

Retrospective of Technical Research in Philately

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IAP Symposium at Chicagopex

18 November 2015

1910 to 1960

- Basic Equipment

Tongs

Magnification

Watermark fluid

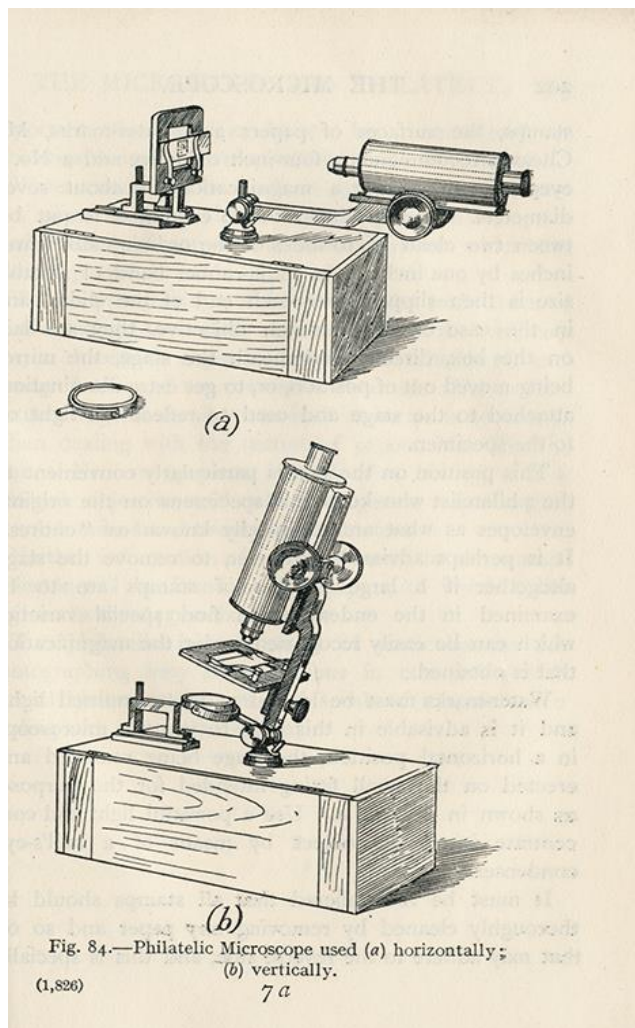
Perf gauge

and a UV lamp



1912 Watson's Philatelic Microscope

Invented by W.H.S. Cheavin, FRPSL



W. WATSON & SONS, 313, HIGH HOLBORN, LONDON, W.C. 5

Watson's Philatelic Microscope.

Designed by Mr. HAROLD S. CHEAVIN, F.R.M.S. F.N.P.S.

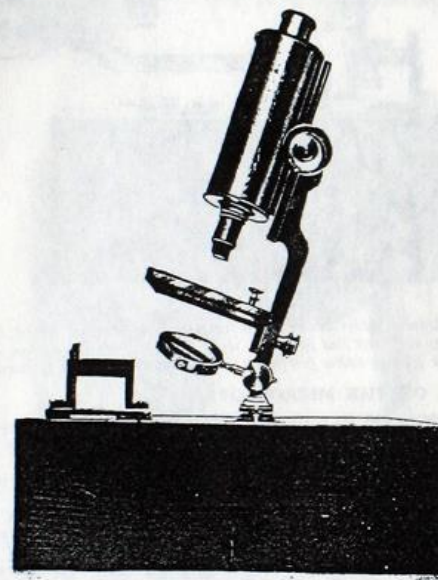


Fig. 1.—Philatelic Microscope mounted in socket on side of containing case.

ITS PURPOSE.

Philatelists have hitherto used small pocket magnifiers for the examination of their stamps. By comparison with the information obtainable with Watson's Philatelic Microscope this is infinitesimal. With the Microscope both watermarks and the texture of the paper used in the manufacture of postage stamps stand revealed, while it is of great educational value for examining forgeries, cancellations, overprints, etc., etc. Further, permanent records can be taken by photography or drawings of the special features observed. The illustrations given by Mr. Cheavin in his lectures and in his numerous articles on the Microscope in *Philately* have made manifest the variety of valuable purposes to which the instrument can be put—uses which increase in variety as the possibilities of the instrument are understood and appreciated.

The use of the Microscope is not limited to postage stamps, it can also be employed for ordinary observations of Natural History subjects.

2011 Beta ray examination



Portion of a cover and stamp, normal and beta ray image showing watermark



Beta ray apparatus at the Morgan Library, New York

Leica M-3 film camera, top of the line in 1953



Leitz BEOON copy stand for the Leica M-3, component parts and assembled with camera for 1:1 imaging of a stamp on cover



Color print film image of 4¢ Columbian blue error of color (Scott 233a) and others for the Philatelic Foundation expert committee

Original 233a

Normal ultramarine 233



Ultramarine faked 233a

New 233a

Database of 1856 5¢ Imperf covers (Scott 12)

5 Cent Basic

ID: +02 RefNo: 263F Stamps involved: 12 single Enter Y if year date questioned: Duplicate?:

Date Sent: 3/15/1856 Origin: New York, NY

East Coast date: 3/15/1856 East Coast town of marking: New York Am. Pkt. Fake: Fake, stamp did not originate on sta

English date: English town of marking: Provenance: Waterhouse Coll., Hill book Fig. 38, p. 28 under "Fakes."

French date: 3/29/1856 French town of marking: Etats Unis Paq A.M./A Cal

Arrival date: 3/30/1856 Country of destination: France PF Cert No: 225288

Town of arrival: Marseille Address: Messieurs Sastre freres, Marseille Additional PF Certs:

Last name of Addressee: Sastre France

Other marks: 8 decimes struck out (3 times) and substituted with 16, on reverse Forwarded by A.C. Rossire(?) & Co. New York in oval, Paris 29 Mar 56 (?), Marseille 30 Mars 56 (12), one other mark. Source:

Notes: Faked, 5¢ added to stampless cover. Questioned in Hill Book as not correct, since American Packet was used and 5¢ rate was not approved for such. PF Opinion: "Stamp did not originate on cover, tying cancellation is counterfeit." Stamp placement: TL22T

On Levy List: Y Additional Levy Auction info: More Levy Auction Info:

Record: 282 of 371 No Filter Search

Database of 1856 5¢ Imperf covers (Scott 12)

ID	Re	Date Se	Stamps involved	Origin	Provenance	East Coast town	Enr	French town of marking	East Coc	English c	French d	Arrival dt	Town of arrival	Cou
100	100	11/7/1856	12 single, 11 single	Albany, NY	Ex W. L. Peltz, Lot 267								Worcester	Mas
322	322		12 vertical strip of three	New Orleans, La.	Shanahan's 6/19/78 lot 470	New York		Et. Unis. Serv. Br. A. C/M?	8/26/1857		9/7/1857		Saintes?	Frer
17	17	11/26/1856	12 single	Mobile, Al.	H. R. Harmer 5/27/69, Lot 1	New York Br. Pkt.	? S? in	Etats Unis Paq. AM/A Calais C	12/2/1856	12/15/1856	12/16/1856	12/17/1856	Marseilles	Frer
321	321	2/9/1857	12 single	New Orleans, La.	Gerber no date lot 109	New York Br. Pkt.		Angl/Amb. Calais M	2/18/1857		3/3/1857		Saintes?	Frer
248	248	8/24/1856	12 single	Annapolis, Md.	Siegel 1/12/71 Lot 367	New York Br. Pkt.		Etats Unis Paq. Brit. A Calais L?					Spezzia, Sardinia	Italy
38	38	9/3/1856	12 single	Annapolis, Md.	Ward 6/14/44 Gibson Lot 5	New York Br. Pkt.	B (T) in	Etats Unis Paq. Brit. A Calais A?	9/9/1856	9/22/1856	9/22/1856	9/26/1856	Spezzia, Sardinia	Italy
372	372D	2/18/1857	12 single	Pittsburgh, Pa.									Mitchellsville	Ten
307	307	12/13/1857	12 single	Baltimore, Md.	H.R. Harmer Ltd. 6/27/55 V	Boston/12								Frer
106	106	8/19/1856	12 strip of four, 9 single	Trenton, NJ	R. A. Siegel 5/18/77 Rohlo	New York Am. Pkt.	Low M		8/22/1856	9/4/1856		12/1/1856	Hong Kong	Hon
198	198	12/16/1856	12 single	New Orleans, La.	Kelleher 11/30/51 Lot 115, f	New York Br. Pkt.(?)		Etats Unis Paq. Brit./A Calais M	12/24/1856		1/6/1857		Bordeaux	Frer
28	28	12/9/1856	12 single	New Orleans, La.	Lot 477, est 2,500.	New York Br. Pkt.	B F in	Etats Unis Paq. Brit./A Calais M?	12/24/1856	1/5/1857	1/5/1857	1/10/1857	Intra (Piedmont)	Italy
309	309	11/19/1857	12 single	Annapolis, Md.	Ward 6/14/44 Gibson lot 56	New York		Et. Unis. Serv. Br. A. C/J?	11/21/1857		12/5/1857		Spezzia, Sardinia	Italy
158	158	6/15/1857	12 vertical strip of three	New Orleans, La.	Balasse 3/27/56, Siegel 9/	New York		Paq Am. A/Le Havre	6/22/1857		7/6/1857	7/7/1857	Nantes	Frer
263	263F	3/15/1856	12 single	New York, NY	Waterhouse Coll., Hill bo	New York Am. Pkt.		Etats Unis Paq. A.M./A Calais A	3/15/1856		3/29/1856	3/30/1856	Marseille	Frer
168	168	3/15/1857	12 single	New Orleans, La.				Angl/Amb. Calais L?			4/2/1857	4/3/1857	Marseilles	Frer
353	353		12 vertical strip of three	New Orleans, La.	Fox 12/12/61 lot 623 sold 1									Frer
317	317	10/7/1856	12 single	New Orleans, La.	Fox 12/8/55 lot 131 sold 95	New York Br. Pkt.			10/15/1856			10/29/1856	Antwerp	Belg
238	238	12/15/1856	12 single	New Orleans, La.	H.R. Harmer 1/17/56 Casp	New York Br. Pkt.	(B F in	Etats Unis Paq. Brit./A Calais M	12/24/1856		1/5/1857		Genes (Genoa)	Italy
330	330		12 single	New Orleans, La.	Harmer Rooke 3/26/59 lot			Etats Unis Paq. Brit./A Calais A			12/30/1856		Marseilles	Frer
160	160D	11/16/1857	12 single, 34 single	Philadelphia, Pa.	Christies 10/7/87 Grunin (2)								Paris	Frer
256	256		12 single	Boston, Mass.	Kelleher 2/1/50 Lot 79, Kell								Halifax	Nov
107	107	9/5/1856	12 strip of four, 9 single	Trenton, NJ	Pollitz 11/6/71 Lot 30, Chris	New York Br. Pkt.	B T in		9/9/1856	9/22/1856		12/1/1856	Hong Kong	Hon
201	201	11/15/1856	12 single	New Orleans, La.	Siegel 3/9/77 Lot 80	New York Br. Pkt.		Etats Unis Paq. Brit./A Calais M	11/26/1856		12/9/1856		Bordeaux	Frer
283	283	9/1/1856	12 single	New Orleans, La.	Shreve Jan 24, 98 Lot 144	New York/Br. Pkt		Etats Unis Paq. Brit./A Calais A?	9/1/1856		9/22/1856	9/22/1856	Angouleme	Frer
163	163	11/9/1856	12 single	New Orleans, La.	Christies 3/16/88 Grunin (3)			Etats Unis etc.			12/2/1856			Swit
240	240		12 single	New Orleans, La.	Siegel 5/18/77? Rohloff Lo								Genes (Genoa)	Italy
246	246	4/4/1857	12 vertical pair	Albany, NY	H.R. Harmer 1/17/56 Casp								Stockton	Calif
358	358	3/16/1857	12 single	New Orleans, La.	Siegel 1997 Rarities Sale 4	Boston Br. Pkt.			3/25/1857				Paris	Frer
324	324		12 single	New Orleans, La.	Siegel 3/6/67 lot 221									Frer
327	327		12 single	New Orleans, La.	H.R. Harmer 3/19/76								Marseille	Italy
12	12	2/7/1857	12 single	New Orleans, La.	Lot 404, est 3,500	New York Br. Pkt.	B G in	Angl. Amb. Calais M	2/18/1857	3/3/1857	3/3/1857	3/4/1857	Genes (Genoa)	Frer
249	249	1/10/1857	12 single	Annapolis, Md.	H.R. Harmer 5/27/69? Lot 1			Etats Unis Paq. Brit. A Calais A			1/27/1857		Spezzia, Sardinia	Italy
187	187		12 single	New Orleans, La.	Doane 11/4/42 Green Lot 2								Montgomery	Aleat
239	239	1/26/1857	12 single	New Orleans, La.	Mozian 7/16/65 Lot 49, Sie	New York Br. Pkt.			2/4/1857				Genes (Genoa)	Italy
191	191		12 single	New Orleans, La.	Fox 2/28/55 Lot 110	New York Br. Pkt.							Altkirch (Haut Rhein	Frer
335	335		12 vertical strip of three	New Orleans, La.	Siegel 1/12/71 lot 369 est 6	Boston Paid 12							Bordeaux	Frer
323	323	7/19/1857	12 vertical strip of three	New Orleans, La.	Siegel 5/21/58 Lot 262	Boston Paid 12			7/29/1857				Bordeaux	Frer
371	371W	4/19/1858	12 vertical pair or two singles	Westfield, Ms.	Siegel Kapiloff sale 10/3/9								San Francisco	Calif
373	373D	1/4/1856	12 single	New York, NY?		New York Br. Pkt.		Etats Unis Br Paq	1/4/1856		1/18/1856		Bordeaux	Frer
294	294		12 single	New York, NY	Harmer Rooke 5/15/63 Bu	New York Br. Pkt.							Bordeaux	Frer
95	95	7/23/1857	12 single, 17 - two vertical pairs	Washington, DC	R. A. Siegel 3/25/78 Lot 33	New York Am. Pkt.	Paid A		7/25/1857	8/6/1857			Porto Grande	Cap
54	54	12/5/1856	12 pair	New Orleans, La.	Harmer(?) Lot 12, est \$100,	New York Br. Pkt.	C Z in	Etats Unis Paq. Brit./A Calais A	12/16/1856		12/30/1856	12/30/1856	Bordeaux	Frer
343	343	3/5/1857	12 single	New Orleans, La.	Siegel 10/13/54 lot 315, Fo	New York Br. Pkt		Angl./Amb. Calais L	3/18/1857		3/30/1857			Frer

Samoa 19th Century Cover Database

Short form ordered by date

Counter: 42 **Reference number:** 42 **Ea28** **Commercial or Philatelic (C or P)** C **Source** **Additional Source** **Reviewed** 2001
Day **Month** **Year** **Addressee:** **City (and State, for U.S.)** P K **Country** 1
Sending date 28 Jan 91 **Foreign Office** **London** **England** **Card Checked**
Dup? **Sequencer:** Foreign Office **Address Line 1** See remarks for full address **How Viewed** E1
Rate (3x) 3d = 5c **Address Line 2**
Samoa Stamps: 2 2nd 3 3rd 7 4th 5th 6th **US Stamps 1st:** 189 2nd **Canc. on U.S. Stamp(s)**
Number of copies 1 1 1 **Number of copies** 1 **Cork 9 x 9**
APIA CDS 2 **APIA CDS Color** Blue **Flag:** British Consul Handwriting

Remarks and Notes **Front of cover** **Reverse of Cover** **Catalogue code details** **Date info and additional codes** **Additional Notes**

Ms. address in full is "On Her Britannic Majestys Service/Her Britannic Majestys Secretary of State/for Foreign Affairs/Foreign Office/London" At lower left are initials and "Consulate of Samoa" and date "Jan 19/1891" See notes for reverse.

Notes
 Reverse shows embossed seal and "Consulate Samoa" underneath. Also CDS "San Francisco, Cal./Feb/15/1891/F.D." Seymour Kaplan Siegel Lot 429, also ex Burrus. Notation on back may say "Apr 1974 \$1050, or may have been added to photocopy provided of reverse. Also ex Burrus, and illustrated in Vol. V, p. 570. Blue cover.

Record: 3 of 43 Unfiltered Search

Samoa 19th Century Cover Database with cover shown

Short form ordered by date

Counter: 42 **Reference number:** 42 Ea28 **Commercial or Philatelic (C or P):** C **Source:** **Additional Source:** **Reviewed 2001:**

Day: **Month:** **Year:** **Addressee:** **City (and State, for U.S.):** **Country:** 1 **Card Checked:**

Sending date: 28 Jan 91 **Foreign Office:** London **England:** **How Viewed:** E1

Dup?: **Sequencer:** Foreign Office **Address Line 1:** See remarks for full address **Address Line 2:**

Rate: (3x) 3d = 5c

Samoa Stamps: 2 2nd 3 3rd 7 4th 5th 6th **US Stamps 1st:** 189 2nd **Canc. on U.S. Stamp(s):**

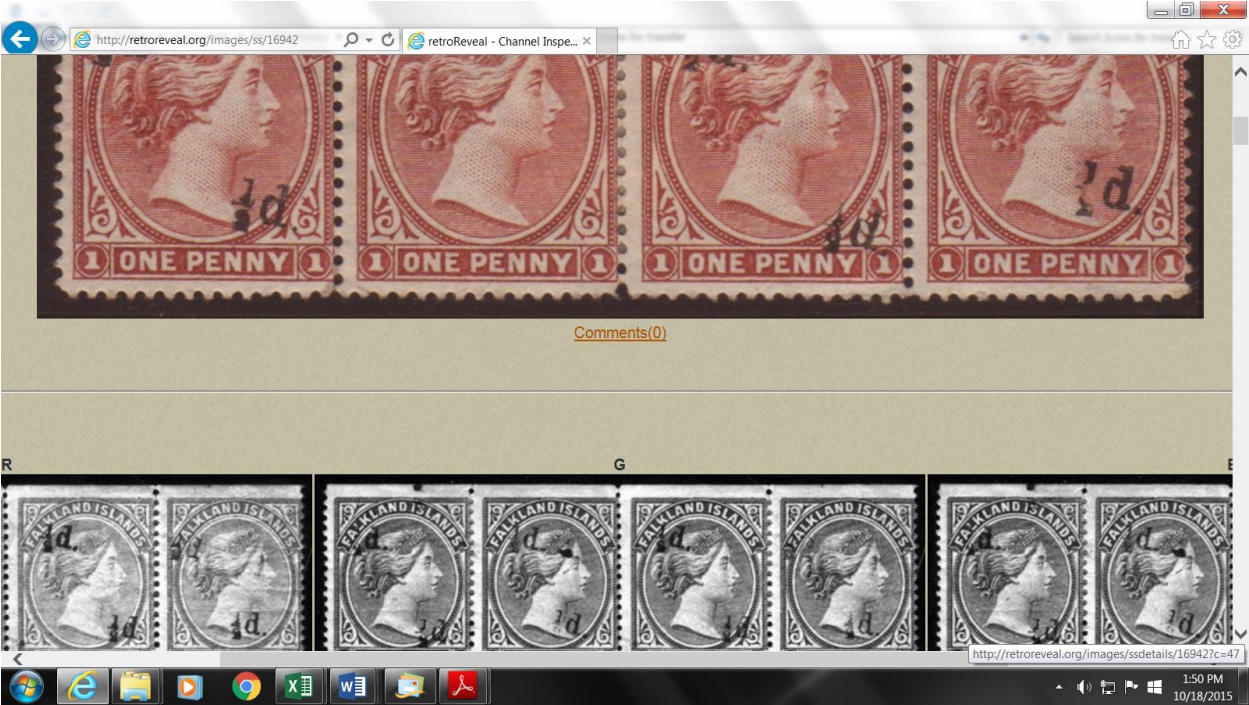
Number of copies: 1 1 1 **Number of copies:** 1 **Cork 9 x 9:**

APIA CDS: 2 **APIA CDS Color:** Blue **Flag:** British Consul Handwriting

Remarks and Notes: Front of cover Reverse of Cover Catalogue code details Date info and additional codes Additional Notes

Record: 3 of 43 Unfiltered Search

retroReveal image uploaded, with the first three analyses below



retroReveal analyses with one that largely removes the stamp color to see the handstamps more clearly



retroReveal.tif image saved to show the missing 1/2d handstamp on the second stamp of the bottom row and details of the other handstamps.



retroReveal used to extract faint images



The very faint “O.P.S.O.” overprint was close to the genuine when observed normally, but measurements were not possible. The enhanced image made it easy to tell it’s a fake.

Specimen overprints take a number of different forms. This was not easy to see until the image was enhanced by retroReveal.



Questions?