



PHILIPPINE PHILATELIC JOURNAL

Volume XXII, No. 1

*W.A. Wrigley
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*Mr. H. Dickey
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First Quarter, 2000

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Philippine Philatelic Journal

Postal Service in the Philippines in July 1898

by *Weston D. Burnett CAPT, JAGC, USN*

2015 Powhatan Street, Falls Church, VA 22043

Introduction

As specialists know, July 1898 was an important transition month for U.S. postal service from the Philippines. Although U.S. expeditionary troops began arriving on June 30, the U.S. post office ashore at Cavite did not open until July 30.¹ Between those bookend dates, soldier's and sailor's mail was dispatched to U.S. destinations via improvised routings and frankings. Such letters are scarce. This article catalogues 45 known covers from July 1898, including seven covers and a separate letter that predate the arrival of F.W. Vaille, the first Postal Agent in the Philippines.² Although F.W. Vaille's official report refers to only three mail shipments from Manila Bay during July, there is more to the story. A careful review of ship logs and contemporary newspapers proves that another five shipments of mail left Manila Bay in July, three before Vaille's arrival on July 16, and two afterwards that are not recorded by him. This busy and turbulent month for U.S. officials in the Philippines did not stop the postal service from improving the temporary measures to keep the U.S. Mail flowing to the home front.

The Victory at Manila Bay

On April 25, 1898, the United States declared war on Spain backdating it to April 21, 1898.³ On April 27, then-Commodore Dewey stood the Asiatic Squadron out to sea from Mirs Bay, China and headed for the Philippines.⁴ His ships included four cruisers: the 5,586-ton USS OLYMPIA, the 3,189-ton USS BOSTON, the 4,413-ton USS BALTIMORE, and 3,183-ton USS RALEIGH; two gunboats, the 1,710 ton USS CONCORD and 892-ton USS PETREL; the cutter 1,432-ton USS McCULLOCH; and two store ships, the 5,059-ton USS NANSHAN and the 1,062-ton USS ZAFIRO.⁵

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The Asiatic Squadron with the USS OLYMPIA in the lead entered Manila Bay the evening of April 30. The battle began at 5:40 AM and was over in seven hours with all the Spanish warships damaged or destroyed and 381 Spanish sailors dead.⁶ No American warship was seriously damaged and only eight Americans were wounded.

The shallow-water PETREL, meanwhile, had steamed to the Navy Yard at Cavite capturing several launches and two tugs in the process.⁷ Two days later, the Americans took possession of the Cavite Naval Station. On May 5th, Admiral Dewey dispatched the USS McCULLOCH,⁸ because of her speed, to the closest cable facility, Hong Kong, arriving on May 7, 1898 with the news of the American victory.⁹ Meanwhile, the USS McCULLOCH reported in her log on May 7, 1898 in Hong Kong that she "sent ashore for ships³ and fleets mail and received same."¹⁰ She got underway on May 8th for Manila and anchored two days later off Cavite near the USS OLYMPIA and "sent mail for fleet and stores to the flagship."¹¹ Five days later on May 13, 1898, at the direction of Commodore Dewey, she got underway again for China where she picked up 11 Filipino insurgents, including Emilio Aguinaldo.¹² She then returned with them to Manila Bay anchoring on May 19, 1898.¹³

In the United States

Army troops were required for the attack on the Spanish garrison in Manila and other large Spanish-held cities and to establish U.S. control of the Philippines. As a consequence, soon after word reached the War Department in Washington, D.C. in early May, the United States began to assemble troops at Camps Merritt and Merriam in San Francisco to send to the Philippines.¹⁴ On May 24, 1898, Postal Order 201¹⁵ established:

*In view of the presence of United States forces in
and near the Philippine Islands—*

It is hereby ordered: That articles of mail matter for or from persons connected with said United States forces shall be subject to the postage rates and conditions applicable to similar articles in the domestic mail of the United States.

The articles shall be sent to the commandants of the forces by every opportunity offered by the sailing of United States vessels for said forces. The sailing dates of the vessels cannot be announced in advance, and the articles should therefor be forwarded promptly to San Francisco in order that they may be dispatched thence to destination at first opportunity.

The Philippine military postal stations were expected to function as branch offices of the nearest U.S. post office, in this case San Francisco.¹⁶

The same day as the Postal Order, May 24th, the first troops sailed from Golden Gate in three transports with the First California Volunteers, Second Oregon Volunteers, and six companies of the Fourteenth Infantry, a total of 2,499 men under the command of General Anderson.¹⁷ The Army-chartered transports included the CITY OF PEKIN, AUSTRALIA and CITY OF SYDNEY.¹⁸ Of note, the earliest troop mail from the Philippines bear California and Oregon unit endorsements and are addressed and stamped received in those states, a direct reflection of the fact that the first units to arrive in the Philippines came from California and Oregon. Meantime, troops continued to gather at Camps Merritt and Merriam in San Francisco.

On June 6, 1898, F.W. Vaille, Assistant Superintendent, Railway Mail Service was appointed as Postal Agent for the Philippines.¹⁹ Two clerks from the San Francisco Post Office, Mr. George Conway and Mr. E. M. Kelly, were detailed to the money-order registry and stamp divisions of the U.S. Military Station No. 1 in the Philippines.²⁰ General Merritt was directed on June 9 by the Assistant Secretary of War to transport Postal Agent Vaille and his clerks to Manila and "to extend such aid and facilities in prosecution of their work as you consistently can."²¹ Postal Agent Vaille left San Francisco on the transport CHINA at 1:15 PM on June 15, 1898 along with the transports COLON, ZEALANDIA and SENATOR in the second expedition.²² The troops embarked included the Tenth Pennsylvania Volunteers, the First Colorado Volunteers, the First Nebraska Volunteers, one battalion Eighteenth U.S. Infantry, one battalion Twenty-Third U.S. Infantry, Batteries A and B Utah Artillery, and others.²³ The total embarked was 3,596.²⁴ They stopped over in Hawaii from June 23 to June 25. Many of the covers from late July, as discussed later, came from members of the Pennsylvania and Colorado units.

On June 21, 1898, the Secretary of War designated the forces comprising the Philippine expeditionary under command of General Merritt as the Eighth Army Corps.²⁵ The third expedition left June 27, which included MORGAN CITY, OHIO, INDIANA, VALENCIA and CITY OF PARA.²⁶ General Merritt followed on the NEWPORT two days later.²⁷ This expedition included 4,847 troops principally from the Eighteenth and Twenty-Third Infantry, Third U.S. Artillery, Thirteenth Regiment Minnesota Infantry, First Regiment Idaho Infantry, First Regiment North Dakota Infantry, First Regiment Wyo-

ming Infantry and assorted other units.²⁸ They stopped in Hawaii between July 5 and 7 as NEWPORT overtook them headed for the Philippines.²⁹

The Arrival of the Troop Ships and the July 1 Mail

The first expedition of troop ships, CITY OF PEKIN, AUSTRALIA, and CITY OF SYDNEY, arrived at 4:15 PM on June 30, 1898, off Cavite, 37 days after they left San Francisco. They lost considerable time searching for, and eventually rendezvousing with, the USS BALTIMORE, which escorted them into Manila Bay.³⁰ On July 1, 1898, the troops landed at Cavite Naval Station.³¹ That same day the USS OLYMPIA "signaled an opportunity for sending mail to Hong Kong at 4 PM today."³² A war correspondent embarked on USS BALTIMORE then quickly dashed off a letter (Exhibit 1) dated July 1, 1898 to the National Military House, Milwaukee, Wisconsin, reporting on the Battle of Manila Bay adding "I have no time to write any more because the mail boat leaves in an hour so please excuse this short letter."

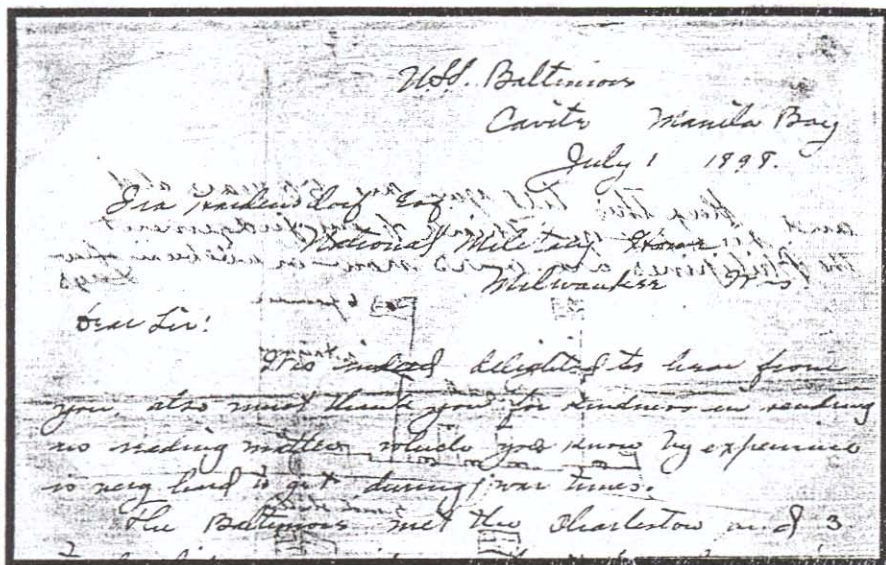


Exhibit 1:

Reduced photocopy of War Correspondent's letter dated July 1, 1898 describing damage to the USS BALTIMORE and the Battle of Manila Bay. (Weston Burnett Collection)

At 4:10 PM, USS *ZAFIRO* got underway for Hong Kong with "Captain Lamberton [Commanding Officer USS *OLYMPIA*], Pay Inspector Smith and Ensign Butler, going on duty."³³ They carried money to arrange for sending the mail to the United States. They arrived in Hong Kong on July 4 for a one-day stay before returning to Manila. On July 5, the U.S. mails left Hong Kong on the steamship *DORIC* for San Francisco via Yokohama and Honolulu.³⁴ The *DORIC* arrived in San Francisco after 11 PM on August 1 and anchored "outside the quarantine line" waiting to off load her mails and passengers on the morning of August 2.³⁵

The USS *ZAFIRO* was a Scottish built collier purchased for the Navy by Commodore Dewey at Hong Kong on April 9, 1898, just before his squadron sailed for the Philippines.³⁶ Though the Secretary of the Navy's report for 1900 indicates that she was placed in service on April 10, 1898, her role as a commissioned ship must have been unique for her complement only showed one Navy man, her commanding officer. Her status in the Navy is further complicated by the fact that there were no deck logs extant for her during this period.

There are four covers from this July 1 postal shipment on the USS *ZAFIRO*, three of which bear San Francisco addresses, two cents in U.S. postage due stamps, and the following three markings: "U.S. CHARGE TO COLLECT 2 CENTS,"³⁷ / "Soldier's Letter, 1st Regt Cal U.S. Vol. Inf., A.J. Kelleher Cap't and Adju't," and a San Francisco, CAL circular date cancel of August 2, 1898 (Exhibit 2). The fourth cover is different. It bears a U.S. CONSULATE HONG KONG oval cancel, a ten-cent Hong Kong stamp and a circular July 4, 1898 cancel on the stamp, the day the USS *ZAFIRO* arrived from Manila. On the reverse, the cover bears a "San Francisco, CAL PAID ALL" circular cancel of August 2, 1898, the same day as the other three covers were canceled in San Francisco. The enclosed letter is dated "Cavite, Manila, June 16, 1898" and signed "Fred L. Cogswell, USS *PETREL*". The USS *PETREL* did not leave Manila Bay between 16 June and 4 July so this cover was in the July 1 shipment carried by the USS *ZAFIRO* to Hong Kong. The mystery is why this cover was stamped and canceled in Hong Kong while the other three covers received the California Volunteer postmarks with postage due in California. The answer probably lies in the fact that one cover originated with a member of a ship's crew in Manila Bay several weeks before the July 1 mail shipment (and had no postmarks to use) while the other three came from the California Volunteers embarked on one of the ships that had just completed its transit from San Francisco (complete with postal supplies used to process mail while in transit).

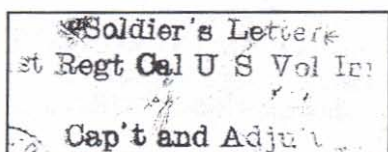


Exhibit 2

Reduced photocopy of cover to San Francisco with three postal markings on the front and a two cents postage due stamp. While the reverse, shown in the inset, has a Kelleher endorsement and a San Francisco receiving mark of August 2, 1898.
(Weston Bumett Collection)³⁸

July 10 and July 16 Mail Shipments

On July 7, the USS ZAFIRO came in and anchored next to the flagship USS OLYMPIA with the returning Captain Lamberton, Pay Inspector Smith and Ensign Butler on board as well as "two bags of mail."³⁹ After the USS ZAFIRO's return on July 7, another opportunity presented itself three days later. The USS BALTIMORE'S Logbook on July 10 noted:

"0400-0800, Sent a mail for the U.S. to flagship."⁴⁰ Then the USS OLYMPIA's Logbook for the same date read: "HBMS Plover [British gunboat] left the harbor at 8:30 carrying mail."⁴¹ The HBMS Plover arrived in Hong Kong on July 12, 1898.⁴² A few days later, on July 14, 1898, the USS BALTIMORE'S Logbook again recorded "Sent a mail to flagship for U.S." and the next day, July 15, 1898, the German cruiser CORMORAN, left Manila for Hong Kong with the U.S. mails and arrived in Hong Kong on July 18.⁴³ The mail from both of these shipments was canceled in Hong Kong and then carried by the British steamer EMPRESS OF JAPAN, which left Hong Kong on July 20 arriving in British Vancouver on August 10, 1898, as reported in the Seattle Daily Times.⁴⁴ Three covers are known from this shipment. All three bear ten-cent Hong Kong stamps with the U.S. CONSULATE HONG KONG oval cancel. One bears a Hong Kong cancel of August 18 and the other two Hong Kong cancels are indecipherable. All three bear an August 10, 1898, Seattle, Washington or Vancouver, B.C. cancel on arrival (Exhibit 3).

The first expedition under General Anderson was located at Cavite Naval Station, 27 miles from Manila. Anticipating a better position from which to attack, on July 15, General Anderson transferred a portion of his forces by water to a point three miles from Manila, named Camp Dewey, after the victorious Commodore Dewey.⁴⁶ Camp Dewey became the base from which the assault on Manila would originate. It also became the disembarkation point for the rest of the Eighth Army Corps as it arrived in July, which accounts for the fact that many covers after July 15 are marked " Camp Dewey."

Postal Agent Vaille's Arrival

The transport CHINA arrived on July 16 around 4:00 PM with Postal Agent Vaille on board, who immediately "sent to flagship for mail."⁴⁷ His report reflects that:

"On arrival at Cavite our mission was promptly announced the same day to the commanding officers of the army and navy, and request made to have our supplies landed at once, so that we might begin our work. It was promised that this would be done, but on account of the fact that the movement of troops and army supplies was considered of great importance and the quartermaster department had but a limited number of tugs and lighters, there was a delay of about two weeks in doing this. Every available tug and native boat had been taken for use by the quartermaster department, so that we were entirely dependent on it.

"Our safe and supplies were finally landed and the first office was

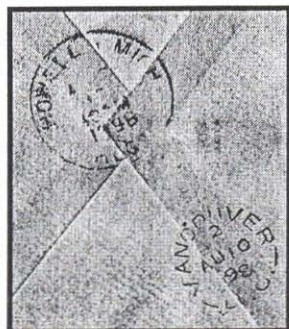
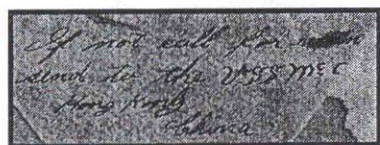
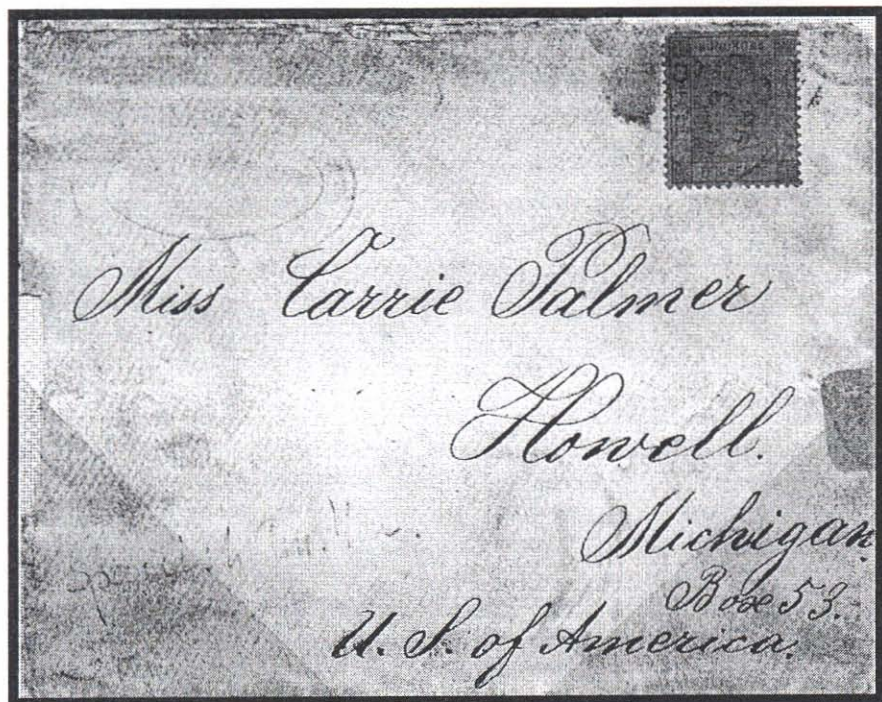


Exhibit 3:

Reduced photocopy of cover to Michigan with enclosed letter that reads "USS McCULLOCH, Manila Bay, July 14, 98," plus a Hong Kong cancel of July 18, 1898, and on the reverse, Vancouver, B.C. circular date cancel of August 10, 1898. and the inset notation "If not call for, send to the USS McC (ULLOCH), Hong Kong China". (Weston Burnett Collection)⁴⁵

opened up at Cavite on July 30. During this period of waiting one mail had been made up on board the steamer for dispatch to the United States via Hong Kong and two mails for dispatch direct by United States transports."⁴⁸

Postal Agent Vaille's First Shipment on July 19

On July 17, 1898, the second expedition troop transports, including the ZEALANDIA, arrived 32 days after they had departed from San Francisco.⁴⁹ On July 18, the flagship signaled at 10:00 AM "There will be an opportunity for sending mail at 9 am tomorrow."⁵⁰ A few hours later, the USS McCULLOCH sent her "steam launch to flagship with mail"⁵¹ The morning of the 19th, the German steamer WUOTAN left at 9:30 AM with the mail on board for Hong Kong together with \$121.65 to pay for the Hong Kong postage for 1,535 letters, four packages and four letters.⁵² The WUOTAN arrived in Hong Kong on July 21.⁵³ Five days later, the steamer BELGIC departed carrying the mail for the U.S., via Yokohama and Honolulu, arriving in San Francisco 27 days later on August 22, 1898.⁵⁴

The ten known covers from this shipment all bear a July 23, 25 or 26 Hong Kong cancel and a ten-cent Hong Kong stamp (Exhibit 4).⁵⁵ There is no indication why they were canceled on three different days in Hong Kong nor is there any listing of another ship traveling from Manila after the WUOTAN that could have resulted in the later cancellations in Hong Kong. Eight of the covers bear August 22, 1898 San Francisco circular date cancels, while the other two missed the San Francisco cancel and were canceled on arrival a few days later in Colorado and New York, respectively.

The SOLDIER'S LETTER / A.L. Hawkins / COLONEL endorsement on Exhibit 4 occurs on seven of the ten July 1898 covers addressed to Pennsylvania. Colonel Hawkins was the Commanding Officer of the Tenth Pennsylvania Volunteers, which was mobilized on short notice reporting on May 18, 1898 to San Francisco.⁵⁶ When the unit arrived in San Francisco, it included 175 men without uniforms or equipment and 160 men unarmed.⁵⁷ The Tenth Pennsylvania was in the second expedition, which arrived in the Philippines on July 17, 1898. Colonel Hawkins continued to command the Tenth Pennsylvania in the Philippines until at least May 3, 1899, when he was listed in a report to Washington, D.C. as wounded in the arm.⁵⁸

Postal Agent Vaille's Second Shipment on July 21

On July 20, 1898, the USS OLYMPIA signaled that there would be "an opportunity for sending mail by the SYDNEY at 8 tomorrow morning."⁶⁰ On July 21, 1898, the CITY OF SYDNEY left Manila Bay for San Francisco.⁶⁰ She stopped in Nagasaki enroute and left there on July 27 arriving in San Francisco on August 14, 1898.⁶¹

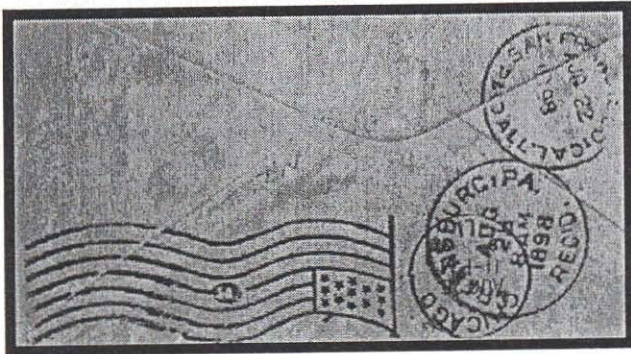
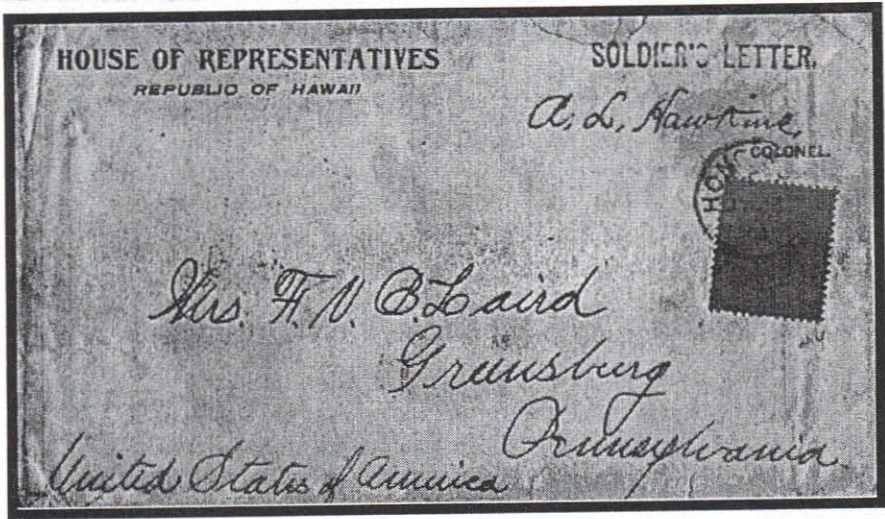


Exhibit 4:

Cover to Greensburg, Pennsylvania on a "HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES / REPUBLIC OF HAWAII" envelope with Hong Kong cancel of July 23, 1898 and an endorsement of "SOLDIER'S LETTER A.L. Hawkins / COLONEL" On reverse, there are cancels from San Francisco on August 22, 1898 and Greensburg, PA on August 28, 1898. (Robert Hoge Collection)

The five known covers from this shipment all bear the following markings "U.S. CHARGE TO COLLECT 2 CENTS / SOLDIER'S LETTER / A. L. Hawkins / COLONEL and SAN FRANCISCO / CALA / AUG 14 11 AM '98. Of note, one of the four covers is addressed to Utah, rather than Pennsylvania, suggesting that the "Colonel Hawkins" endorsement may have been used for the members of the Utah Artillery Unit that had arrived along with the Tenth Pennsylvania a few days earlier. For franking, four covers bear two cents in postage due stamps and one is missing the stamp (Exhibit 5).⁶²

On Board *Malandina*
July 20th 1898
In Manila Bay, off Cavite.

mailed you a few lines Monday
will go to Hong Kong, then to

RETURN TO
 ELMER H. THOMAS,
 NEW BRIGHTON, PA.
 E. H. THOMAS & SON CO.,
 BOND PURCHASERS,
 PHILADELPHIA, PA.

SOLDIER'S
 U.S. CHARGE TO COLLECT 2 CENTS

CO. D. New York
 COLONEL

To Samuel C Thomas
Box 406 New Brighton P. A.
U.S.A.



Exhibit 5

Photocopy of front of the cover and cancels from the back of the cover from Elmer H. Thomas to Samuel Thomas, New Brighton, PA with a portion of an enclosed letter on preceding page that reads: "On Board Zealandia, July 20" 1898, In Manila Bay, off Cavite" (Weston Burnett Collection)

Postal Agent Vaille's Third Shipment on July 23

On July 22, the day after the SYDNEY sailed, the USS OLYMPIA signaled "at 8:30 send boat for mail."⁶³ At 12:15 AM, the USS BALTIMORE signaled to the USS OLYMPIA: "Did Mr. Elliot inform Japanese man-of-war of mail going to Nagasaki."⁶⁴ The answer came back fifteen minutes later "Yes."⁶⁵ On July 23, 1898, the AUSTRALIA sailed at 6:30 AM.⁶⁶ The AUSTRALIA stopped in Nagasaki, Japan on July 29, and arrived in San Francisco on August 17, 1898, 25 days after leaving Manila.⁶⁷ Of note, this mail shipment, Vaille's third, actually arrived in San Francisco five days earlier than Vaille's first shipment, which traveled via Hong Kong. There are only three reported covers from this July 23, 1898 shipment (Exhibit 6).⁶⁸

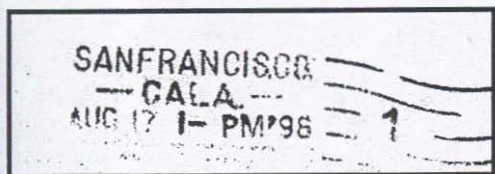
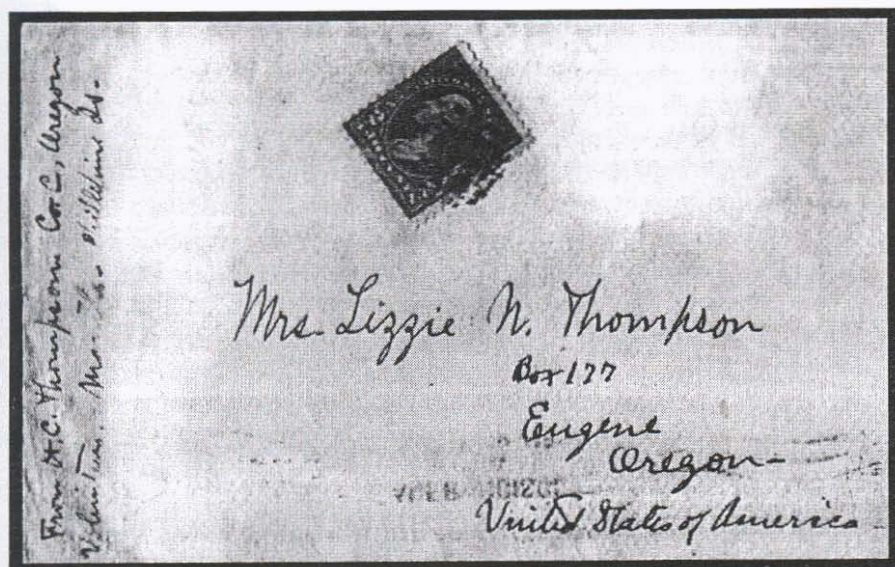


Exhibit 6

Reduced photocopy of cover to Eugene, Oregon. On reverse, there are cancels in the insets from San Francisco on 1- PM, Aug 17, 1898 and Eugene, Oregon on August 19, 1898. (Robert Hoge Collection)

Postal Agent Vaile's Fourth Shipment on July 26

The next covers clearly did not go on any of the three mail shipments reported by Postal Agent Vaile as they traveled via Hong Kong, but long after Postal Agent Vaile had forwarded his only previously reported mail shipment to Hong Kong on July 19. The mystery is why Postal Agent Vaile did not report this fourth shipment which was made before the opening of the Cavite Post Office on July 30. The best answer may be that Postmaster Vaile did not know about the shipment. While that explanation is less than satisfactory, other

explanations appear less palatable such as he forgot about this shipment (when his records show meticulous attention to detail), or assembled it ashore (yet he said he moved ashore on July 30 and this letter is marked as a "Ship's Letter"), or the July 19 shipment was not one of his three shipments (even though he arrived on July 16 and immediately sent to the flagship for mail). Three covers are known from this shipment, which left Manila on July 26 aboard the HBMS PLOVER and arrived in Hong Kong on July 30 (Exhibit 7).⁶⁹ A ten-cent Hong Kong stamp was attached to each letter followed by a Hong Kong cancel of July 30, 1898. No ships left Hong Kong for the United States from July 30 to August 10, at which time, the mail to the U.S. left Hong Kong on the British steamer EMPRESS OF CHINA, which arrived in Vancouver, B.C. on August 31, where the covers were each canceled on the back side.⁷⁰ They were also later canceled at their final destinations in Massachusetts or Colorado on September 4 or 5.



Exhibit 7:

Photocopy of cover to Beverly, Massachusetts, U.S. of North America, with "Manila July 25th" written in upper right and Hong Kong circular date cancel of July 30. On reverse of the envelope, there is a Minuteman insignia from the U.S.S. Concord (inset) as well as cancels from Vancouver, B.C. on August 31 and Beverly, Mass on September 4, 1898. (Nestor Nunez Collection)

Postal Agent Vaille's Fifth Shipment on July 30

On July 25, 1898, General Merritt arrived on board the transport NEWPORT, after a 26-day transit.⁷¹ The troop ships of the third expedition arrived six days later after a 34-day transit from San Francisco including a Hawaiian stopover. General Merritt's troops now totaled over 10,000.

Of the three original troop transports that had arrived a month earlier on June 30, only the CITY OF PEKIN remained. On Thursday, July 28, 1898, the USS OLYMPIA signaled at 7:15 AM: "Mail will leave at 4 PM Saturday."⁷² This is the same date, Saturday, July 30, that Postmaster Vaille reported that the first post office ashore opened. In the early afternoon on Saturday, the USS BALTIMORE "sent mail to

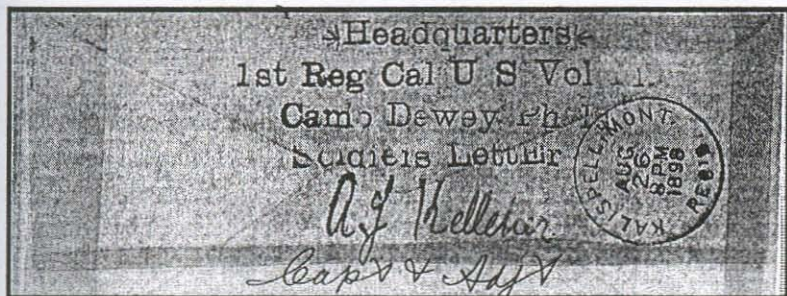


Exhibit 8

Reduced photocopy of a cover to Montana with half of ten-cent Bureau issue and San Francisco straight-line cancel of 7 PM, Aug 22, 1898. On the reverse, a Camp Dewey marking and a Kalispell, Mont. cancel of 8 PM, August 26, 1898. (Weston Burnett Collection)

PEKIN for U.S.. CITY OF PEKIN got underway and left the Bay.”⁷³
 The CITY OF PEKIN stopped in Nagasaki enroute and arrived in San Francisco on August 22, 1898, 24 days after leaving Manila⁷⁴ and the same date that the steamer BELGIC pulled in with the first Vaille mail shipment that had gone via Hong Kong.

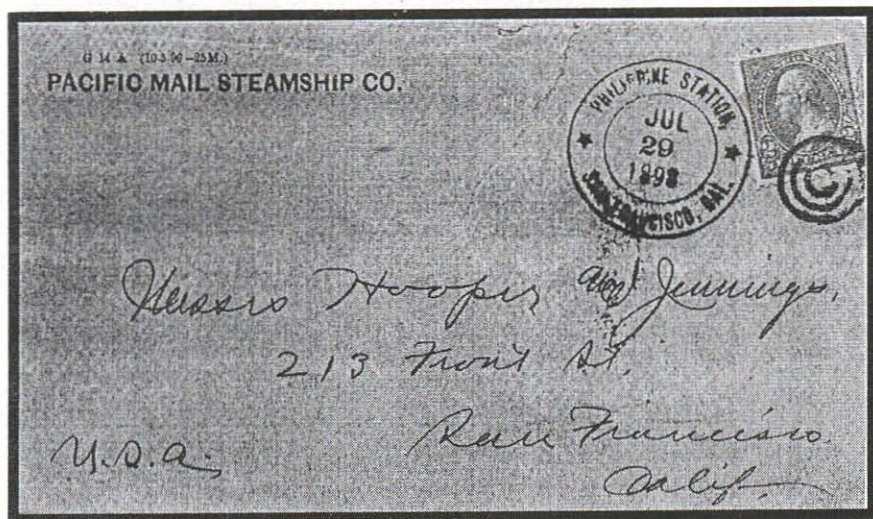


Exhibit 9:

Photocopy of a cover to San Francisco on “Pacific Mail Steamship Co.” envelope with the earliest reported PHILIPPINE STATION, SAN FRANCISCO circular date cancel of July 29, 1898. Inset is from the reverse, shows a receiving cancel from San Francisco on August 22, '98 at 6- PM. (J Leonard Diamond Collection)

The mail on board the CITY OF PEKIN was canceled using a San Francisco straight-line cancel of 7, 8 or 9 PM, August 22, 1898.⁷⁵ The covers on the BELGIC were also canceled that same day but with a San Francisco circular date cancel and no time entry. Of the fourteen

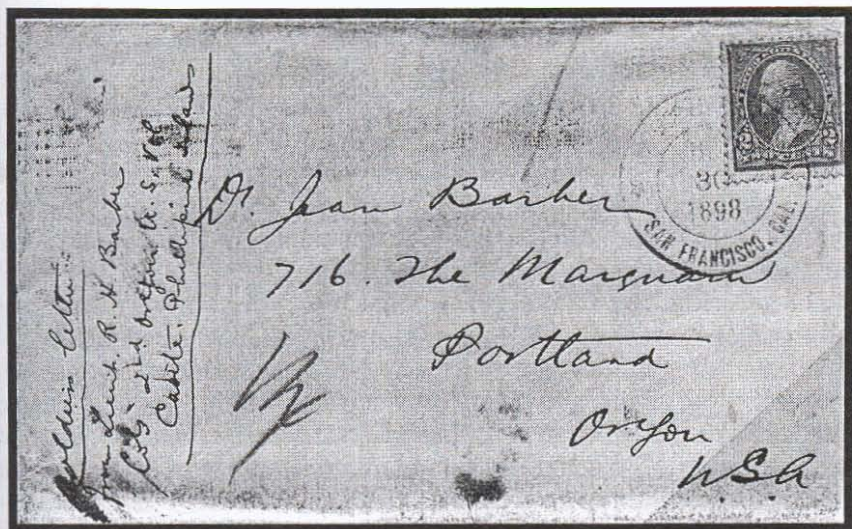


Exhibit 10

Reduced photocopy of the front of cover from Lieut. Barber, Cavite, Philippines to Dr. Jean Barber, Portland, Oregon with a two-cent Bureau issue and a Philippine Station, San Francisco circular date cancel of July 30, 1898. On the reverse is a Portland, Oregon straight-line cancel of 10 AM, August 30, 1898. (Weston Burnett Collection)

known covers that survive from the CITY OF PEKIN shipment, four are from members of the Astor Battery, which did not arrive in the Philippines until July 25 (after the AUSTRALIA had sailed) and disembarked at Camp Dewey on July 26.⁷⁶ Nine others are from members of the California Volunteers and bear the Camp Dewey and A.J. Kelleher Capt & Adjut endorsement. For franking, Exhibit 8 bears a bisect ten-cent Bureau issue, as do three others, a fifth one bears a bisect ten-cent Columbian Exposition stamp, six covers are stamped "U.S. CHARGE TO COLLECT 2 CENTS" with two cents in postage due stamps, and three bear Bureau issues.

The Opening of the Cavite Post Office on July 30

Although Postal Agent Vaille reported that he opened the Cavite Post Office on July 30, he utilized his new Philippine Station, San Francisco circular date cancel a day earlier as Exhibit 9 illustrates. Exhibit 9 also bears the same San Francisco straight-line cancel of 6 PM, August 22, 1898 as the covers listed above in the July 30 shipment. This cover, then, was canceled in time to make it aboard the CITY OF PEKIN for its departure on July 30 and arrival in San Francisco on August 22. The covers canceled on July 30 and later did not make it on board the CITY OF PEKIN as Exhibit 10 illustrates, but rather left Manila on August 7 on board the next U.S.-bound transport, the COLON.⁷⁷

Conclusion

A few statistics warrant mention. First, a total of 45 covers (listed in Table 1) plus one letter are recorded in this article for mail from the Philippines in July 1898. The franking includes sixteen with the ten-cent Hong Kong stamp, fourteen with postage due stamps (and the "U.S. CHARGE TO COLLECT 2 or 4 CENTS"), four with no postage stamp, ten with Bureau issues (including four bisects), and one with a ten-cent Columbian Exposition bisect. Thirteen bore the Captain Kelleher endorsements, nine bore the Colonel Hawkins endorsements, and six used "Remember the Maine" envelopes. Seventeen were forwarded via and many were canceled in Hong Kong, thirty-six were canceled in San Francisco and nine in Portland, Seattle or Vancouver. The largest number of covers came from members of those units which arrived in Manila Bay with the first expedition on June 30, specifically, the First California Volunteers (thirteen covers), and Second Oregon Volunteers (four covers), and those units which arrived with the second expedition on July 17, specifically the Tenth Pennsylvania Volunteers (ten covers) and First Colorado Volunteers (six covers).

Transit time varied, with the troop ships taking between 26 and 37 days to transit from San Francisco to Manila with the shortest transit time for General Merritt on board SS NEWPORT as she rushed to the Philippines. The return time varied from 32 to 36 days for the shipments that went via Hong Kong and from 23 to 25 days for shipments that went via Nagasaki to the West Coast.

Several mysteries are solved by this article. We have seven covers and one letter that clearly predate Postal Agent Vaille's arrival in Manila Bay and were sent to Hong Kong on July 1, 10 or 16. They were consolidated into two shipments to the U.S. with one arriving in San Francisco on August 2 and the other arriving in Vancouver/Seattle on August 10. No previous article recorded such early covers, since Baker's and Dattolico's articles both dealt with covers mailed after Postal Agent Vaille arrived in Manila Bay. Second, Postal Agent Vaille's Report identified three shipments from Manila, which are now clearly fixed as leaving Manila Bay on July 19, 21 and 23. In addition, we have three covers that left Manila Bay in a fourth shipment on July 26 and were canceled in Hong Kong on July 30 and Vancouver, B.C. on August 31. The mystery is why this shipment was not mentioned by Postal Agent Vaille in his report and the best, albeit weak, answer may lie in suggesting that he did not know about this shipment. Next, we have a shipment that left Manila on July 30 on board the CITY OF PEKIN direct for the U.S., the same day that

Table 1
 Early Mail from the Philippines

Figure Number	Shipment Number	Addressee	Date of Departure	Ship to Hong Kong	Ship to West Coast	West Coast Arrival Date	Port of Arrival	Postage	Endorsement
2	1 st	San Francisco, CA	Jul 1	Zafiro	Doric	Aug 2	San Francisco	2 ¢ Post. Due	Kelleher
	1 st	San Francisco, CA	Jul 1	Zafiro	Doric	Aug 2	San Francisco	2 ¢ Post. Due	Kelleher
	1 st	San Francisco, CA	Jul 1	Zafiro	Doric	Aug 2	San Francisco	2 ¢ Post. Due	Kelleher
	1 st	Stockton, CA	Jul 1	Zafiro	Doric	Aug 2	San Francisco	10¢ HK	U.S. Consulate Hong Kong
	2 nd	Portland, OR	Jul 10	Plover	Empress of Japan	Aug 10	Seattle, WA	10 ¢ HK	U.S. Consulate Hong Kong
	2 nd	Oregon City, OR	Jul 10	Plover	Empress of Japan	Aug 10	Seattle, WA	10 ¢ HK Missing	U.S. Consulate Hong Kong
3	3 rd	Howell, MI	Jul 16	Cormoran	Empress of Japan	Aug 10	Vancouver, B.C.	10 ¢ HK	U.S. Consulate Hong Kong
	4 th	Greensburg, PA	Jul 19	Wuotan	Belgic	Aug 22	San Francisco	10 ¢ HK	Hawkins
	4 th	Colorado Springs, CO	Jul 19	Wuotan	Belgic	Aug 22	San Francisco	10 ¢ HK	
	4 th	Colorado Springs, CO	Jul 19	Wuotan	Belgic	Aug 22	San Francisco	10 ¢ HK	
	4 th	Colorado Springs, CO	Jul 19	Wuotan	Belgic	Aug 22	San Francisco	10 ¢ HK	U.S. Consulate Hong Kong

Table 1
Early Mail from the Philippines

Figure Number	Shipment Number	Addressee	Date of Departure	Ship to Hong Kong	Ship to West Coast	West Coast Arrival Date	Port of Arrival	Postage	Endorsement
	4 th	Greensburg, PA	Jul 19	Wuotan	Belgic	Aug 22	San Francisco	10 ¢ HK	Remember the Maine Envelope
4	4 th	Greensburg, PA	Jul 19	Wuotan	Belgic	Aug 22	San Francisco	10 ¢ HK	Hawkins
	4 th	Greensburg, PA	Jul 19	Wuotan	Belgic	Aug 22	San Francisco	10 ¢ HK	Hawkins
	4 th	Washington, PA	Jul 19	Wuotan	Belgic	Aug 22	San Francisco	10 ¢ HK	Remember the Maine Envelope
	4 th	Saginaw, MI	Jul 19	Wuotan	Belgic	Aug 22	San Francisco	10 ¢ HK	Remember the Maine Envelope
	4 th	New York, NY	Jul 19	Wuotan	Belgic	Aug 22	San Francisco	10 ¢ HK	Remember the Maine Envelope
5	5 th	New Brighton PA	Jul 21		City of Sydney	Aug 14	San Francisco	Pair 1 ¢ Post. Due	Hawkins
	5 th	Provo, UT	Jul 21		City of Sydney	Aug 14	San Francisco	2 ¢ Post. Due	Hawkins
	5 th	Mt. Pleasant, PA	Jul 21		City of Sydney	Aug 14	San Francisco	2 ¢ Post. Due	Hawkins
	5 th	Mt. Pleasant, PA	Jul 21		City of Sydney	Aug 14	San Francisco		Hawkins
	5 th	Washington, PA	Jul 21		City of Sydney	Aug 14	San Francisco	2 ¢ Post. Due	Hawkins

Table 1
 Early Mail from the Philippines

Figure Number	Shipment Number	Addressee	Date of Departure	Ship to Hong Kong	Ship to West Coast	West Coast Arrival Date	Port of Arrival	Postage	Endorsement
6	6 th	Eugene, OR	Jul 23		Australia	Aug 17	San Francisco	2 ¢ Bureau	
	6 th	San Francisco, CA	Jul 23		Australia	Aug 17	San Francisco	Pair 2 ¢ Post. Due	Kelleher
	6 th	Petaluna, CA	Jul 23		Australia	Aug 17	San Francisco	2 ¢ Post. Due	Hawkins
7	7 th	Beverly, MA	Jul 28	Plover	Empress of China	Aug 31	Vancouver B.C.	10 ¢ HK	
	7 th	Pueblo, CO	Jul 28	Plover	Empress of China	Aug 31	Vancouver B.C.	10 ¢ HK	
	7 th	Colorado Springs, CO	Jul 28	Plover	Empress of China	Aug 31	Vancouver B.C.	10 ¢ HK	Remember the Maine Envelope
8	8 th	Kalispell, Montana	Jul 30		City of Pekin	Aug 22	San Francisco	Bisect UR 10¢ US 273	Kelleher
	8 th	Jersey City, NJ	Jul 30		City of Pekin	Aug 22	San Francisco	2 ¢ Post. Due	Astor Battery
	8 th	New York , NY	Jul 30		City of Pekin	Aug 22	San Francisco	Pair 1 ¢ Post. Due	Astor Battery Maine Envelope
	8 th	Hartford, CT	Jul 30		City of Pekin	Aug 22	San Francisco	Pair 1 ¢ Post. Due	Astor Battery
	8 th	New Brighton, PA	Jul 30		City of Pekin	Aug 22	San Francisco	Pair 1 ¢ Post. Due	

Figure Number	Shipment Number	Addressee	Date of Departure	Ship to Hong Kong	Ship to West Coast	West Coast Arrival Date	Port of Arrival	Postage	Endorsement
	8 th	Fresno, CA	Jul 30		City of Pekin	Aug 22	San Francisco	2 ¢ Bureau	Kelleher
	8 th	Petaluna, CA	Jul 30		City of Pekin	Aug 22	San Francisco		Kelleher
	8 th	Kalispell, Montana	Jul 30		City of Pekin	Aug 22	San Francisco	Bisect UR 10¢ US 273	Kelleher
	8 th	Kalispell, Montana	Jul 30		City of Pekin	Aug 22	San Francisco	Bisect UR 10¢ US 273	Kelleher
	8 th	Kalispell, Montana	Jul 30		City of Pekin	Aug 22	San Francisco	Bisect LL 10¢ US 273	Kelleher
	8 th	New York, NY	Jul 30		City of Pekin	Aug 22	San Francisco	Pair 1¢ Post Due	Kelleher
	8 th	San Francisco, CA	Jul 30		City of Pekin	Aug 22	San Francisco	Pair 1¢ Bureau	Kelleher
9	8 th	San Francisco, CA	Jul 30		City of Pekin	Aug 22	San Francisco	2¢ Bureau	
	8 th	Kalispell, Montana	Jul 30		City of Pekin	Aug 22	San Francisco	Bisect UR 10¢ Columbian	Kelleher
10	9 th	Portland, OR	Aug 7		Colon	Aug 30	Portland, OR	2¢ Bureau	
	9 th	Portland, OR	Aug 7		Colon	Aug 30	Portland, OR	Stampless	
	9 th	Ashland, OR	Aug 7		Colon	Aug 30	Portland, OR	2¢ Bureau	

Vaille opened his post office ashore. In that shipment, we have a surviving cover that bears the first use of the Philippine Station, San Francisco circular date cancel on July 29, 1898. A ninth shipment in August bore the covers that Postal Agent Vaille canceled on July 30 and later at his newly opened post office at Cavite. To summarize, a careful scrutiny of the mail shipments from the Philippines in July 1898 discloses an amazing variety of covers and mail shipment routes to the West Coast even as the postal service was just starting in the Philippines.

A special thanks to Joe Napp, Robert Hoge, J. Leonard Diamond, Nestor Nunez and Craig Eggleston for their advice and comments.

Bibliography

- 1 Report of the Postal Agent for the Philippines Military Postal Service in Report First Assistant Postmaster General, 1898 at 38-43, reprinted in Gilbert N. Plass, "First U.S. Post Offices in the Philippines," 16 *Possessions*, 1st Qtr. 1993, at 17.
- 2 Philip E. Baker, *Postal Markings of United States Military Postal Stations, 1898-1902*, Allentown, N.J., 1963, at 10, where Baker notes: "Letters mailed during this period [July 16 to 30], identified only by franking and arrival backstamps as they were not postmarked, are great rarities." This article refers to all mail dispatched from the Philippines in July 1898 as "shipments." One commentator suggested that all three shipments by Postal Agent Vaille could be properly labeled "shipments," since Vaille so described them and "shipments" connotes an active, properly supervised collection of mail where they are then put into mail bags under U.S. Postal Service rules. The other dispatches might be distinguished by referring to them as "batches." This article refers to all mail dispatches as shipments first to avoid unnecessary confusion. Second, the dispatches by Postal Agent Vaille on July 21 and 23 only have five and three recorded surviving covers, respectively, which is not greater than three or more covers for each of the other dispatches discussed in this article so it is not clear that any shipments were smaller in size than Vaille's three aboard ship. Third, the dispatches on July 30 and August 7 clearly bear the new Philippines Station circular date postal cancel by the U.S. Postal Service, which is more than can be said for Vaille's shipboard shipments. Fourth, the warship log entries for the non-Vaille shipments refer to "bags of mail," "mail boats," and "U.S. mail" before and after Vaille arrival without any difference in language. Fifth, mail aboard ships is even today treated as entering the U.S. Postal Service when mailed aboard ship not when later received on land at a U.S. Post Office.
- 3 Donald H. Dahl, *Historical Dictionary of the Spanish American War*, Greenwood Press, Westport, CT, 1996, at 103 [hereafter Historical Dictionary].
- 4 *Id.* at 223-24.
- 5 *Id.* at 204; *Dictionary of American Naval Fighting Ships*, Naval Historical Center, Washington, D.C., vol. I at 89, 143; vol. II at 158-59; vol. IV at 296; vol. V at 8, 152, 277; vol. VI at 18-19; vol. VIII at 553.
- 6 *Historical Dictionary, supra*, at 204.

- 7 Id. at 257; Dictionary of American Naval Fighting Ships, supra, vol. V at 8.
- 8 Dictionary of American Naval Fighting Ships, supra, vol. IV at 296.
- 9 USS McCULLOCH's Logbook, May 5, 1898.
- 10 Id. at May 7, 1898.
- 11 Id. at May 10, 1898
- 12 Id. at May 17, 1898.
- 13 Id. at May 19, 1898.
- 14 Correspondence Relating to the War With Spain, Including the Insurrection in the Philippine Islands and the China Relief Expedition, April 15, 1898 to July 30, 1902, Center for Military History, U.S. Army, Washington, D.C., 1993, vol. 2 at 635-75 [hereinafter Correspondence].
- 15 Col. George S. Goodale, "U.S. Military Postal Stations in the Philippines (1898-1904)" in Norona, Cyclopedia of United States Postmarks and Postal History, Quarterman Publications, Moundsville, West Virginia, at 42 [here in after Goodale].
- 16 Id. at 42-43: The military postal station at each camp was designated as a branch office of the nearest regular post office and placed within the jurisdiction of the postmaster at that office. The supplies for these military stations included postage stamps, stamped envelopes, postcards and the like, and were issued to the military stations through the regular post office of which it was a station. At the suggestion of the Postmaster General, and approved by the Adjutant General's Office, the Post Office Department kept supervision and management of the mails; the Quartermaster's Department of the Army undertook their transportation within the camp to and from the point of departure and arrival; and the Adjutants were responsible for the regimental and company collection and distribution. Letters of soldiers, sailors and marines in the service of the U.S. could be transmitted unpaid, when properly endorsed, with postage collected upon delivery. Postage rates were as follows: one cent per ounce for interior mails in the Philippines; one cent for a domestic post card; one cent for third and fourth-class mail; one cent for foreign printed matter per two ounces; two cents for domestic mail per ounce to the U.S.A.; two cents for a foreign post card; five cents per gram for foreign letters; and eight cents for registered mail.
- 17 Correspondence, supra, at 671-72.
- 18 Id. at 661; Frederick E. Emmons, American Passenger Ships, the Ocean Lines and Liners, 1873-1983, University of Delaware Press, Newark, Del., at 52, 55. Significantly, Karl Irving Faust's book Campaigning in the Philippines, which was published in 1899, spells the ship names of CITY OF PEKIN with a "G" added as the last letter and CITY OF SYDNEY with an "I" substituted for the first "Y" in SYDNEY. Contrary to Faust, this article follows the "PEKIN" and "SYDNEY" spelling found in two primary reference materials - the ships logs for the warships in Manila Bay and Army correspondence compiled in the Correspondence Relating to the War with Spain, Including the Insurrection in the Philippine Islands and the China Relief Expedition, April 15, 1898 to July 30, 1902 by the Center of Military History, U.S. Army.

- 19 M. Dattolico, "A Vaille 'Transport Post Office' Cover," in The American Philatelist, May 1996, at 440; Goodale, *supra*, at 42.
- 20 Goodale, *supra*, at 43; Gilbert N. Plass, "First U.S. Post Office in the Philippines," 16 Possessions, 1st Qtr. 1993, at 17.
- 21 Correspondence, *supra*, at 696; Goodale, *supra*, at 43 states that: "To care for the extension of our postal service to foreign soil in connection with military expeditions, the Postmaster General was to detail sufficient force of trained employees of the postal service to accompany and organize the same system of military mail service at any camp that may be established."
- 22 Correspondence, *supra*, at 701-02; Goodale, *supra*, at 43.
- 23 Correspondence, *supra*, at 701-02.
- 24 Id. at 730.
- 25 Id. at 708.
- 26 Id. at 715-16.
- 27 Id. at 717.
- 28 Id. at 716-17.
- 29 Id. at 717, 740.
- 30 USS OLYMPIA's Logbook, June 30, 1898.
- 31 Id. at July 1, 1898: "1700, Engaged in landing troops from AUSTRALIA at Cavite."
- 32 USS PETREL's Logbook, July 1, 1898.
- 33 USS OLYMPIA's Logbook July 1, 1898.
- 34 Hong Kong Weekly Press and Overland Trade Report, July 2, 1898, at 33 and July 9, 1898, at 47; San Francisco Chronicle, August 2, 1898. The DORIC had arrived in Hong Kong on June 26, 1898 from San Francisco. There are records for three other British steamers arriving in Hong Kong in early July from Manila, but no indications that they carried mails: ESMERALDA on July 3; YUENSANG on July 6; and EDDIE on July 7.
- 35 San Francisco Chronicle, August 2, 1898.
- 36 Dictionary of American Naval Fighting Ships, *supra*, vol. VI at 553.
- 37 Goodale, *supra*, at 42-43, states that: "By executive order of the Postmaster General letters addressed by anyone in the army or navy could be sent 'postage collect,' the requirement of prepayment of postage being waived and the postage was collected from the addressees upon delivery. It was necessary, however, that such letter be marked and signed by a commissioned officer and rubber stamps were prepared."
- 38 The other two covers with virtually identical markings (Robert Hoge Collection) include: one from M. J. Scunhan, Co. G. 1st Regt Cal U.S. Vol. to Mrs. Robert M.F. Doble, 1210 Masonic Avenue, San Francisco; and the second one from W.A. England, Co. B. 1st Regt Inf., Cal U.S. Vol. to Miss Mary D Skellenger, 714 Capp Street, San Francisco. The fourth cover (Craig Eggleston Collection) is endorsed "W.H.S. Beede, Consular Surgeon" and addressed to Mr. J.J. Quinn, # 37, East Main St, Stockton, California, USA.

- 39 USS OLYMPIA's and USS PETREL's Logbook, July 7, 1898.
- 40 USS BALTIMORE'S Logbook, July 10, 1898.
- 41 USS OLYMPIA's Logbook, July 10, 1898.
- 42 USS BALTIMORE's Logbook, July 14, 1898; USS PETREL Logbook, July 15, 1898; Hong Kong Weekly Press and Overland Trade Report, July 16, 1898, at 68.
- 43 USS OLYMPIA's Logbook, July 16, 1898; Hong Kong Weekly Press and Overland Trade Report, July 23, 1898, at 87. Although I can find no specific reference to the U.S. mails on the CORMORAN on this trip, no other vessel left Manila for Hong Kong during this period and the CORMORAN is later reported in the U.S.S. BALTIMORE's Log book of July 27, 1898 as carrying mail from Hong Kong to Manila.
- 44 Hong Kong Weekly Press and Overland Trade Report, July 23, 1898, at 87; Seattle Daily Times, Aug 11, 1898. There is an alternative possibility for these covers as there was also a steamer VICTORIA, which left Hong Kong on July 19 for Tacoma, Washington, but the news coverage in the Seattle Daily Times makes specific reference to the mails coming from the Philippines on the EMPRESS OF JAPAN.
- 45 One cover (Weston Burnett Collection) is addressed to Mr. G. W. Waldron in Oregon City, Oregon with a partial Hong Kong cancel, the Hong Kong stamp missing, and a Seattle, Washington cancel on the back of 5 PM, Aug 10, 1898. The second one (Arthur Bostwick Collection) appeared in 19 Possessions, 3rd Qtr. 1998, at 70-71, as a reprint of a letter written on June 29, 1898 off the coast of the Philippines by a member of the Oregon Volunteers with a ten-cent Hong Kong stamp and a probable July 6, 1898 Hong Kong cancel. The back side of the cover bears cancels from Hong Kong, Seattle, Washington at 4:30 PM on August 10, and Portland Oregon at both 1 PM on August 11 and 9 AM on August 12.
- 46 Historical Dictionary, *supra*, at 57.
- 47 USS BALTIMORE's and USS PETREL's Logbook, July 16, 1898.
- 48 Report of the Postal Agent for the Philippine Island Military Postal Service in Report First Assistant Postmaster General 1898 at 38-43, reprinted in Gilbert N. Plass, "First U.S. Post Offices in the Philippines," in 16 Possessions, 1st Qtr. 1993, at 17.
- 49 USS PETREL's Logbook, July 17, 1898.
- 50 Id. at July 18, 1898.
- 51 USS McCULLOCH's Logbook, July 18, 1898.
- 52 USS OLYMPIA's and USS BALTIMORE's Logbook, July 19, 1898; Richard D. Graham, "Spanish-American War: Philippine Post Offices." Linn's Stamp News, August 3, 1998.
- 53 Hong Kong Weekly Press and Overland Trade Report, July 23, 1898, at 88.
- 54 Hong Kong Weekly Press and Overland Trade Report, July 23, 1898, at 87; July 30, 1898, at 111; San Francisco Chronicle, August 23, 1898. The BELGIC had arrived in Hong Kong on July 18 from San Francisco.

55 Aside from Exhibit 4, the other nine covers from this shipment include: Three covers (Robert Hoge Collection) are addressed to Mrs. E.J. Smith, 632 E. Kiowa Street, Colorado Springs, Colorado and bear Hong Kong cancels of July 23, 25 and 26; yet, all three bear Colorado Springs, Colorado cancels of August 25 and two bear San Francisco cancels of August 22, the third having passed through San Francisco on the same date without being canceled. One cover (Alfred Kugei Collection) is addressed to Miss Mattox in Gooday, Colorado on a "Remember the Maine" envelope with a Hong Kong cancel of July 26, a San Francisco cancel of August 22, and a Greeley, Colorado cancel of August 25. Two covers (J. Leonard Diamond Collection) are addressed to Miss Lela Hutson in Greensburg, PA with a Col Hawkins endorsement and successive cancels in Hong Kong on July 23, San Francisco on August 22, Chicago on August 26, and Greensburg, PA on August 28. A third cover (Diamond's) is also addressed to Pennsylvania with identical date cancels but a final address of Mrs. A.B. Wilson, 60 South Street, Washington, PA. Another cover (J. Leonard Diamond Collection) is addressed to Charles Nelson, Esq., 116 N Hamilton Street, Saginaw, Michigan on a "Remember the Maine" envelope with successive cancels in Hong Kong on July 23, San Francisco on August 22, and Saginaw on August 27. The last cover (Weston Burnett Collection) is addressed to Thomas Hand, #1 Nassau Street, New York on a "Remember the Maine" envelope with a Hong Kong cancel of July 23 and a New York cancel of August 28.

56 Correspondence, supra, at 658.

57 Id at 658-9.

58 Id at 981.

59 USS OLYMPIA's and USS BALTIMORE's Logbooks, July 20, 1898.

60 Id at July 21, 1898.

61 Correspondence, supra, at 736; San Francisco Chronicle, August 14, 1898.

62 Aside from Exhibit 5, the other four covers include: A cover (Alfred Nunez Collection) addressed to Mr. C.E. Loose, Provo City, Utah with an enclosed letter that reads "Manila, July 20, 1898;" a cover (Weston Burnett Collection) addressed to Mrs. Frank Hurst, Mt Pleasant, Westmoreland County, PA on stampless envelope and, on back, Mount Pleasant, PA cancel of August 18, 1898; a cover (Robert Hoge Collection) addressed to Mrs. F.N.B. Laird, Greensburg, PA on "Hawaii Welcomes the Blues in Blue" stamped envelope and, on back, Greensburg, PA cancel of August 19, 1898; and a cover (Craig Eggleston Collection) addressed to Miss L. M. Braden, Washington, Penna, USA, Washington Co. on "Hawaii Welcomes the Boys in Blue" stamped envelope and. on back, Washington PA cancel of Aug 19, 1898.

63 USS BALTIMORE's Logbook, July 22, 1898.

64 Id.

65 Id.

66 Id at July 23, 1898; USS McCULLOCH's Logbook, July 23, 1898, reads: "Communicated with OLYMPIA sending mail on board."

67 San Francisco Chronicle, August 23, 1898.

- 68 The other two covers include one (Robert Hoge Collection) from R. W. Bliven, Co D, 1st Reg., Cal U.S. Vol. Inftry to Miss F.M. Bliven, 2219 Webster St, San Francisco, Calif, USA with a "U.S. CHARGE TO COLLECT 4 CENTS", and a "Soldier's Mail," on the front and a Captain Kelleher Camp Dewey stamped endorsement and a San Francisco cancel of August 17, 1898, on the reverse; and one (Weston Burnett Collection) addressed to Mrs. G Doscher, Petaluma, Cal with "U.S. CHARGE TO COLLECT 2 CENTS" and a two-cent postage due stamp, on the front, and a San Francisco CAL straight-line cancel of August 17, 1898 and Petaluma CAL circular cancel of August 17, 1898, on the reverse.
- 69 USS BOSTON's Logbook, July 26, 1898; Hong Kong Weekly Press and Overland Trade Report, August 6, 1898, at 132. On July 27, 1898, the USS BALTIMORE's Logbook recorded that the German steamer CORMORAN arrived from Hong Kong with U.S. mail. Aside from Exhibit 7 above, the other two covers were addressed: (Alfred Kugel Collection) from W.F. Doertinbach, 1st Regiment, Col Vol. Camp Dewey to Mrs. Doertinbach, Pueblo, Colorado; and (Robert Hoge Collection) to Mrs. E.J. Smith, 632 E. Kiowa Street, Colorado Springs, Colorado. Hong Kong Weekly Press and Overland Trade Report, August 6, 1898, at 132, August 13, 1898, at 152. The EMPRESS OF CHINA had arrived in Hong Kong from Vancouver on August 2.
- 70 Hong Kong Weekly Press and Overland Trade Report, August 13, 1898, at 152; Seattle Times, September 1, 1898.
- 71 USS OLYMPIA's and USS BALTIMORE's Logbooks, July 25, 1898.
- 72 USS BALTIMORE's Logbook, July 28, 1898.
- 73 Id. at July 30, 1898.
- 74 Correspondence, supra, at 749; San Francisco Chronicle, August 23, 1898.
- 75 Aside from Exhibit 8, the other covers include:
- One letter (Robert Hoge Collection) is from Private Walter G. Halsey, Astor Battery, endorsed by Koehler, 2nd Lieutenant, 6th Artillery to Mr. Geo E. Halsey, #286 Bergen St, Jersey City, New Jersey.
 - One letter appeared in Michael Dattolico's article in The American Philatelist to Miss Mary Weaton, 491 W. 130th St, New York City, New York on a "Remember the Maine" envelope. On the back, it is endorsed by Corporal W.E. Hills, Astor Battery, Philippine Islands.
 - A third letter (Weston Burnett Collection) also from W.E. Hills, Astor Battery is addressed to J.C. Hills, Esq., 19 Atwood Street, Hartford, Connecticut. The enclosed letter reads: "S.S. NEWPORT, Pacific Ocean, Tuesday, July 19, 1700 miles W of Manila and relates that they are making about 315 miles a day and hoping to arrive on July 23. The S. S. NEWPORT actually arrived on July 25 and this is the lone cover from this shipment that bears no San Francisco cancel.
 - A fourth letter (Alfred Kugel Collection) from Elmer H. Thomas to Samuel J. Thomas. New Brighton, PA and was written "On steamship Zealandia in Manila July 25, 1898." The reverse bears cancels from San Francisco cancel on Aug 22, Chicago on August 26 and New Brighton, PA on August 27, 1898.
 - The fifth letter (Robert Hoge Collection) is from Sergeant F. Co. D, 1st Cal U.S. Vol., Manila to Miss Felicia Mahoney, Fresno, California with a two-cent Bureau issue and, on the back, the San Francisco straight-line cancel, Fresno cancel of August 23, 1898 and Captain Kelleher, Camp Dewey stamped endorsement.

f. The sixth letter appeared in Mekeel's Weekly Stamps News, January 26, 1899 and was reprinted in Mekeel's & Stamps Magazine on February 12, 1999 and is addressed to Mr. Henry Dickey, Kalispell, Montana with a bisect ten-cent Columbian Exposition stamp and probably had the A.J. Kelleher Camp Dewey stamped endorsement on the reverse.

g. The seventh letter is Exhibit 9, which bears the July 29 Philippine Station cancel from the Philippines.

h. The eighth letter (Robert Hoge Collection) is to Mrs. Doscher, Petaluma, Cal with "US CHARGE TO COLLECT 2 CENTS", the San Francisco straight-line cancel, and the Captain Kelleher, Camp Dewey stamped endorsement.

i. The ninth letter (Robert Hoge Collection) is from W.A. Wrigley, Co. K, 1st Cal Vol Inf., Manila, P.I. to Mr. Ellis Dickey, Kalispell, Montana, U.S.A. with a bisected ten-cent Bureau issue, the San Francisco straight-line cancel, a Captain Kelleher Camp Dewey stamped endorsement, and a Kalispell, Mont. cancel of August 26, 1898.

j. The tenth letter (Craig Eggleston Collection) is from the same W.A. Wrigley as the ninth letter to Mr. Charley Dickey, Kalispell, Montana, USA with another bisected ten-cent Bureau issue, the San Francisco straight-line cancel, a Captain Kelleher Camp Dewey stamped endorsement, and a Kalispell, Montana cancel of Aug 26, 1898.

k. The eleventh letter (Gordon Blueler Collection) is from the same W.A. Wrigley as the ninth and tenth letter to Mr. E.R. Dickey, Kalispell, Montana, USA with another bisected ten-cent Bureau issue and the same cancels as above.

l. The twelfth letter (Craig Eggleston Collection) is from Francis J. Barry, Co. S. 1st Regt, U.S. Vol to Mr. W. Downing, 28 Dumond St, San Francisco, Cal, USA with a pair of one-cent Bureau issues, the San Francisco straight-line cancel of August 22, 1898, a Captain Kelleher Camp Dewey stamped endorsement, and a San Francisco CAL circular date cancel of August 23, 1898.

m. The thirteenth letter (Craig Eggleston Collection) is from Corporal W.E. Hills, Astor Battery, U.S. Army endorsed by B.M. Korber, 2nd Lieut 6th Artillery and addressed to Miss Mary Weaton, # 491 West 130th St, New York City, NY with "Soldiers Letter," "U.S.CHARGE TO COLLECT 2 CENTS," pair of one-cent postage due, and a San Francisco straight-line cancel of August 22, 1898.

76 Dattolico, supra, at 442.

77 Two other covers with the July 30 cancel include: one (J. Leonard Diamond Collection) to Miss Edith Crowson, Ashland, Oregon with a two-cent Bureau issue and an indecipherable received cancel and a second one (Nestor Nunez Collection) to Mrs. Rice, Portland, Oregon with no postage on a "Remember the Maine" envelope.

International Philippine Philatelic Society

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