PO'OLEKA O HAWAII



C. J. Cooper, Esq.,

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The regular monthly meeting of the HAWAIIAN PHILATELIC SOCIETY, will be held on April 11th, 1912, at the University Club, at 8: p.m.

Secretary, H.P.S.

The Semi Annual Journal of the Hawaiian Philatelic Society

Number 86

July 2018



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PO'OLEKA O HAWAII

The Quarterly Journal of the Hawaiian Philatelic Society

Number 86

July 2018

Editor's Notes By Greg Chang, Editor

Aloha!

Once again, I have put together an assortment of articles.

This issue's featured article is from Gerhard Lang-Valchs on early Hawaiian Forgeries. Gerhard focuses on forgeries by Placido Ramon de Torres. In browsing through ebay, there are some known Hawaiian forgeries for sale. Some items that were produced by known forgers such as George Jeffereyes or the Spiro Brothers were going for pretty high prices.

Once again, for the fourth straight year, the Hawaiian Philatelic Society hosted a "Meet and Greet" session at WESTPEX 2018. This year's meeting was highlighted by a presentation by Norb Wild on Pre-Territory Hawaiian Postcards. It was a very nice event with lots of members and guests present. I look forward to the next one. Hope you will be able to take time out to attend

Next is an article is on Hawaiian QSL cards. What is a QSL card you ask? It is a HAM operator's calling card to acknowledge a successful contact with another HAM operator. QSL cards come in many different formats depending on the creativity of the HAM operator. The article presents QSL cards sent from Hawaii.

Finally, I've reprinted an article from the July 1976 issue of the PO OLEKA on the Hawaiian

Sesquicentennial Issue.

As always, I am in need of articles or items of interest to publish. It definitely would be nice to have items contributed by our society's members.

Enjoy!

Greg Chang Editor



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PO'OLEKA O HAWAII

Early Hawaiian Forgeries: The Supposed Scott Fake-strip Tracing Spanish Forger's Footprints

By Gerhard Lang-Valchs

Introduction

Since the beginning of the history of philately the struggle against forgers and forgeries was part of it. Initially the forgeries were made to defraud the postal administration. In the course of the years, while stamp collecting spread world-wide as a middle-class hobby, forgeries became an important problem for dealers and collectors. The edition of illustrated philatelic magazines and catalogues in the 1860's reduced the more severe excesses, because it allowed to identify the objects of collection, but new, each time better forgeries kept on appearing.

Hawaii or the Sandwich Islands, as this archipelago was listed at that time in the catalogues, did not escape the attention of the forgers. And its philately is still suffering the effects of the, at least in the mind of many collectors, not finally resolved problem of the authenticity of the Grinnell-stamps. The present article is not an attempt to intervene in this controversy or to revive it. It will discover the real author of some other Missionary counterfeits, commonly attributed to J. W. Scott or others.

Torres and his stamp illustrations

Speaking of Scott and his alleged forgeries, we have to take in account some recent discoveries, published in various prestigious philatelic magazines. They are about the nearly unknown Spanish lithographer, stamp dealer and forger Plácido Ramón de Torres (1847-1910), notorious in the United States for his 1892 arrest and imprisonment at Saint Louis for swindle with his own counterfeited stamps of classic Spain.

The mentioned articles demonstrate, that Torres

nearly all other European editors as well with his stamp illustrations.² The business spread even at the other side of the ocean and the American "Father of Philately", John Walter Scott, was as well one of his clients, however with a partially different "product line".³

Torres made, after delivering the copies to his clients, "private copies" with his original stones.

was not only **the** engraver of the European "Father of Philately", Jean-Baptiste Moens, his

review and catalogues, but that he also furnished

Torres made, after delivering the copies to his clients, "private copies" with his original stones and put them into his stamp packages. We don't know if he really made copies of each and every of the thousands of engraved stamps he had produced, but we can be sure that he did from the majority of them. The number of already discovered real existing forgeries of the American "product line" suggests, that the New World was not the exception of the rule.

Scott or Torres?

The above said means, that, if really correctly identified, all Hawaiian "Scott-forgeries" as well are probably the work of Torres. In the case of some early forgeries of Newfoundland, classic Spain (not the above referred samples of his US-swindle!), the Philippines and Saint Vincent, the misidentification and erroneous attribution to the editors who had first published an image of the correspondent stamps, has already been proved and documented, in the

² Gerhard Lang-Valchs [GLV]: Los grabadores de Jean-Baptiste Moens, Eco Filatélico y Numismático, sept. 2017, p. 30-32 (1st part) and oct. 2017, p. 25-27 (2nd part); GLV: Early British Stamp Experts and Spanish forgeries, The London Philatelist, April 2017, vol. 126, 1444, p. 132-138.

³ GLV: The Early Scott Catalogues and Their Illustrations. Discovering a Spanish Forger's Footprints, Collectors Club Philatelist, no 96, Nov.-Dec. 2016, p. 205-210.

¹ Ken Lawrence's article about the *George Grinnell's Hawaiian Missionary Stamps* should be, in my opinion, the final point of the discussion about those fakes.



Complete set of Hawaiian Missionaries, plus additional 2¢ and 5¢ Boston Issue Unused, with gum but also exists with red grids and red target cancellations

Supposed Scott Fake Strip

first two cases already published.4

A short explanation of the referred, in the mentioned cases successfully applied procedure seems to be necessary. A genuine sample is compared in detail with one or various catalogue illustrations and the correspondent forgery. All differences between the original and the forgery should appear as coincidences on the forgery and all illustrations. Further coincidences in other, mostly minor details, will confirm that we are not looking at close and well-made copies, but at identical ones, taken from the same original stone. If successful, the result will discharge the editors erroneously taken for forgers and we'll be able, on the other hand, to attribute the fakes to their real creator: Plácido Ramón de Torres.

Before we start with our procedure, it could be helpful to have a previous comparing look at the different samples composing our fake-strip, commonly attributed to Scott. The fact that stamps issued in different years are depicted together on the same strip, leaves no doubt, that all samples are fakes and it nearly confirms, on the other side, that the author of all those items is the same. A closer look at the strip reveals, that the items #1, 2, 3 and 5 are copies made from the same original stone, changing or retouching the central value and inscription. They show all four exactly the same common defects, being the later repeated #1 partially

over-inked with the correspondent effects on the stamp, obviously not visible on the other sample(s): The first dot of the "I" of "HAWAII" is missing, the one above the second "I" seems to "seal" the broken frame line above it. The third of the hanging buds of the upper stylized flower adornment frame is a hook. The 5c-sample is unique, because the maker changed deliberately the lettered value "FIVE" by the cipher. Such a particular proceeding could be a hint to Torres, who introduced in his illustrations and even in some of his forgeries this kind of jokes. ⁵



Changed [PERC/RERC] and inverted letters: Torres' Italian review *La Posta Mondiale*

⁴ GLV: Newfoundland Discovery: 1866 Torres forgeries that correct those misidentified Moens fakes, Newfoundland Standard Stamp Catalogue, 10th edition, 2016, p. 675-679. GLV: Die falschen Fuffziger des Dr. Moschkau. Das kommt mir Spanish vor, Deutsche Briefmarkenzeitung 2017, Nr. 3, p. 20-23 (1st part); Nr. 4, p. 26-27 (2nd part); Peter Elias, GLV: The St.-Vincent Forgeries of Plácido Ramón de Torres,; Nigel Gooding, GLV: The First Modern Stamp Album- a handbook for detecting fakes and forgeries. The case of the Philippine Stamps, London Philatelist 2018, ::::::

⁵ GLV: *The Torres Stamp Fun Factory*, Stamp Lover, vol. 106, nº 6, Dec. 2017, p. 173-17; Olga Frey, GLV: *Moens, Torres und die Zemstvo-Marken*, Deutsche Zeitschrift für Russland-Philatelie, 2017, Nr. 105, p. 19-26.



Torres' Carlist War Forgery: Omitted "I" of "VALENCIA"

The presence of a 5c-sample in this strip seeds furthermore serious doubts about Scott's authorship, because as far as I could see, he never published any 5c-stamp-illustration of this issue in his catalogues.

This said, it is clear that we need only to analyse one of the referred four strip items, previously detected as of the same origin, because, as it is evident, the results can and must be applied to the other three as well.

The analysis of the 13c: first approach



Genuine Sample



Forgery

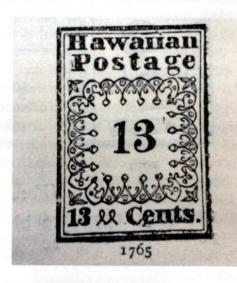
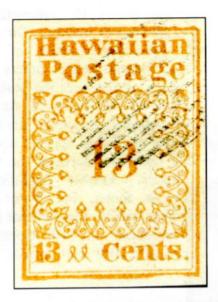


Illustration Scott 1892/93 Catalogue



Le Timbre-Poste front page illustration of the bound together 1864 issues



Odd Colour [Torres-] Forgery

The not enclosed corner flowers quickly reveal which is the fake or the illustration. The lettering on both is quite different, the lower inscription of the genuine shows two fat and separated ciphers, whereas on all other samples the visibly smaller "1" of the value is closer to the "3" and (nearly) touching it. The following two looping lines don't touch again below as in the originals.

The described differences with the original are all coincidences on the other presented samples. Further coincidences can be stated, however, only up to a certain point. While we see on some samples the dots of the two "I" at "HAWAII" touching the frame [type 1], others show only one dot on the top of the second "I" that seems to "seal" a now existing break point just above [type 2].

A slanting "3" of the lower value inscription touching the "1" in the type 1 sample, a larger arm of the central value's "3", a different lettering of the upper inscription with a broken "N", a different "S" and "A" and a "P" with different serifs, are the characteristic differential features between the two types of samples. Finally, we see on type 2 the third upper bud (from the left) converted in a hook completing

our list of differences.

Unexpected problems

In the present case the applied procedure has given some strange results. Originals and presented forgeries are clearly differenced, no doubt. However, the expected coincidences on the different forgeries and illustrations, that distinguish them from the genuine, could only partially be found. This needs a new approach and an explanation for the critical reader.

The coincidences are with only one exception (the hook) limited to the ornamental frame, whereas value and inscriptions show considerable differences that can't be explained with the particularities of the transferring and printing process. Being the ornamental frame the most difficult element to imitate, we had really expected the result was the other way round.

To dissolve the contradiction we have to do a step more and take also in account what I call the "basic details" of an engraving in opposition to the "accessory details". This differentiation is important, because it reflects part of the creating process of the copy. "Basic details" of an engraving are normally, beside the frame, (part of) the background of the images: vertical, horizontal, crossed lines, a network of waved lines, a pattern of tiles or dots etc. surrounding the central elements, mostly effigies of the sovereigns at that time.

Those elements were usually the first to be engraved and they are the most difficult to retouch once finished the work, because adding or deleting some background-lines or part of them, modifies a network or whatsoever pattern and normally leaves its traces, spoiling part of the design. Retouching a greater number of those basic elements is furthermore very time-consuming and it is easier to redraw or reengrave the whole image.

Labels, inscriptions, values e.g. are "accessory" elements, you can retouch, change or make disappear more easily on a lithographic stone

than the basics. The short initial analysis of the fake-strip did demonstrate it very well: the central value and the inscriptions were changed, all the rest was maintained and therefore only insignificant differences between the samples due to the process of copying and printing can be detected. On the first two samples of the strip, the last part of the lower inscription was conserved and only the first part was changed by retouching.

Second approach

What has all this to do with the not satisfactory result of our analysis? Quite a lot, because the majority of the differences found among the forgery and the illustrations affect accessory details like those changed in the different samples of the fake-strip, no problem, thus, even for a mediocre engraver. In our case, however, the detected changes of the basic elements were even much easier to achieve than those stated at the accessory elements. To give a pearl or a bud the form of a hook and to produce a break point in the frame-line above the dot of the "I" suppose a minimal intervention on the stone, if both are really intentional changes and were not accidental side-effects of the retouching of the inscription due to a negligence or a mistake of the engraver.6

So it should not astonish that the inscriptions and values as accessory details could have undergone a change. But what's about the basic features? Besides the just mentioned difference, the hook, that supposes the disappearing of a minimal part of a line, no further significant one can be found.

Finally, a still unmentioned fact should give us the certainty that our conclusions are right. The quite good copy of the original adornment frame structure on the forgery and the illustrations has one weak point: the upper right junction of the frame. There was committed – deliberately or

not - an error that breaks the symmetrical structure of the adornment pattern. On the genuine samples the small circles of the adiacent individual elements at the corners are only separated by the melted lines the peak of the central corner-flower leaf points to. At the upper right corner, however, the curved line that should appear below the circle appears above creating a second separation between the two neighbouring circles. Further significant differences can't be found, but a lot of coincidences in minor details. The fact that this copy error is reproduced on both types of illustration, makes sure, that both are of the same origin.

As it is impossible to reproduce an original with a hand-made lithographic copy without leaving traces, all the samples, forgeries and different illustrations, have to be considered as the work of the same author made directly with the original stone or by means of a transfer copy taken from it. The retouching of "accessory" elements does not cause major problems because the "basic" structure of the ornamental frame was left untouched except for the just mentioned minimal change of the bud into a hook, what certainly could occur accidentally. The 5c-sample shows the same differences with the original and the same coincidences as the 2c and 13c. That means, that it is without any doubt, made with an obviously retouched copy of the same original stone as the other two. although being the only stamp of the strip without any further documented real existing forgery.

To the 13c HI&US-sample, as explained above, we have to apply the same conclusions about its author, because of its mere presence on the fake-strip. A more explicit comment will be dedicated to it in the last paragraph.

There remains the 5c-Boston-sample. It can't exist any reasonable doubt, that it is as well the work of the same forger, based, once more, on the mere fact that it appears on the strip. A real existing forgery of this stamp is documented

⁶ Converting a pearl in a hook was one of his jokes when forging the Philippine stamps. Gooding #21F6 at [http://www.nigelgooding.co.uk/Spanish/Forgeries/Isabell a/1864-3centimos.htm, 11/8/2017, 7.55].

and possibly even a retouched one.7



Illustration Gray Catalogue 1875



Real existing [Torres-] forgery



Possibly the same, but retouched forgery

A detailed comparing analysis seems dispensable.

Because of the stated differences the stamps of our fake-strip could initially not be directly linked with Moens and Torres, because they are part of the not small amount of Scottillustrations not previously published in one of the European catalogues or reviews, might be part of the "American product line" of Torres or be made by another (American) forger. But the second step of our analysis could show that they are obviously retouched samples of what Torres had made for Moens, although I did not explicitly refered to it in the text. The subtitles of the figures, however, gave the correspondent hint and proof, indicating that those illustrations had been published in Le Timbre-Poste and repeated later by Gray in his catalogue.8

Further discoveries

After the repeated paging through different old catalogues and philatelic reviews comparing and analysing all available forgeries it turned out, that there exist four different types of Hawaiian forgeries:

 Forgeries that imitated, as well as their forger's skills allowed, the corner flowers with the semicircles enclosing them, "coronated" with two curved lines and a spike in the middle as a sort of stylized roots



Type #1 Forgery

⁷ Evert Klaseboer: CD-ROM-Catalogue of Forged Stamps, HAWAII.

⁸ Le Timbre Poste, n. 87, p. 19; John E. Gray [Gray]: The illustrated Catalogue of Postage Stamps, 6th edition, London/Bath, p. 475-76.

2. Forgeries where the semicircles melt with the outer leaves



Type #2 Forgeries

- Forgeries that imitate the corner flower omitting any further adornment at the corner
- Forgeries with a deliberately changed design

The Torres-forgeries presented in this article belong to type #3. But there exist some more forgeries with the same characteristic treats, although in general cruder in their imitation. Their common feature, the lonely corner flower, indicates, in my opinion, that they are made by Torres as well.



Type #3 Forgery, probably as well from Torres

⁹ In the case of the Philippine stamps Torres made up to seven different forged versions of one stamp.

The type #4-fakes show a deliberately changed design. The omitting of the adornments of the corner flower (type #3) is essentially as well such a deliberate action. In both cases the changes are not due to a lack of abilities or skills of the engraver as in the case of the fakes types #1 and 2.



Type #4 Forgery Torres

The small circles forming part of every individual element of the ornamental frame are here converted into crosses, the buds that invade the central space show now the same shape. The corner elements are also redesigned, the flower is left out and the formerly adjacent elements are enlarged and integrated in the new "corner-creation". All this is more difficult to achieve than to try a mere imitation. The well-achieved result leaves no doubts about the skills of its author and his deliberate decision to alterate the composition.

And I'm able to present a copy of the pages the identical illustration of this fake was presented. 10

¹⁰ Le Timbre-Poste, 1874, no. 134, p. 12 and Gray: Catalogue.





Illustration 1875 Gray Catalogue

In both publications it appears side by side with the above presented 13c-version. So it should be clear, that this fake as well is the work of Torres.

Lincoln involves Torres again

In order to complete the presentation of findings in the consulted reviews and catalogues, I proudly present some other real existing forgeries of our forger. An old British catalogue shows the here depicted sequence of stamp illustrations of the Sandwich Islands.¹¹



Illustrations 1891 Lincoln Album and Catalogue

The 2c-sample shows the type#2-fake, just presented in the last paragraph. The 13c-sample in the middle shows an identical centre-part with the bud not yet converted in a hook. It is another proof for what was said about the retouching of the "accessory" elements: a not really successful attempt to change the value and the inscription maintaining the "basic" original ornamental framework.

The third sample deserves a late, but detailed analysis, because it gives us an important hint about its own origin and the origin of some other already presented forgeries.



Genuine Sample



Scott Forgery

¹¹ *The Lincoln Stamp Album and Catalogue*, London 1891, p. 112.



Scott 1892-92 Catalogue Illustration

There is no connection between the vertical and horizontal adorning elements forming four independent units on the original. The lettering is clearly different, being that of the original generally fatter than on the others. The initial and final letters, the final dot included, are vertically displaced, the "S" is slanting to the left on the genuine, and to the right on the others. The original "G" is far away from the corner adornment, whereas it touches it on the other samples. The "P" is one time closed, the other not. All those differences are common coincidences on the forgery and the illustration.

Minor details as e.g. broken lines can be an indicator for the origins of a stamp or an illustration. However, they are often accidental defects due to careless handling of the stone or the transfer copies, they are often due to the particularities of the copying and printing process. In this case it is very astonishing, that we find a nearly 100% coincidence in the broken lines of the 16 small circles of the horizontally or vertically aligned individual elements of the ornamental frame. And even at the other eight circles belonging to the corner elements we find the same unexpectedly clear result of common and coinciding broken lines, that does not allow but an only conclusion: all three samples are identical copies taken from the same original stone.

So the surprising result of the comparison of those Lincoln-catalogue-illustrations with already treated samples and the realized documentation of their first appearance is once more a confirmation of what this article tried to explain: not Scott, but Torres is the author of all those fakes.

This articles concludes with a final look at the Moens-catalogues. They show a somewhat enigmatic "publishing policy" as far as the Hawaiian stamps are concerned. ¹² It's 5th and 6th edition (1877, 1884) show the 2c type #4-sample, and the two 13c-samples. The 7th edition (1892), however, depicts one 2c, two 5c and two 13c-illustrations, all different from the until now known and documented samples.



Hawaii illustrations 1892 Moens catalogue

One of them is also among the forgeries documented in the *Klaseboer-Catalogue*.

¹² A similar strange and mysterious behaviour of Moens could be stated regarding the stamps of the *Spanish Carlist War* (1873-76) in his review, catalogues and his book about the stamps of Spain. The case has been documented in the article: *L'étrange amour de M. Moens vers les timbres-poste carlistes*, Le Philatéliste Belge, mars 2017. [http://wwwphilatelie-truchtersheim.e-monsite.com/album-photos/catalogues-gratuits-en-ligne/letrange-amour-de-m-moens-pour-les-timbres-poste-carlistes/; 11/08/2017; 9.05]



Forgery depicted in the Klaseboer-Catalogue

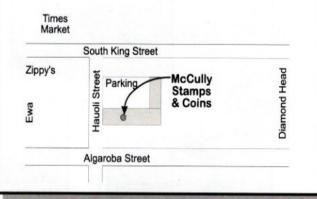
When I started the research for this article, I did not imagine that the Missionary Issues of Hawaii were another of Torres' playgrounds where he made his experiments and was having fun. A lot of forgeries could be described as his work, but I'm not sure that those are the only forgeries he made of Hawaiian issues. The fact that most 18th century European and American catalogues used Torres-illustrations should facilitate the future discovery and/or correct attribution of other counterfeits of Hawaii.

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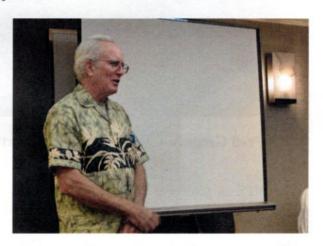


WESTPEX 2018

By G Chang

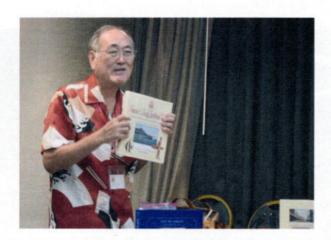


For the fourth straight year, the Hawaiian Philatelic Society hosted a "Meet and Greet" session at WESTPEX. Club President, Wayne Yakuma and Treasurer and Auctioneer, Ben Gale were on hand to facilitate the meeting. About 28 members and visitors were present.



Norb Wild presenting Pre-Territory Picture Postcards of Hawaii

The meeting's featured presentation was by Nord Wild on "Picture Postcard of Pre-Territory Hawaii". This included



President Wayne Yakuma showing one of the books for sale

the 'Aloha Nui Cards of 1897 and the changes made to the series in subsequent years. In addition, Norb provided a nice nine page handout cataloging the various postcards from Aloha Nui Cards to the Plain Hawaiian Cards.

A couple of books were also up for sale – Hawaii's Early Territorial Days (book illustrated with vintage post cards published by the Island Curio Company) and Least We Forget (by Sam Park – Illustrated with covers from Naval Vessels that were present in Pearl Harbor on December 7, 1941).

Wayne also spoke about the ordeals regarding the efforts taken to obtain Hawaiian First Day cancelations from recent issues. One example was in regards to

the Byodo-In Temple Priority stamp issued this past January. Since the Official First Day of issue city was in Kansas (issued on 8/21) and the dedication ceremony took place two days later (8/23) at the Byodo-In Temple on Oahu. It was a challenge to get cancellations on a single cover with





Cover of hand out from Norb Wild's presentation

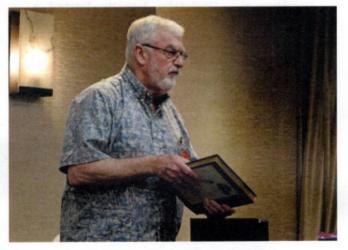
Members and guests enjoying the meeting

both postmarks. We'll work on getting more examples for another article.

Ben Gale announced that the website for the HPS is in the process of being updated. The website may include links to current and past monthly news letters as well as past issues of the PO OLEKA. The target date is towards the end of 2018.



Ben Gale - HPS Auctioneer



Fred Gregory – Member of the Expertizing Committee

The HPS is planning another "Meet and Greet" this year at SESCAL 2018. It will be held at the Convention Center in Ontario, CA from October 12 to 14. The meeting is planned on Sunday October 14th from 10 AM to Noon. Hope you can attend.

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Hawaii QSL Postcards

By J Lee

O ne enjoyable aspect of amateur or HAM radio is sending and collecting QSL cards from other HAM operators that they have been in contact with via radio. The use of QLS cards are a way to confirm two-way contact has been made between radio stations.

The term QLS is not an acronym but a code that is part of a series of three letters that start with the letter Q. Aeronautical codes range from QAA to QNZ, Maritime codes range from QOA to QQZ, and other services including HAM radio range from QRA to QUZ.

As an example, if one sends out the code QRL as a question, it translates to "Are you busy?" If it is answered with the same code, it means "I am busy."

In our case QSL as a question means "Can you acknowledge receipt?" In response, QLS means "I am acknowledging receipt".





Hula Dancer and Hawaiian Islands Card from Kalaupapa, Molokai

Since the early days of radio broadcasts post cards have been sent out as a way to acknowledge receipt. These have been in use as early as 1916. Standardization to the cards was developed in 1919.

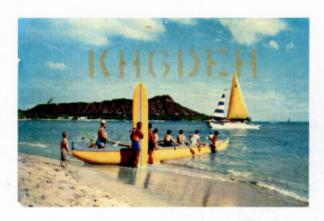
Information on the card should include:

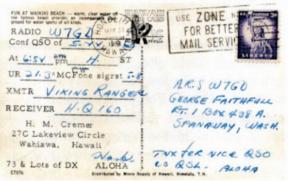
- · Call sign of the operator
- Name and address
- Call sign of the recipient
- Time and date of contact (in Coordinated Universal Time, UTC)
 - · Mode of transmission
 - Radio frequencies used
 - Signal report

QLS cards are basically the HAM Operator's calling card. Normally, the cards are sent using postal systems either directly to the recipient's address or via a centralized amateur radio association QSL bureau that collects cards and sends them out in bulk saving postage.

Many cards have personalized designs. Depending on the creativity of the operator, some have a simple design with only the sender's call sign, some with illustrations, and some with photos showing the operator and equipment.

As you can see from the examples in this article, QSL cards come in many varieties, only limited to one's imagination. PLS QSL and TNX!

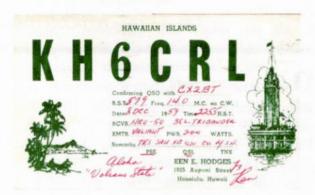




Overprinted Waikiki Beach Post Card from Wahiawa



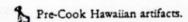
Cartoon Operator



Diamond Head and the Aloha Tower

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Hawaiian Islands Stamp & Coin



Hawaiian coins, tokens, medals.

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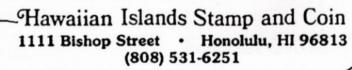
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The Hawaiian Sesquicentennial Issue of 1928

By Mr. L. J. Crampon



Reprinted from PO'OLEKA O HAWAII, Issue No. 4, July 1976

On August 13, 1928, two U.S. stamps were issued to commemorate the 150th anniversary of the discovery of the Hawaiian Islands by Captain James Cook. (Scott #647 and #648) These were the 2¢ carmine Washington of 1926 and the 5¢ blue Roosevelt of 1927 overprinted:

HAWAII

1778 - 1928

Although Scott lists the "Molly Pitcher" overprint before the two Hawaiian Sesquicentennial stamps, the "Molly Pitcher" was not released until October 20, 1928.



Molly Pitcher overprint, Scott #646

stamps had previously been U.S. overprinted but only for use in selected areas - Cuba, Guam, Philippines, Canal Zone, and Shanghai. The Hawaiian Overprint was valid for postage within the United States, but due to thought that the Hawaiian overprints might be precancels, many postal clerks would not honor them. The two Hawaiian Sesquicentennial stamps were available only at post offices in the Hawaiian Islands and at the Postal Agency in Washington (DC).



Guam Overprint, Scott #6

First day covers of both the 2¢ and 5¢ stamps are available, although they were not cached as we no use this term. Nevertheless, a sticker was attached to some of these first day covers that bore the Seal of the Territory of Hawaii plus the following inscription:

1778

1928

CAPT. COOK SESQUICENTENNIAL CELEBRATION
150th ANNIVERSARY OF THE DISCOVERY
OF THE
HAWAIIAN ISLANDS
AUGUST 15-16-17-18-19-20
HONOLULU, OAHU
WAIMEA, KAUAI KEALAKEKUA, HAWAII

Mid-August was a rather unusual time to celebrate the 150th anniversary of the arrival of Capt. Cook. On August 13, 1778, Capt. Cook and his two ships were crossing the Arctic Circle in the Kotzebue Sound off Alaska, at least 3,000 miles north of fair Hawaii. True, Cook had seen the islands on the previous January 17th, had landed, and departed by early February. True, they were again to return, but not until late November of that year. On the day honored by the Sesquicentennial stamp, Capt. Cook was seeking a passage from the Pacific to the Atlantic, north of Alaska and Canada.

One may wonder why stamps featuring George Washington and Theodore Roosevelt were selected for this Washington was a commemoration. contemporary of Cook, but also were Franklin Benjamin and Thomas Jefferson and their portraits appear on U.S. Stamps then in use. And also were in use were stamps featuring Benjamin Harrison, who tried in vain to get Hawaii annexed to the United States, Grover Cleveland, who had sought to replace Oueen Liliuokalani on her throne after the 1893 revolution, and William McKinley, who had signed the document that formally annexed the Islands. But the selection was made from a practical viewpoint: the 2¢ stamp was then used for regular mail and the 5¢ for air mail.

Only a limited number of copies of these makeshift commemoratives were issued, 5,520,000 copies of the 2¢ and

1,460,000 copies of the 5¢. Never had the United States issued so few copies of a 2¢ commemorative; never had the United States ever issued so few copies of any commemorative (except the high value – 1.00 or over – Columbian and Trans-Mississippi issues) than they did of the 5¢ Hawaiian Sesquicentennial. (The only exception to this statement is the 2¢ imperforate Alaska-Yukon of 1909.) Thus Captain Cook and Hawaii were honored.

In 1929, Albert Pierce Taylor published his *Sesquicentennial Celebration of Captain Cook's Discovery of Hawaii*. In this book appeared the following article on the Hawaiian Sesquicentennial stamp:

"CAPTAIN COOK STAMP ISSUE"

"Approximately 100,000 6,000,000 special surcharged stamps in commemoration of the discovery of Hawaii by Captain Cook, were disposed of yesterday at the local post office, it was announced by Postmaster J. Frank Woollev last night. HONOLULU ADVERTISER, August 13, 1928. Of this number about 75,000 of the two-cent stamps and 25,000 of the fives were disposed of, it was stated by the postmaster, explaining that the demand for the first day covers with special stamp was extremely brisk.

"Since this is the first time in history that the United States government has issued a surcharged stamp and the fact that Hawaii has been so signally honored makes the stamps of especial (sic) value to stamp collectors throughout the world, the postmaster explained. "Early yesterday morning a line formed in front of the stamp window as eager purchases of the souvenirs sought to be the first to make the purchase. To Delegate Victor K. Houston went the honor of making the first purchase. Postmaster Woolley personally sold to him 200 stamps, 100 of the twos and another of the fives. The sheets were also endorsed by the postmaster signifying that they represented the first purchase.

"Stamp collectors from all over the world have filed application for purchase of the stamps it was stated. One collector in Washington has sent 1100 special covers to be stamped and mailed him while other have sent groups ranging from a dozen to a hundred with special directions for mailing. Practically all of these are air mail letters. One batch is to be sent to Seattle for cancellation for delivery to Los Angeles while another destined for Switzerland is to be sent to San Francisco for cancellation.

"The highest local purchaser yesterday was C.W. Best who bought \$300. worth. Many purchases of \$100 and \$200 worth were made.

"Honolulu was the only place in the territory as well as in the entire United States where the stamps were on sale yesterday. They will go on sale today in the outside islands, the postmaster stated.

"When one considers that there are some 375,000 professional stamp collectors throughout the United States and several million amateurs, it is easy to realize the ultimate value of this



Prepared First Day Cover

special issue and likewise the value of first day covers," said the postmaster in discussing the sale.

"These stamps, one collector told me are worth at their face value after cancellation, two cents and working form this basis he declared that within a couple of years they will have a market value of at least 10 cents.

"Incidentally, their sale means invaluable publicity for Hawaii; as much perhaps, as that provided by the tourist bureau advertisements. And it will be lasting publicity because the stamps will always be in demand after the issue has been disposed of by the post office.

"The postmaster stated that more than 2,000 airmail letters alone with the special stamps on had been sorted yesterday and indications are that a record shipment of first class mail will be made from here Wednesday when the Matsonia leaves for the coast.

"Many persons had specially prepared covers and the postmaster spent a busy day autographing them with signifying to the fact that they are first day covers."

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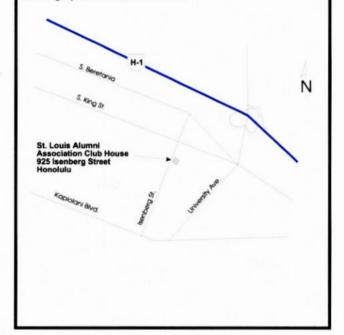
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Monthly Meeting

The Hawaiian Philatelic Society meets from 7:30 PM to 9:00 PM on the second Monday of each month at the St. Louis Alumni Association Club House in central Honolulu. Each meeting includes a short business session, a program or slide presentation and an auction of about 100 lots. We invite you to attend, meet your fellow members, enjoy the program, and talk stamps. The public is welcome at all our meetings and we encourage you to become a member.



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