show a parallelism between the Order and the Religion and indicates that the Church refrains from commenting on the Fraternity. It does not provide any insight into why the cover discussed would be prohibited from being issued. Anyone desiring a copy of this paper should request it of the Editor including a stamped (39¢) #10 SASE.

AUSTRALIAN HOURGLASS STAMP



Australia Post issued a series of stamps on the subject of "Conservation" on May 15, 1985. The 33 cent issue bears a replica of an Hourglass - one of the more prominent Masonic symbols in the U.S. and elsewhere. The official explanation for its use on the stamp is "Over clearing, over grazing and over cropping are all causes of soil erosion and the sometimes permanent loss of fertile topsoil. An hourglass within the stamp image suggests that time is running out ... there is urgency to the appeal for conservation."

The Hourglass is not used in Craft Masonry in Australia but it does appear on the Tracing Board of the Mark Master Mason Degree, the accompanying paragraph as per ritual reads as follows: "This emblem reminds us, by the quick passage of its sands, of the transitionary nature of human life. Should we escape the numerous evils which accompany childhood, and arrive with health and vigour to manhood, we must remember that sooner or later we have to leave this scene of probation. It is therefore desirable that we should endeavour to improve the remaining portion of life, so that when we are summoned hence to our reckoning, we may take our place in those blessed regions where dwell eternal life and light and the necessity for the Hour Glass is no more."

Masons within the U.S. will note certain parallelisms between this symbology and that of the Hourglass used in the Master Mason Degree.

Information and stamp provided by Bro. Sid Martin,  
South Australia

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CANADIAN MASONIC RESEARCH

In 1949, M.W. Bro. Wm. James Dunlop of Ontario and M.W. Bro. Reginald V. Harris of Nova Scotia formed the CANADIAN MASONIC RESEARCH ASSOCIATION. This body was authorized by the Canadian Conference of Grand Lodges. It had a small number of supporters in every Province with a total membership of approximately 150.

Topics were researched that described historical events and the leaders in early Canadian Masonry. These touched on every branch of Freemasonry in Canada. During the 27 year period between 1949 and 1976, 116 papers were presented in Lodges across Canada. The varied topics included biographies of famous Masons, histories of pioneer Lodges, interesting Masonic events, the formation of Grand Lodges, the Royal Arch, Knights Templar, Scottish Rite, etc.. Of this work, only 107 of the 116 papers were printed and distributed to the members of the Association. Today, only two or three complete sets still exist as most have been lost on the death of the former owners. The present project (CMRA) is an attempt to save this valuable collection of research material and make it available to all Masons.

The Heritage Lodge 730 is now undertaking to have all 107 papers professionally reprinted and bound into a book suitable for a researcher's library. There will be three volumes to the set in hard-cover bindings with a total of more than 2000 pages. This will be a limited edition of 1000 copies and will not be repeated. Every Mason should be able to find things of interest in these papers; they are invaluable to Masons engaged in the study of Freemasonry who seek to learn more of Canadian history.

The cost for the complete set, if paid before August 31, 1985, will be \$55.00 (Canadian) including \$5.00 for handling and delivery. After August 31, the set will cost \$75.00.



C. E. Balfour Le Gresley  
213 Riverside Drive  
Toronto, Canada M6S 4A8  
(phone 416-769-3804)

Ad flyer provided by Bro. John M. Cunningham

## SHRINE COVER OFFER

In the previous newsletter an announcement was made of a Western Shrine Association special cancellation. The Sabbar Shrine Temple Oriental Band has prepared a set of three covers which will be sold during WSA - TUCSON - 85. Although prepared in a limited quantity there are sufficient in stock to sell through the mail. The cost is \$5.00 for the set of three covers (sets will not be broken) plus a #10 SASE. Order from Sabbar Oriental Band, c/o K. G. Flook, 1530 So. Prudence Rd., Tucson, Ariz. 85710. Checks should be made out to "Sabbar Oriental Band".

W.S.A. '85 TUCSON

PARADE  
DAY

WESTERN  
SHRINE  
ASSOCIATION

WSA 85 STA  
★ 25 MAY 1985  
TUCSON AZ 85711

LOVE  
WSA 22

VAYA  
CONDOS  
NOBLE:

Produced by Sahber Oriental Band

3 of 3  
AAONMS.

ANOTHER MYSTERY COVER



Bro. Ralph Eller of Merritt Island, Fla., sent this copy of a cover in his collection a few months ago. I have been trying since that time to identify the Masonic Festival held in San Francisco June 1902 for which the cover and/or stamp was apparently prepared. I have been unsuccessful - can any of our California members shed any light on the cover?. The return address is a rubber stamp enclosed in a rectangle - Jacob Voorsanger, 49 Franklin Street, San Francisco. Any information would be appreciated and would be reported in a subsequent newsletter.

RARE GERMAN MASONIC COVER

The cover shown to the right was sent to Bro. John M. Cunningham a couple of years ago by Wolfgang Brochvogel of Germany. He stated at the time that correspondence with a member of the Lodge "Zur Kette" revealed that most of the Lodge members did not even know that there was a special cancellation for their centenary and that a search showed up few examples. Their opinion is that this is probably one of the rarer Masonic cancellations in existence.



COCHRANE'S LATEST



Frank Cochrane, member No. 388 of Melbourne, Fla., has prepared a cover for the new 22¢ flag over capitol issue and chose Thomas Ustick Walter, Architect of the U.S. Capitol Extension, as the subject for the cachet.



HENRY KNOX

Henry Knox was born on July 25, 1750, at Boston, Mass. In 1771 he started the London Book Store in the town and was the second in command of the Boston Grenadier Corps the following year. He served as a volunteer at Bunker Hill in June 1775 and was appointed Colonel, Continental Regiment of Artillery, on Nov. 17, 1775. He brought the artillery equipment from Fort Ticonderoga forcing the British out of Boston and was advanced to Brig. Gen. on Dec. 27, 1776. He started the government arsenal at Springfield, Mass., in 1777, led at the Battles of Brandywine and Germantown in 1777 and Monmouth in 1778 and was the principal founder in 1779 of the military academy which became the U. S. Military Academy. Becoming a Major General in 1781, he was in command of West Point from 1782 to 1785 and then conceived and organized the Society of Cincinnati in 1785.

He was elected the first Secretary of War of the United States by the Continental Congress in 1785 and served until 1794. With Thomas Jefferson, he founded the United States Navy. He settled in Maine in 1796 where he became a brickmaker, cattle-raiser, shipbuilder and lumber-cutter. He died on Oct. 25, 1806, at Thomaston, Maine.

Henry Knox's Masonic career is not as well defined as his military career. He is mentioned as a member of the First Lodge of Boston and visited St. John's Lodge of Boston on Nov. 26, 1800. It is also reported in the Proceedings of the Grand Lodge of Georgia, 1880, that Henry Knox represented Massachusetts at the communication of the Grand Lodge of Virginia held to lay the cornerstone for the monument erected at Yorktown.

Henry Knox is pictured on the 24¢ value of the U.S. Bicentennial Set (Scott No. 1688)- he is the eleventh person from the left. He is also being pictured on his own stamp to be issued by the USPS on July 25, 1985, as the 8¢ value of the Great American series.



Charleston, N.H., Masonic Cancel on 1870 Envelope



Masonic Cancel on the 1873 War Dept. Official Issue



A PAGE FROM A MEMBER'S COLLECTION

It has been a while since we have run a page from a member's collection but this particular page from the collection of Bro. Gordon B. Garrett, member No. 101 of Lawndale, Calif. is very appropos to the Mormon article on page 491 and in the previous newsletter. He may be providing more insight to reasons for the non-issuance of the cover on this single page than is contained within the 19 page treatise provided by the Research Lodge of Utah.



BRIGHAM YOUNG AND MORMON FREEMASONRY



U.S. - ISSUED: JULY 24, 1947  
UTAH ISSUE: PIONEERS ENTERING THE VALLEY OF GREAT SALT LAKE FROM A DESIGN BY C. R. CHICKERING  
ROTARY PRESS - PERF. 11 X 10-1/2, UNWATERMARKED.

MORMON FREEMASONS, WHEN THEY FIRST SETTLED IN ILLINOIS APPLIED TO THE GRAND LODGE OF ILLINOIS FOR A DISPENSATION TO ORGANIZE A LODGE. IT WAS GRANTED TO ESTABLISH A LODGE AT NAUVOO ON OCTOBER 15, 1841. YOUNG BECAME A MASON AT THAT TIME. SEVERAL OF THE MORMON LEADERS BECAME OR WERE ALREADY MASONS, I.E., SMITH, HEBER, KIMBALL.

IN MAY OF 1860 ROCKY MT. LODGE WAS ORGANIZED BUT CEASED TO EXIST WHEN TROOPS WERE WITHDRAWN. A SECOND LODGE WAS ORGANIZED IN UTAH TERR. AS MT. MORIAH UNDER SPECIAL DISPENSATION FROM THE GR. MSTR. OF NEVADA.

AT THIS TIME THE MORMONS WERE ACCUSED OF KILLING GENTILES AND THE GRAND MASTER OF NEV. ISSUED AN EDICT EXCLUDING THE MORMONS FROM ANY VISITATION TO SALT LAKE CITY LODGE.

BRIGHAM YOUNG, WITH 1500 OTHER MORMONS WERE EXPELLED BY THE GRAND LODGE OF ILLINOIS BACK IN 1844.



MASONIC REVENUE STAMPS

Does anyone have any information, insight, article or story related to these Revenue stamps issued by the United States which display the Masonic Square and Compass symbol. The one on the left is a Lottery stamp from Louisiana (Scott LY2) while the one on the right is a Private Die Match stamp issued by Charles S. Hale. Both illustrations are from an auction catalog published by Whittier Philatelic Services (they were above my limit).

