

# BOSCAWEN - 1846

The Story of

A SETTLEMENT -



A SAILOR -



and A STAMP -



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WILLIAM F. HOWES

Manchester, N.H.



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FOR THE BOSCAWEN PRESENTATION -

It is eminently fitting and proper that a story which deals so intimately with Boscawen and with its people of the early days should be presented to the public for the first time here in the old home town. Your town officials and many of your local residents have most willingly and cheerfully aided in the work by giving information not available elsewhere and I am glad to acknowledge my indebtedness to them in this respect.

They know of the great amount of research that has been necessary in order to insure accuracy and in sifting out the truth from the many false and misleading statements that have gotten into print. They know of the trail that has led from Boscawen to Washington, to New York, London, Paris, - and to a hundred towns and cities in these United States.

While the story as a whole covers a period of over two hundred years, it opens with a reference to one of America's best-loved humorists of the Civil War days, - a man who wrote and lectured under the name of Josh Billings. During the dark days of the long and bitter struggle between the North and South his droll Yankee humor often eased the tension and caused many a smile and a laugh to lighten the weary hours. Like the immortal Lincoln, he drove home many a truth under the guise of a jest. It was Billings who said "Consider the postage stamp, my son its usefulness in life consists in sticking to just one thing until it gets there!" And in that remark is a fine text for a sermon on holding steadily to a charted course; on tenacity of purpose in striving for an ideal; in short, on having a definite aim in life.

B O S C A W E N - 1 8 4 6

The Story of a Small - Town Stamp.

One of America's best-loved humorists of the olden time was the genial Josh Billings. During the Civil War days and in the trying years that followed, he caused many a smile to lighten the weary hours and -- like Lincoln -- he drove home many a truth in the guise of a jest. He it was who uttered that famous admonition -- "Consider the postage stamp, my son! Its usefulness in life consists in sticking to just one thing until it gets there!" That's good, sound advice for any son or daughter in any day and generation. It's a fine text for a sermon on holding steadily to a charted course; on tenacity of purpose in striving for an ideal; on having a definite aim in life.

And so, tonight, we take as the subject for our discourse a simple little five-cent stamp. It started on a ten-mile trip to Concord on a winter day in 1846 and reached its destination safely. Then followed a series of events that outrival any work of fiction. Still "sticking to the job" that little stamp has achieved fame for itself and fortune for some who have owned it for a while. This tiny bit of paper affixed to a small envelope has travelled over ten thousand miles since it left the old home town. It has been seen by countless thousands of persons at philatelic exhibitions in this country and abroad -- for it remained for nearly twenty years in Europe -- and thus the name and fame of Boscawen is known wherever the ubiquitous stamp collector is to be found.

# BOSCAWEN-1846

THE STORY OF  
A SETTLEMENT   
A SAILOR   
and A STAMP 

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November 1, 1938.

*William F. Howes*



1733



3

The tale of the stamp as you are to hear it, however, is not from the viewpoint of the collector. Do you remember the prologue from "Pagliacchi?" You recall how Tonio, the clown, parts the curtains and steps forward to say -

"Tonight our author will borrow

A chapter from life

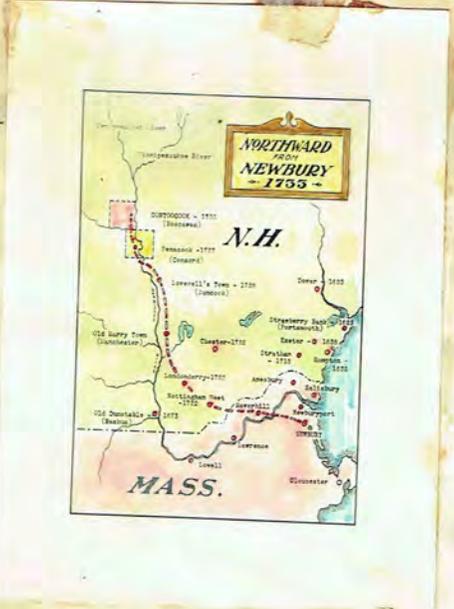
With its laughter and sorrow!"

*Lights dim →*

1 And so we ring up the curtain on a prologue wherein we see the pioneer fathers of the settlement; a King who grants a charter and names a town for a sailor, - and a village postmaster who issues a stamp of his own. We shall follow that stamp as it plays a part in the lives of many men and women. We shall find it bringing pleasure to some - - disappointment to others. We shall find it among the tragedies of war, - *(in the happiest of hours and again)* truly "a chapter from life with its laughter and sorrow."

2 The stage is set: the time of action is in the year 1733.

3 The place is a wilderness just a few miles south of the "meeting of the waters," - where the Winnepesaukee and the Pemigewasset rivers unite to form the Merrimack.



4



5

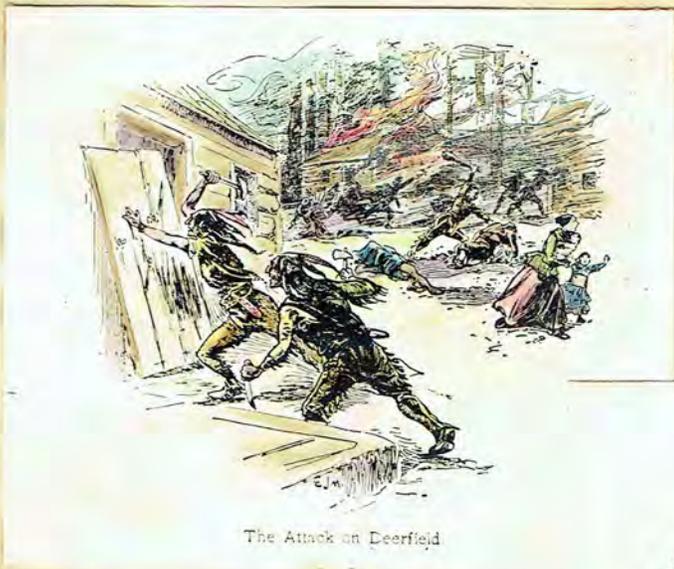


6

In December of 1732 the Governor and Council of the Province of Massachusetts Bay had granted to John Coffin of Newbury and his eighty associates a tract of land seven miles square just north of the plantation of Penacook in the Merrimack Valley. Thus, <sup>(Follow the trail of)</sup> in the year 1733, we see this sturdy band of pioneers from the coast town making their way up the valley.

Their destination was this tract of virgin field and forest running seven miles due west along the Contocook river from its junction with the Merrimack; thence seven miles due north; then seven miles <sup>2</sup> east to the middle of the Merrimack river; thence south by the river to the point of beginning. Their forty-nine square miles of territory was entirely west of the Merrimack and north of Penacook which had been settled in 1726 and 1727.

Regrettably, we have no time tonight to tell of the early days that tested the courage and endurance of these men as they carved their homesteads out of the wilderness. As they ran their boundary lines at the mouth of the Contocook river they may have found grim reminders of the tragedy enacted on the little island that marked the southeastern point of their new settlement. This monument today commemorates the heroic exploit of Hannah Dustin, Mary Neff and the Leonardson boy on this spot.



The Attack on Deerfield

7



DORTCH, KEFF, AND LEONARDSON

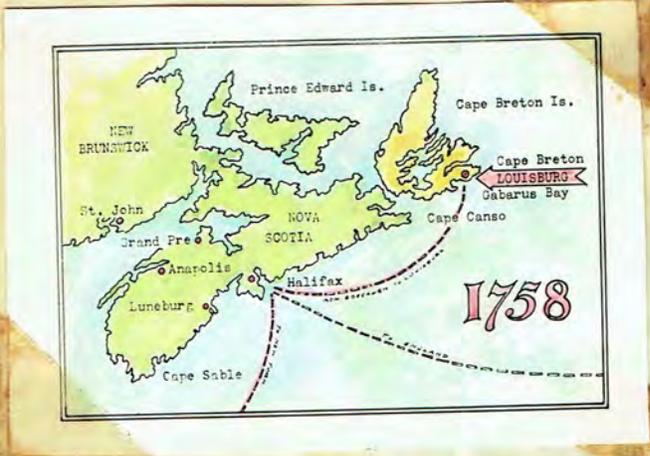
8



9

7  
8  
You know the story of the Indian raid upon Haverhill, Massachusetts, in 1695. It was like the attack upon Deerfield, a massacre and a capture of helpless women and children to be led north over the long trail to Canada and slavery. The Deerfield victims submitted to their fate but these three <sup>from Haverhill</sup> turned upon their captors in the middle of the night, slew them and made their way back to Haverhill bearing their bloody trophies of Indian scalps to prove their story.

9  
These men of Newbury fought back the forests and cleared the ground. They fought against the elements and against the murderous raids of the red men. In the first decade of the settlement's existence there was the ever-present fear of Indian attack and massacre, and a fort or blockhouse "one hundred feet square and built of hewn logs," was erected as a place of refuge and defence. For several years "old Number Four" - now known as Charlestown, New Hampshire, - on the east bank of the Connecticut and the little settlement at Contoocook on the Merrimack, were the outposts of civilization in their respective river valleys.



NOVA

10

11

12

10  
Thru the horrors of the French and Indian wars the men of Contoocook carried on. They responded when the first call was made for volunteers in 1745 to join the British expedition against the fortified town of Louisburg, Cape Breton. Louisburg was taken but, in the treaty of peace signed a few years later, it was returned to France, - and then rebuilt stronger than ever! In 1758 another call came for New Hampshire men to take part in a second expedition against this menace to New England, - Louisburg, - and again Contoocook sent her quota of men.

Under Gen. Jeffrey Amherst's combined forces of British regulars and Colonial volunteers, aided by a powerful fleet of warships commanded by Admiral Sir Edward Boscawen, the French were compelled to surrender after a seven-weeks' siege.

18  
In August, 1759, Admiral Boscawen added to his fame by destroying the French grand fleet in an action off Cape Vincent, Portugal. Then, on September 13th., came one of the great decisive battles of history. On the Plains of Abraham, beyond the city walls of Quebec, the armies of France and England met in a death struggle for control of the vast colonial empire of Canada. Both commanders died on the field. The French general, Montcalm, passed away as the dream of a "New France" in America ended and the British commander, General James Wolfe, died in his hour of victory.

-5-



13



14



15

It is said that on the eve of the battle General Wolfe, perhaps with a premonition of impending death, quoted Gray's beautiful lines to his fellow-officers; -

13  
"The boast of heraldry, the pomp of power  
And all that beauty, all that wealth e'er gave,  
Alike await the inevitable hour, -  
The path of glory leads but to the grave."

14  
Meanwhile, there was unrest in the little settlement at Contoocook. The men of the community felt that the proprietary form of administration of local affairs had outlived its usefulness and so they renewed their requests to become a self-governing township. Success crowned their efforts and, on the 22nd. day of April, 1760, it pleased His Gracious Majesty George II - "By the Grace of God of Great Britain, France and Ireland, King, Defender of the Faith," etc., to grant to "his loyal subjects, inhabitants of a tract of land within our Province of New-Hampshire known by the name of Contoocook," a charter.

15  
The petitioners were "erected into a body politick and corporate under the name of BOSCAWEN." Thus, by an act of his grateful sovereign, King George II, the name of England's naval hero of the hour, the Honorable Sir Edward Boscawen, Lord Commissioner of the Admiralty and Admiral of the White Squadron, was conferred upon a little town amid the New Hampshire hills.



16



Postage stamps of the Tonga Islands.  
Of these, the Vavau group includes  
Boscawen Island.

17

18

16  
Only two other places in the world bear this honored name. The first is at Land's End, in Cornwall, England. Here lies "Boscawen Ros" or "the valley of the elder trees" where the progenitors of the family are said to have established a home after crossing over from the Continent centuries ago. Viscount Falmouth, the present head of the Boscawen family, tells me that they have held title to this truly ancestral estate since 1240.

17  
The second Boscawen is an island, the most northeasterly one of the Tonga group, better known as the Friendly Islands. They lie below the Equator in the South Pacific ocean, with Boscawen island about 300 miles south of Samoa. This island was discovered by Lemaire and Schouten in May, 1616, and called by them "Cocos Island." On it is an extinct volcanic cone, now wooded, rising to a height of about 2000 feet.

18  
Capt. Samuel Wallis of the British navy, in his exploration of the South Seas in 1767-1768, visited the Tongas and renamed this small island in honor of the Admiral under whom he had served at Louisburg while Boscawen was Commander-in-Chief in North American waters. Today Boscawen island, - or "Tafahi" as the natives call it, - has a population of about fifty. It is a part of the Kingdom of the Tonga Islands, ruled by a native Queen, but under the protectorate of the British government.



19



GENERAL AMHERST

20



JAMES WOLFE, Esq.  
Commander in Chief of His Majesty's Forces in the  
Expedition to Quebec.

21

17  
Histories of the Tonga Islands, - especially of the northern or Vavau group of which Boscawen island is a part, - tell of the great hurricane of February 9, 1913, which caused destruction of much property and the loss of many lives in one night of terror. Those who have seen the moving picture or read the story of "The Hurricane" will remember that this great storm which swept over Boscawen and the other islands is mentioned in it. Thus a modern movie film ties in with the story of a South Sea island named for the same gallant sailor for whom an English King named a New Hampshire town 7750 miles away.

39  
41  
Admiral Boscawen, however, was not the only one honored as a result of Britain's victories by land and sea in 1758 and 1759. The names of Amherst and Wolfe were acclaimed also. These three were the popular heroes of the day throughout England and her far-flung colonies. Today we have here in New Hampshire three splendid memorials to these men. One is the town of Amherst, chartered by George III in 1760 and by him named in honor of General Lord Jeffrey Amherst; the second is the town of Wolfeboro, perpetuating the name and fame of General James Wolfe, hero of Quebec, in a charter granted by the Masonian Proprietors in 1759. The third is the town of Boscawen.



To the Hon<sup>ble</sup> the *Original* OFFICERS and  
This PLATE is sent



COMMANDERS of his MAJ<sup>ty</sup> NAVY  
humbly *present it*

*J. G. S. 1812*

22



TREGOTHNAN

23



24

Soon after the fall of Quebec and the conquest of Canada Admiral Bosca-  
wen, with his flagship "Namur" leading the victorious fleet, sailed  
for home to receive the thanks of his King and the House of Commons.

22 The round of receptions and public functions ended tragically with the  
sudden death of the Admiral. The hand of Fate wrote "Finis" across  
the pages of splendid achievement and so ended another "Chapter from  
life with its laughter and sorrow!"

Admiral Boscawen lies buried within the church of Saint Michael Penki-  
vel, Truro, scarcely a mile from the ancestral homestead of "Tregothman,"  
63 built in 1650. A monument in the style of the period, with a bust of  
the Admiral, covers the tomb. The closing paragraph of the inscription  
upon the memorial says -

"Thus belov'd and rever'd, Amiable in private life as illustrious  
in publick, this gallant and profitable servant of his country,  
when he was beginning to reap the harvest of his toils and dangers  
in the full meridian of years and Glory, after having been provi -  
dentially preserved thro ev'ry peril incident to his profession,  
died of a fever on the 10th Jan'y in the year 1761, the 50th year  
of his age, at Hatchlands Park in Surrey, a seat he had just fin -  
ished at the expense of the enemies of his country and (amidst the  
groans and tears of his beloved Cornish men) was here deposited.

His once happy wife inscribes this marble, an unequal testimony  
of his worth and of her affection. "



25



26

*Handwritten text in a cursive script, likely a letter or document. The text is arranged in several paragraphs and includes a signature at the bottom.*

27



28

25

In the Public Library of the Granite State town that bears his name there are two souvenirs of the Admiral. One is an engraved copy of a portrait of Admiral Boscawen from a painting by Sir Allan Ramsey, whose pictures of King George II and of George the Third are famous. The original canvas is now in possession of the present Viscount Falmouth, Lord Boscawen, at Tregothnan.

26

27

There is also the treasured original manuscript of an order signed by the Admiral himself on board of his flagship "Namur" in Louisburg harbor a few days after the surrender of the fortress, directing the transfer of a thousand pounds of "flower" from his ships for use of the land forces.

28

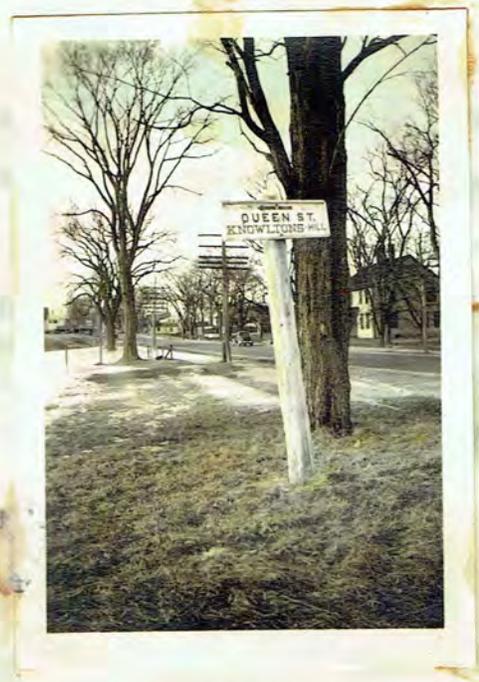
But time marches on; the hands of the clock are turning too rapidly for us to tell more of this valiant sailor who served his country so well. We leave him at rest within the hallowed walls of the church of St. Michael Penkivel in Truro and come back across the ocean to the little New England town that stands as a living memorial to his valor.



29



30



31

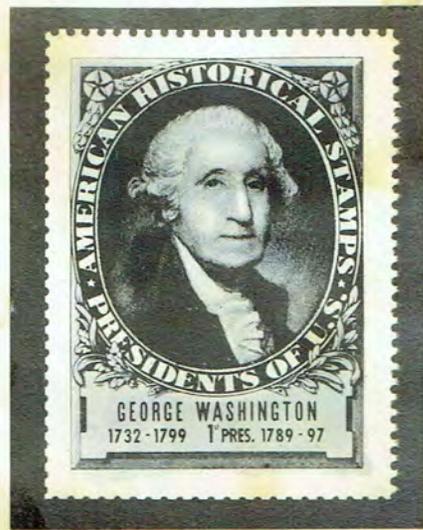
29  
Fifteen years after the town charter was granted to "our loyal subjects within our Province of New-Hampshire" the said "loyal subjects" joined in angry protests with the men of Massachusetts against the arbitrary acts of King George III, successor to the British sovereign who had granted the Boscawen charter.

48 - 30  
Protets led to armed resistance and within forty-eight hours after news of the battle of Lexington on April 19, 1775, had reached New Hampshire sixteen of the men of Boscawen were marching southward to aid their brothers in arms in Massachusetts.

31  
The action of the people of the town named in his honor in thus taking up arms against the mother country must have made the fighting Admiral turn over in his grave. However, as all sailor lads have ever been gallant to the ladies, the spirit of this bold jack tar may have been somewhat mollified by the acts of Boscawen's townspeople in one respect. Altho they struck the name of "King Street" from the main highway they graciously permitted the name of "Queen" to remain, - as it does to this day, - as designating one of the oldest streets in the town.



32



33

All through the Revolution the town of <sup>B</sup>oscawen was loyal to the American cause. Its sons were behind the rail fence at Bunker Hill on that June day in 1775 when history was made. They served with Stark at Bennington and turned back Burgoyne's advancing columns.

32

They fought on until independence was achieved and they shared in the glory as New Hampshire made the Federal constitution effective by ratification as the ninth state in June, 1778.

33

With joy they celebrated the inauguration of George Washington as first President of the new nation in 1789.

And here the curtain falls as the prologue ends and the stage is set for the second generation to carry on the story.



34



35



*Daniel Webster*

36

4-34

With the turn of the century we find the sons and daughters of the pioneers carrying on in the same fine spirit of the fathers. We see the name of Webster looming large in the town affairs of Boscawen. Salisbury, too, had the Webster name among its founders. Here were located Ebenezer and William Webster, brothers. To the former two sons were born, Ezekiel and Daniel. The life story of America's greatest orator is closely associated with Boscawen, for here he prepared for college under the tutelage of Rev. Samuel Wood in 1797. Here, also, he first practised law from 1805 to 1807 in a modest little one-story building on the main street just north of the Dix house.

35

36

And now appears upon the stage one Worcester Webster -- without whom there would be no story of the stamp. Worcester, the son of William Webster, was born in Salisbury in 1794. The records show that he was twice married, his second wife being the granddaughter of Matthew Thornton, signer of the Declaration of Independence. He evidently came to Boscawen in 1817, for we find his name appearing as a resident taxpayer in the little old time-stained warrant book committed to Tax Collector Chadwick in that year. Other documents show him as a purchaser of real estate and of water rights in 1827 and 1829.



37



*Charles Webster*

38



39

37  
Soon after his arrival in town he opened a general store, - later to become the post office, - on the westerly side of Main street opposite the road to Canterbury. He was then living in a house still standing, facing the old Academy building.

38  
At this point we digress for a moment from the biography of Worcester Webster to take up the story of his cousins, Daniel and Ezekiel. Those who have read "Black Daniel" will remember the opening chapter in which news is brought to Daniel Webster, in Washington, of the tragic death of his beloved brother Ezekiel in the courtroom at Concord, N.H., on April 10, 1829. This elder brother, with Daniel's help, had worked his way thru Dartmouth college and had taken over the meagre law practise in Boscawen when Daniel had left for Portsmouth and, eventually, Boston. Ezekiel had been content to stay among his old friends and neighbors; to serve them in town offices and in the Legislature. Meanwhile he had built up a fine law practise based upon honesty and integrity.

39  
The end had come, suddenly and dramatically. Judge, jury and spectators had been looking upon the erect, six-foot figure of Boscawen's famed barrister with his ruddy cheeks and silver-white hair, - for Ezekiel was the very antithesis of the dark and swarthy Daniel. They were listening to his splendid argument when, without a sign of distress or warning he paused, his knees bent under him and he sank to the floor, dead! A few months later the white house at the corner of Main street and the Canterbury road that Daniel had bought and turned over to Ezekiel, was sold by the widow to Worcester Webster.



40



Daniel Webster

41



42



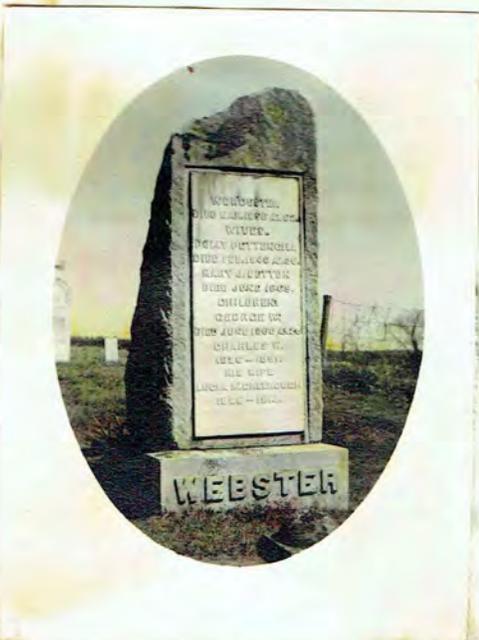
43

40 In February of 1841 Worcester Webster was named as Postmaster at Boscawen by President Martin van Buren and continued in office until 1852. Even in those good old days they must have played politics in the Postoffice Dept. for, with a change of administration at Washington, the postmastership was given to John Greenough, a rival storekeeper on the opposite side of the street.

41 A month after Worcester Webster had been made Postmaster his cousin Daniel became Secretary of State in the cabinet of Pres. William Henry Harrison, serving until May 9, 1843. His second term as Secretary began in July, 1850, under Pres. Fillmore and ended on Oct. 24, 1852, when the great statesman and orator died.

42 With the advent of Franklin Pierce, New Hampshire's first and only son to become President of the United States, Worcester Webster regained his postmastership. He was appointed on April 19, 1854, and died in office on March 24, 1856.

43 Aside from holding this Federal position Worcester Webster was not, apparently, active in local political affairs for there is no record of any other town or state office ever held by him. A huge, wedge-shaped block of granite with a white marble panel inserted therein marks his grave in the old Boscawen Plains burying ground. It is only a few feet away from the last resting place of Ezekiel Webster and the members of his family.



44



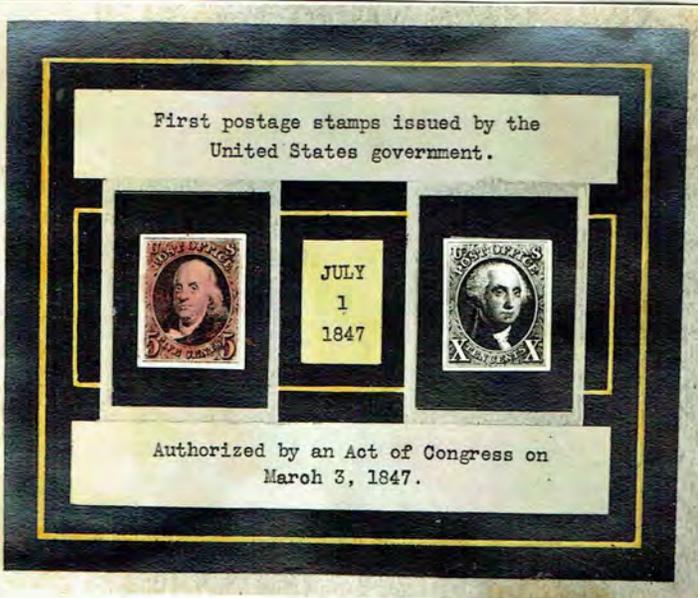
45

44

I am deeply indebted to Mr. Edward G. Webster of Boscawen and Concord for much of the data used in this brief biography of Worcester Webster. Edward G. is not only the grandson of the famous postmaster but he holds the same relationship to Webster's rival merchant and storekeeper of those early days. Witness, the "G" in his name stands for "Greenough." Evidently the feud between the local Capulets and Montagues came to a happier ending than Shakespeare planned for poor Romeo and his lady friend Juliet. These lines on the Worcester Webster monument prove it; -  
"Charles Webster, son of Worcester, 1826-1891. His wife, Lucia M. Greenough, 1826-1914."

45

So much for the man; now what of his unique stamp? The Congress of the United States on March 3, 1845, passed an act establishing uniform rates of postage throughout the country, effective July 1, 1845. It provided that "for every single letter in manuscript or paper of any kind by or upon which information shall be asked or communicated \*\*\*conveyed in the mail for any distance under 300 miles, five cents; and for any distance over 300 miles, ten cents: and for a double letter \*\*\* double these rates," etc. Further regulations fixed postage rates on drop letters, circulars, newspapers, etc.



46



47

46  
Just two years later, - March 3, 1847, - the Congress enacted another law authorizing the Postmaster General to issue postage stamps and reserving to the United States government alone the right to print and supply such stamps and to fix and maintain postal rates and regulations. This law became effective July 1, 1847. Soon afterward the first official United States adhesive postage stamps, - the Franklin five cent red-brown and the Washington ten cent black, - were issued.

47  
In the two years that had elapsed, however, postmasters in many cities and towns had put out their own stamps in such form, style and design as individual fancies had dictated to carry out the 1845 law establishing uniform rates for given distances. These stamps (such as the New Haven issue) are known as the "Postmasters' Provisionals" and became obsolete when the government stamps went on sale in 1847.

While only one copy of the Boscawen "provisional" is known to exist at the present time it is reasonably certain that at least two others were issued and used. From Prof. C. N. Allen at Dartmouth college comes word that a resident of Hanover, N.H., as a boy, had one of the Boscawen stamps. He "didn't think much of it" and so it was traded off or mislaid.



48



49

From other reliable sources I learn that Mr. Fred Hunter of the Nassau Stamp Co., New York, claims to have had a copy of this stamp, on cover, in the early "eighties." He even went to the extent of checking the time of issue, name of the postmaster, etc., but unfortunately lost this copy several years before Mr. Deats established the authenticity and rarity of the Boscawen cover then in his possession, - the only one in existence today.

48 Thorough search by philatelic experts has failed to reveal anything that thing that would shed light on the origin or issuance of this stamp. Was it an amateur printer's set-up or a postmaster's crude handstamp? We do not know. No trace of the die nor any proofs nor scraps of paper similar to that used in the lone stamp have ever been found in the old postoffice, in Worcester Webster's first dwelling or in the big white house into which the Postmaster moved after the death of Ezekiel Webster. Evidently his successor, Postmaster Greenough, was using this handstamp late in 1852.

49 Searchers after the truth concerning the Brattleboro, Vt., "provisional" have had better luck. This little stamp, about 9/16 x 13/16 inches, was printed from a copper plate. A centre panel has script initials "F.N.P." with "Brattleboro, Vt." above and "5 cents" below.

Boscawen  
Mt Lee 18



Miss Abigail P. French.  
Care of Theodore French Esq  
Concord,  
N. H.

50



51

At the left and right of the panel that bears the initials of Dr. Frederick N. Palmer, Postmaster from 1845 to 1848, are the letters "P" and "O." The original plate has disappeared but a sheet of eight stamps has been found bearing the imprint "Eng. by Thomas Chubbuck, Bratt."

50 Well, let us now consider just what we do know about the Bosca-  
wen cover. In the first place, the envelope of thin, grayish -  
white, lightweight linen paper, is about  $5\frac{1}{2}$  inches long and  
about 3 inches wide. In the upper lefthand corner, in rather or-  
nate handwriting, is "Boscawen, N.H. Dec. 13," in two lines. The  
year is not given. The letter was addressed to "Miss Achsah P.  
French, care of Theodore French, Esq., Concord, N.H." This photo-  
graph of the famous cover was taken in 1895, - long before its  
rarity had been established and prior to any catalog listing.

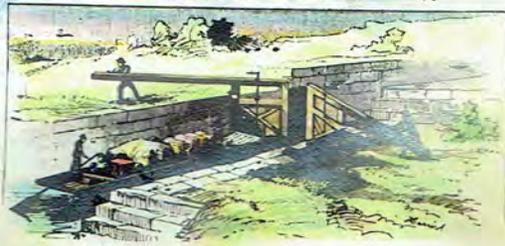
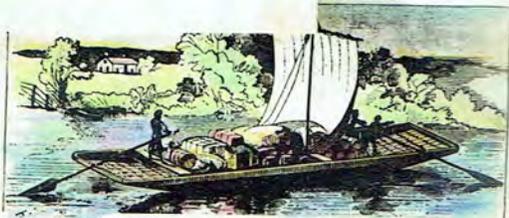
51 Of the stamp itself, one of the earliest commentators had this to  
say; -"The stamp is of the most primitive nature. It appears to  
have been produced from a few carelessly-set type and is hand -  
stamped in dull blue ink on thin, yellowish-white, handmade paper  
in quality like coarse tissue paper. The word "PAID" measures  
13 x 3 millimetres; the word "CENTS" is  $17\frac{1}{2}$  x 3 mm. and the numer-  
al "5" is  $6\frac{1}{2}$  mm. high and 6 mm. wide. The only known copy is in  
the collection of Mr. H. E. Deats."



52



53



54

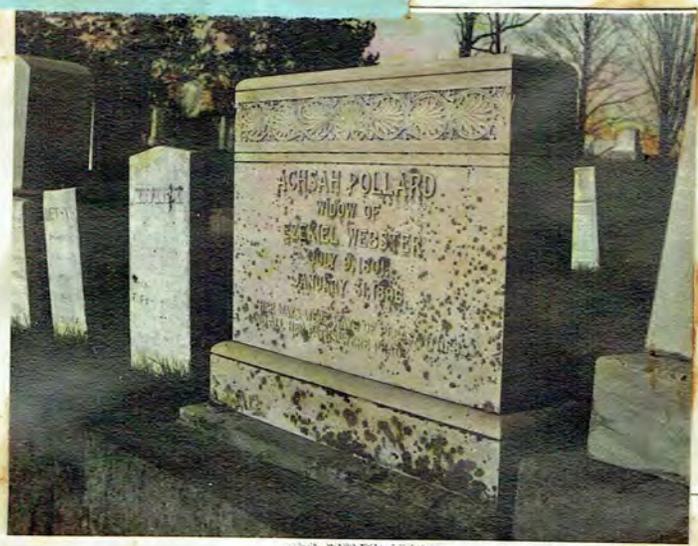
52 You have already heard the brief biography of the Boscawen postmaster who conceived and issued this stamp. The small-town storekeeper, sometime postmaster and first cousin of the immortal Daniel, now passes from the scene back to the "tongueless silence of the dreamless dust" in the old Boscawen Plains cemetery as we turn to the story of the young woman to whom the letter bearing the stamp was sent almost a hundred years ago.

53 Achsah Pollard French was born in Concord in 1824, second of the five children of Theodore and Lydia Pollard French. Theodore French was a native of Old Dunstable (now Nashua) New Hampshire, and with his young wife had moved to Concord about 1810. He soon became interested in the development of river traffic which had been stimulated by the opening of the Middlesex Canal in 1804.

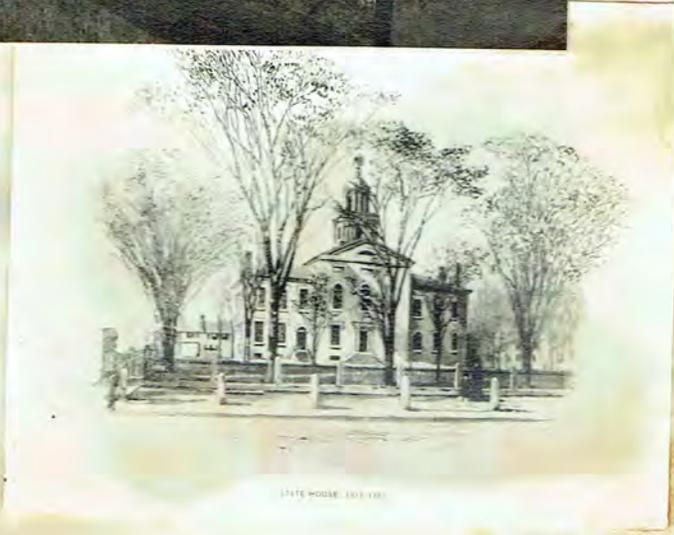
54 In 1812 the "Merrimack Boating Company" was chartered to convey passengers and freight between Concord and Boston. The first canal boat made the 85-mile trip from Boston late in 1814 and regular service began in the following June. A merger with competing companies was made in 1820 and Mr. French was appointed General Agent for the new "Concord & Boston Boating Company." They had twenty or more boats on the river, each from 50 to 75 feet long, with a beam of 8 or 9 feet and a maximum draft of 3 feet. Each carried a three-man crew and took seven to ten days for a round trip.

55

Buck house  
"rectory"



56



STATE HOUSE, 1810-1811

57

55 While acting as Agent for the boat line Mr. French lived in the brick house on Water street south of the railroad bridge, not far from the the Company's boat landing. Later he moved to the house at the <sup>north</sup> corner of Thompson and Main streets. The arrival of the first train from Boston on Sept. 6, 1842, heralded the doom of river shipping. Theodore French, with keen foresight, had anticipated this and became the first Freight Agent of the new railroad.

In addition to his business activities he represented Ward 6 in the Legislature of 1830-31 and was among the petitioners for the first High School in 1842. His busy and useful life ended on December 26, 1868. His widow survived until February 19, 1875, and both now rest in the Old North burying ground in Concord.

56 Such was the parentage of Achsah Pollard French, named for her mother's sister, Achsah Pollard, second wife of Ezekiel Webster. She had married Daniel's elder brother in 1825 and lived in the house still known as the "Webster Place" in Boscawen. It is possible that the now famous cover was sent by Achsah Pollard Webster to her niece and namesake, Achsah Pollard French, a happy carefree girl of twenty living in the capital city, almost within the shadow of the State House, then a comparatively new building.



IN LOVING MEMORY OF  
**LYMAN DEWEY STEVENS**  
A MEMBER OF THIS CHURCH  
FROM 1847—1909  
AND OF HIS WIFE  
**ACHSAH FRENCH STEVENS**  
A MEMBER OF THIS CHURCH  
FROM 1840—1863  
"GOOD AND FAITHFUL SERVANTS"

1846  
CONCORD  
N.H.



WASHINGTON  
D.C.

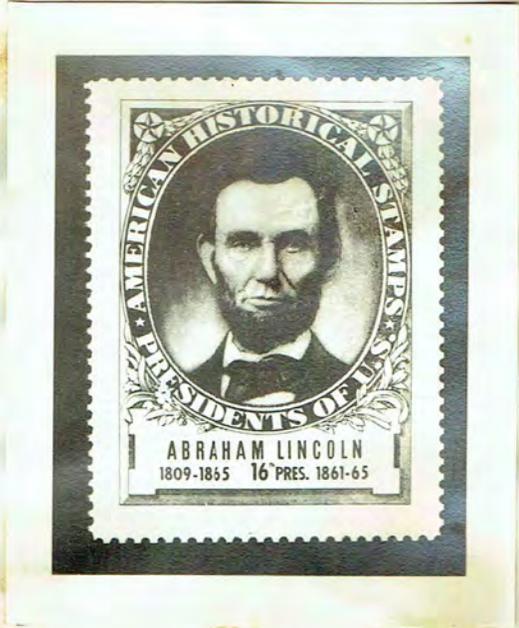
1866

60

58  
Four years later, on August 21, 1850, Miss French married Lyman Dewey Stevens, a young lawyer who had come from Piermont to open an office in Concord. High honors were to come to Mr. Stevens later professionally and politically as City Solicitor, Representative, Senator, Governor's Councillor and as a bank director and president.

59  
Achsah French Stevens did not live to share these honors with her husband. "Life with its laughter" was theirs as two children came to them but sorrow was soon to follow with the dread warning that the young mother had fallen a victim to tuberculosis, - the "quick consumption" of the olden days. She was taken into the South and then to the West in an effort to regain her health, but it was of no avail and she died in St. Paul, Minnesota, on July 2, 1863. In the South Congregational church, Concord, there is a bronze tablet inscribed "In memory of Lyman Dewey Stevens, a member of this church 1847-1909 and of his wife, Achsah French Stevens, a member of this church 1840-1863. Good and faithful servants."

60  
Thus passed, in her 40th. year, the recipient of a letter in a small, commonplace envelope that was destined to become one of the world's greatest philatelic treasures, - the Boscawen cover. And now comes the mystery in this story of a stamp as we try to discover how a letter sent from Boscawen to Concord, N.H., in 1846, should be found twenty years later in possession of a postoffice clerk at Washington, D.C.



61

62



63

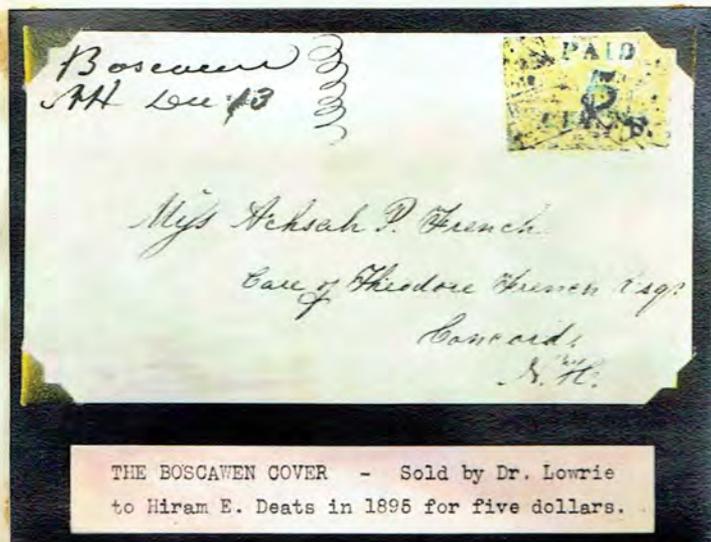
61  
Probably for the greater part of this time the cover was held by Mrs. Achsah Pollard Stevens. It may have been taken with her as a treasured keepsake on her southern trip in search of health. Doubtless it was in Washington during Civil War days for it turns up in 1866 as the property of William M. Ireland, a clerk in the Finance Office, now known as the Bureau of the Third Asst. Postmaster General. Mr. Ireland, coming to Washington from Philadelphia in 1864, was active in Masonic affairs and so came in contact with Brother Oliver H. Kelley, an employee of the Dept. of Agriculture. Kelley was then trying to promote the welfare of the farmers thru some sort of a national organization. He interested Ireland and a few others and, as a result of the work of these "seven founders" the National Grange of the P. of H. came into existence on Dec. 4, 1867.

62  
63  
Mr. Ireland was the first National Treasurer, later National Secretary, and remained active in Grange work until April, 1885, when he resigned to become Secretary-General of the Supreme Council, 33rd. degree, Scottish Rite Masons. Soon after the death of his wife, Mr. Ireland was stricken with a fatal malady and died on Christmas Eve, 1891. His death, as that of the second "Founder" to pass away, was reported at the 26th. annual session of the National Grange, held at Concord, N.H., in November, 1892.

Whether or not Mr. Ireland's interest in philatelic matters continued beyond 1866 we do not know but, in that year, he sold the Boscawen cover to Dr. Henry Harrison Lowrie, a practising physician who lived on a 1500-acre plantation known as "Prospect Hill," just outside the city limits. In the "History of the Grange" mention is made of a Dr. Lowrie in the Postoffice Dept. We may suppose that Ireland and the Doctor met there or in the lodgeroom, for Dr. Lowrie was also a Mason.



64



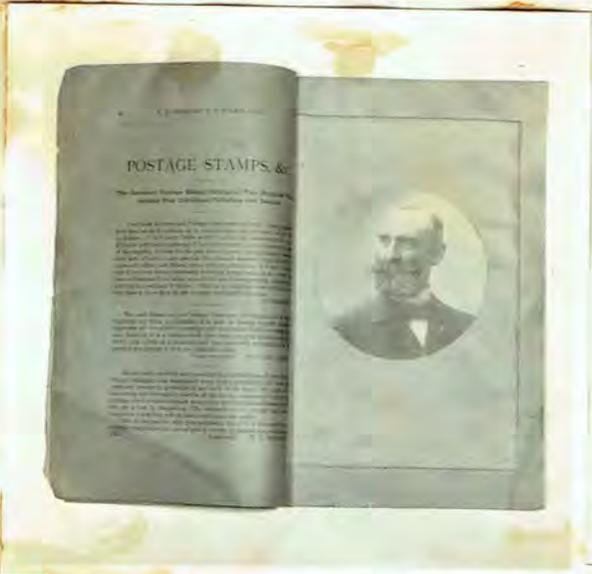
65

Dr. Lowrie, born in Newport, Ky., in 1841, was a graduate of Georgetown University and began the practise of medicine in Washington during the Civil War. About 1867 he moved to Plainfield, N.J. As a collector, the Doctor specialized in old-time stampless covers, postmasters' "provisionals" and the issues of the Confederate States. At one time he owned a complete set, in blocks of four, of the 1869 pictorial issue of United States stamps. These were later sold to U. S. Senator Ackerman of New Jersey and were frequently displayed with his magnificent collection.

64 This porch entrance to the Doctor's Park Avenue residence in Plainfield became well known to patients, stamp enthusiasts, Masonic brethren and his fellow Episcopalians, for he was active in church and lodge affairs. For more than forty years he ministered to the people of his district, mourned by all as he passed away at his home on January 5th., 1916.

65 Without question, Dr. Lowrie is entitled to the distinction of holding the Boscawen cover in his possession for a longer period than has been done by any other person who has owned it. He kept it for twenty-nine years and then, in 1895, sold it to Hiram E. Deats of Flemington, N.J., America's No. 1 stamp collector at that time. The "consideration" is said to have been five dollars.

One of the stories about the Boscawen cover is that it came to Mr. Deats thru the late Edward B. Sterling of Trenton, N.J. This is disproven thru Dr. Lowrie's letter to Mr. Deats as published in Scott's book on the "Postmasters' Provisionals."



66

67

68

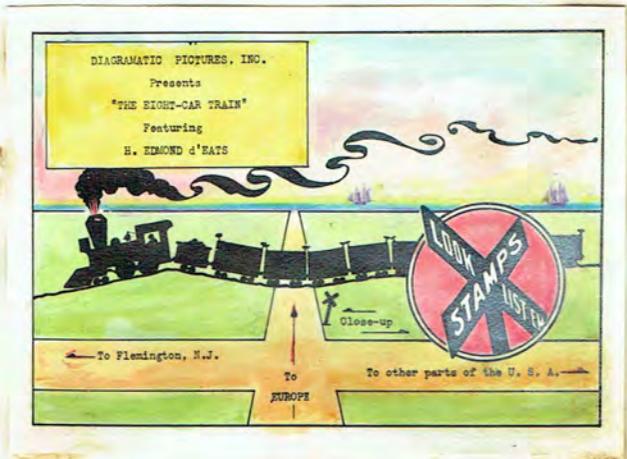
In 1887 Mr.

66  
Sterling resigned from the Trenton Banking Co. to devote his full time to a growing stamp business. A clipping from the "Trenton Sunday Express" of Jan. 22, 1888, says "Mr. Sterking has disposed of the Carpenter & Goodall collection of rare proofs, postage and revenue stamps, etc., for the sum of \$7000 to Mr. H. E. Deats of Flemington, N.J., a young collector of wealth and note." This transaction probably accounts for the story of Mr. Sterling's connection with the Boscawen cover. After Mr. Sterling's retirement from the stamp business he rendered loyal and efficient service to the state of New Jersey in the office of the State Tax Commission. He died at the age of seventy-four on November 29, 1925.

68  
Thus, in 1895, we find Worcester Webster's little stamp from Boscawen resting in this beautiful house among the trees, the residence of Mr. Hiram Edmond Deats at Flemington, N.J. Here was the finest collection in the world of United States stamps and covers, postmasters' provisionals and Confederate States issues. The Boscawen cover, as a new and unlisted specimen, appealed to Mr. Deats. His research work soon determined the fact that it was the only existing stamp of its kind. Public attention was called to this valuable find in John W. Luff's "History of United States Stamps," published by the Scott Co. in 1902. While the cover remained in Mr. Deats' possession it was often shown at the national and other philatelic exhibitions.



69



70

*Hanna Roll*

71

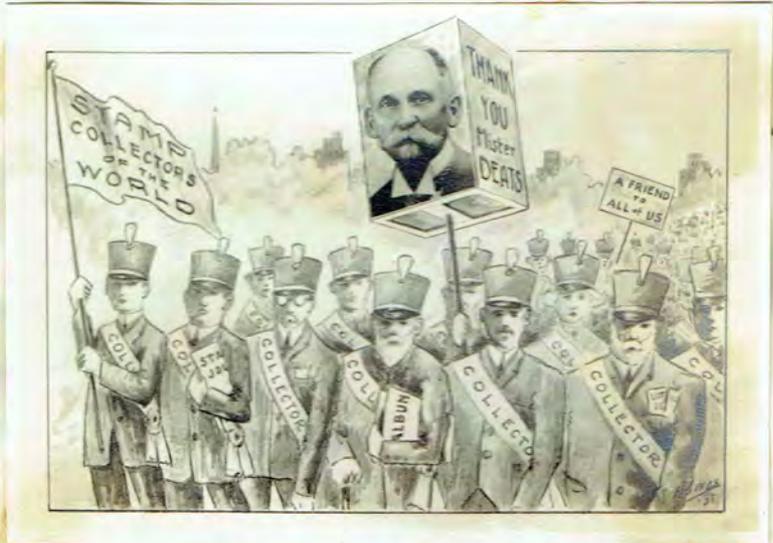
69  
Now then, who was this man who put Boscawen "on the map", philateli-  
cally speaking? Born in Brookville, N.J., in 1870, Deats became a  
stamp collector as a schoolboy. At the age of 18 he paid \$7000 for  
a collection of United States proofs and stamps, as previously men-  
tioned. While in college he made a deal with the assignees of  
Butler & Carpenter, printers of the U. S. revenue issues of 1862 -  
1875, to take over their office files, records, proofs and essays, -  
70 eight carloads in all! Thus he built up a collection of revenue  
proofs so valuable that a bill was introduced in Congress in January,  
1906, seeking to purchase this finely-arranged lot of trial sheets  
in test colors for the sum of \$20,000, - about half of its real val-  
ue at the time. The bill, however, failed of passage.

71  
Mr. Deats was one of the charter members of the American Philatelic  
Society and has filled all of the elective offices therein. He joined  
the Royal Philatelic Society of England in 1893 and, in that same year,  
was executive secretary of the great stamp exhibition at the Columbian  
World's Fair in Chicago. In 1933 he was signally honored by the Brit-  
ish Association by being named as one of three persons (the other two  
being Englishmen) who were placed upon its "Roll of Distinguished Phila-  
telists." Another honor came to him in this same year thru election  
as Councillor-General of the Order of Founders and Patriots of America.



H. E. Deats,  
Felmington, N. J.

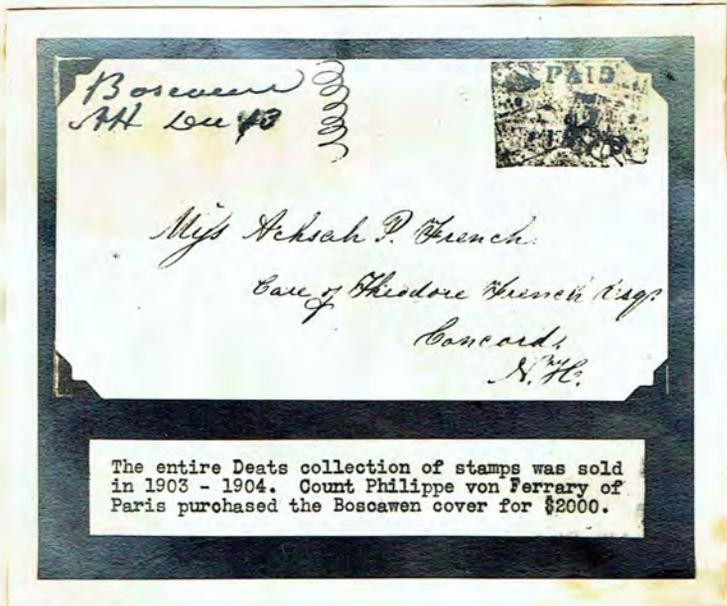
72



*Special*

72 That Mr. Deats has kept his sense of humor thru all the responsibilities assumed and honors conferred upon him, is evidenced by the fact that early in February, 1933, he was asked for a photograph to be used in the magazine called "STAMPS." Jokingly, Mr. Deats sent a "rear view" snapshot taken by his young nephew. Publisher Lindquist "called his bluff" and printed the picture as shown. Now Mr. Deats admits that the joke was on him, - and keeps an enlarged copy of the picture to remind himself of it.

Sp. Men like John Luff and others who rank high in American philatelic circles have ever been ready to acknowledge their indebtedness to Hiram Deats for his ready assistance in their research work. Nor has the "little fellow" turned to him in vain. Mr. Fred J. Melville has well said "Hiram Deats has sought no glory for himself but has freely offered knowledge to every seeker after information. He is a 'philatelic farmer' who has sown good seed and welcomed all who cared to reap the rich harvest of his knowledge." -And your narrator, who has been privileged to benefit thru Mr. Deats' generous help in compiling this history of the Boscawen cover that he once owned, offers this public appreciation of friendly assistance most willingly and cheerfully given.



The entire Deats collection of stamps was sold in 1903 - 1904. Count Philippe von Ferrary of Paris purchased the Boscawen cover for \$2000.

73



74

According to Mr. Deats' philosophy, the joy to be found in collecting, - be it butterflies, antiques or stamps, - comes in the hunt for and the acquisition of the desired object. Possession palls and so, in 1904 or 1905, he turned over the greater part of his postage stamp collection to the New England Stamp Co. of Boston to be sold at retail, realizing full well that it might take several years to dispose of the lot under this plan.

*Sketch  
Cobb's purchase  
1904 or 1905  
73 sp.*

In 1906 one of the directors of the Company, - Mr. Warren H. Colson of Boston, - withdrew from the firm in order to go into business for himself. Among his first purchases was that of the unsold balance of the famous Deats collection of Confederate States issues which had been consigned to the New England Stamp Co. Five years later Mr. Colson took over the entire collection of U. S. Postmasters' stamps, paying Mr. Deats \$12,000 for it. As a part of this transaction the Boscawen cover came into his possession with the understanding that Mr. Deats was to receive \$2000 for it if, and when, sold. Previous to this, the New England Stamp Co. and other dealers had failed to find anyone who would pay the price of not less than \$1200 which had been set upon the cover.

*1911 3*

*73 b  
The cover  
2000*

Mr. Colson contacted <sup>*Pierre*</sup> Edward Mahé, secretary to Count Phillip la Renotiere von Ferrary of Paris, - one of the world's greatest collectors, - and, after many conferences and much correspondence, a deal was consummated late in 1911.

*2 →  
date*

Under the terms of this transaction Mr. Deats got his \$2000 in cash: M. Ferrary's agent received the Boscawen cover and other American issues, plus a cash bonus and, in return, Mr. Colson became the owner of stamps, covers and much philatelic material from the great Ferrary collection. Mr. Colson definitely states that the merchandise exchange value of the Boscawen cover alone was fixed at \$6000 in this international business deal.

*The cover  
with  
a 6000  
732*

Thus a new and hitherto unrecorded name must be added to the list of one-time possessors of the famous Boscawen cover, - that of Warren H. Colson of Boston, Mass. From authentic data he is shown as holding the cover from 1906 to 1911 when it passed into the ownership of M. Ferrary.

*Warren  
Colson  
74*

It is of interest to note that during the last four years of Ferrary's life Mr. Colson acted as his agent in this country and all United States stamps offered to Ferrary were by him submitted, before purchase, to Mr. Colson for his examination and appraisal.

*746*

(Here is interpolated the paragraph relating to the Lindbergh case.)

*(see next page) 9 &*

We turn back now to 1911 and the transaction between Edward Mahe and Mr. Colson involving the Boscawen cover. Sixty-five years had elapsed between the day that the letter had been handed to the old stage-coach driver in Boscawen for delivery in Concord and the time that Ferrary's agent had acquired it. Now it was leaving its native shores en route to a new home in Europe.

According to Mr. Deats' own philosophy the joy to be found in collecting, - be it butterflies, antiques or stamps, - comes in the hunt and acquisition of the desired object. Possession palls, and so, in 1903, he turned over his entire stamp collection to the 73 New England Stamp Co. to be sold at retail. He felt it advisable to adopt this plan rather than to unload so much valuable material at an auction sale. It took several years to dispose of his holdings and, in 1904, the Boscawen cover was sold for \$2000. Now the little cover was becoming famous; it was "front page" news!

Again we depart from the main theme of the story for a moment as we hear once more the tragic note sounding, - the Pagliacchi motif of "Life, with its laughter and sorrow." At the time of the Hauptmann trial the one-time quiet and peaceful community of Flemington in 74 New Jersey was a scene of wild excitement. Into the spotlight again comes Mr. Deats, the former owner of the Boscawen cover, this time as a member of the Grand Jury that indicted the German carpenter for the kidnapping and slaying of the Lindbergh child.

1911

We turn back now to 1904 and the sale of the Deats collection. Fifty- 65 eight years had elapsed from the time that the letter had been handed to the old stage-coach driver in Boscawen for delivery in Concord, N.H., up to the time that Count Ferrary's agent had purchased it.



75



76



77



78

Now it was leaving its native shores en route to a new home in Europe.

75

It is a far cry from the village church in Boscawen, standing at the junction of the old Fourth New Hampshire Turnpike and ancient Fish street, with its white spire bathed in the glorious colors of a winter sunset, to the stately and magnificent Cathedral of Notre Dame in Paris. Here is a church that was over five hundred years old when the

76

first settlers were coming up the Merrimack valley to Contoocook in 1733; a building known the world over for its architectural beauty, its wealth of sculpture and its famous rose windows. Again there is con-

77

trast between this view of Boscawen's main street, looking north beneath the splendid arches of the giant elms that bring to mind Joyce Kilmer's beautiful lines "that only God can make a tree" and this picture of the magnificent man-made Arch of Triumph in Paris. Beneath

78

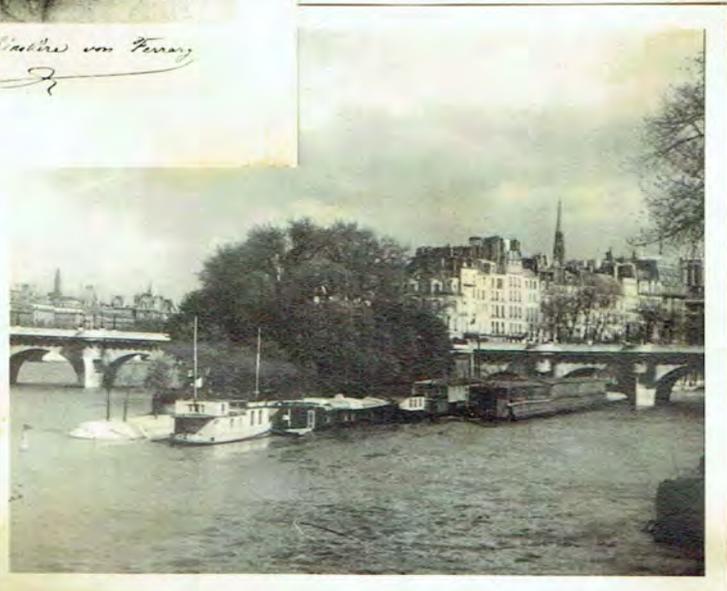
this arch burns the Eternal Flame at the tomb of the Unknown Soldier of France.

Here in Paris the wandering cover came to rest as an item in the great stamp collection of Count Phillip la Renotiere von Ferrary who was, to France, what Hiram Deats had been to America, - their "Number 1" stamp collector.



*Philipp de Kintores von Ferrary*  
*[Signature]*

79



80



81

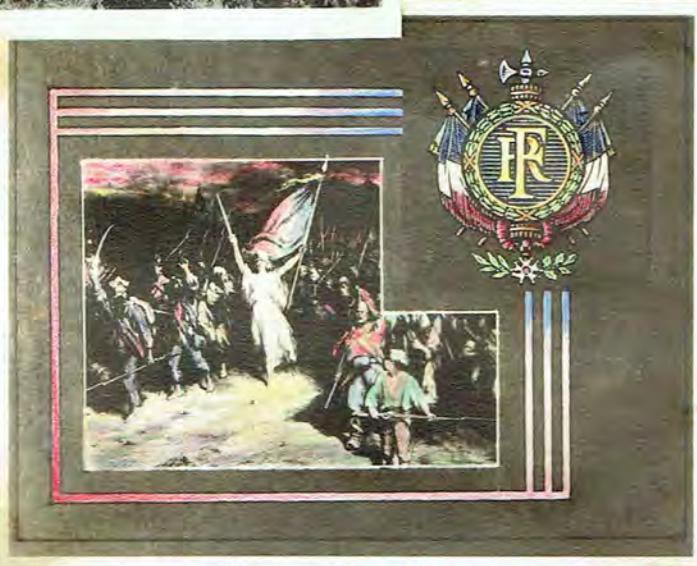
79  
Ferrary was a true cosmopolite. He was the son of the Duchesse de Galliera, - of one of the wealthiest old Italian families, - and Ritter von Kriegsfeld, an Austrian army officer. The Duchesse lived in a magnificent mansion at 57 Rue de Varennes which she left by will to the Austrian government for use as its Embassy, with the proviso that her son Phillippe was to have a life occupancy of one wing of the building if he so desired.

80  
Ferrary was educated in England, claimed Austrian citizenship and made his home in Paris. He was a graduate of the law school of the University of Paris and a master of languages, conversing fluently in English, French, German, Spanish and Italian. Count von Ferrary was a very wealthy man and, as stamp collecting was his life-time hobby, he travelled constantly all over Europe and into the far East in search of philatelic treasures.

81  
Then came the World War and despite the fact that the Count's mother had been a generous benefactor to France, and especially the city of Paris, - in her gift of the famous Galliera Musee, - the son found his position most uncomfortable. Altho maintaining an attitude of strict neutrality he was mistrusted and suspected of enemy affiliations. After war was declared he made one trip to Vienna and was allowed to return to Paris. In 1916 he went to Switzerland but was not permitted to re-enter France. Despite the fact that he was then a Swiss citizen, having been naturalized as such at Lugano, he was declared to be an enemy alien.



82



83



By order of the  
REPUBLIC of FRANCE  
the Ferrary col-  
lection is sold at  
public auction on  
April 7, 1922  
ARTHUR HIND  
buys the Boscawen  
cover for \$11,260



84

82  
Tragedy again appears on the stage in life's drama of sunshine and shadow as the exile dies, broken-hearted, in Switzerland on May 20, 1916. The French government stepped in and promptly seized all of Ferrary's property, - including the magnificent stamp collection. All of this property was to be sold at public auction and the proceeds applied to war reparation payments. Thus, while the war raged and American soldiers, - some from New Hampshire, - joined the allied troops on the western front, Worcester Webster's little orphan from Boscawen became the ward of the great French Republic.

83  
Then came the Armistice, the Treaty of Versailles and the adjustment of war debts and reparations. Property that had been confiscated was ordered to be sold and so the great collection of coins and stamps that had been left by Ferrary's will to the German Imperial Museum at Berlin was put up for sale. There were so many items that it became necessary to hold fourteen auction sales between 1921 and 1925 in order to dispose of Ferrary's holdings. 84  
The Boscawen cover was listed as Lot No. 556 in the third sale, held on April 7, 1922. The buyer was Arthur Hind, an American from Utica, N.Y., and the price that he paid was 105,000 francs plus a surtax of  $17\frac{1}{2}\%$ , - an additional 18,375 francs. At the rate of exchange current that day it meant \$11,260, - an all-time high price for any cover.



85



86



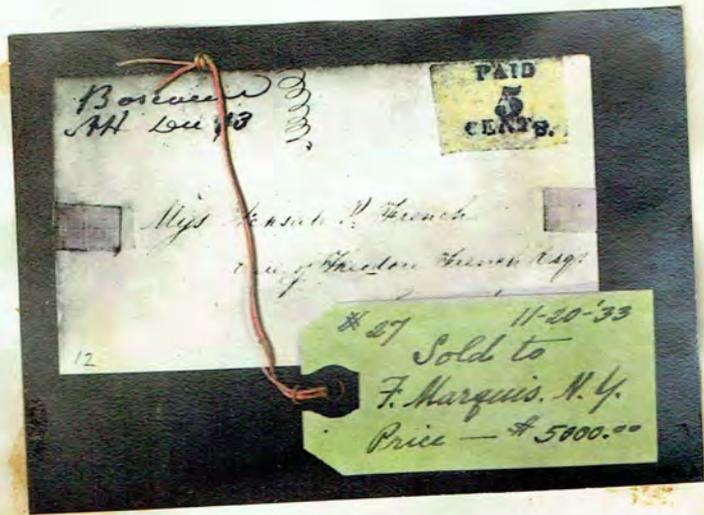
87

85 Thus, after a sojourn abroad of eighteen years, our little international wanderer came back to greet the Statue of Liberty and to dwell once more in America. Arthur Hind, the new owner of the stamp, was born in Bradford, England, on February 4, 1856. Early in life young Hind entered his father's textile mill and became proficient as a manufacturer. Eventually our tariff laws so crippled their American export business that Arthur Hind determined to open a plant in the United States. Subsequently the firm of Hind & Harrison, makers of pile fabrics, was established with factories at Clark's Mills, just north of Utica, N. Y. The business was successful from the start and Hind became wealthy.

86 After retiring from active business Mr. Hind devoted most of his time to travel and stamps. He facetiously admitted that his sole reason for stamp collecting was "that he was never good at geography and this hobby taught him the location of foreign countries and cities." In local affairs he served as a director in banks and corporations and, at one time, owned the largest hotel in Utica. In appreciation of what America had done for him, Mr. Hind renounced allegiance to the British crown and became a citizen of the United States in July, 1896. Perhaps this towering shaft, not far from Utica, commemorating the battle of Oriskany in 1776 and the valor of the patriots fighting in a just cause, may have had something to do with inspiring Mr. Hind to become an American citizen.



88



89

Throughout its whole life span -- and the Boscawen cover was now seventy-six years old -- it had been treated carefully and it bore no marks nor scars. Here in Utica, however, it suffered its first indignity. It was bound to an album page by strips of adhesive tape, a pernicious practise adopted in the mounting of all of Hind's covers, valuable and otherwise. Retribution came, however, after the sudden death of Mr. Hind in Florida on March 1, 1933, when his fine collection, in settlement of the estate, went under the auctioneer's hammer. A substantial loss had to be taken on all of these marred items, and the Boscawen cover was a conspicuous example.

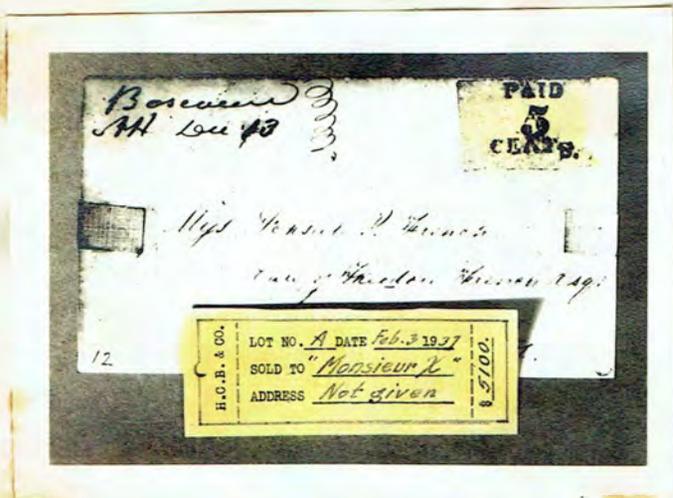
Thus, after eleven years' rest in Utica, Worcester Webster's little stamp started on its travels once more. The first auction sale of the Arthur Hind collection was held in the Hotel Waldorf, New York City, on November 20, 1933. The Boscawen cover, tagged as item #27, was sold to Frank Marquis of New York for \$5000. It may safely be said that the half-inch strips of adhesive tape at either side of the cover were directly responsible for the \$6250 shrinkage in value from the price that Mr. Hind had paid in Paris. And so the little pilgrim from the quiet and peaceful New Hampshire community came to the Great White Way and the glitter and glamor of Broadway and the hectic life of a great city.



90 Mr. Marquis, the purchaser, was one of the old-time stamp dealers of New York. Soon after coming to America from Vienna, Austria, he became interested in stamps and went into the business over thirty years ago. He has made some famous "finds" in the philatelic line, notably a block of four of the 24 cent air mail stamps of 1918 with inverted centres, now priced at over \$3500 apiece; a strip of three of the Saxony #1, etc. His purchase of the Boscawen cover for \$5000 was apparently another good investment, and it attracted much attention as it was displayed in turn at each of the four stores that Mr. Marquis was then operating. This store at 63 Nassau Street, New York City, was the temporary home of the Boscawen cover for a while. However, business conditions were not conducive to heavy investments in stamps at the time, and so -- failing to secure the price that he had set upon it for private sale -- the famous cover again went to the auction block. Once more the little wanderer from the New Hampshire hills was to hear the strident voice of the auctioneer with his "Going! Going!! Gone!!! Going where? Who could tell?"

91 Thus it came to pass that the catalog of an auction sale to be held by Hugh C. Barr & Company of New York City on February 3, 1937, carried this announcement:--

92 "NOTE : - Just as at the play, the Star seldom makes his appearance on the stage when the curtain goes up on the first act, so we are holding back Lot A, the famous Boscawen, until later in the first session. It will not be offered in its regular order but will be put up at 3.30 o'clock during the progress of the sale. Its present catalog price, based apparently on the figure of the Ferrary sale, is ..... \$10,000."



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Despite the fact that the "Star" made its entrance as per schedule, the result was disappointing. Mr. Hugh C. Barr himself wrote for me this chapter in the story of the Boscawen cover: -- "Only four bidders displayed a real interest in it. Three had apparently fixed their limits at \$5000 as they dropped out of the bidding when \$5050 was reached. It was sold to an out-of-town buyer for \$5100. We regret that we are not at liberty to reveal his name, but we believe that you will realize his reasons for not wishing publicity. Since the sale we have been besieged by dealers who wish to sell him rare stamps and who offer us commissions on any sales if we will only divulge his name and address."

We must respect Mr. Barr for keeping a promise. Nevertheless it is disappointing to find the ninety-year trail suddenly closed to further progress. We have followed it from the country postoffice to the state capital, thence to Washington, into the New Jersey townships, and then overseas to Paris; then back to America and the great metropolis of New York. Now, as we seek the open road again to follow this "child of the wanderlust" the way is barred. -- "Private grounds - Keep out!" But we know that somewhere behind those hills is the mysterious Monsieur X holding fast to his philatelic treasure that came out of Boscawen long ago.



### Of Plimoth plantation.

Any first of y<sup>r</sup> wishes and indiments ther unto; the which I may truly unfold, I must begin at y<sup>r</sup> very roots & the of y<sup>r</sup> name. The which I shall deliver to manifest in a plain stile, with singular regard unto y<sup>r</sup> single truth. In all things, as best as may be by my slender judgment, we shall see.

#### 1. Chapter.

It is well known unto y<sup>r</sup> godly and justities, how ever since y<sup>r</sup> first landing out of y<sup>r</sup> light of y<sup>r</sup> gospel in our Honorable Nation of England, which was y<sup>r</sup> first of nations when y<sup>r</sup> Lord showed ther with, after y<sup>r</sup> grosse darkness of popery which had covered & covered y<sup>r</sup> Christian world, what wars & oppositions were there. Some had raised, maintained, and continued against the Nation, from time to time, in one way or other. Some times by bloody death and cruel tortures; other while Imprisonments, banishments, & other hard usages; so being both his Kingdom should grow down, the truth prevail, and y<sup>r</sup> churches of God, receive in their ancient purity, and recover their primitive order, liberty, & justice. But when he could not



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I wish that we could send a message through the mist to the present owner of the old cover to this effect: - "If and when the day comes that your collection is to be broken up and dispersed, during your lifetime or in settlement of your estate, can you not provide by will or otherwise that the Boscawen cover shall be returned to its home town, there to be kept securely and safely guarded for all time as the property of the town and its people?"

95 It would be a gracious gesture, comparable to that of the Bishop of London in returning the famous Bradford manuscript to America. This little volume, better known, perhaps, although erroneously, as "The Log of the Mayflower," written by the venerable Governor Bradford himself, had been taken to England long before the Revolutionary War. It had passed from hand to hand, as attested by the scribbling on the cover, before it became the property of the See of London. In 1897, the then Bishop, Mandell, acceded to the request of the American Ambassador and sent the cherished volume back to its native land. Doubtless many of you have seen it as it rests in the great hall of the State Library in the State House at Boston.



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While we await the reappearance of the cover, - for sooner or later it will come into the spotlight again, - we can but marvel at the changes in modes of transportation since 1846. The river boat, the woodburning locomotive with its huge smokestack and string of tiny cars and the gaily-painted stagecoach with foam-flecked horses, provided the means of travelling then.

It is very likely that the mail from Postmaster Worcester Webster's office in Boscawen went to Concord on that December day in 1846 by stagecoach. Today the streamlined train, the automobile and the airplane serve Concord as a postal centre.

71-98  
In the city of Washington, in 1846, Postmaster Cave Johnson could look across the unfilled marshes and the swamp lands along the Potomac and see the nation's Capitol as it had stood for years with its unfinished dome.

99  
Thanks to the genius of American architects and landscape engineers Washington presents a very different picture today. Here, for instance, is the Capitol in the majestic beauty of a perfectly balanced structure as Postmaster General Farley sees it now.

*Longfield*



100



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But the seal of the Postoffice Department has not changed. It still bears the device of the mounted post rider, reminiscent of the days of 1849 and the men of the "pony express." These were the riders who carried the mails across foothills, mountains and prairies, evading or fighting off the lurking Indians. Failure to get thru meant that death had come by accident or at the hands of the red men.

As it was in 1846' and 1849, so it is in 1938. Over the doorway of the great Postoffice building in New York city these words are carved in the enduring granite, -

101

"Neither snow nor rain nor heat nor gloom of night stays these couriers from the swift completion of their appointed rounds."

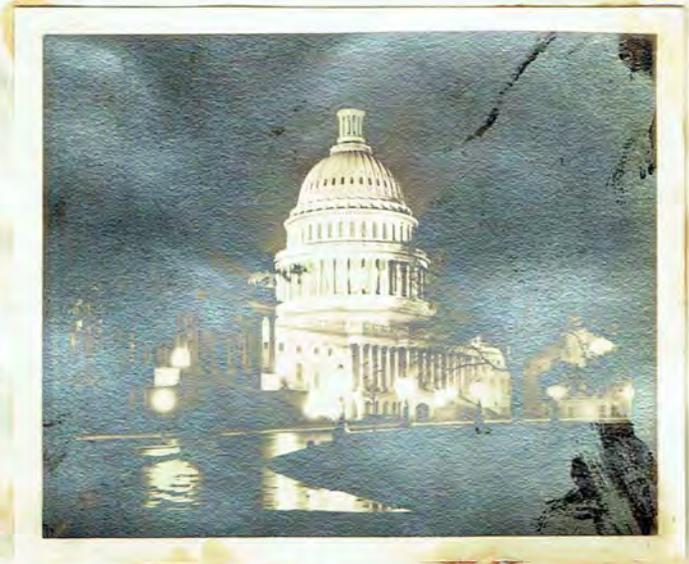
That is the motto of the post as written by Herodotus two thousand years ago. It is the expression of the spirit of courage and devotion to duty typical of the service.

102

It was this same ideal of service and courage and loyalty to his country that made Admiral Sir Edward Boscawen one of England's great naval heroes. There was no blot upon his escutcheon. He brought added glory to a family that proudly traces its lineage back to 1340. A task assigned to Admiral Boscawen became to him a duty to be performed at any cost and it was in recognition of this fact that a king named a New Hampshire town for a sailor.



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As we look back upon the shifting scenes of the early days we note that Admiral Boscawen achieved fame thru service to his King; Daniel Webster thru service to his country and fame has come to the village Postmaster because, in serving his townsmen, he issued his unique stamp.

103  
Today you affix a stamp, - not a "postmaster's provisional" but perhaps one of the "commemoratives," - to a letter and drop it into the familiar green letter box at the corner of your street. It immediately becomes the ward of the United States government, under its care and guardianship.

129 - 104  
Thru rain and snow and the gloom of night, thru darkened villages and lighted cities, the postal service speeds your message on its way. No man, under penalty of drastic Federal laws, may interfere with its progress toward its destination. At all times and under all conditions, - save where the speeding mail truck yields to an ambulance on its errand of mercy, - the United States mail has the right of way.

105  
Whether it be a letter from Boston or Boscawen; from Portland, Me. or Portland, Ore; whether it is a message of grave importance to the country or just a few lines of greeting from one friend to another, the full civil and military power of a great nation is pledged to the safe delivery of the missive that carries the stamp - -

THE MAIL MUST GO THROUGH!

103  
Here endeth the story of the Boscawen stamp. Perhaps as strange a tale may be told a hundred years from now about some cover that was today dropped into a mail box on some street corner. The Boscawen "provisional" came forth while the nation was young. Then there were only 28 stars in the flag; the war with Mexico, the California gold rush and the Civil War were yet to come. The great West was an unknown country and no man dreamed of the power and the glory that time was to bring to the government at Washington.

104  
The principal figures in our story have long since returned to the bosom of mother earth. The stalwart Postmaster is gone but his fragile little stamp is clinging tenaciously to an envelope on which the handwriting is still legible and the ink unfaded. If, - as Josh Billings said, - that it is commendable in life "to stick to just one thing until you get there," then the Boscawen stamp must be commended for being 100% efficient.

105  
Your true philatelist knows the "stories behind the stamps:" of errors, inverts, war and emergency issues and of fabulous prices paid for rarities. There is glory and tragedy behind many a portrait on a foreign stamp and the history of our own country is written in the commemoratives issued by authority of the U. S. Government. Thus, like all who seek the human interest motive in events of the past, we find pleasure in telling of acquisitions to our collections as we retrace footsteps down the roadway of life "with its laughter and sorrow," along the path of sunshine and shadow that we call "Memory Lane."

BOSCAWEN - 1846.

LANTERN SLIDES.

<u>NO.</u>	<u>SUBJECT</u>	<u>SOURCE of SUPPLY</u>	<u>ORDER</u>	<u>SLIDE</u>	<u>COPY</u>	<u>REMARKS</u>
1	Title slide	Drawing by WFH	To B 10/13	Slide 10/22	Owned by WFH	
2	Date slide -1733	Negative by WFH	To B 7/30	Slide 8/18	Owned by WFH	
3	"Meeting of the Waters"	Photo and negative by Victor Flint	To B 7/8	Slide 7/14	Owned by WFH	
4	Map: North from Newbury	Drawn by WFH	To D 3/7	Slide 3/12	Owned by WFH	
5	Brown's Plan of Contoocook, 1733	State Papers, Vol. XXVIII - p. 115	To B 4/26	Slide 4/30	Owned by WFH	
6	Dustin monument	From Indian Stream set. WFH	- -	- -	- -	Completed
7	Attack on Deer - field, Mass.	Dickson Hist of US Bosc. Lib.	To B 3/15	Slide 4/ 2	Retd.	
8	Dustin, Neff and Leonardson.	CCC Hist Boscawen, in Lib.	To D 2/16	Slide 2/24	Retd.	
9	Marker, location of First Fort	Neg. by Flint	To B 4/2	Slide 4/15	Owned by WFH	
10	Map:Cape Breton (Louisburg)	Drawn by WFH	To D 3/19	Slide 4/7	Owned by WFH	
11	British warships, period 1750-75	"Old Ship Prints" City Lib.	To B 3/15	Slides 4/2	Retd.	
12	Death of Wolfe at Quebec, 1759	Canadian Magazine, State Lib.	To B 4/21	Slide 4/30	Retd.	
13	Old graves at Pittsburg.	From Indian Stream set. WFH	- - -	- - -	- - -	Completed
14	King George II, date 1760	Neg. by Harrington at NH Hist Soc.	To B 9/6	Slide 9/10	Owned by WFH	
15	Bust portrait, Adm. Boscawen	Fr. framed portrait Boscawen Lib.	To B 3/9	Slide 3/15	Retd.	
16	Land's End, coast of Cornwall, Eng.	Victor Corpn.	7/29	Slide 8/8	- -	Neg by B 8/18
17	Islands of South Pacific Ocean	Hydrogr. Survey, USN State Lib. No.166	To B 4/26	Slide 4/30	Retd.	
18	Tonga Islands postage stamps	Stamps, Harris Co: arr. by WFH	To B 6/25	Slide 7/2	Owned WFH	
19	The hurricane	From movie picture: Lyric theatre.	To B 5/17	Slide 5/27	Owned WFH	
20	Portrait of Gen. Jeffrey Amherst	Canadian Mag.Vol.23 State Lib.	To B 4/21	Slide 4/30	Retd.	
21	Portrait of Gen. James Wolfe.	" "	To B 4/21	Slide 4/30	Retd.	
22	Boscawen's flag-ship "Namur"	From Falmouth or Br. Naval Museum				<i>Retd. 9/24</i>
23	"Tregothnan"	Print sent by Viscount Falmouth	To D 2/15	Slide 3/7	Owned by WFH	To B 4/12: Slide 4/19
24	Tomb of Admiral Boscawen	Vis. Falmouth: postcard copy	To B 9/29	Slide 10/8	Owned by WFH	
25	Public Library, Boscawen	Postcard copy from Librarian	To B 4/12	Slide 4/19	Owned by WFH	

<u>NO.</u>	<u>SUBJECT</u>	<u>SOURCE of SUPPLY</u>	<u>ORDER</u>	<u>SLIDE</u>	<u>COPY</u>	<u>REMARKS</u>
26	Portrait of Adm. Edward Boscawen	Framed picture, Boscawen Lib.	To D 3/2	Slide 3/7	Retd.	To B 3/9; Slide 3/15
27	Louisburg order, Boscawen mss.	Framed original, Bosc. Lib.	To D 2/16	Slide 2/24	Retd.	Photostats made: City Clrk
28	Church of St. Michael Penkivel	Vis. Falmouth; postcard copy	To B 9/29	Slide 10/8	Owned by WFH	
29	King George III, date 1775	Stl. eng., Book Bazaar.	To B 9/6	Slide 9/10	Owned by WFH	
30	The Minute Man, Lexington.	From Indian Stream set - WFH	- -	- -	- -	Completed
31	Queen-St. Signpost	Neg. by WFH	To D 2/26	Slide 3/7	Owned by WFH	
32	Gen. John Stark	From Indian Stream set - WFH	- -	- -	- -	Completed
33	Geo. Washington	From AMOCO stamp series	To B 5/10	Slide 5/27	Owned by WFH	
34	Daniel Webster's birthplace	From Indian Stream set - WFH	- -	- -	- -	Completed
35	Marker: site of DW law office	Negative by Victor Flint	To B 7/8	Slide 7/14	Owned by WFH	
36	Worcester Webster	CCC Hist of Bosc. Town Lib.	To D 2/16	Slide 2/24	Retd.	
37	Worcester Webster's first house	Negative by Flint	To B 4/2	Slide 4/15	Owned by WFH	
38	Ezekiel Webster	CCC Hist of Bosc. Town Lib.	To D 2/16	Slide 2/24	Retd.	
39	His residence	Photo loaned by E. G. Webster	To D 2/24	Slide 3/12	Retd.	
40	Pres. Van Buren	From AMOCO stamp series	To B 5/10	Slide 5/27	Owned by WFH	
41	Daniel Webster	CCC Hist of Bosc: Town Library	To D 2/16	Slide 3/7	Ret'd.	Completed
42	Franklin Pierce	From AMOCO stamp series	To B 5/10	Slide 5/27	Owned by WFH	
43	Gravestone of Worcester Webster	Negative by Flint	To B 4/2	Slide 4/15	Owned by WFH	
44	Group of early covers.	From collection of WFH	To D 3/2	Slide 3/7	Owned by WFH	
45	First US stamps, 5¢-10¢ of 1847	Johnson collection; loaned by Aldridge	To B 7/8	Slide 7/14	Retd.	
46	The New Haven "Provisional"	Photo bought from E. H. Sterling	To B 3/17	Slide 4/2	Owned by WFH	
47	Boscawen cover of 1852 (Greenough)	Photo given by H. E. Deats	To B 3/17	Slide 4/2	Owned by WFH	
48	"Brattleboro" PM's "provisional" 1846	Fac simile from collection of WFH	To D 2/24	Slide 3/7	Owned by WFH	
49	THE Boscawen cover Dec. 13, 1846	Photo given by H. E. Deats	To D 2/16	Slide 2/24	Owned by WFH	
50	The stamp alone	From Barr photo of cover, Feb. 1937	To D 2/16	Slide 2/24	Owned by WFH	To B -4/12 Slide, 4/19

<u>NO.</u>	<u>SUBJECT</u>	<u>SOURCE of SUPPLY</u>	<u>ORDER</u>	<u>SLIDE</u>	<u>COPY</u>	<u>REMARKS</u>
51	Old Burying Ground Boscawen Plains	Negative by WFH	To D 2/28	Slide 3/7	Owned by WFH	
52	Portrait: Achsah Pollard French	<del>Mrs. Lyman Clark</del> Dr. Lund (EGW)	To B 7/28	Slide 8/18	Retd. to Da L.	
53	Old river boats, about 1820	Browne's Hist of Merrimack river	To B 4/8	Slide 4/15	Retd.	
54	State House at Concord, 1816	From Hist of Con- cord: WFH	To B 5/17	Slide 5/27	Owned by WFH	
55	Portrait: Lyman Dewey Stevens	Wm. L. Stevens: framed oval- 1852	To B 6/25	Slide 7/2	Ret'd.	
56	Bronze tablet	Photo and neg. by Jos. Harrington	To B	Slide	Owned by WFH	
57	Abraham Lincoln	From AMOCO stamp series	To B 5/10	Slide 5/27	Owned by WFH	
58	Wm. M. Ireland	Sec-Gen. W.D.Reed, 33rd., Wash., DC.	To B 6/25	Slide 7/2	Ret'd.	
59	Dr. H. H. Lowrie	From J. Rufus Searles, NYC	To B 5/10	Slide 5/27	Retd.	
60	His residence, Plainfield, NJ.	" "	To B 5/10	Slide 5/27	"	
61	E.B.Sterling and his book	E. H. Sterling, Trenton, N.J.	To D 2/24	Slide 3/12	Copy retd.	Defective: re- made. Recd. 4/7
62	Seal of the State of New Jersey	" "	To B 4/2	Slide 4/15	Owned by WFH	For coloring, see booklet.
63	Home of H.E.Deats, Flemington, NJ.	Postcard view from Mr. Deats	To D 2/16	Slide 2/24	Owned by WFH	
64	Portrait of Hiram Edmund Deats	Photo from Mr. Deats	To D 2/16	Slide 2/24	Owned by WFH	
65	The 8-car train	Silhouette draw- ing by WFH	To B 4/2	Slide 4/15	Owned by WFH	
66	"Rear view" por- trait of Deats	"STAMPS" issue of 3-4-33. Vol 2-12	To B 7/28	Slide 8/18		
67	Cover, tag \$2000, dated 1904	Arranged by WFH	To B 9/6	Slide 9/10	Owned by WFH	
68	Courthouse at Flemington, NJ.	Postcard from Mr. Deats	To D 2/16	Slide 2/24	Owned by WFH	
69	Congregational Ch. Boscawen, sunset.	Retouched photo by WFH	To B 4/12	Slide 4/30	Owned by WFH	Enlarged 8x10 for copy.
70	Cathedral of Notre Dame, Paris	Victor Corpn.	7/29	Slide 8/8	- -	Neg by B 8/18
71	Arching trees, Main St., Boscawen	Postcard from Mrs. Emery, librarian.	To B 4/12	Slide 4/19	Owned by WFH	
72	Arc de Triomphe, Paris	Victor Corpn.	7/29	Slide 8/8	- -	Neg by B, 8/18
73	Portrait of Count Ferrary of Paris	"STAMPS" Vol. 1, number 2	To D 2/24	Slide 3/12	- - -	Loaned by <i>EWJ</i> W.S.S. 8/17
74	Austrian Embassy, 57 Rue de Varennes	Booklet of French Tourist Bureau	To B 10/13	Slide 10/22	Owned by WFH	
75	View in Swiss Alps	Victor Corpn.	7/29	Slide 8/8	- -	Neg by B, 8/18

<u>NO.</u>	<u>SUBJECT</u>	<u>SOURCE of SUPPLY</u>	<u>ORDER</u>	<u>SLIDE</u>	<u>COPY</u>	<u>REMARKS</u>
76	World War action picture	Victor Corpn.	9/17	Slide 10/3	Owned by WFH	
77	Seal of the French Republic	Fr.Consul, Boston: Vic.Slide bckgrnd.	To B 10/13	Slide 10/22	Owned by WFH	
78	Cover, tag \$11250, date 1922	Arranged by WFH	To B 10/13	Slide 10/22	Owned by WFH	
79	Statue of Liberty	Victor Corpn.	7-29	Slide 8/8	- -	Neg. by B 8 - 18
80	Portrait of Arthur Hind	Thru H & H Co. employee @ \$2	To B 5/10	Slide 5/27	Owned by WFH	
81	View in Utica, NY	From C of C folder	To B 7/30	Slide 8/18	"	
82	Office, Hind & Harrison Co.	Small photo from Pres. Kennett	To B 7/30	Slide 8/18	"	
83	Boscawen cover, taped sides	Photo from H.C. Barr, NYC, as of 1937	To D 2/16	Slide 2/24	Owned by WFH	
84	Cover, tag \$5000, dated 1933	Arranged by WFH	To B 5/10	Slide 5/27	Owned by WFH	
85	Broadway, NY, on New Year's eve	From Boston Sunday Herald (roto)	To B 5/10	Slide 5/27	Owned by WFH	
86	Portrait of Frank Marquis, NY	Photo loaned by Mr. Marquis	To B 3/15	Slide 4/2	Retd.	
87	F. Marquis' stamp shop (Monopol Co)	" "	To B 3/15	Slide 4/2	"	
88	Barr catalog page, Feb. 3, 1937	Catalog copy arranged by WFH	To D 2/24	Slide 3/7	Owned by WFH	
89	Cover, tag \$5100, date 1937	Arranged by WFH	To B 5/17	Slide 5/27	Owned by WFH	
90	Closed road: end of the trail.	Back Lake road, arr. by WFH	To B 5/27	Slide 7/2	Owned by WFH	
91	First page, Bradford history	From Mass. state publication: WFH	To B 4/8	Slide 4/15	Owned by WFH	
92	State House, Boston	Post card bought in Boston	To B 9/29	Slide 10/8	Owned by WFH	
93	Capitol at Washington, 1830-1850	From Indian Stream set - WFH	- -	- -	- -	Completed
94	The Capitol today	" "	<del>To B</del> 4/26	<del>Slide</del> 7/27	- -	Completed
95	Seal of the Post Office Dept.	From Postal Guide, Manch. P.O.	To D 2/19	Slide 3/7	Copy retd.	
96	The Post Motto	Sepia print from Lindquist's office	To D 3/7	Slide 3/12	Owned by WFH	
97	The Boscawen coat-of-arms	From Viscount Fal-mouth, London	To D 2/15	Slide 2/24	Owned by WFH	
98	U. S. Mail box	Negative by WFH	To B 4/2	Slide 4/15	Owned by WFH	
99	Capitol at night	From Indian Stream set - WFH	<del>To B</del> 3/26	<del>Slide</del> 5/27	- -	Completed
100	Great seal of the United States	From "Story of the Constitution"	To B 3/26	Slide 4/2	Owned by WFH	