THE CHECK COLLECTOR PO Box 808 Northfield, MN 55057-0808

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THE CHECK COLLECTOR

July - September 2010 The Journal of Number 95 THE AMERICAN SOCIETY OF CHECK COLLECTORS, INC. OX OX BANK

Editor: Robert D. Hohertz PO Box 808

Northfield, MN 55057-0808 rdh@northfieldmail.com

Advertising Manager: All advertising should be channeled through the Treasurer, Dick Naven. Dick's address is on the following page.

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To our members:

Write something for *The Check Collector*! We need articles about checks, check-related subjects, and fiscal documents.

We retype all material. Illustrations require an **original** or a **good**, **clear**, **black and white copy**, **preferably as large as can be obtained**. A clear color copy is even better. Original checks sent in are copied and returned carefully. Any questions, ask the Editor!

To our advertisers:

Deadline for advertising copy to run in the October-December 2010 issue of *The Check Collector* is November 15.

The Check Collector is an effective means of reaching the check collecting hobby, and our membership of collectors and dealers of checks and related financial documents. It contains feature articles about checks and check collecting and news about the hobby.

Advertising orders must be paid in advance and shall be restricted to checks and related fiscal documents, publications, accessories, and supplies. The ASCC accepts advertising in good faith, reserving the right to edit copy. Copy for ads must be camera-ready or the Editor will set it as best he can.

ASCC assumes no financial responsibility for typographical errors in advertising. However, it will reprint that portion of an advertisement in which a typographical error appeared upon prompt notification of such error.

All advertisements and payments should be submitted to the Treasurer.

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VISIT OUR WEBSITE

http://www.ascheckcollectors.org

Since much writing in this magazine recently has concerned vignettes, the cover shows two sheets of stock images. And, looking for something to write about, I decided to give the American buffalo a bit of attention as a vignette. Along this line, our President contributes a classic one involving laywers.

Jim Adams has discovered that we have not said the last word on J.H. Sherburne, Indian Trader, and we continue with Nevada checks.

In case you noticed that this issue contains four fewer pages than usual, feel free to contribute some material for future issues and we will restore the page count. Since this issue had to be finished before the end of August, if you sent something that arrived after that it will go into the next one.

Advertising rates are as follows:

One quarter page \$25.00/issue
Business card size \$15.00/issue
\$10 discount for four issues paid at once.

THE AMERICAN SOCIETY OF CHECK COLLECTORS, INC.

A non-profit organization organized under Section 501-(c)-(3)

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Slide Program:

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Dues:

US: \$15 per year

Canada, Mexico: \$20 per year Elsewhere: \$25 per year US First Class Mail: \$20 per year

Security Printers Guide:

\$5 in looseleaf form - order from William G. Kanowsky, address in

middle column.

Electronic form from Lyman Hensley free via e-mail or send writable cd and return postage. Address in first

column.

Membership Interests

- 1. Checks, general
- 2. Checks, USA
- 3. US Government Checks
- 4. Miscellaneous Fiscals:

Bank Drafts

Bills of Exchange

Certificates of Deposit

Promissory Notes

Warrants

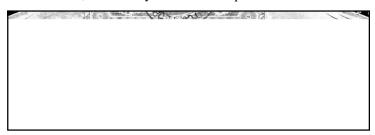
Receipts

- 5. Checks, Great Britian
- 6. Checks, Canada
- 7. Checks, World
- 8. Travelers Checks & Money Orders
- 9. Specimen Checks
- 10. Ration Checks
- 11. Refund/Rebate Checks
- 12. Other
- 14. Counter & Modern Checks
- 20. Vignettes

- 21. Autographs
- 22. Railroads, Steamboats, Mining
- 23. Banking History
- 24. Security Printing & Printers
- 25. Check Protectors & Cancel Devices
- 26. Wells Fargo History
- 30. Stock & Bond Certificates
- 31. Revenue Stamped Documents
- 32. Emergency Scrip

Bison bison bison The American Buffalo on 19th Century Checks by Bob Hohertz

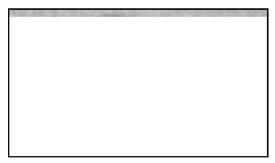
In prior issues we took a look at Native American representation on financial documents of the Nineteenth Century. Several of these featured one or more "buffalo," or bison. (Genus *Bison bison*, or the Plains bison subspecies, *Bison bison bison*.) We will turn out attention to these beasts, even if they don't receive equal time.



The Peoria & Bureau Valley Railroad Company stock certificate featuring the vignette above was shown in its entirety in TCC 91. Bison running from the train.

The Austin, Texas draft below shows a buffalo hunt in progress.

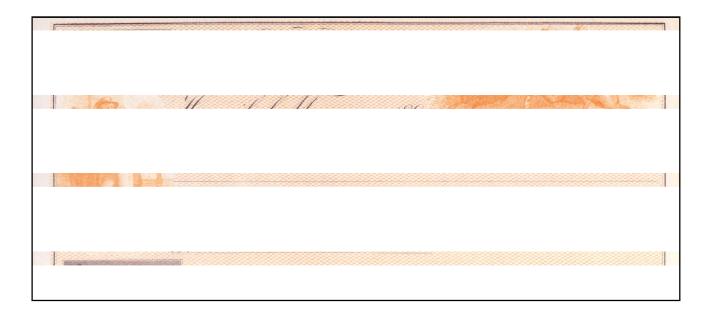




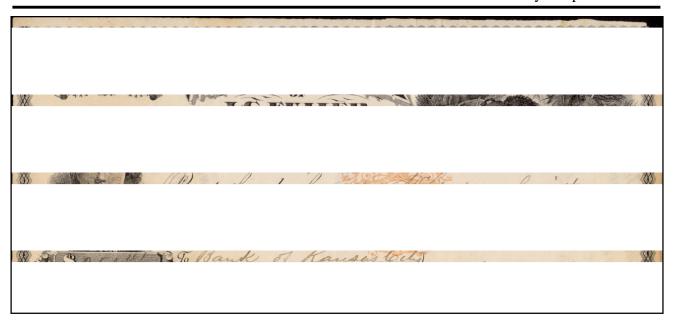
The American Bank Note Company engraving conveys motion and excitement. While it is not an exact copy, the inspiration for it probably came from the print on the next page.



George Catlin, "Buffalo Hunt, Chase." From Catlin's North American Indian Portfolio. Hunting Scenes and Amusements of the Rocky Mountains and Prairies of America. London, 1844.



This check was shown in TCC 90. The vignette also conveys strength and excitement. While similar to the previous one, it is different enough not to have had the same source.

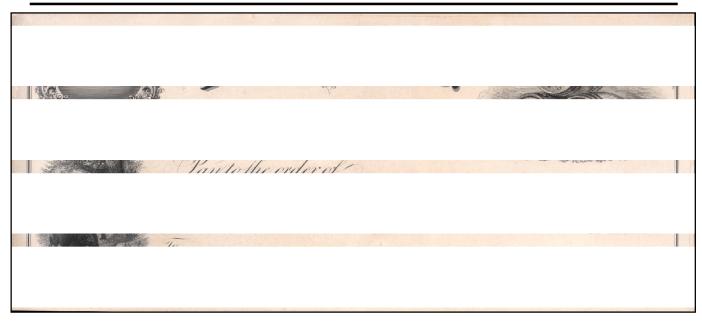


The Indians were not the only buffalo hunters in the Nineteenth Century. Plainsmen slaughtered them for meat and hides as well. This Winfield, Kansas draft was printed by Krebs Lithographing Company of Cincinnati



Another hunting vignette, flanking the Lone Star of Texas.

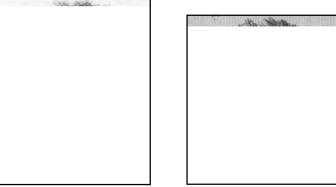




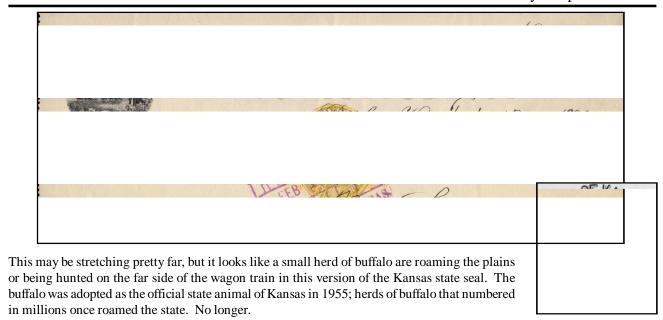
The buffalo in this vignette appears to be minding its own business while the man with an axe works on a tree. Wild bison are known to be rather unpredictable animals, and considered to be as dangerous as a grizzly bear, if not more so. Their sheer size and speed make their entire bodies formidable weapons, and their hind legs can inflict serious damage as well. The one on this American Bank Note Company specimen check is running after or away from something, at any rate.

T. and J.W. Gaff of Aurora, Indiana, appear to be engaged in the manufacture of whisky, to judge from their brands on the barrels at upper right.

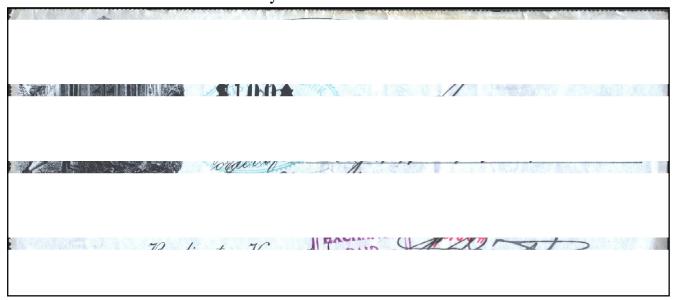




The version of the vignette used by the Krebs Lithographing Company was less detailed, and printed in metallic ink. The picture was obviously popular enough to have been copied, and may exist in a print or painting of the time.



A Find in the Marketplace by Hermann Ivester



I came across this check at the Memphis International Paper Money Show and couldnot pass it up. The vignette on the check of attorney, John J. Enright, of Burlington, Vermont is an eye catching version of an old English drawing poking fun at lawyers. The two gentlemen on the right and left are tugging on the cow, and as long as they dispute its ownership the English barrister is happy to milk the dispute for all it's worth.

This certainly is an unusual image for a lawyer to use on his checks. Attorney Enright must have had a sense of humor regarding his profession, and must have been well established in his practice.

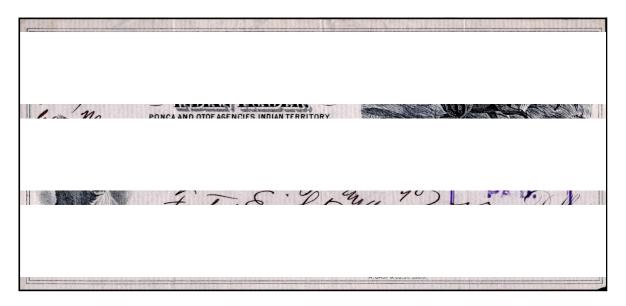


J.H. Sherburne, Indian Trader - Revisited by Jim Adams

As stated by Herman Boraker in his Check Collector 32 (1994) article, Joseph Herbert Sherburne was born in Maine in 1851. As a young man, after the Civil War, he traveled West, working at various jobs along the way. Around 1872 he ventured to Arkansas City, Kansas (population 500), where an uncle and cousin lived. He became involved in starting a store with them and found he had a knack for trading with the Indians. They trusted him, and he learned their language and symbols.

In 1876 Sherburne moved to Ponca Agency, Oklahoma Territory, about 30 miles southwest of Arkansas City and just across the state border. He became a trader, licensed by the United States government to trade horses and Indian ponies with the Indians. In 1879 he met and married Gertrude Lockley. They lived in his Ponca home, and eventually had five children.

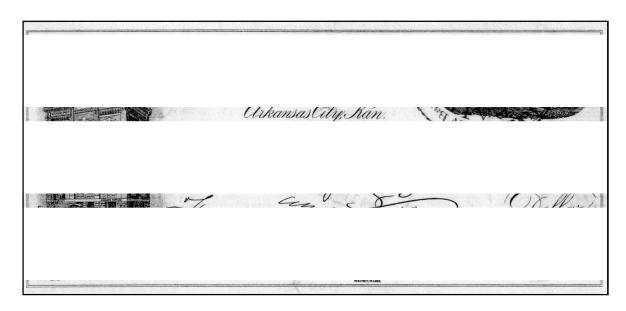
During the 1880\% and into the mid 1890\% Sherburne\% activities were fairly well documented by his checks and other fiscal documents.



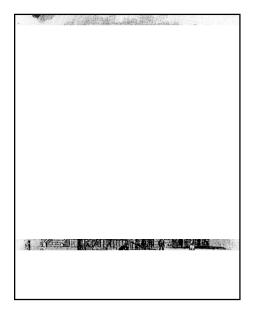
Above and below, typical Sherburne checks from the 1880's and 90's.

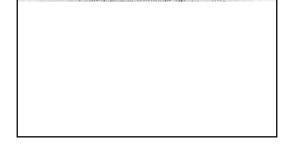


During this time he traveled between Ponca Agency and Arkansas City where he had a real estate and insurance business. Until recently I had not seen evidence of his Arkansas City businesses, but that changed when I came across several of his real estate dealer checks/drafts.



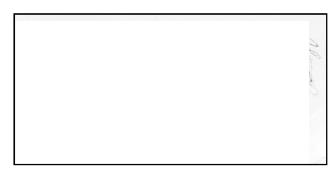
Apparently he was in business with a Mr. Pollock in Arkansas City. Their drafts are very attractive, with a vignette showing their building with a date of 1877 on it, and another vignette of a nice farm scene.





There is an Adams Express Agency at the right corner of the building. (Adams Express is another collecting interest of mine.)

The Pollack and Sherburne draft #3219 is made out to Sherburne himself and he endorsed it twice with his distinctive signature.



In 1896, losing his U.S. traders license in Oklahoma, he moved to Browning, Montana, and became licensed there. He established the Sherburne Mercantile Company and became involved in the banking business. He served as President of the First National Bank of Browning for more than twenty years. Notwithstanding that, in 1900, apparently he was still keeping his money in the Security Bank of Minnesota.

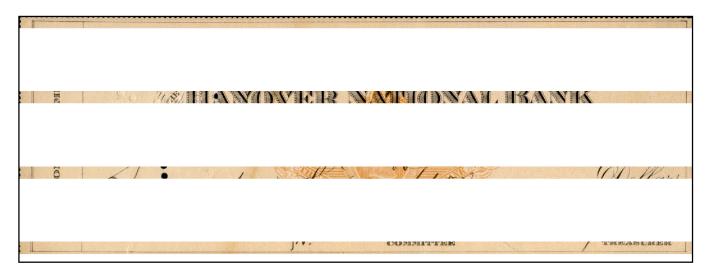
THE CHECK COLLECTOR



This colorful character of the Old West died in Browning in 1938 at the age of 87.

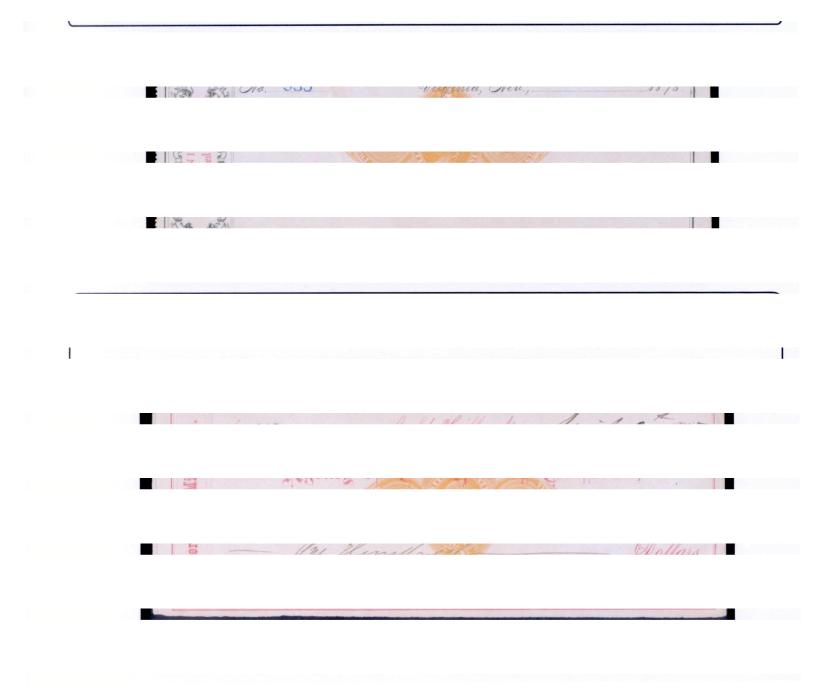
A Find in the Marketplace by Bob Hohertz

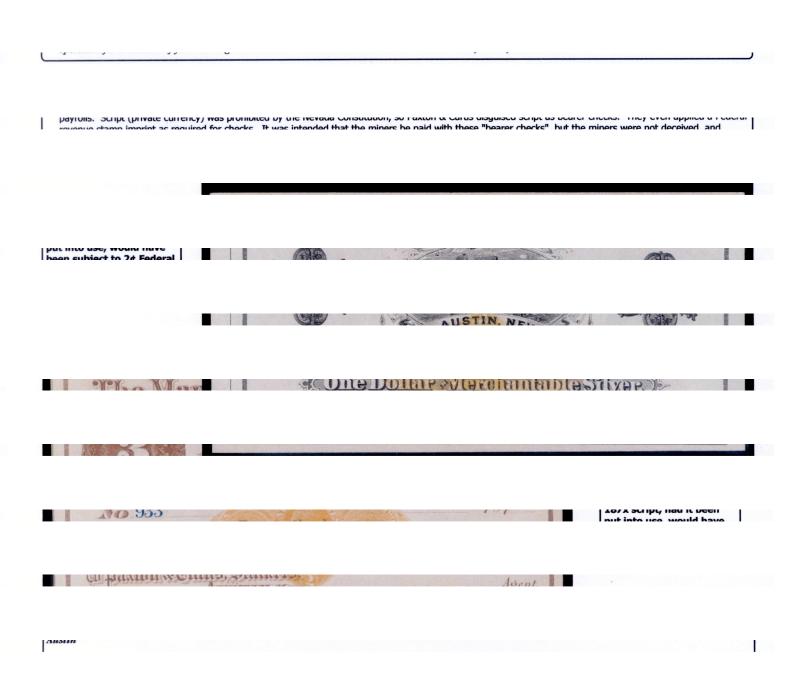
As an update to the FAC Primer, this must be one of the latest Civil War FAC **printings** before the very recent crop of them that we have shown from time to time.

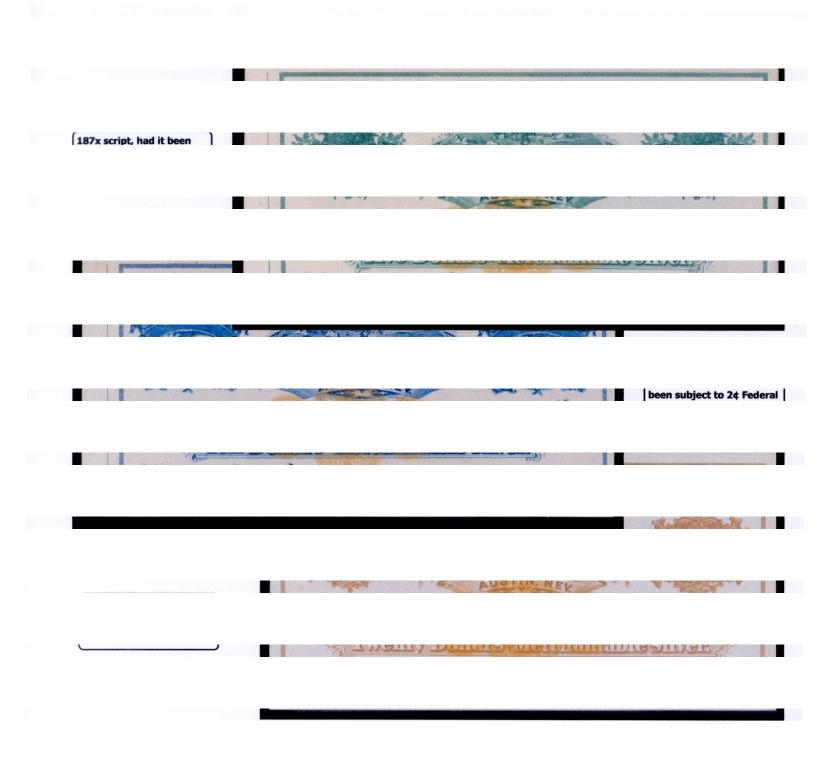


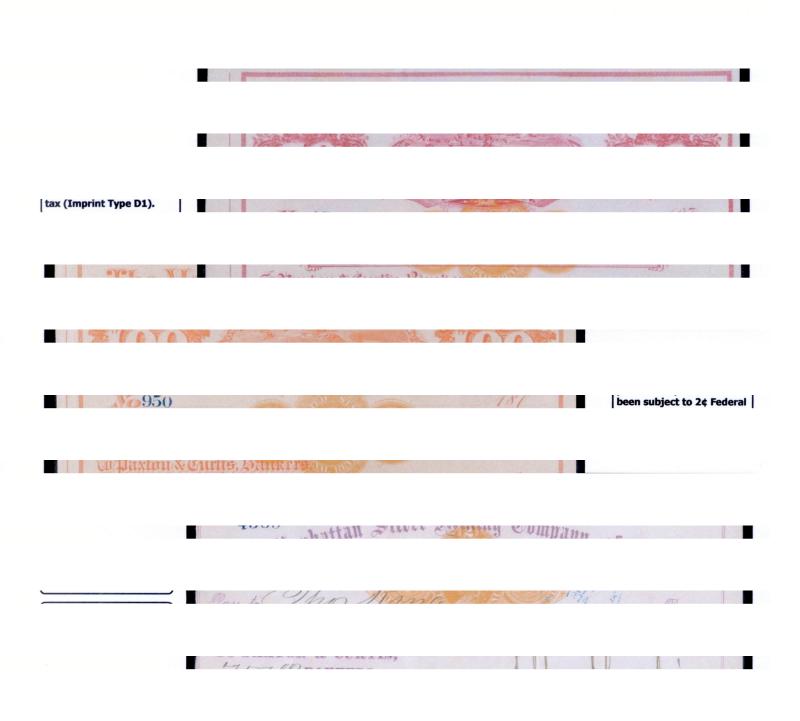
Note that the emphasis is on late printing. The dateline is 192_. It was not a check lying around from an earlier time when it was used. Check paper with the FAC design must have been available in the 1920's, almost forty years after the last need for the New York Graphic Company imprints.







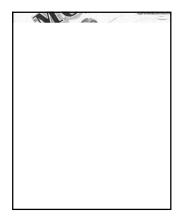




To be continued.

Mystery Solved Bob Hohertz

In TCC 93 I illustrated a Mohawk Valley Bank check with a puzzling vignette - a man in mixed costume standing with his hatchet. I put forth two possibilities for his identity - Natty Bumppo and Metacom - but neither seemed particularly plausible. Since then there have been two suggestions to the effect that he was Daniel Boone. Then Jim Adams came up with a solution, finding it, of all places, in TCC 13, the February 1990 issue.



Robert E. Stoner, M.D. wrote, "A prominent feature of one type of draft signed by General Spinner is a vignette that portrays in full length an Indian, a well-known Seneca Chief, Red Jacket. It is taken from a painting by Robert W. Weir. Red Jacket was born sometime around 1785 and lived until 1830. His English name derives from his fondness for red jackets, the original of which had been presented to him by a British officer. His Indian name, Sagoyewatha, was given him upon his election as chief of his clan.

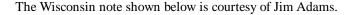
Although Red Jacket was never successful as a war chief and in fact, was ridiculed for this by both Joseph Brant and Cornplanter, he was highly respected and a skillful political leader. He began as an opportunist who favored first the Indians and then the Whites, depending on how much he thought there was to gain by doing so, but as his leadership became more secure, he assumed a much more statesman-like posture.

Peace with the United States and the independence of his people were his primary concerns. Although he accomplished the first, he was never successful in keeping his people separate, with their culture intact. Even though his talent at oratory was outstanding, his speeches were unable to halt the encroachment of civilization into the Indian lands."

At right is an 1868 painting by Thomas Hicks as a copy of the earlier Weir portrait of Red Jacket.

The large medal worn on a chain around his neck is one presented to him by George Washington. This is an odd juxtaposition with the red coat of British army tradition.

Stoner finishes his comments on Red Jacket as follows: "Discouraged, he fell into decline and alcoholism. Although he did manage to rehabilitate himself long enough to regain his chieftainship, he soon fell to drinking again. Still, he was of enough importance in 1825 to be visited by the Marquis de LaFayette. His efforts to protect and preserve his people's heritage were noteworthy even in their failure."





Email to the Editor

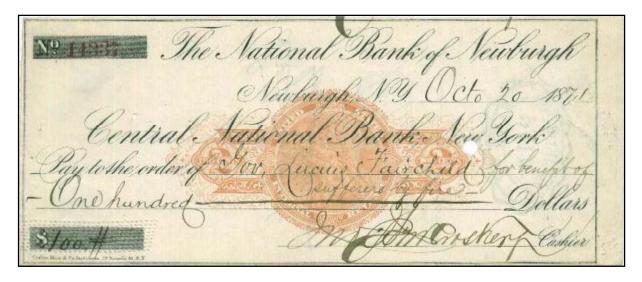
Bob:

I read with interest your article on the Peshtigo Company and the fire of 1871 in the latest Check Collector.

I grew up in Green Bay and passed through Peshtigo many times. I have also read extensively on the fire. I now live in Door County where the event is known as the Tornado of 1871. The first-hand accounts are harrowing.

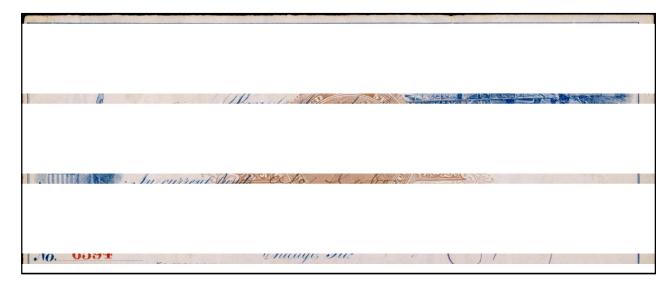
Although the fires in Peshtigo and those on the east side of the Green Bay (Door, Kewaunee and Brown Counties) occurred at the same time, those on the east side of the bay were not caused by debris crossing over the bay. There had been smaller fires on both sides of the bay all throughout the summer of 1871. It was a period of high winds that fanned the flames of these smaller fires into the conflagration of October 1871 on both sides of the bay.

Anyway, attached is a check I purchased off Ebay a few years ago. It was payable to Lucius Fairchild, the Governor of Wisconsin, for relief of fire victims. Ironically, Governor Fairchild was on his way to Chicago to help render aid to the victims there when he received word of the destruction at Peshtigo.



Keep up the good work.

Jim Downey



Another Peshtigo check, dated just over two weeks before the devastating fire. - Editor

Pennsylvania Banks - 13 by Peter Robin

I request the help of all readers in adding information to these listings as well as, of course, the counties to come. I can be reached by e-mail at peterrobin@verizon.net or by regular mail at Box 353, Bala Cynwyd, PA 19004.

Bank Name	Stamp	Years	Printer	Colors	Vignette	Size in mm
Mercer County						
1st NB of West Greenville	C1	1881	WmM	Red on Violet	Ornamental design	152 x 62 mm.
1 st NB of Greenville	G1	1879	WmM	Black on White	David Hum	203 x 70
1 st NB of Grove City	None	1896	None	Black on White	None	185 x 65 mm.
Same	None	1896	SLP	Blue on White	Burns & Company	205 x 76 mm.
Zahniser & Hefling, Bankers		1070	DLI	Bide on white	Burns & Company	203 X 70 IIIII.
Mercer	R15	1868	None	Black on white	Diana & Ceres?	195 x 83 mm.
Farners & Mechanics	KIS	1000	TTOHE	Black on white	Diana & Ceres.	175 x 05 mm.
Nat'l B	K11	1875	WmM	Black on white	Mongomery & Mills	191 x 75 mm.
1 st NB of Mercer	R15	1871	None	Green on White	PENNSYLVANIA	197 x 69 mm.
Same	D1	1873	WmM	Black on White	R. M. DeFrance	203 x 70 mm.
Same	K11	1876	WmM	Black on white	R.M. DeFrance	201 x 72 mm.
Same	F1	1876	ABN	Black on white	Diana & Ceres?	203 x 89 mm.
Same	G1	1878	WmM	Black on White	None	175 x 70 mm.
Same	G1	1878	WmM	Black on White	Keck & Derickson	
Same	None	1884	WmM	Black on Green	Tiny ornaments at 4 corners	176 x 70 mm.
Burd & McClure, Bankers	C1	1873	VKC	Black on white	Woman's head, farmer	217 x 86 mm.
James Bleakley, Son & Co.						
Sharon	None ??	1871	WmM	Green on White	Ornamental design	183 x 70 mm.
1st NB of Sharon	D1	1875	WJM	Black on White	Kimberly & Filer	215 x 80 mm.
Iron Banking Company,					•	
Sharpsville	None	IX92 sic		Black on White	None	
Sandy Lake Savings Bank						
on Stoneboro Bank	Facs	1884	AGS	Black on White	Sandy Lake at r.	195 x 84 mm.
Citizens Bank of Stoneboro	Facs	1883	AGC	Black on White	Sandy Lake at r.	
					McBurney & Lyons	
Same	Facs	1884	AGC	Black on White	Sandy Lake at r. only	
Same	None	1889	WmM	Black on White	Geometric design	195 x 72 mm.
The Stoneboro Bank	Facs	1884	AGC	Black on White	Sandy Lake at r.	198 x 83 mm.
Morrison® Bank of						
W. Middlesex	R115	1873	WmM	Green on Pale Orange	W. W. Morrison, Proprietor	200 x 70 mm.





Bank Name	Stamp	Years	Printer	i	Colors	Vignette	Size in mm
Mifflin County							
Bank of Lewistown Mifflin County Bank		None	1841	Н&Т	Tan on Cream	Liberty, Shield, & Cap	176 x 64 mm.
Lewistown		R15	1867	WFM	Black on Cream	Ornamental design	184 x 71 mm.
Mifflin County NB		G1	1881	WFM	Black on Cream	None	190 x 74 mm.
Same Tyrone Branch		G1	1881	CMC	Black on crosshatched	None	216 x 70 mm.
1st NB of Lock Haven		G1	1880	None	Black on White	None	155 x 65 mm.
Monroe County							
East Stroudsburg NB		none	1890	WFM	Black on White	None	190 x 74 mm.
Same		R155	1898	BaB	Black on White	None	192 x 69 mm.
Stroudsburg NB		R164	1899	AMS	Black on p. Orange	Bank building	222 x 75 mm.
1st NB of Stroudsburg		None	1885	None	Black on White	PENNSYLVANIA	212 x 69 mm
Same		None	1887	WmM	Black on Violet	none	167 x 65 mm
Same		R164	1899	WFM	Black on p. Gray	Isaac Stauffer	208 x 78 mm.
Same		X7	1901	WmM	Black on tan	Harvey Huffman	201 x 77 mm.



The ASCC's New Website Dick Naven

We now have a website we can work with. We can add to it, edit what we have, or make wholesale changes if need be. And, it can be a useful tool. We need one of those.

Our new home address is http://www.ascheckcollectors.org. We have almost everything we had at the last two websites, plus some things we didnot have.

You will find all the familiar Inventories of Revenue Imprinted Checks, and some new ones, too. We will keep adding them as more become available. We have a sampling of our newsletter, *The Check Collector*, with illustrations in color, much appreciated by most collectors, to whet people appetites.

You will notice a few new items there, too. You can now purchase an ASCC membership online, or renew the one you already have. This should be especially beneficial for our foreign members, as currency conversion and posting it from the other side of the planet are no longer necessary.

Speaking of posting to and from the other side of the planet, we are now offering E-Memberships in addition to the traditional ones. An E-Membership has all the privileges of regular membership, but E-Members receive their newsletter by accessing a password-protected part of our website.

This is a strategic move on our part. Our Society® membership has been dwindling for some time now, and has reached the point where total dues from a smaller membership and a set cost for batch printing are on a collision course. Like with the irresistible force and the immovable object, we don® want to get in a position to get pinched. E-Memberships should ultimately save us some money in printing and postage. More importantly, the added revenues from E-Memberships are needed to help raise our revenue level to the level of our expenses. Raising dues on a dwindling membership only works to a certain point.

To reverse the trend of dwindling membership, we need your support. We will do everything we can do to make the website appealing and useful, but without your support as ambassadors for the Society, we will not survive. The ASCC is not the only non-profit group to be faced with this challenge; the Internet has changed the way people interact, how they spend their time, and how and where they spend their money. The open accessibility of information and merchandise on the web makes it easy to think it isnot necessary to join an organization of our peers any more. Our job as ambassadors for the ASCC is to market membership in the Society as beneficial, desirable, and in their best interests.

The website needs to be more than just useful; it needs to have features and benefits we canot get any other way. We need to embrace the Internet as a new way to interact with our members and prospective members. Hence these new features:

Memberships and renewals online. Library materials checkout online (coming soon). Color illustrations in the newsletter. No more waiting for the mail to arrive. Prompt posting of new finds between newsletters. Vanity Mailboxes. More. We are only constrained by our imaginations, and by my limitations as a Webmaster. Of course, to make these new features something that people would join the Society to obtain, we need to make them available to members only.

So, we have. We have two websites, joined at the hip, as it were. The second one is password-protected, and contains the members-only items mentioned above. The second website can be accessed directly, or by linking from the main website. The Home Page at the second website is called The Reading Room. You will find it in the menu on the main website. Once logged-in there, you can access the other pages reserved for members only.

The address of the secure site is http://www.checkcollectors.org. Since this newsletter goes to members only, I can tell you the login, too.

Your login id is Reader, and the password is ASCC1874. Both are case-sensitive. We may need to change the password each year; if so, we would publish the new one in the following TCC, and send it to our E-Members via email.

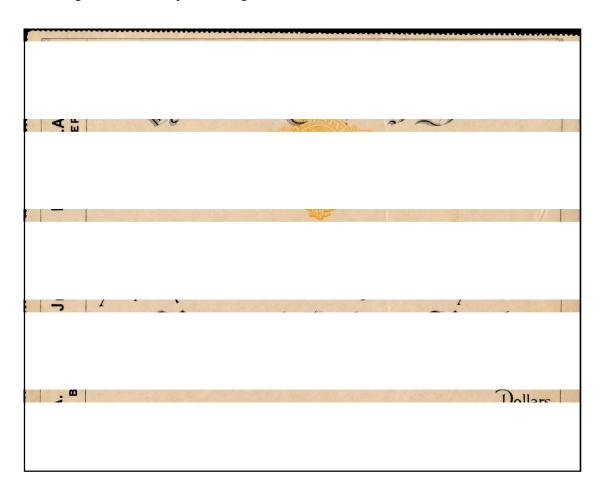
I can hear you asking, õWhat is a Vanity Mailbox?ö Itos an email address at checkcollectors.org, plus an automatic mail-forward service to your current email address wherever it may be. The same principles as apply to Vanity License Plates for

your car apply to the Society Vanity E-Mailboxes. The cost is reasonable, and is meant to be an opportunity for you to make a small contribution to the Society and get something of value in return. It a fund-raiser. You sign up and pay for it online, on the secure site. We set up the mailbox and the forward, it all automatic after that. No, we done monitor your mail. Yes, it tax-deductible.

Explore the new site; log in and explore the members-only section, too. In the face of todays challenges to our Society, I hope you will join with me/us in rebuilding our membership rolls, pushing the website to work for us effectively, and having some fun along the way. I appreciate your continued support, and your feedback.

A Find in the Marketplace

Richard Friedberg came up with this interesting pair of checks. The bottom one has a missing revenue imprint, probably due to having been folded under when the sheet went through the press. Wouldn't that make a good addition to the Scott Specialized catalog under RN-X - imprint missing? If the checks weren't still attached, who could tell?



Secretary's Report Lyman Hensley

New members

1861 By R Spence

Harv Elander 2(civil war script, Southern states), 4 (warrants), 6,7 (obs currency conf script), 9,

(954) 698-0626 20, 22, 26, 32

1862 by John & Nancy Wilson

Larry Schuffman 1(Liberty loan), 2 (treasury checks), 3, 4 (CDøs,warrants), 6, 21

6 Timber Lane Randolph, NJ 07869

1863 by Doug Warman

Melvin Rosenberg RR tickets

2826 Beechwood Blvd Pittsburgh, PA 15217

Deceased

631 Ray Whyborn

Member Exchange

Early checks, etc. with Old West themes. Trains, Indians, Cowboys, Buffalo, Horses. Send photocopy or email **Buck Major**, 522 Mourning Dove Cove, Temple, TX 76502-5043, buckleymajor@yahoo.com.

Check Collector back issues wanted, and all periodicals issued by coin clubs relating to all subjects of United States numismatics. Please send list. **Harold Thomas**, PO Box 7520, Beaumont, TX 77726-7520. 409-466-0781

Wanted: "Manuscript" aka completely handwritten checks. All states and dates (generally pre-1900. **Sheldon Rabin**, 2820 Breckenridge Circle, Aurora, IL 60504, sheldonrabin@yahoo.com

Wanted: "Presidential" named city checks. Need Hoover, Roosevelt, Eisenhower, Kennedy, Nixon, Ford, Reagan & Bush. Will purchase or trade. **James Adams**, 1607 Birch St., Baraboo, WI 53913.

Dealer wants checks signed by celebrities. No quantity too large. **Myron Ross**, Heroes & Legends, 18034 Ventura Blvd., Encino, CA 91316.

1830's-40's Otsego County Ban, Cooperstown, NY Check - trade for old NJ items. Write first. **Steven Kawalec**, PO Box 4281, Clifton, NJ 07012, owlprowler@aol.com.

Wanted: Hawaii, checks, covers, letterheads and invoices, any island, pre-1930. Please send photocopies or picture to: **Johan Bodin**, 1215 S. Kihei Rd., Suite O-215, Kihei, HI 96753, or email to: info@jebodin.com.

Exchange postings will be taken from ASCC members who are collectors only. Postings of 20 words or less are free; please remit \$3 each issue for postings of 21 to fifty words. Name and address do **not** count toward the 20 words.

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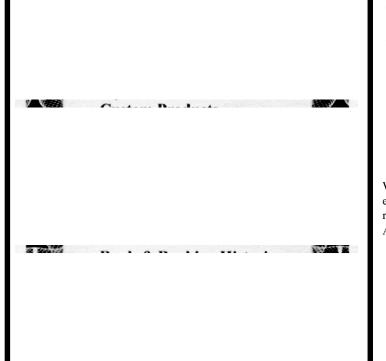
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