

Wichita Stamp Club Newsletter



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Editor



“Go Fly A Stamp”



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TRAVEL KANSAS—NORTH TO SOUTH—EAST TO WEST by Neal E. Danielson

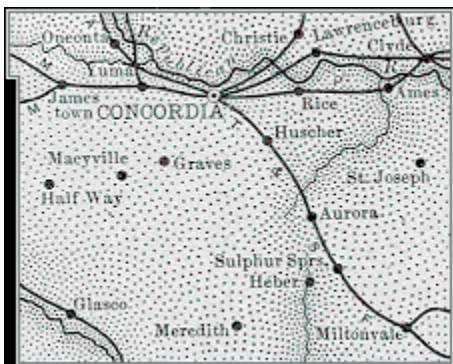


Figure 1--Cloud County Railroad Map ca1899

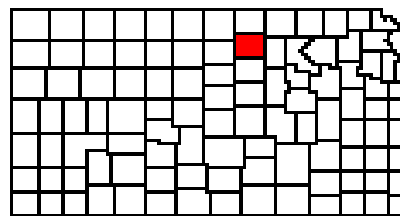


Figure 2-Cloud County, Kansas

Travel Kansas—Miltonvale, located in Cloud County, Kansas (Figures 1 & 2) located in the north central part of the State. The post office was originally established in Zahnville on April 14, 1873 and moved to Miltonvale on April 6, 1882. Concordia is the Cloud County Seat originally established as Shirley County by an act of the territorial government of February 27 1860, but was changed to Cloud on February 26, 1867 named after William F. Cloud a Colonel of the Second Kansas Cavalry. There were several boundary changes before it finally settled in 1867. It is believed that French traders passed up the Republican and Solomon Rivers in the early 18th Century. In 1806 a Spanish expedition from New Mexico passed through the area and the Zebulon Pike expedition was camped on the Solomon around the same time.

Debate still exist on who were the first white settlers in the area as some say the Seymore brothers, John and Harlow camped out in 1858 to hunt and trap along with Lew Fowler and his brother. The first school house was built near Elm Creek of round cottonwood logs with a dirt roof and dirt floor with logs used as desks and seats in the Republican valley in 1864, but the students received the three “R’s” taught by Rosella Honey, the first teacher. Initially the area encountered several Indian scares by the Cheyenne’s and Arapahoe’s; some settlers were killed and some captured but these were rescued by General Custer after a winter campaign in 1867-68.

The Atchison, Topeka and Santa Fe Railroad built a branch line from Neva, three miles west of Strong City in 1887 into Nebraska. This brought prosperity to county. The Solomon valley yields large crops of winter and spring wheat but the Republican valley soil was not well suited to these crops. However, the Republican valley had extensive quarries of limestone, while Solomon valley produced red sandstone. Most of the soil is conducive to handling both drought and wet seasons, being very porous to a great depth.

As indicated earlier the post office for Miltonvale was opened April 6, 1882. Figure 3 is a 2 cent embossed envelope (Scott #U312) postmarked from Miltonvale with a footprint circular date stamp of March 1898 noted as being received March 4, 1898 and L. B. answered the correspondence on April 24th. The correspondence was sent to a Maggie S. Brown, Millerton, Sumner Co. Kansas and has a received postmark from Millerton dated Mar 3 1898 (Figure 4). The Millerton post office was originally established as Rolling Green on January 6 1875 and was changed to Millerton on September 3, 1884. The post office closed in Millerton on January 31, 1912.



Figure 3--Cover postmarked from Miltonvale, Kansas 1898



Figure 4—Millerton, Kans. 1898

Millerton came into existence in 1879 as part of Sumner County and prospered for a period of time due to the vast production of wheat in the county. It was located in the far northern part of the county along the Missouri Pacific Railroad giving it the privilege of being a shipping point for the grain produced in the surrounding area. Sumner County is well known for the number of railways that crisscross the county, the first being the Cowley, Sumner & Fort Smith an extension of the Wichita branch of the Atchison, Topeka & Santa Fe.

An interesting aspect of the town of Miltonvale, in Cloud County dates back to 1844 and “the Wesleyan Connection” later called “Wesleyan Methodist Church”. This was an attempt at founding educational institutions in the form of seminaries, institutes and colleges during this period of time in Minnesota, Iowa, Missouri and Kansas. This didn’t happen until 1909 when a denominational school became a reality through the efforts of Rev. Silas W. Bond when he selected the little village of Miltonvale, Kansas to build both Miltonvale Wesleyan College (Figure 5) and a conference campground on adjoining sites. The Rev. Bond placed a great deal on the student’s life in 1915, including a dormitory (Figure 6)

The Miltonvale Wesleyan College was merged in 1972 with the Bartlesville Wesleyan campus in Bartlesville, Oklahoma. The Oklahoma campus is now known as the Oklahoma Wesleyan University. The Miltonvale campus has received several changes over the years with several building being converted to other functions. One of the red brick buildings is now a natural wellness treatment center known as “the Naturelle Practice”; the High School now owns one building that they converted into their gymnasium; another one has been converted into a “Resort Motel”. One family that owns most of the property plans to convert other buildings in the near future.



Figure 5-Miltonvale Wesleyan College 1915



Figure 6-Miltonvale Wesleyan Dormitory 1925

References:

Wikipedia Free Encyclopedia website: Miltonvale, Cloud County, Kansas; Millerton, Sumner County, Kansas

U. S. Postal Service website: <http://webpmt.usps.gov/pmt021.cfm>

Miltonvale Wesleyan College Centennial 1909-2009

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ALBERT C. ROESSLER A PHILATELIC PIONEER by Neal E. Danielson

When the name A. C. Roessler appears in an article or conversation one automatically thinks of unusual covers. As you may recall an article appeared in this *Newsletter* Vol. 79, No. 10, October 2011 pgs 7-9 titled "Kansas-Nebraska Act of 1854" where Roessler produced Frist Day Cover cachets about Salina and used the 2¢ George Washington "Kans." stamp on an airmail cover (Scott #660-7) postmarked May 1, 1929 with a Salina, Kans. cancellation. At the time Roessler advertised the "Salina" Cachet on barber pole air envelope in his *Air Plane Stamp News* #116 (June 1929) for sale at \$0.10, and this was before the Stock Market in October 1929. By 1977 the Roessler covers were offered at \$10.00 and has increased in price ever since.



Figure 1--Roessler's Commercial Cover

Albert C. Roessler was born April 7, 1883 in Newark, New Jersey. His passion for stamps came at the early age of 10, and would lead to a FDC cachetmaker and servicer for most of his entire colorful life. He lived with his parents at 140 South Parkway, in the adjacent village of East Orange, New Jersey prior to moving to Denver, Colorado where he went to work in the mines and on a ranch. He would go on to becoming a printer's apprentice to the *Rocky Mountain News* and the *Denver Times*. As a side line he operated a mail order stamp business and wrote columns and advertised his bargain stamp products in *The Stamp Journal* of Denver. In 1905 he was responsible for the founding of the Denver Stamp Club, and served as President of *The Stamp Journal*, and in 1908 the *Journal* announced that Roessler was leaving his post and was moving to New York City. He opened a stamp dealership on Nassau Street in New York and published some 209 issues of *A. C. Roessler's Stamp News* between 1909 and 1937.

By 1910 Roessler moved to his birth town of Newark, New Jersey, establishing a stamp and cover dealership and continued to publish *The Stamp News*. He became involved in the Newark Stamp Club and served as Vice President in 1911 then as President in 1914. At the end of 1914 he moved to his childhood home at 140 South Parkway, East Orange, New Jersey. He initiated a First Flight Cachets service on the #C3 24¢ airmail issue of May 13, 1918 on the inauguration of the US airmail between New York and Washington. It was at this time that Roessler founded *The Air Plane Stamp News* and would publish 167 issues between 1918 and 1938. His postal printing business was operated out of Roseville Section of

Newark at 37 So. 8th Street and used this address for his covers from March 1921 through March 1924, afterwards he reverted exclusively to his home address of 140 South Parkway, East Orange, New Jersey.

Albert C. Roessler's First Corner Cards were serviced with the #614-616 Huguenot-Walloon Set of May 1, 1924. The First Roessler Cachets were for #620-621 Norse-American Set issued May 18, 1925. The First Pictorial Roessler Cachet was the #623-1 17¢ Woodrow Wilson issued December 28, 1925. As a printer, Roessler also sold and produced to other First Day Cover Cachetmakers and Servicers as well as the general public. Roessler produced numerous varieties of airmail envelopes, such as the double-bar envelopes; two types of "barber-pole" air envelopes and three types of "checkered" air envelopes. A commercial cover (Figure 1) franked with a #615 2¢ Huguenot-Walloon Tercentenary Issue depicting the Walloons Landing at Fort Orange (Albany) bearing plate #15760 and tied to the cover with a seven-wavy line circular-date-stamp postmarked from East Orange, N. J. on Oct 29 1924. The From address is A. C. Roessler hand stamp and mailed to the Midwest Stamp Co., 508 Kemper Building, Kansas City, MO. The 1¢ stamp in the series #614 is a view of the ship New Netherland, which the Walloons sailed, with the 300 Tercentenary years 1624-1924 and the 5¢ stamp is of the Ribault Memorial Monument located at Mayport, Florida, the landing place for one of the colony of Walloons. The Walloons fled their homeland to escape religious prosecution as did the French and Belgian Huguenots. Most of the settlements in America transpired in New York, referred to as "New Netherland."

Roessler often used his correspondence to advertise products for sale, such as the advertisement that appeared on the back of the commercial cover (Figure 2). The advertisement was for the 1925 Scott's Catalogue that was due out on October 20th, 1924, at a cost of \$2.00.

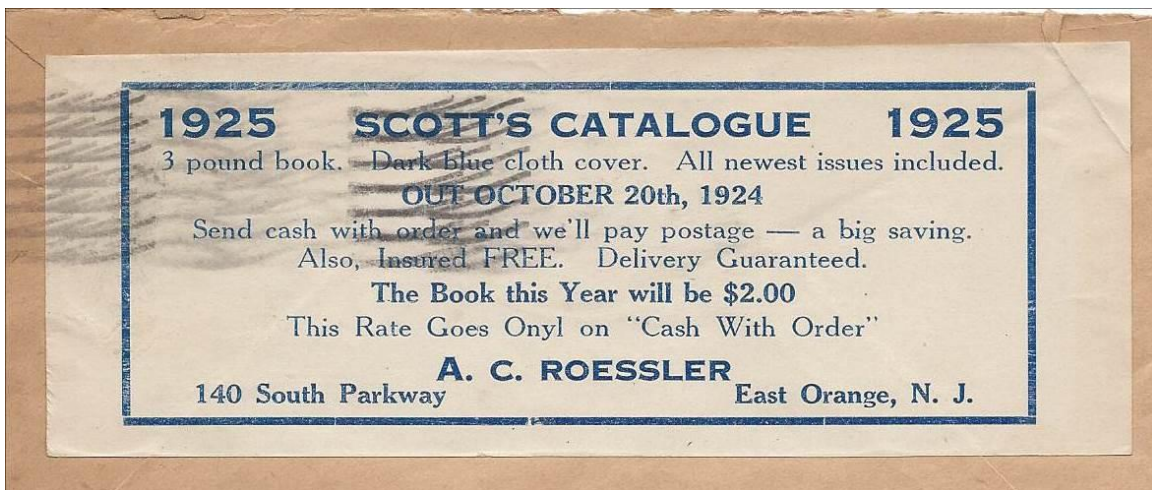


Figure 2--Roessler Advertisement back of envelope

Roessler went out of business in 1940 and passed away January 26, 1952. Roessler was remembered as a consummate philatelic pioneer and promoter, with some of the earliest First Day Cover benchmarks to his credit, even bringing several others involved in FDC's to Essex County where he was located during the 1920s and 1930s.

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DON'T SWEAT THE SMALL STUFF by Neal E. Danielson

This is the 46th in a series of articles relating to small post cards and small covers so if you have any in your collection that you would like to share please let us know.

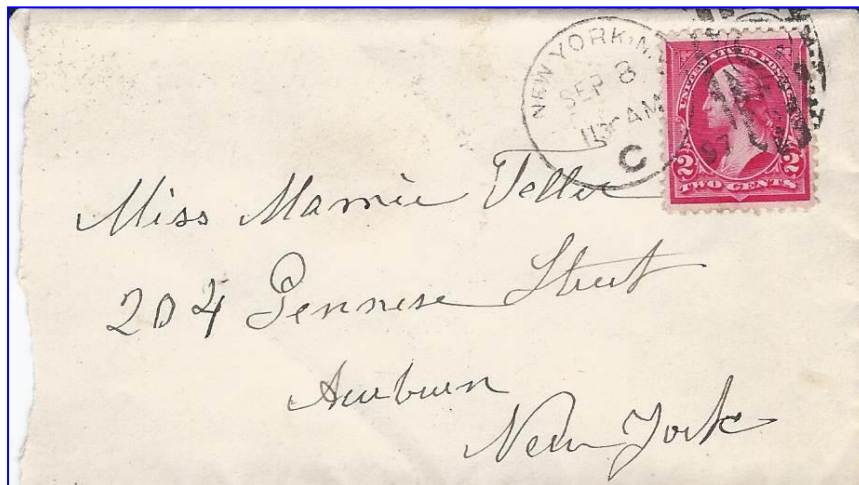


Figure 1--Small Stuff Cover New York - Auburn

This Small Cover comes to you via New York City to Auburn, New York and measures 4 5/8 by 2 5/8 inches (Figure 1). The Small Cover is franked with a 2¢ George Washington Type III carmine stamp (Scott #267) and tied to the cover with a foot-print killer cancel circular-date-stamp postmarked Sept 3 1897 and sent to an individual in Auburn, New York. The cover contained a note from C. A. Fame, dated New York Sept 8 in reference to a card he received from Miss Mamie Tello and that he was in the act of writing her and that he hoped to be with her on the next Saturday. He indicated he would telegraph the hour. Yours in haste, with love C. A. Fame.

New York City is the most populous city in the United States. The City is made up of five boroughs, The Bronx, Brooklyn, Manhattan, Queens, and Staten Island and each borough is considered a County within the State of New York. Its roots date back to 1624 as a trading post by colonists of the Dutch Republic and was named New Amsterdam in 1626 (Figure 2). English control came about in 1664 and the city was renamed New York once King Charles II of England granted his brother the Duke of York the land. New York served as the Capital of the United States from 1785 until 1790.



Figure 2--New Amsterdam (New York) 1626

The Battle of Long Island (Figure 3) was the largest battle of the American Revolutionary War. The Battle was fought in August 1776 entirely within the borough of Brooklyn. The Americans lost the battle and the British military and political operations was established for North America. Slaves escaping their southern bondage took up residence in order to have the freedom promised by the Crown. When the British forces were forced to evacuate in 1783 they resettled some 3,000 freedmen in Nova Scotia and some were resettled in England and the Caribbean.



Figure 3--Battle of Long Island 1776

New York was established as the national capital shortly after the war and in 1785 the assembly of the Congress of the Confederation approved the designation. New York would be the last capital of the United States under the Articles of Confederation and then became the first capital under the Constitution of the United States. In 1789, our first President of the United States, George Washington was inaugurated in New York. The first United States Congress and the Supreme Court of the United States became a reality and the United States Bill of Rights was drafted. All this transpiring at Federal Hall on Wall Street.

Auburn is located in Cayuga County, New York and serves as the County Seat. The area around Auburn was the territory of Iroquois for centuries before the colonies started to settle in the area. Originally the city was known as Hardenbergh's Corners in the town of Aurelius, but was changed to Auburn in 1805. The village was named for its founder John L. Hardenbergh in 1793 following the Revolutionary War. He was a veteran of the Sullivan-Clinton campaign in the battles with the Iroquois during the American Revolution. In a 1909 painting by Bruce Williams he provides a wonderful view of the Auburn area (Figure 4).



Figure 4--Bruce Williams artwork Auburn 1909

History tells us that two other individual resided in Auburn that were well known historical figures, that being William H. Seward and Harriet Tubman.

Seward (Figure 5) served his country as a New York state senator; the governor of New York; served as a U. S. senator; he was a presidential candidate; and served as Secretary of State under President Abraham Lincoln and Andrew Jackson. While in this capacity he negotiated the purchase of Alaska from Russia, which became known as “Seward’s Folly”. He resided (Figure 6) in Auburn from 1823 until his death in 1872. He opposed slavery and in 1859 he sold a plot of land to abolitionist Harriet Tubman.



Figure 5- William H. Seward



Figure 6--Seward Museum--His home

Harriet Tubman (Figure 7) obtained a plot of land from William H. Seward in 1859 and she used the house to create a safe haven for her family (Figure 8) and friends and other black Americans who traveled north looking for a better life. Both the Seward’s Museum and the Tubman House are on the National Register of Historic Places.



Figure 7--Harriet Tubman



Figure 8--Tubman Safe Haven

References:

Wikipedia Free Encyclopedia website: New York City
Wikipedia Free Encyclopedia website: Auburn, New York

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