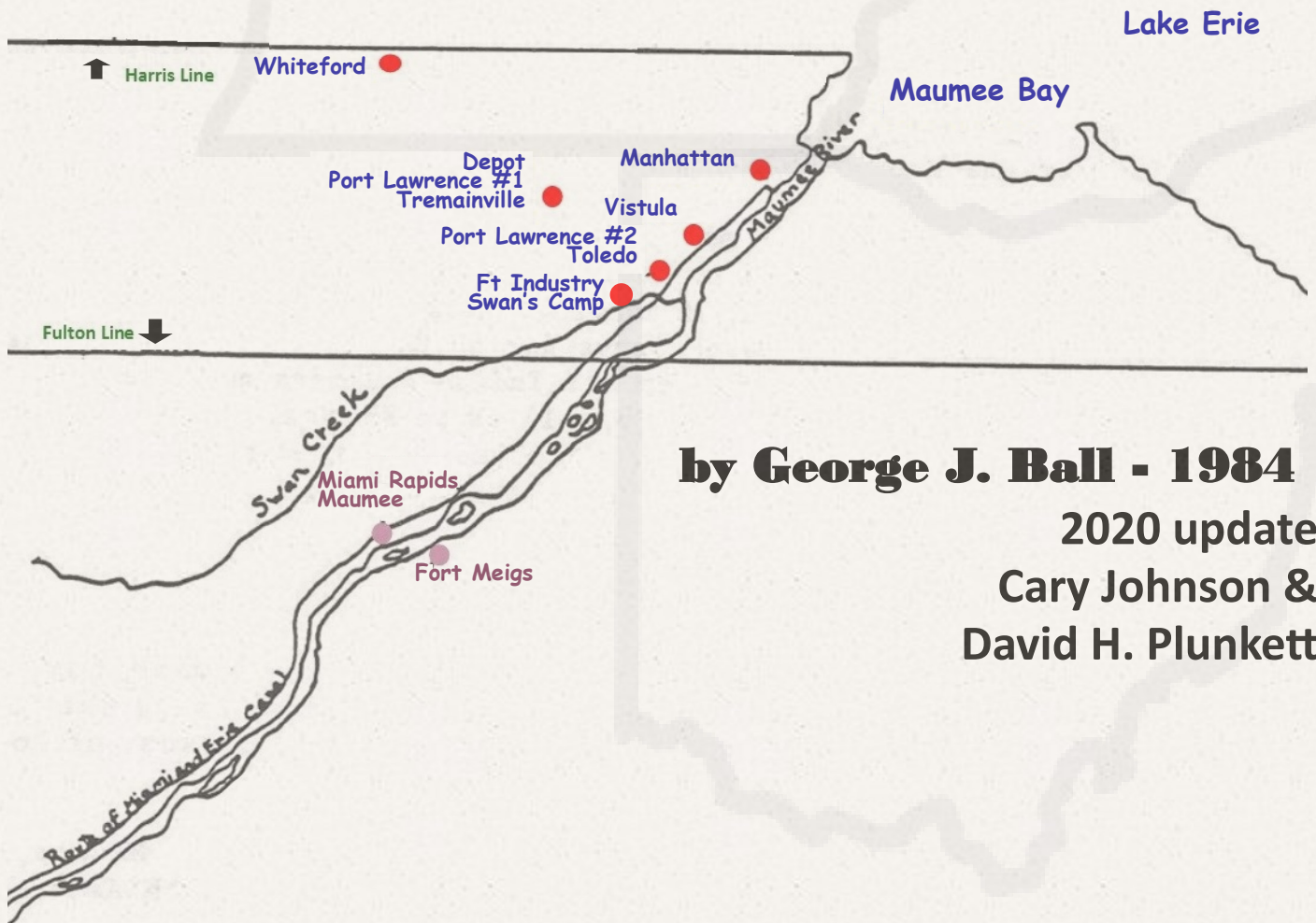


THE TOLEDO STRIP



by **George J. Ball - 1984**

2020 update
Cary Johnson &
David H. Plunkett

ORIGINAL ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

A number of individuals and archival libraries have been most helpful in contributing to the completion of this monograph. Many thanks for generous help, support, and permission to illustrate covers to Mr. Paul Rohloff, Galen Wilson, curator at Clements Library; John C. Curry, photo archivist at Michigan Department of State; the Western Reserve Historical Society, the Local History & Genealogy Department of the Toledo-Lucas County Public Library and the State Library of Ohio.

Hearty thanks to the Ohio Postal History Society and President Martin Richardson for promoting and encouraging research and publication of the postal history of Ohio. Special thanks to Douglas Kelsey for his generous financial support, without which this publication might still be in the talking stage. Thanks also to the Garfield- Perry Stamp Club and others who have made financial contributions to the publishing fund of the society.

Charles I. Ball, research chairman of the O.P.H.S. and founding father of the society, deserves more gratitude than can be adequately expressed in this space. Charles located the material illustrated here from sources outside Toledo, Ohio and generously made it available to the author. He reviewed the original and suggested useful changes and additions to the manuscript, Thomas C. Kingsley, M.D., has been a constant supporter and collaborator, an honest critic, an invaluable source of information, and a long distance friend. Tom co-authored the original article on the Toledo Strip with Kenneth H. Priestly for the American Philatelic Society Journal in 1975. He did the original research from Michigan sources and he has continued to unearth additional philatelic finds which he has shared unstintingly with others. Tom Kingsley is both a true gentlemen and a genuine scholar.

Wilbert W. Wagner owned some of the covers illustrated herein. He cherished them and he would have enjoyed reading this monograph. Forty years of his life were spent in amassing his Toledo collection. May he rest in peace.

All errors encountered in this publication are the fault of the author. Readers are invited to share their criticisms with the editor of the Ohio Postal Society Journal in interest of continuing dialogue on this subject.

George J. Ball
June, 1984

2020 ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

The work and dedication to the postal history of the Toledo area by George Ball has been immeasurable. The bulk of this monograph is his work. Because of his dedication, the postal history of the Toledo area has been preserved for future generations. In addition to his work in postal history, George lit the fire starting this collector on his forty year journey through the postal history of the Toledo, Lucas County, and Fulton County area. With that spark, much of the area's postal history might reside in collections out of state. George's work continues today.

Thanks to Cary Johnson, collector of Michigan postal history, for his assistance in the updating of this monograph. Much of the information included in the update of this document would not have been possible without his help.

"Ernie's Michigan at <https://erniesmichigan.com> was a wealth of information in locating covers unlisted in original printing and providing additional information for covers listed.

The National Archives' listing of postmaster appointments and post office locations was invaluable in updating and confirming information used in this update.

DEDICATION

This monograph is respectfully dedicated to the many knowledgeable and honest dealers in postal history without whom we collectors would be denied our most important source of material and our best anecdotes.

George Joseph Ball
28 November 1937– 14 May 2010



George was a soldier, father, teacher, authority on Toledo Postal History, and expert on World War II. He grew up in Toledo's old South End, attended elementary school at St. James, then at Immaculate Conception parish. Graduating from Central Catholic High School in 1955, he joined the U.S. Army, serving from 1955-1958. At that time he became the youngest sergeant to serve in the Middle East, (Turkey). Returning home he enrolled at the University of Toledo, graduating summa cum laude in the College of Education in 1969. At UT he served as president of Kappa Delta, Education Honor Society, and was elected to Phi Kappa Phi National Collegiate Honor Society. He married Carol Mrozinski in January 1967, and had daughters, Amy Lynne and Kelly Ann. George began teaching in the Toledo Public Schools, continuing at Wynn and Starr Elementaries in the Oregon School District. George served as president of the Oregon City Federation of Teachers for ten years in the late 70's and early 80's. He retired in 1995. In July 1996, he married his Starr School colleague, Ruth (Frey) Sibberson-Ball, the music teacher. They loved to travel, especially to his beloved Ireland.

His final career involved his special interest in World War II, working at the CMP store at Camp Perry, and collecting Toledo postal history. George had astonishing Toledo material and was a walking encyclopedia on Toledo history. George was a long time member of the Stamp Collectors Club of Toledo serving as president. George researched the Toledo and Lucas County area extensively and shared his knowledge of Toledo's history, willingly, to anyone with a question. The work he put into authoring this monograph is witness to his dedication to the area's history.

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INTRODUCTION

This monograph will briefly review settlement of this small part of the Maumee Valley by eastern entrepreneurs. It also looks at the nine post offices which existed here prior to the achievement of statehood by Michigan on 26 January 1837. Depot, Port Lawrence #1 & #2, and Vistula were phased out of existence before local sentiment coalesced strongly in favor of Ohio's claim. Toledo, Tremainville, Manhattan, Whiteford, and Vernon (located parallel to and west of Whiteford) were parties to the dispute. ***(Technically to be 100 per cent correct, we have to include Gorham, (Figure 9 page 65) which is today Fayette which is about forty miles west of Toledo and about twenty miles west of Vernon. This office was established 24 January 1837, two days prior to Michigan Statehood. While it had no bearing on any events, and might not even been aware, they were established prior to statehood).*** Established as Michigan territorial post offices, some of them chose at various times to postmark their mail as originating in Ohio.

Why did they do so? When did they make the changeover to Ohio markings? Gaps in knowledge have narrowed and documents have been unearthed which illuminate the subject further. Local sentiment tempered by caution certainly played a role, as did the personal wishes of the postmasters involved.

Still, the reader is cautioned that the answers are not all here. Some answers may reside in a reader's postal history collection. Others may be lost forever in the mists of time. Hopefully this publication will stimulate others to further research and one day the whole story of the post offices of the Toledo Strip may be known.

In keeping with George's last line above, Cary Johnson and I have endeavored to update information known of the "Strip" post office to the current 2020 date. The information here is basically a reprint of George's work. Any additions we insert will be in italics. Images of covers from the original work have been used; however, many have been photoshopped to remove background clutter caused by 1984 photo copying equipment. Additionally many of the figures have been reduced in size from the original work. If an original cover is available for scan, a new color image has been used. In addition maps and background information have been added related writer, addressee, or places of individual covers or events mentioned.

As part of updated research, three post offices were identified not mentioned in the original work. The three Fort Industry, Miami Rapids, and Fort Meigs were closed two to three decades prior to the "Strip" controversy so they are mentioned in the "American Postal Service" section of the introduction pages. Examples of covers are given but not profiled while relating "Strip" history. Only one, Fort Industry, was within the disputed area. Maps, covers and charts assigned figure numbers. Pictures and biographies are not identified as such.

Figure 1 - FIRST SEPARATE MAP OF OHIO, MADE IN 1804

Arrowsmith's 1804 State Map of Ohio

- **Map Date:** 1804
- **Map Locations:** Ohio
- **Map Publication:** A new and elegant general atlas, comprising all the new discoveries, to the present time.
- **Map Cartographer:** Aaron Arrowsmith (1750-1823) and Samuel Lewis (1754-1822)

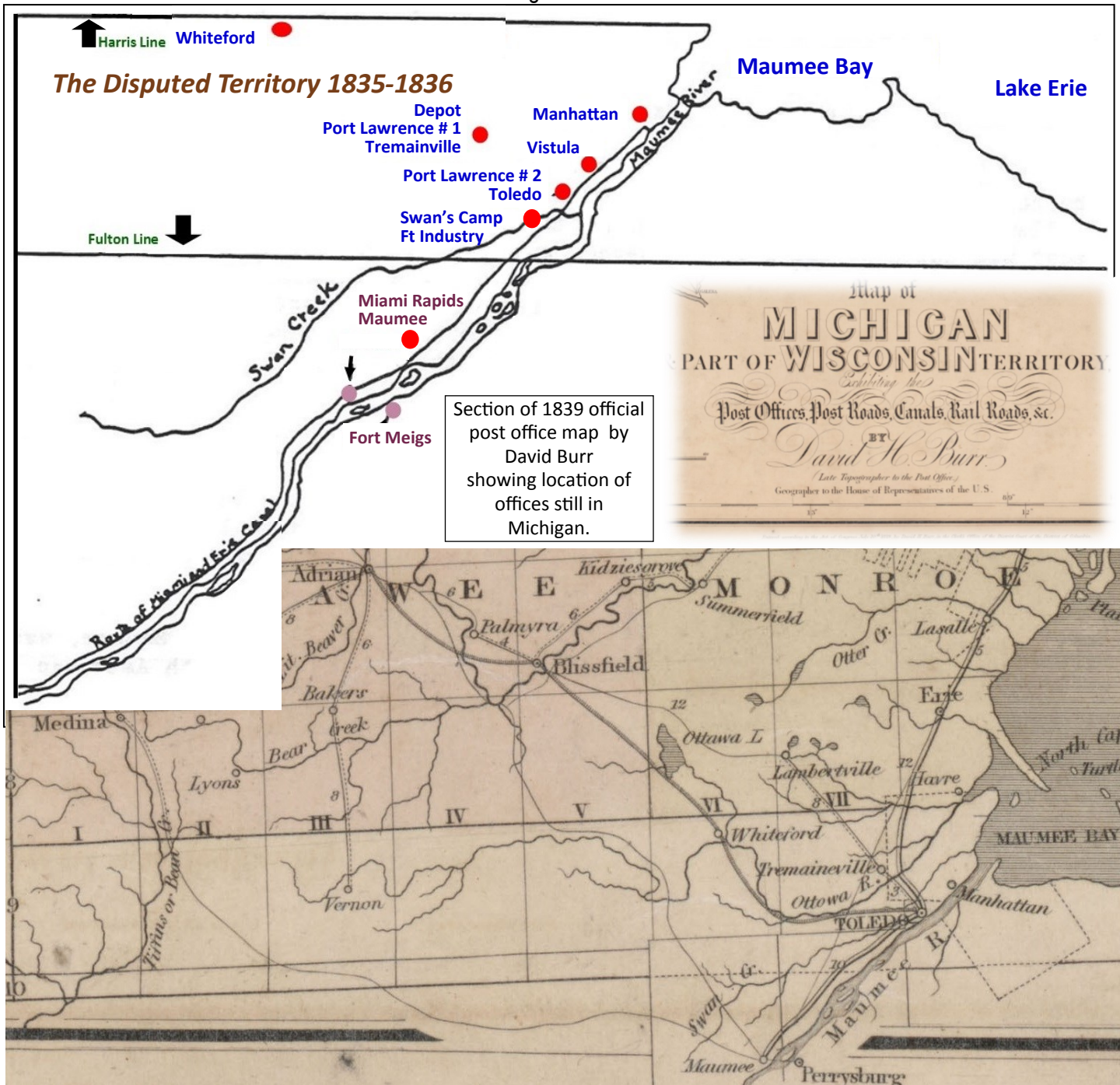


THE TOLEDO STRIP

Illustrated below is the most important part of some 468 square miles once known as the "Toledo Strip".

Unhealthy and underdeveloped, because of the *Great Black Swamp*,^(see Appendix IX) in 1835-36, the land was contended for by Ohio and Michigan Territory. No lives were lost in the battle over the "Strip" but a Michigan deputy sheriff was stabbed in the thigh and an Ohioan suffered grievous damage to his onion patch. Ohio won the Strip while Michigan gained the priceless Upper Peninsula. Few residents of either state are aware today that post offices of the Toledo Strip were once part of a great controversy. *The Great Black Swamp was the biggest reason Ohio paid little attention to the "Toledo Strip" and why Michigan was able exert its influence on the area. The Great Black Swamp also affected postal routes. During extremely wet times of the year, mail service had to be routed around the swamp. As early rates were calculated by mileage, an impassible swamp made it more expensive to mail a letter.*

Figure 2



THE FRENCH IN THE MAUMEE VALLEY

Retreating glaciation left many marks on the land, encouraging exploration while denying settlement. Lake Erie provided both Indian and fur trader/explorer with cheap, rapid transportation to the western frontier and the Maumee Valley. When they arrived, the Black Swamp of northwestern Ohio and northern Indiana discouraged immigration, defied settlement, and gave the valley a lasting reputation as an unhealthy place to live and work. Stretching some 120 miles east to west from Perrysburg to Defiance, continuing to northwestern Indiana, and varying from 20 to 40 miles in width, the swamp discouraged all but the most stouthearted and determined. Thus, the form of the Maumee Valley helped to dictate its history. Erie Indians skirted the swamp by crossing the Maumee River at the ford created by rapids twelve miles from its mouth. The French, who claimed sovereignty over the valley as early as 1610, established trading posts in the area. A fortified trading post was built by Louis de Frontenac, governor of Canada, in 1680 and was rebuilt in 1693. Jesuit missionaries sent letters via Indian couriers and French fur traders to French settlements in North America as well as to France. The Miami Indians, who lent a corrupted form of their name to the valley, used the same crossing at the rapids until they were supplanted in turn by the Ottawas.

Louis de Buade, Comte de Frontenac et de Palluau (22 May 1622 – 28 Nov 1698) was a French soldier, courtier, and Governor General of New France 1672 to 1682 and from 1689 to his death in 1698. He established a number of forts on the Great Lakes and engaged in a series of battles against the English and the Iroquois.
https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Louis_de_Buade_de_Frontenac



BRITAIN RULES THE VALLEY

Figure 3



The Treaty of Paris of 1763, ([https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Treaty_of_Paris_\(1763\)](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Treaty_of_Paris_(1763))) ended the French and Indian War, and French sovereignty in the Maumee Valley as well. The British replaced the fortified fur trading posts of the French with Fort Miami in 1764 and a cluster of homes grew up around the new fort. [https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Fort_Miami_\(Ohio\)](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Fort_Miami_(Ohio))

Opposite Fort Miami, on the south or Perrysburg side of the Maumee, was located McKee's trading post and scalp redemption center. British North American mail was sometimes collected and distributed from this place.

THE VALLEY IN DISPUTE

Ending of the War of American Revolution did not result in American control of the Maumee Valley, as Britain struggled to retain control of this area, stirring up the Indians as surrogate warriors for them. Only after General "Mad Anthony" Wayne defeated a coalition of tribes at the Battle of Fallen Timbers in 1794 did the British agree to withdraw, closing Fort Miami and other fortified areas in 1795.

One of the results of the Treaty of Greenville, 3 August 1795, was the cession by the Indians of a twelve-mile square from the rapids to the mouth of Swan Creek, as well as another cession, half as large, at the mouth of the Maumee. Both were eventually sold to speculators and opened the area to development.

https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Treaty_of_Greenville

Anthony Wayne (1 Jan 1745 – 15 Dec 1796) United States Army officer and statesman. Adopted military career at the outset of the American Revolutionary War, where his military exploits and fiery personality quickly earned him promotion to brigadier general and the nickname "Mad Anthony". He later served as Senior Officer of the Army on the Ohio Country frontier and led the Legion of the United States.
https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Anthony_Wayne



AMERICAN POSTAL SERVICE

Originally this section was a short paragraph of three sentences. However, it was the most difficult to update culminating three complete pages, three appendix pages, and several days of research. Text of the first printing was;

“Evacuation by the British left the Fort Miami area without postal service for the settlers, the nearest office being Detroit. American sovereignty seemingly established, the area was served by dispatch riders traveling between Detroit and Buffalo, who collected the mails. The first carrier was Horace Gunn, who began making trips from Fremont to the rapids, thence to Frenchtown (Monroe), on to Detroit, these round trips commencing in 1802.”

Unfortunately, much of what we know of early postal routes comes by word of mouth written down in memoirs many years removed from the original events. Not knowing if the route was an actual postal route and original sources makes the information hard to confirm.

*Alfred G. Boerger once wrote, on the Postal History of the Maumee Valley; **Frenchmen and missionaries arrived here about 1658. They were amazed to find a system of communication in use by the Indian Nations. History names this The Ottawa Trading System and covered an area from the Alleghanys to Lake Michigan and northward from The Ohio River. The Indian runner and his canoe serviced the area between their villages. Mailmen of the period consisted chiefly of Missionaries. He traveled to the villages and camps bringing The Word of God and the little messages from home. Few settlers were able to read or write and depended on him for these letters.***

NEW FRANCE as this country was then called, improved the Indian Communications system. Indians were encouraged by the missionaries to assist, being paid in supplies for their services. The route terminated at Quebec. Later a southern route came into being going to New Orleans, via the Maumee passing through a Mission-Portage Station called Ft. Loramie in western-central Ohio.

*The **BRITISH-CANADIAN Mail entered the valley more securely during the early days of our American Revolution. Col. Alexander McKee left the friendship of General Washington and moved here to build a large store and residence on the south bank of the river opposite Ft. Miami. He received an appointment as the British Indian Agent and located several out-posts: one on Turtle Island in the mouth of the Maumee river and another at Swan's Camp (Ft. Industry) now Toledo.***

STEAM BOAT MAIL came to the Great Lakes about this time with the Captain receiving 2c for each letter delivered according to government regulations.

Father Burke S.J., arrived here in 1790 and wrote very interesting letters from this early mission in Toledo. No mention of his Mission Station can be found in Toledo Historical Records, but the letters prove the facts mentioned.

According to Nevin Winter's "History of Northwest Ohio" page 202, the first letter on record written from Toledo (Swan's Camp) located at Monroe & Summit Streets, was a letter written by Father Edmund Burke dated 2 Feb 1796. This letter fixes the location of Fr. Burke's residence as being at Swan's Camp. Here French, British whites and friendly Canadians settled after the Battle of Fallen Timbers. (Complete text of the 1796 letter and a short biography on Al Boerger can be found in Appendix X)

Anthony Wayne eventually burned this village and shortly afterwards Fort Industry was established.

Detroit's post office, being established 7 September 1802 could have been receiving mail late that year; however, Fremont was not established until 20 August 1806 and Buffalo until 3 September 1804. (Dates are from the USPS website <https://about.usps.com/who-we-are/postmasterfinder/welcome.htm>)

According to History of Detroit and Wayne County and Early Michigan by Silas Farmer, Chapter 82 page 879, (see appendix III) a Detroit-Cincinnati route was operational on March 3, 1801. As early as October 1, 1802, the route was extended to Washington D.C. via Marietta. First post office contractor was Matthew Lyon operating Detroit to Cincinnati in early 1803. While this version is in a book written ninety years after the fact it is confirmed by official documents in "The Territorial Papers of the United States" volume 7. As this source states "post office contractor" and first is only listed as a "dispatch rider" both statements could be accurate.

Another version, according to EARLY OHIO POSTAL ROUTES BY WILLIAM D.

OVERMAN (see appendix V - VI, for complete text) Regular United States mail service followed closely upon the heels of organized government in Northwest Territory. The Ohio country business had increased to the point that it was necessary for the rider to lead an extra horse as early as 1796..... proposed that a route be established in December 1802 from Cincinnati to Detroit.... Although some mail went through to Detroit, as they had a post office established in 1803, regular service did not begin until 1805 when a route was established via Pittsburgh, Warren (Ohio), Cleveland, and thence to Sandusky and Detroit..... In 1810, all existing post routes were discontinued and a whole new system was provided. .

There is still a lot of room for speculation. Continued to page 6



AMERICAN POSTAL SERVICE *continued from page 5*

As part of that system, northwest Ohio was on route 11. That route covered Greensburg or Beavertown, Pennsylvania, by N. Lisbon, Deerfield, Ravenna, Hudson, Cleveland, Huron, Perkins, Paterson, and Sandusky to Ft. Miami (near present city of Toledo) Even this article with all its reference notes leaves room for question;

- Lists Detroit established 1803. Post office records list Frederick Bates appointed Postmaster 7 September 1802.
- Mentions a Detroit-Cincinnati was purposed in 1802 and some mail went through, but not indicated on 1803 map above that accompanied article.
- The map is marked 1803, however it shows a stop in Cleveland. USPS Postmaster Finder list Amos Spafford as PM, with no assignment date, referring to an 24 October 1804 letter from Postmaster General Gideon Granger to Pittsburgh PM referring to Spafford as PM at Cleveland. Post Offices of Ohio by Gallagher and Pater list 1 April 1805 as Cleveland beginning operation. 1 April 1805, is, according to Postal service website, date of first financial report filed by Postmaster Elisha Norton. It is not actual starting date. This is well after the 1803 map date. Cleveland was founded 22 July 1796.

“The Territorial Papers of the United States” is a multi volume set dealing with many US territories. Volumes two and three deal with Ohio and seven deals with Michigan. A search of the Ohio volumes revealed no mention of postal routes north of Chillicothe. In conclusion, with establishment of Pittsburgh’s post office on 7 July 1788, Warren, Ohio’s post office on 24 October 1801, and Cleveland existing as a settlement with tavern owned by Amos Spafford (who was a township trustee and could have collected mail at his tavern for pickup by a route rider) late 1802 service was possible but by route shown on map not by way of Buffalo unless Horace Gunn was just a dispatch rider and not a mail contractor

<p style="text-align: center;">Amos Spafford</p> <p style="text-align: center;">(11 April 1753 – 5 August 1816)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">◆ 1796 Surveyor for Connecticut land Company sent to survey Connecticut’s Western Reserve◆ Helped plot Cleveland◆ Drew 1st map of Cleveland◆ 1802 Township Trustee and opened a tavern.◆ 1803 Township Chairman◆ 1810 Appointed “Collector of the Port of Miami” and (Mouth of Maumee) and postmaster at Ft. Miami.◆ 1812 Served in War of 1812◆ 1816 Plated - named Perrysburg <p style="text-align: center;">https://ohiohistorycentral.org/w/Amos_Spafford</p>
--

Fort Industry was located in the area that was to become Toledo where Swan Creek merges into the Maumee River. Establishment of the fort, depending on the source, was between 1794 and 1800 and it apparently was more of a supply depot than a fort. Had it not been for the “Treaty of Fort Industry” in 1805 its existence might not even be remembered. A meeting was scheduled for 4 July 1805 with representatives of several Native American Tribes, The Connecticut Land Company, and the U.S. Government. Most likely because of correspondence generated by the meeting, a post office was established at the fort 25 June 1805. w Isaac Mills, secretary of the land company, was named temporary

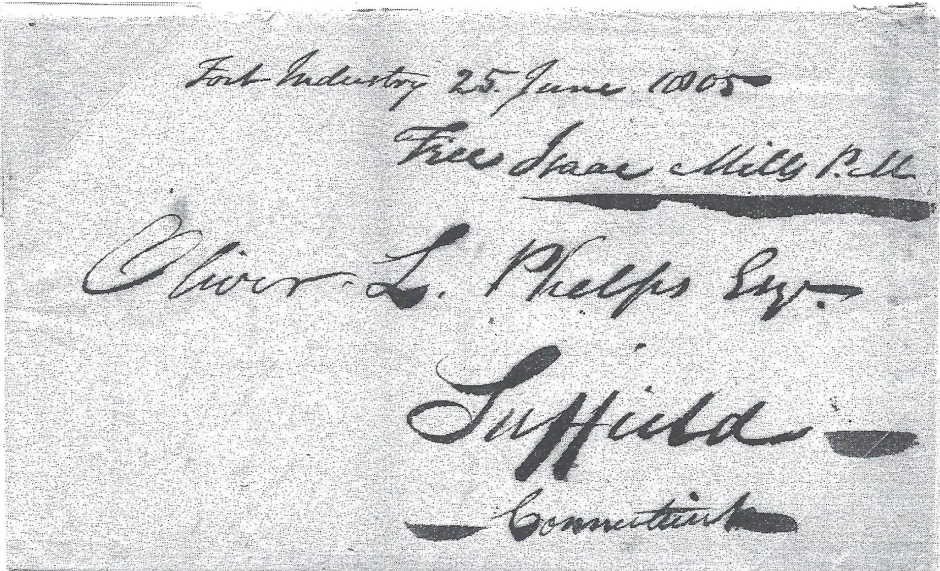


Figure 5

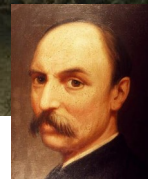
postmaster. The fort was abandoned soon after the 4 July 1805 Treaty three decades prior to the Toledo Strip controversy which played no part in the dispute. Pictured is the only know cover from this office. It was lot # 304 in the May 2006 Matthew Bennett auction of the Richard Parker collection. This cover is highlighted on page 43 of “Ohio Development & Postal History”, a 2014 publication of the Ohio Postal History Society. Cover was purchased by the Toledo Lucas County Public Library and is currently in their collection. *continued to page 7*

AMERICAN POSTAL SERVICE continued from page 6

William Henry Machen (10 February 1832 – 19 June 1911), painter-teacher was born Arnhem, Holland. In 1847 William, his mother, father, four brothers, and two sisters sailed to America. Two sisters died en route being buried at sea. Arrived New York in September making their way to Cleveland, where they wintered. William and his father traveled to Toledo in February 1848 to inspect a 100-acre farm. They purchased the land and family settled in Toledo. The farm setting gave William ample subjects for his paintings of landscapes, game birds, animals, rivers and streams. He also painted portraits, religious subjects, still life,



Painting of Fort Industry by William Henry Machen in the AMERICAN GALLERY



Treaty of Fort Industry signed on July 4, 1805. Representatives of Wyandot (Huron), Ottawa, Objibwe (Chippewa), Lenape (Delaware), Potawatomi, Munsee, and Shawnee relinquished one-half million acres south of Lake Erie and west of Cuyahoga River in northeastern Ohio which was part of the Connecticut Western Reserve.

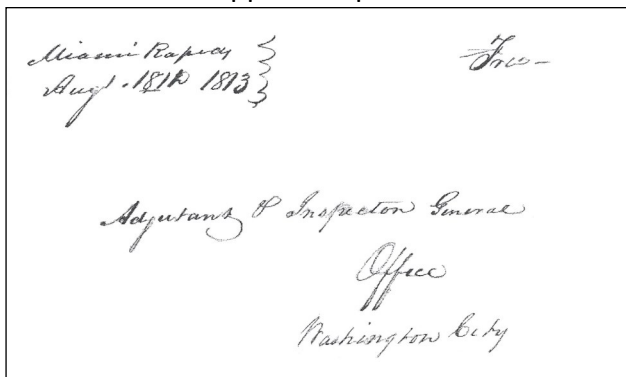
U.S. government agreed to payments of one thousand dollars each year to Wyandot, Munsee, Lenape, Shawnee nations. Ottawa, Objibwe (Chippewa). Potawatomi groups living along the Huron River received four thousand dollars and six yearly payments of two thousand dollars. The tribes kept the right to hunt and fish on the land. Tarhe, Blue Jacket, and Black Hoof were among signers of the Treaty of Fort Industry.

https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Treaty_of_Fort_Industry

and local scenery. 1861 William married Mary Ann Short. They had six sons and three daughters, the oldest becoming an Assistant Postmaster General. He exhibited his art at the Pennsylvania Academy, 1876 Centennial Exposition in Philadelphia, and Detroit Museum of Art. Accomplished as a musician and composer, he served as organist - choir director for St. Francis de Sales church in Toledo. He was a naturalist, fluent in six languages, and frequently served as an interpreter. In 1882, he moved to Detroit, and taught art at Detroit College. Moved to Washington, D.C. in 1894 and continued painting. Died in 1911 at age 79 and is buried in Calvary Cemetery in Toledo. Completing more than 2700 oil paintings, watercolors, drawings, and sketches he maintained a single register of his works which is preserved in the Archives of American Art at the Smithsonian Institution.

https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/William_H._Machen

1 January 1807 saw the opening of the first American post office in the present-day Lucas County. Physically located near current day Maumee, Ohio, this office was not in the "Strip" area and played no part in dispute. Lewis Bond was appointed postmaster at Miami Rapids, (or Miami), as well as customs collector of the Erie District. This office was closed during the War of 1812. The settlers fled incursion of the British into the valley. Pictured is a 18 August 1813 letter from Capt. John A. Rogers of the 24th Regiment at Ft Meigs to Adjutant and Inspector General's Office in Washington City. The cover bears "Free" frank as it was government business. Since the letter was a resignation request, it was delivered across the river to Miami Rapids Office to hide the request from the men in his command as Ft. Meigs mail was carried by military courier until 1814. In 1810 Amos Spafford became postmaster.



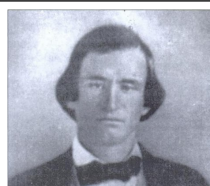
18 August 1813 letter from Capt. John A. Rogers of the 24th Regiment at Ft Meigs to Adjutant and Inspector General's Office in Washington City. The cover bears "Free" frank as it was government business. Since the letter was a resignation request, it was delivered across the river to Miami Rapids Office to hide the request from the men in his command as Ft. Meigs mail was carried by military courier until 1814. In 1810 Amos Spafford became postmaster.

Miami Rapids was replaced on 9 May 1814 by Fort Meigs under Almon Gibbs postmaster. Fort Meigs became Maumee on 4 March 1824. A new carrier, Benoni Adams, took over the post route in 1809, adding a stop on "Military Road" where Detroit & Collingwood Ave. intersected. The location which became Depot, Port Lawrence #1, and Tremainville, all Michigan Territory post offices. Round trip took two weeks.

15 March 1814 letter shown is from Gibbs to his father in New York less than two months prior to establishment of Ft Meigs office while he was still postmaster at the fort.



Figure 7



Lt. Almon Gibbs quartermaster and postmaster at Ft Meigs during War of 1812. 9 May 1814 appointed postmaster with office named Fort Meigs. In 1816 Gibbs quit army, crossed to the other side of the river, and went into trade, taking the post office to Waynefield" (now Maumee).

March 1817, formed Northern Light Lodge No. 40 "at Waynesfield (Maumee)

OPENING OF THE VALLEY

Perry's victory in the Battle of Lake Erie and American incursions into Canada finally settled the issue of sovereignty in the Maumee Valley. Conclusion of the war in 1815 finally opened the valley to serious settlement, notwithstanding reluctance to undergo rigors of the Black Swamp. 1817 witnessed the auctioning of the twelve-miles square of cession land, including the mouth of Swan Creek. A Cincinnati Company, whose principals were Micajah T. Williams, William Oliver, and Martin Baum, resold the land the same year, the largest purchaser of lots being Benjamin Franklin Stickney, who foresaw the growth of a large city there. The company went bankrupt and the University of Michigan acquired the land. Shortly after it was sold once again, B.F. Stickney being a large purchaser. No improvements were made by Port Lawrence Company in the paper city until 1832.

DEPOT, & PORT LAWRENCE #1 MICHIGAN TERRITORY

Three miles west, down a dirt trail from the Stickney farm on the river, was a new trading post on the Ottawa River, begun in October, 1823. Located at the intersection of Old Territorial Road (Collingwood Avenue) and U.S. Reserve Turnpike (Detroit Ave.), it was a good location for a post office. Depot, Michigan Territory, office was duly established on 1 December 1823 with Stickney as postmaster. In all likelihood, letters posted at this office received manuscript markings, however; no examples have been found to confirm this hypothesis.

Depot underwent a name change, becoming Port Lawrence, M.T. on 7 October 1825, again under Stickney. This name was retained until 6 January 1834 when the office became Tremainville, M.T. All letters posted at this office were given manuscript postmarks.

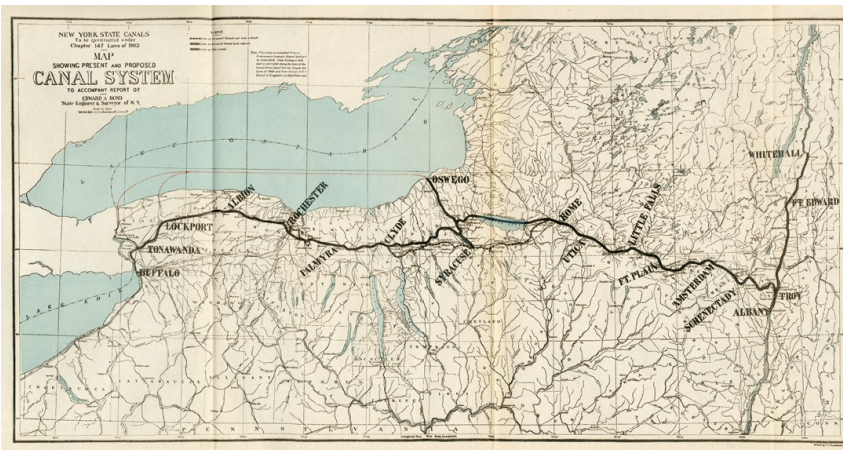
According to Sanford Collins in a letter to H.S. Knapp recorded on Pg 619 History of the Maumee Valley, 1873: for a period in 1832-1833 this office was called "The Ten Mile Creek Office"- though no official record of the that name can be found.

Benjamin Franklin Stickney (1 Apr 1773 - 7 Jan 1852), a direct descendant of Benjamin Franklin, came to the Maumee Valley in 1812, from New Hampshire. He was Indian agent at Ft. Wayne, a politician and judge by profession, and early proponent of canal system. He actively participated in events that brought about and then resolved "Michigan War". Stickney was a major landowner in the area and his foresight, vision and judgement contributed to positive development of Ohio, Michigan, and entire Northwest Territory. **Benjamin Franklin Stickney and the Maumee Valley**, by Kenneth R. Dickson, zkdat Publishing Inc. provides tremendous insight into the area's development.

COMING OF THE CANALS

If there was any single event that was most newsworthy in 1825, that event was the October 26 opening of the Erie Canal, linking the New York grain market with Lake Erie. The tremendous success of this canal spurred the state of Ohio to push for additional canals linking the farmlands of Ohio and Indiana with the Erie Canal to the east and Cincinnati to the south. Within three years, the U.S. Congress approved the Wabash & Erie Canal, linking Lafayette, Indiana with Lake Erie via the Maumee River, and the Miami & Erie Canal, linking Cincinnati and Dayton to Lake Erie via the Maumee River. Speculators became interested in the Maumee Valley and the location of Ohio's northern boundary became more than a topic of conversation.

Figure 8



Specifications	
Length	363 miles
Locks	36
Maximum height above sea level	571 ft
Status	open
Construction Began	July 4, 1817 (at Rome, New York)
First Use Completed	May 17, 1821
Date restored	October 26, 1825
Start point	September 3, 1999
End point	Hudson River
Branch(es)	Niagara River
Connects to	Oswego Canal, Cayuga
	-Seneca Canal
	Champlain Canal, Welland Canal

THE BOUNDARY QUESTION

When Ohio was carved out of the Northwest Territory in 1803 (see appendix page III) as the first state created as a result of the Northwest Ordinance of 1787, (see appendix pages I & II) the Ordinance Line was selected as the northern boundary. This followed a straight line from southern tip of Lake Michigan, as shown on many contemporary maps, to the north cape of the Maumee River, giving Ohio a hefty chunk of the south shore of Lake Erie. Suspecting that the maps might be in error, which they were, the Ohio legislature added an important proviso. (see appendix page IV & VII) Should the line be found to be south of the Maumee River mouth, with consent of Congress the line was to be redrawn north of the mouth of the river. Two years later, in 1805, Michigan Territory was created with the Ordinance Line serving as the southern boundary of the new Territory. The seeds of future discord had been sown.

As early as 1812 the postmaster at Miami Rapids, Almon Gibbs, wrote to Ohio Governor Return Jonathon Meigs at Zanesville on behalf of the people in his settlement. He requested relief from attempts on the part of Michigan Territory to enforce their laws in his community.

The War of 1812 prevented a survey of the border for several years. The admission of Indiana to the Union in 1816 with a northern boundary some ten miles north of the Ordinance Line further provoked Michigan into another request for a survey.

Edward Tiffin:

(19 Jun 1766 – 9 Aug 1829) was a Democratic-Republican politician from Ohio, and first Governor of the state. No man who has occupied the gubernatorial chair of Ohio has possessed a greater genius for the administration of public affairs than Edward Tiffin, https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Edward_Tiffin

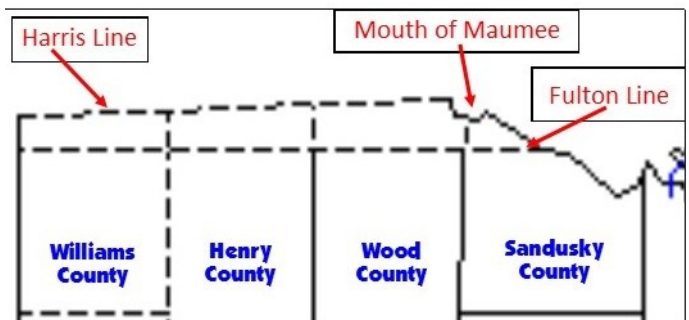


Surveyor General Edward Tiffin, who had been the first Governor of Ohio, commissioned William Harris to rerun the line. Armed with a copy of the Ohio Constitution of 1802, Harris drew a line favoring Ohio's claim. The disputed territory, totaling some 468 square miles, would place mouth of the Maumee in Ohio.

Michigan's dissatisfaction with Harris survey caused President James Monroe to order a new survey, appointing John A. Fulton to the task. Fulton's survey established the Ordinance Line a few

miles south of the Maumee, cutting off Ohio from the river and parts of the south shore of Lake Erie. There the matter stood for a few years, with the Harris Line conforming with Ohio Constitution of 1802 and Fulton Line in agreement with the Northwest Ordinance. The Difference between them was relatively unimportant until Ohio made plans for the Miami & Erie Canal, which would need a northern terminus at the Maumee, in Ohio.

Figure 9



STICKNEY MAKES HIS MOVE

The coming of the canal, with a concomitant increase in the value of the land at the terminus of the same, made an immediate convert of B.F. Stickney, who would not lose his heavy investment in land to considerations of Michigan sovereignty.

Despairing of ever seeing the Port Lawrence Co. proceed with development of the paper city of Port Lawrence (on the river), Stickney divested himself of his interests in Port Lawrence in 1831 and contracted with an immigrant from New York, Giles Bryan Slocum, to begin improvements to Stickney's holdings adjacent to Port Lawrence, plotted and sold as Village of Vistula. Slocum commenced work in January of 1832, building a dock on the Maumee River ice and clearing trees from the town site. Eastern money began to flow into the area and Port Lawrence and Vistula developed rapidly, competing with Maumee and one another for the prize of the canal.



1833 brought more settlement and a decision by the proprietors of Port Lawrence and Vistula to merge their interests, creating the single village of Toledo from the two adjoining communities. The woods between them were removed and the new village redoubled its efforts to get the canal and remain in wealthy Ohio.

Meanwhile, Michigan wanted statehood but couldn't get it because of unresolved question of its southern boundary. Michigan interests had invested in the disputed strip and stood to lose much if Ohio won out. Letters from government authorities and commercial interests in both Ohio and Michigan persuaded



Robert E. Lee: Age 31 in 1838, as a Lieutenant of Engineers U.S. Army
https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Robert_E._Lee

Congress to authorize a third survey of the Ordinance Line to be finished by the end of 1835, the survey actually being made by Lieutenants Robert E. Lee and Washington Hood, both then young officers in the U.S. Army. The survey was completed ahead of schedule in June, 1834, and differed very little from the Fulton Line, thus supporting Michigan's claim.

THE DISPUTE HEATS UP

Michigan got a new Acting Governor in 1834 when George Porter died of cholera Stevens Mason, a fiery young man of 23, urged territorial legislature to solve boundary problem in Michigan's favor. When Michigan's neighbors refused to negotiate the boundary, Mason urged legislature to proceed with statehood without waiting for Congress to act. A constitutional convention was called for the second Monday in May, 1835.

A public meeting held in Toledo in November of 1834 resulted in a petition being signed and forwarded to Governor Lucas. The Ohio legislature responded by formally claiming "Strip" for Ohio.

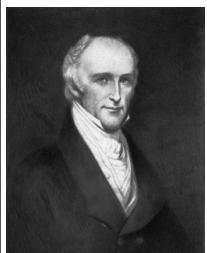
In retaliation against Ohio for extending jurisdiction over the Strip, the Michigan territorial legislature passed the Pains and Penalties Act of 12 February 1835, providing fines to a thousand dollars and imprisonment at hard labor up to five years for any persons in the disputed territory who might attempt to act as Ohio officials within the Strip. Backing words with action was the appointment of Joseph Brown, commanding general of the Third United States Brigade, to enforce the law.

Ohio reaffirmed the Harris Line as its northern boundary and commissioned another re-running of the Line. In the meantime both governors appealed their case in letters to President Jackson, who appointed a commission to arbitrate the disagreement.

Michigan held elections for township offices in the Strip on 1 April 1835, Ohio following with elections on April 6. On April 8 the Monroe County Sheriff and posse arrived in Toledo, arresting violators of the Pains and Penalties Act.

Richard Rush:

(29 August 1780 – 30 July 1859) 8th U.S. Attorney General and 8th US Secretary of the Treasury. John Quincy Adams's running mate on National Republican ticket in 1828.



Commissioner for President Jackson who helped to present a compromise

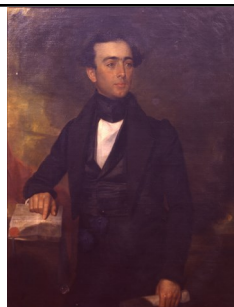
to both governors.

https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Richard_Rush

Commissioners appointed by President Jackson saw the danger posed by these events and recommended that Ohio be allowed to continue re-running the Harris Line and the Strip residents to decide for themselves for the time being whether they considered themselves to be in Ohio or Michigan. Congress was to resolve the dispute and Michigan was not to enforce the Pains and Penalties Act. Sadly, Governor Mason refused to abide by the recommendations.

Stevens Thomson Mason

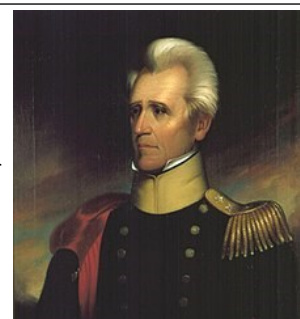
(27 Oct 1811 – 4 Jan 1843) was territorial governor of Michigan Territory, and later governor of Michigan. Mason guided the Michigan Territory into statehood. Was first appointed acting Territorial Secretary 19, then acting Territorial Governor in 1834 22. Elected governor of the State of Michigan at age 24 in 1835, and served until 1840. Mason is the youngest state governor in American history.
https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Stevens_T._Mason



Andrew Jackson:

(15 Mar 1767 – 8 June 1845) was an American soldier, and statesman who served as seventh president of the United States 1829 to 1837.

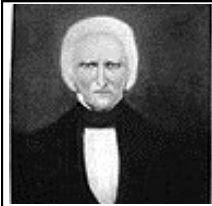
Portrait by Ralph E. W. Earl, c. 1837



https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Andrew_Jackson

VIOLENCE AND POLITICAL MANEUVERING

On 26 April 1835 the first shots were fired when the Lenawee County, Michigan, sheriff and a posse ran off the Ohio surveyors and arrested nine of the party. Ohio militia invaded the Strip the next day, retiring quickly to Ohio.



Lucas born 1781 in Shepherdstown, a small community along Potomac River in Virginia (now located in far eastern West Virginia). Lucas was an ardent Democrat. Perhaps highlight of his career was to serve as the chairman and president of the 1832 Democratic

National convention, the Democratic Party's first national convention. Lucas was also nominated the Democratic candidate for governor in 1832, and won after a vitriolic campaign. Lucas County was established and named for the governor during his second term, in defiance of the Michigan Territory, which also claimed the land around the mouth of the Maumee River - thus provoking the almost bloodless Toledo War.

June brought further action, as Ohio's legislature passed a law providing for three to seven years imprisonment at hard labor for anyone abducting Ohioans. It also created Lucas County, named for the governor. Toledo was county seat. Cash was appropriated to put these laws into effect and the Court of Common Pleas was directed to hold a session in Toledo on the first Monday in September. Lucas backed up his actions by sending a delegation to visit President Jackson and to persuade him of the justice of Ohio's cause.

July saw the stabbing of the Monroe County deputy sheriff by B.F. Stickney's second son, Two Stickney, (pictured right) and the arrest



of several citizens, including B.F. Stickney, who was hauled off to Monroe County jail. On July 18 Michigan was denied extradition of Two Stickney. Mason of Michigan ignored President Jackson's recommendations and incurred his anger. On August 25 he called up militia and on 29 August he was dismissed by Jackson as Acting Governor.

Courtesy of the Toledo-Lucas County Public Library, obtained from <http://images2.toledolibrary.org/>.

MICHIGAN LOSES AT WASHINGTON

September 7 brought the common pleas court of Ohio to Lucas County, twenty-one armed Ohio men held court at 3 a.m. in an old schoolhouse. Mason's men, arriving hours late, found no Ohio soldiers, returned to north without a fight.

Mason was elected governor of Michigan in the fall, with two senators and a representative elected as well. In Washington for the next session of Congress, they were refused seating. They reported to Michigan that statehood rested on resolution of the boundary question.



1st Lucas County court hearing held in this schoolhouse. Used as courthouse only 7 September 1835 for Ohio to claim territory during Toledo War.

Courtesy of the Toledo-Lucas County Public Library, obtained from <http://images2.toledolibrary.org/>.

Compromise would have to be reached.

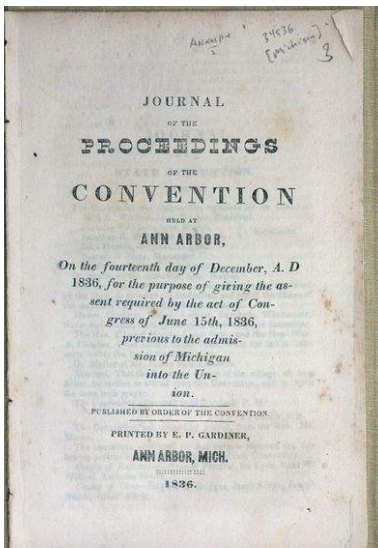
BOUNDARY ISSUE RESOLVED

On 15 June 1836 Congress enacted legislation admitting Michigan to Union as soon as it agreed to take *western two thirds of* Upper Peninsula of Wisconsin Territory in exchange for Toledo Strip. Michigan was to hold a convention of assent to indicate her acceptance. A huge victory celebration was held in Toledo on receipt of news, while Mason and Michigan sulked.

Michigan's September convention voted down the congressional compromise. A second convention met 14 December 1836. Legislators voted for compromise and Michigan was admitted to the Union on 26 January 1837, (see appendix page VIII)

Journal of 1836 proceedings "Michigan Territorial Convention" often called "Frostbitten Convention" as Michigan needed to accept terms dictated by Ohio in ceding "Toledo Strip"

ending the war and Michigan's sovereignty claim over Toledo Strip.



SUMMARY

Geography has both favored and hindered development of the Maumee Valley. Known and used for hundreds of years, the real impetus for development grew out of the canal era, which fostered speculation in land. Long regarded by both Ohio and Michigan Territory as relatively unimportant, the coming of the canals made the "Toledo Strip" a bone of contention in a virtually bloodless contest in which Michigan was fatally handicapped by its territorial status.

Of primary interest to postal historians is the confusion which existed with respect to the effective dates of changeover from Michigan Territory to Ohio jurisdiction among the five post offices which were operating within the "Strip" during the period from 9 January 1835 when the Toledo office opened, until Michigan obtained statehood on 26 January 1837, and possibly beyond.

We have taken a brief and somewhat perfunctory look at the history of the Maumee Valley, with emphasis on the area encompassing the "Strip". We need to examine more closely the history and the interesting postal markings of the contested post offices within the "Strip"



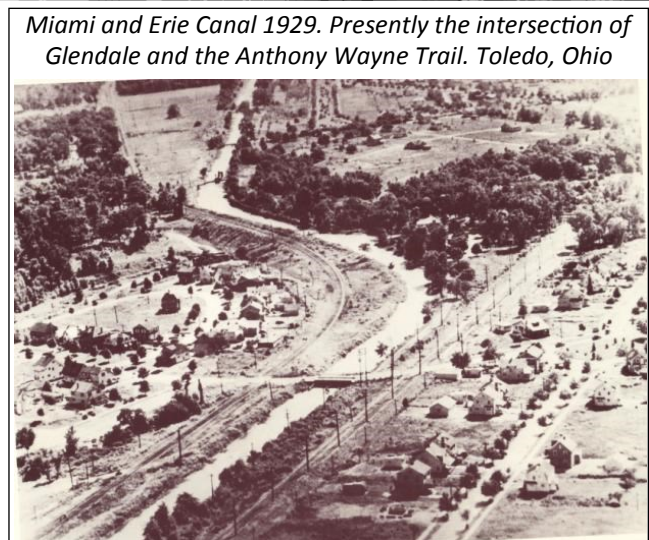
The Miami and Erie Canal ran about 274 miles (441 km) from Toledo to Cincinnati and created a water route from Lake Erie to the Ohio River. Construction on the canal began in 1825 and was completed in 1845 at a cost to the state government of just over \$8 million. The usage of the canal gradually declined during the late 19th century due to competition from railroads and was permanently abandoned for commercial use in 1913 after a historic flood severely damaged it. Only a small fraction of the canal remains today along with its towpath and locks.

According to "Annual Report of the Secretary of War 1896", from 1843 - 1855 gross receipts from canal were \$3,409,392 and revenue to state of \$1,347,062.71. Use of water from canal for milling and other private privileges created substantial revenue as in chart. Toledo's revenue of three and a quarter million water power makes it clear why competition was so fierce for the terminus of the canal.



Figure 11

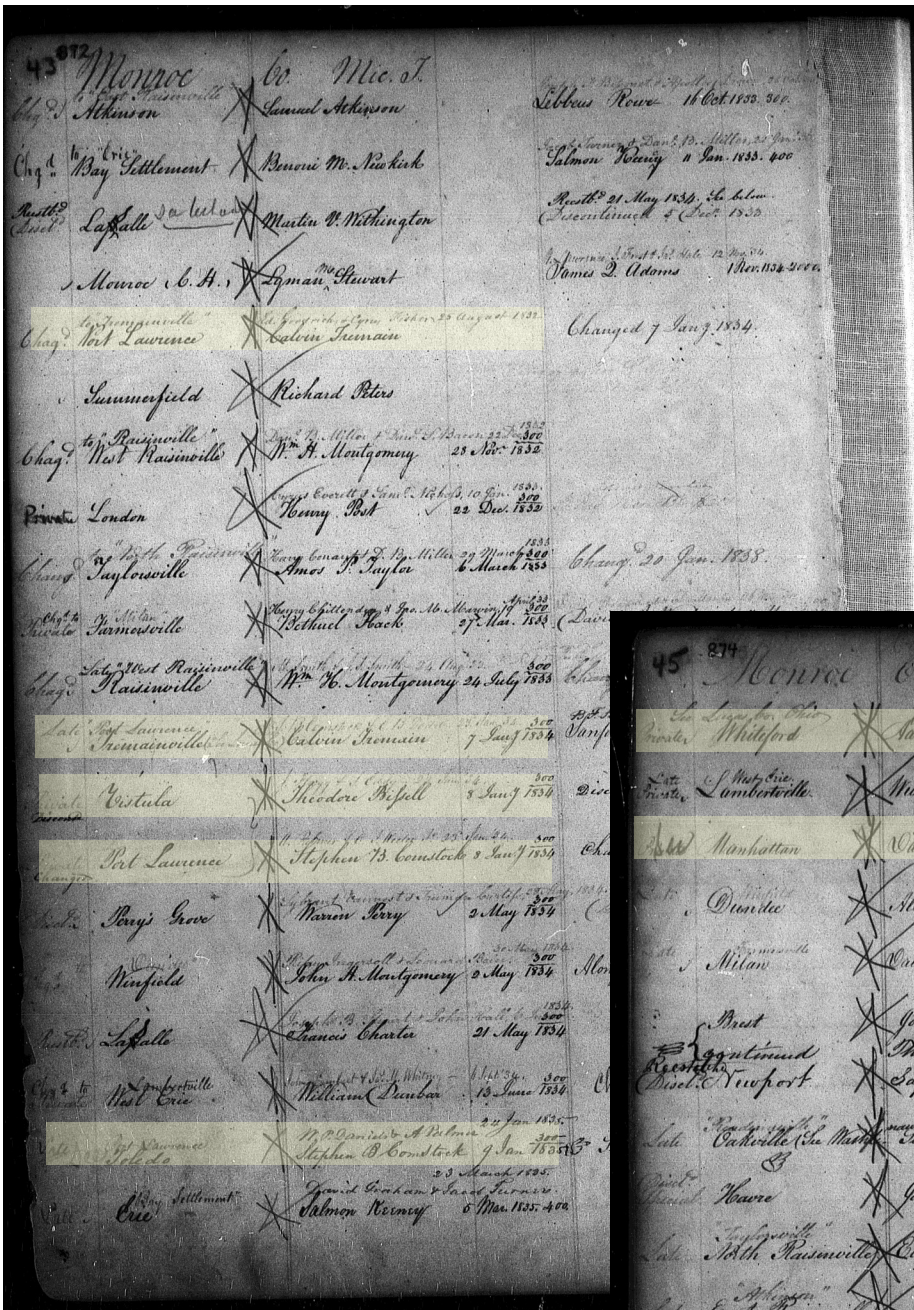
Collector's office.	Pipe permits.		Water powers.		Land leases.		Ice privileges.		Total.
	No.	Aggregate rental.	No.	Aggregate rental.	No.	Aggregate rental.	No.	Aggregate rental.	
Toledo	10	225.00	10	3,245.00	7	67.00	.....	.....	3,537.00
Napoleon	3	45.00	9	2,065.00	3	30.00	.....	.....	2,140.00
Defiance	8	132.00	2	300.00	7	137.00	1	25.00	594.00
Delphos	18	275.00	3	975.00	.....	.....	.....	.....	1,250.00
St. Marys	48	1,244.00	13	2,537.00	82	6,999.76	.....	.....	10,880.76
Piqua	8	175.00	9	3,495.00	12	367.00	.....	.....	4,037.00
Dayton	10	370.00	7	2,675.00	9	1,330.00	1	200.00	4,575.00
Middletown	27	717.00	7	2,494.00	6	221.00	2	85.00	3,517.00
Lockland	7	145.00	.....	.....	1	36.00	.....	.....	181.00
Cincinnati	44	3,543.00	15	11,964.00	4	647.00	.....	.....	16,154.00



SECTION II

POST OFFICES OF THE TOLEDO STRIP

Figure 3



Pictured are copies of pages from the National Archives' "Record of Postmaster Appointments 1832 - 1971" for Monroe County, Michigan Territory.

Figures 3 and 4 show appointment of all "Toledo Strip" postmasters except Depot and Vernon. Depot was established prior to these records and Vernon is listed in Figure 5 a section of page from Lenawee County.

Figure 4

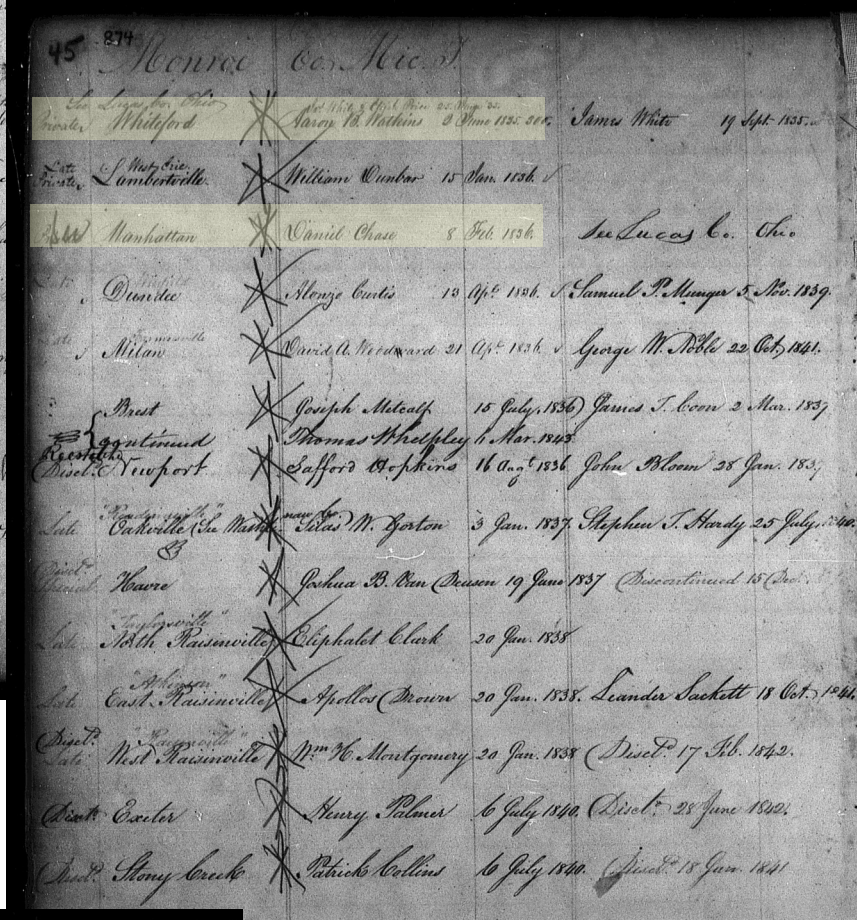
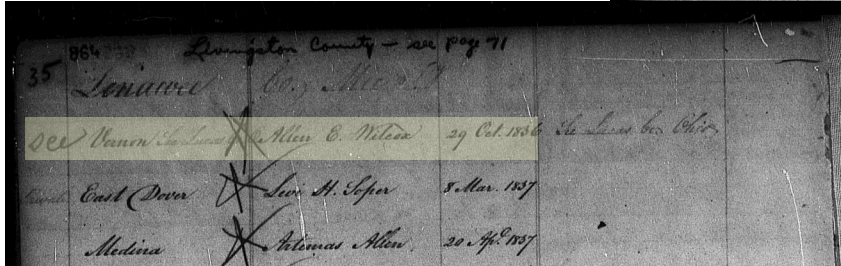


Figure 5



Depot, Michigan Territory

Depot was established on 1 December 1823 and discontinued as of 6 October 1825, in favor of Port Lawrence #1. Depot was located three miles north of the Maumee River on the Tremainville Pike. The postmaster was Benjamin Franklin Stickney. Depot does not figure in the controversy due to the time frame in which it existed. No markings exist from this office to date, although Michigan historical files need to be examined more closely for possible survivors. They will likely be manuscript markings, if they exist.

In his book, Benjamin Franklin Stickney and the Maumee Valley, Kenneth R. Dickson notes that several letters exist from Stickney to Lewis Cass, Michigan's Territorial governor from 1813 to 1831, written from Depot. These need to be located and examined for postal markings. On the next page is a copy of a letter sent from Stickney to Cass 13 September 1823 date lined "Depot". Transcription of the letter can be seen below.

September 13, 1823
letter from B.F.Stickney to Lewis Cass

Depot September 13 th 1823

Dear Sir

Presuming that you would approve of the course that has been pursued in relation to the payment of the Ottawa Annuity to those in the Sub-Agency, I have taken the ordinary receipts and through Mr. J. E. Hunt(?) Forwarded them to you.

In your absence Mr Woodbridge has written me that the money is ready at Detroit. And that it might be received upon the presentment of the Indians receipts. Unless, in the mean time, you should return and direct otherwise. He expressed a wish that I should be at Detroit, thereby, to avoid any embarrassment.

I am since informed by Mr. J. E. Hunt that you were to be at Detroit on the 8 th last. That he had left the duplicate receipts at your office, and that Col. Hunt had engaged to transport specie here, and that it should be delivered on the day that might be appointed.

The Indians having discovered much anxiety to have the money, and the traders move. I have informed the Indians that it will be early on the 20 th. And have so informed Col. Hunt. If it does not arrive as soon as the 16 th or 17 th, I must go in person. In conformity to your instruction I have employed an interpreter: as I have been busily engaged of ##### past upon the Ottawa language. Mr. Shane is the person. And, occasionally have employed a half breed women, as an assistant to S(hane). Who had a little grammatical education in English. A daughter of O### Shing, was one of your guides on your northern tour.

With the utmost respect your
 B. F. Stickney

Ex Lewis Cass



Figure 6

David Rumsey Historical Map Collection	
Authors:	Carey, H. C. Lea, I.
Date:	1822
Title:	Map Of Michigan Territory
Publisher:	H.C. Carey & I. Lea Philadelphia

Section of 1822 map of Michigan Territory shows the location of the Depot post office referred to as Lawrenceville.

148
Depot Sept^r 13th 1823

Dear Sir

Presuming that you would approve of the course that has been pursued in relation to the payment of the Ottawaing Annuity to those in this Sub Agency I have taken the ordinary receipts and through Mr V E Hunt forwarded them to you.

In your absence Mr Woodbridge has written me, that the money is ready at Detroit. And that it might be received upon the presentment of the Indians' receipts. Unless, in the mean time you should return, and direct otherwise. He expressed a wish, that I should be at Detroit, thereby to avoid any embarrassment.

I am now informed by Mr V E Hunt that you were to be at Detroit on the 9th inst. That he had left the duplicate receipt at your office, and that he

Copy of 13 September 1823 from Depot written by Stickney to Lewis Cass. Letter has been photoshopped at the date line to remove the background darkness from old copying methods. Image is also reduced 50%.

Image courtesy of Kenneth R. Dickson
Historical Consultant - Toledo, Ohio
Source of the original is unknown.

149 Hunt had engaged to transport the specie here, and that it should be delivered on the day that might be appointed.

The Indians having discovered much anxiety to have the money and the traders more. I have informed the Indians that it will be ready on the 20th. And have so informed Col Hunt. If it does not arrive as soon as the 16th or 17th I must go in person.

In conformity to your instructions I have employed an interpreter of ~~the Ottawaing language~~ ~~and been~~ ~~previously~~ ~~engaged~~ ~~in~~ ~~the~~ ~~past~~ upon the Ottawaing language. At present is the person ~~and~~ ~~originally~~ have employed a half bred man, as an assistant to S. White had a little grammatical education in English. A daughter of Old King, was one of your guides on your northern tour.

With the utmost respect

Yours
J. F. Stickney

to Lewis Cass

Port Lawrence #1, Michigan Territory

Continuing our chronological discussion of Strip post offices, the second office to be established was Port Lawrence #1, at Depot. This office was in service from 28 October 1825 to 6 January 1834, when the name was relinquished to a new post office on the Maumee River and this office became Tremainville. All markings from Port Lawrence #1 are in manuscript form, black or red ink. The following examples have been recorded, of which the first three are in the hands of collectors.

Chart on left is original 1984 inventory with the chart on the right being the 2020 inventory. During thirty-six years only one new cover has surfaced, the 6 March 1832 and date of May 1833 clarified. The highlights on left hand chart indicate known covers in September 1975 when an article on the Strip appeared in the American Philatelist. That 1975 inventory also indicates a 7 October 1833 cover known, which is now missing from later censuses .

Marking Date	Marking Color	State Marking	Location	Date	Year	Cancel Type	State Mark	Rate	Mark Color
12 January 1832	Black	Mic Ty.	Privately Owned	12-Jan	1832	MS	Mic Ty.	25	Black
30 May 1832	Black	Mic.	Privately Owned	6-Mar	1832	MS	Mic Ty.	25	Black
21 (?) May 1833	Black	M.T.	Privately Owned	30-May	1832	MS	Mic.	25	Black
17 October 1833	Red	M.T.	Privately Owned	27-May	1833	MS	MT.	25	Black
4 November 1833	Red	M.T.	Publically Owned	17-Oct	1833	MS	M.T.	10	Black
21 November 1833	Red	M.T.	Publically Owned	4-Nov	1833	MS	M.T.	18 3/4	Black
3 December 1833	Red	M.T.	Publically Owned	21-Nov	1833	MS	M.T.	Free	Red
12 December 1833	Red	M.T.	Publically Owned	3-Dec	1833	MS	M.T.	18 3/4	Red
3 January 1834	Red	M.T.	Publically Owned	12-Dec	1833	MS	M.T.	Free	Red
			Publically Owned	3-Jan	1834	MS	M.T.	37 1/2	?

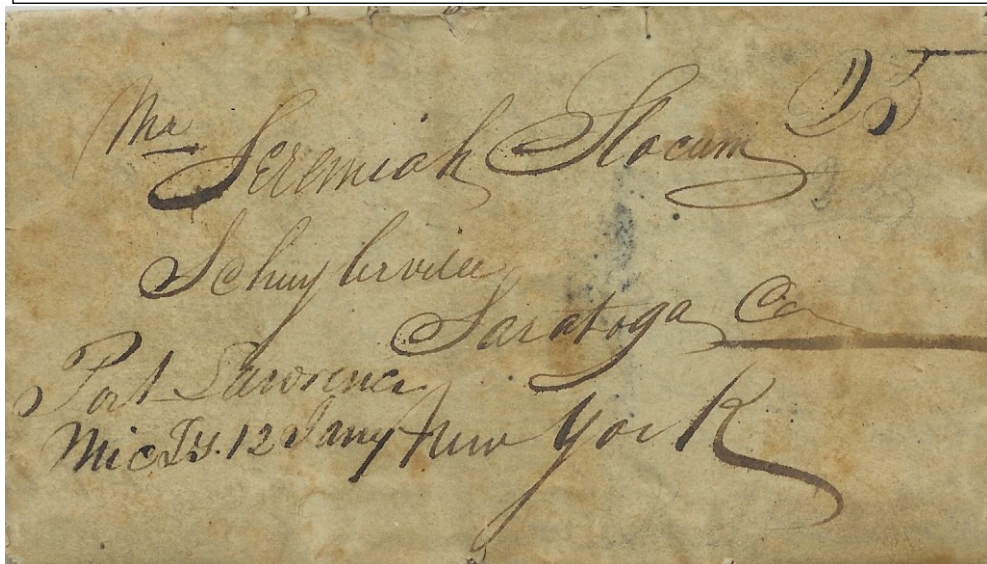
Thus, there are **ten** Port Lawrence #1 letters currently known to exist. Three are in Ohio archives or libraries, three are on deposit in libraries or archives in Michigan, and **four** are in the hands of collectors. No Ohio markings are known from this office and there seems to be no role for this office in the controversy which boiled during 1835-36. The first postmaster was the ubiquitous Stickney, town builder at Toledo. Scarcity of the markings of this post office, however, makes these letters highly desirable.

Figure P1-1

Port Lawrence #1 - 12 January 1832

Earliest posting from "Strip" known to exist. Written by *son of addressee*, who had just arrived in territory and employed by Lewis Godard of Detroit to sell his general goods and by Benjamin Franklin Stickney to clear his Vista property of trees and build a dock over the Maumee.

Ball Collection (Sold 6 June 2000) - Privately Owned



Addressee, **Jeremiah Slocum** :
 (2 Jun 1780 - 15 Feb, 1832)
 Born near Wilkes-Barre, PA and moved to NY when he was 3 years old. He was a farmer and lumberman in Saratoga County NY. He was the father of the writer.

Figure P1-2

Port Lawrence #1 - 6 March 1832

2nd earliest letter posted from the Strip known to exist.

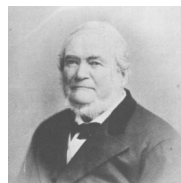
Written to Lyman Spalding who had business interests in the area.

Privately Owned



Lyman Austin Spalding:

28 Feb 1800-7 Jan 1885. Of Lockport, NY was successful entrepreneur. Bought surplus water rights along the Erie Canal, Spalding purchased land near the canal and built a flourmill powered by a raceway from the canal. Also had two sawmills making planking for ships and owned manufacturing company.



Route: Port Lawrence #1-Lower Sandusky-Cleveland-Lockport
Contractor: Portion #1451 Detroit-Lower Sandusky, J.P. Converse
Rate: Effective May 1, 1816

Figure P1-3

Port Lawrence #1 - 30 May 1832

This is the **third** of **four** letters from this post office known to be in private hands. Contents concern the value of Postmaster Cyrus Fisher's land, which was being offered for sale. Last known public appearance of this cover was 10 March 1990 when it was sold at auction, Richard C. Frajola, Inc. at the Garfield Perry Stamp Show in Cleveland.

2160 Port Lawrence Mich May 30 ms pmk and "25" rate on 1832 folded letter to N.Y., usage while Michigan Territory, endorsed "D B pd 27 cts" at bottom left indicating carrier delivery paid at New York City, small erosion hole, edge faults, ex Schmalzriedt.....Est. 400-500

Privately Owned

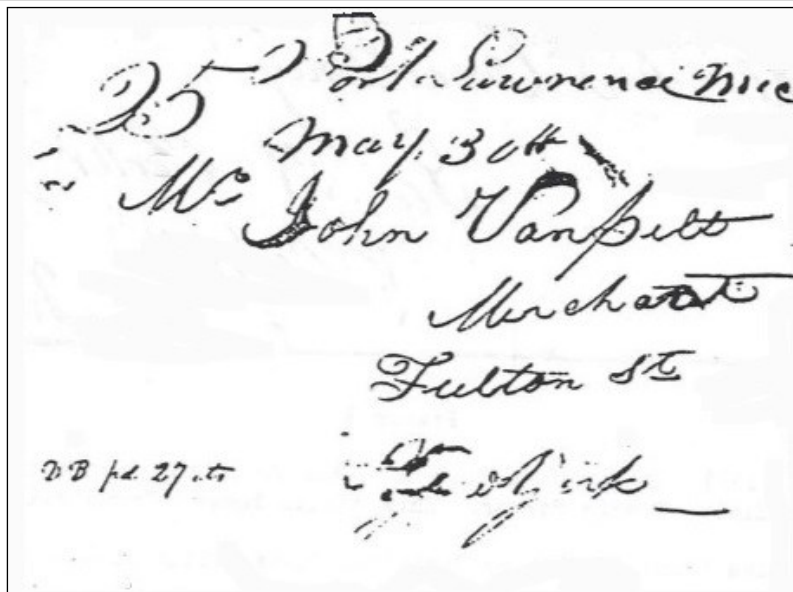


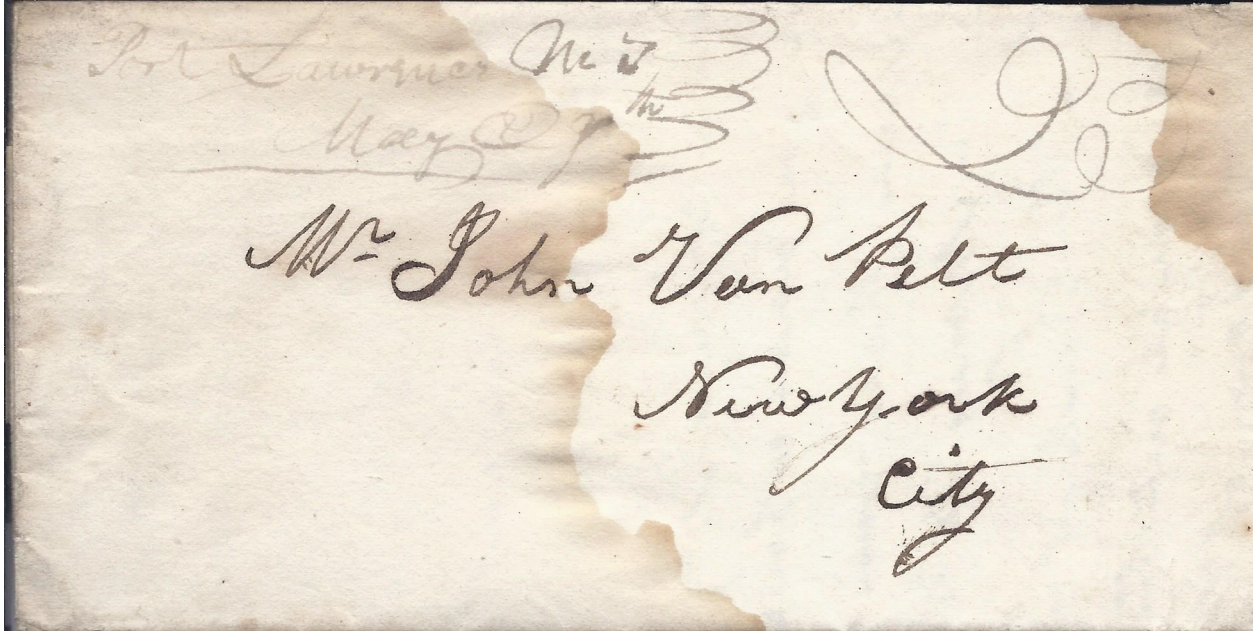
Figure P1-4

Port Lawrence #1 - 27 May 1833

4th earliest posted from the Strip known to exist. Not known to George Ball in 1984, this cover offered in Craig Whitford Auction, 12 December 2018 Lot 36 after being unknown for over 35 years.

Written to John Van Pelt of New York. 1837-1838 New York directory lists him as a merchant at 90 William Street in New York. Letter text shown below

Privately Owned



Route: Port Lawrence #1-Lower Sandusky-Cleveland-Lockport
Contractor: Portion #1451 Detroit-Lower Sandusky, J.P. Converse
Rate: Effective 1 May 1816

The letter (From Samuel J. Keeler to Mr. William J Van Pelt and addressed to John Van Pelt in New York City) reads:

Dear Sir:

I have this days sold your land in this place for two hundred dollars and wish you to send me a deed as soon as possible and will forward the money to Buffalo immediately after I receive the deed from you. I have received \$180 of the money and am to have he remainder when the family arrives in this place which will about the time that the deed will be likely to get here. I suppose that you would rather have your money sent to Buffalo than Detroit and is more convenient for me as Capt. Wilkison goes down about once in two weeks. A man that can be depended upon to carry this money to Buffalo and deposit it in the bank if you wish. You will make out the deed to John Blain of the town of Post Lawrence, County of Monroe and Territory of Michigan. We are all in good health hoping you are enjoying the same blessing. Give my respects to Wm Van Pelt and family. You will not fail to attend to the above business immediately for Wm Blain is anxious to get his seed going immediately to work on the land

Yours with respect, Samuel J. Keeler

Note on the back: Deed made June 6, 1833/Sent to Samuel J. Keeler June 7, 1833

George Bryan Porter: (9 Feb 1791 – 6 July, 1834), was an American statesman and marshal in Pennsylvania and Territorial Governor of Michigan from 6 August 1831, until his death on 6 July 1834.



https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/George_Bryan_Porter

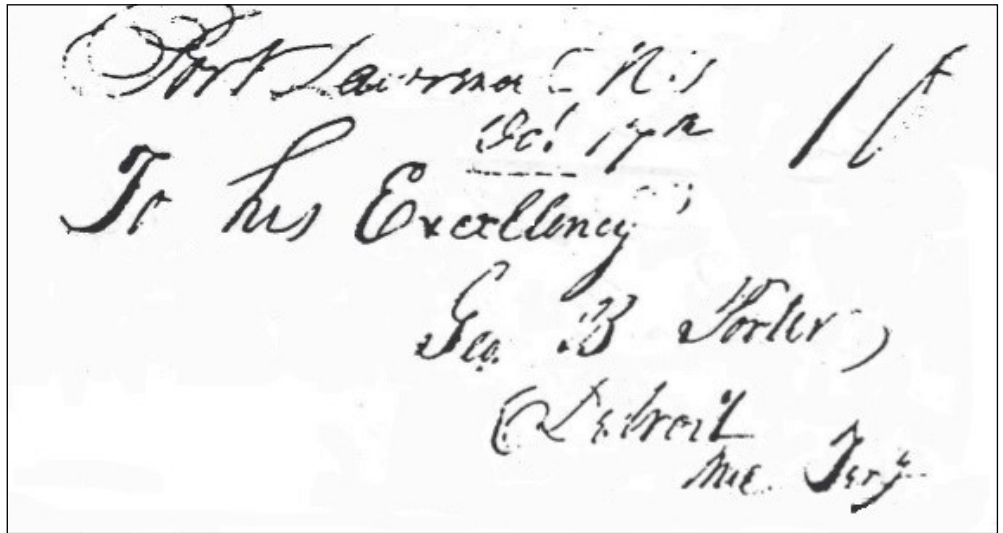


Figure P1-5

Port Lawrence #1 - 17 October 1833

Letter from Port Lawrence #1 to the then territorial governor of Michigan Territory, George Porter. This office became Tremainville on 7 January 1834.

Courtesy of the Michigan History Division, State Archives, Lansing, Michigan.

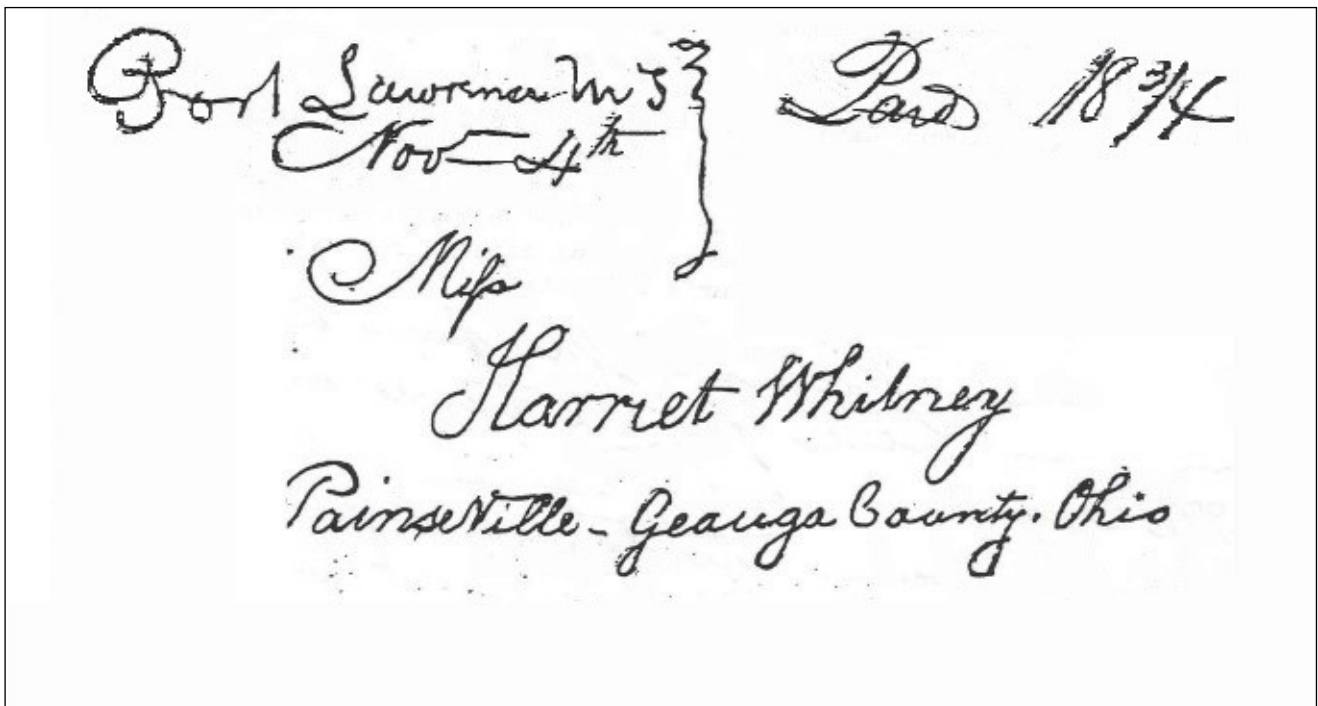
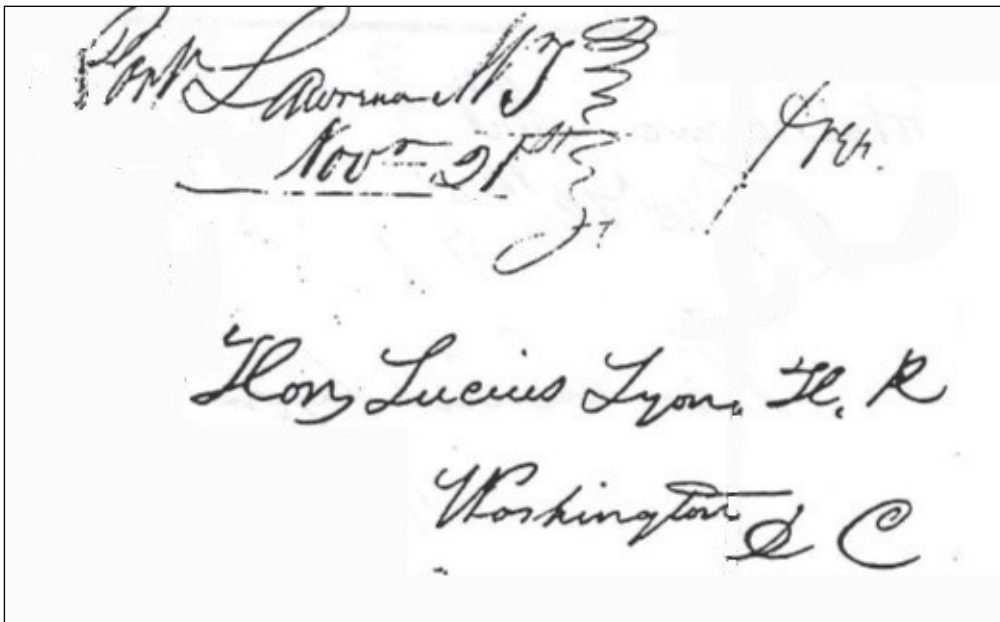


Figure P1-6

Port Lawrence #1 - 4 November 1833

Red manuscript postmark on letter from Noah Whitney, pioneer settler, to his daughter Harriet.

Courtesy of Lucas County Public Library, Toledo, Ohio



Lucius Lyon:
 (26 Feb 1800 – 24 Sep 1851)
 Statesman from Michigan. With Louis Campau, Lyon remembered as a founding father of Grand Rapids, MI state's second largest city. Delegate to U.S. House from Michigan Territory (1833-1835), U.S. Senator from Michigan (1837-1839), member of the U.S. House of Representatives (1843-1845). On 11 Dec 1833, Lucius Lyon, made the first formal petition for Michigan statehood.
https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Lucius_Lyon

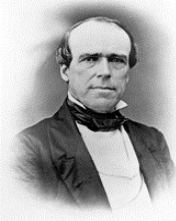
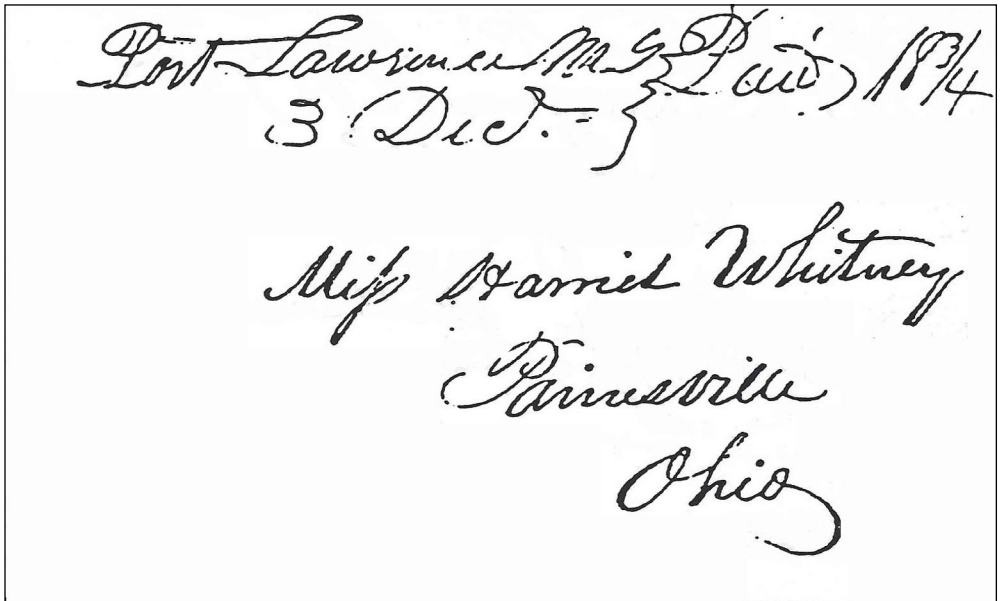


Figure P1-7
 Port Lawrence #1 - 21 November 1833
 Red Port Lawrence #1 letter from Stephen B. Comstock urging creation of new post office within "Territory". Comstock got his post office on 8 January 1834, with his appointment as postmaster at Port Lawrence #2 . After one year of service the name was changed to Toledo on 9 January 1835. Comstock thus was disloyal to the man who was responsible for his appointment when he subsequently postmarked mail from Toledo as originating from Ohio. He deserved to be fired.
 Courtesy of the William L. Clements Library, University of Michigan, Ann Arbor.



Harriet Whitney 14 March 1814 to 1903 first women to teach school inside the current city limits of Toledo in 1830. She later married author of the letter Sanford Collins, Postmaster at Tremainville



Figure P1-8
 Port Lawrence #1 - 3 December 1833
 December 3, 1833. Red manuscript postmark on letter from Sanford L. Collins, later postmaster at Tremainville, to Harriet Whitney.
 Courtesy of Toledo Lucas County Public Library, Toledo, Ohio

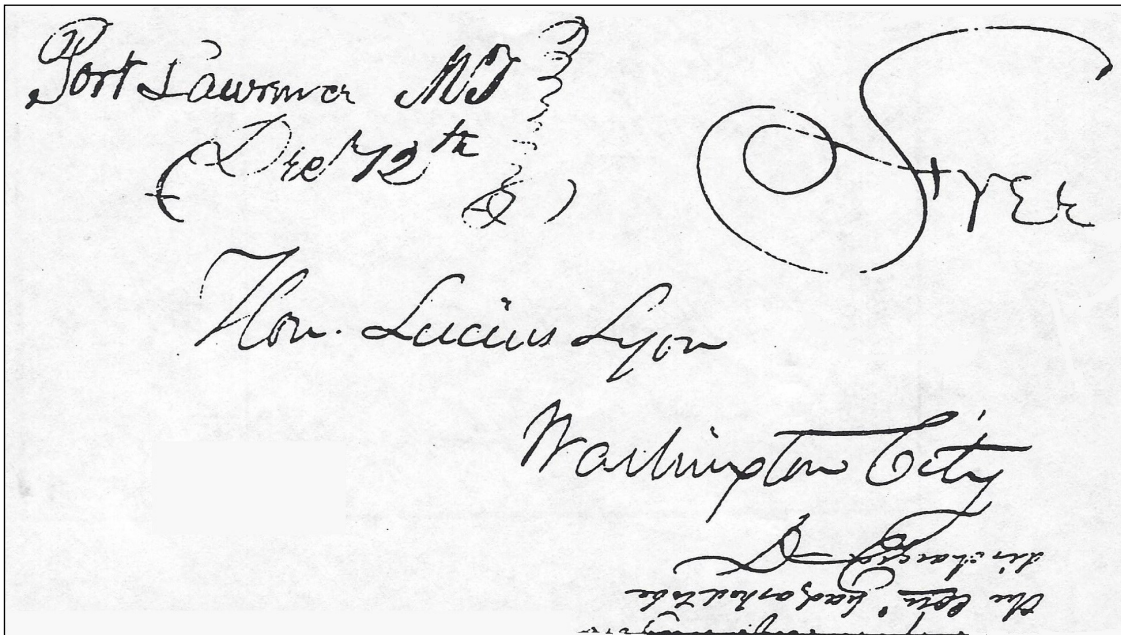


Figure P1-9

Port Lawrence #1 - 12 December 1833

Red manuscript postmark on a letter requesting favorable action on a war pension request. The author examined ledgers maintained at the trading post wherein the post office was located. The colors of ink used to postmark existing letters from this office correspond with the ink colors used in the ledgers on the same dates.

Courtesy of the William L. Clements Library, University of Michigan, Ann Arbor.

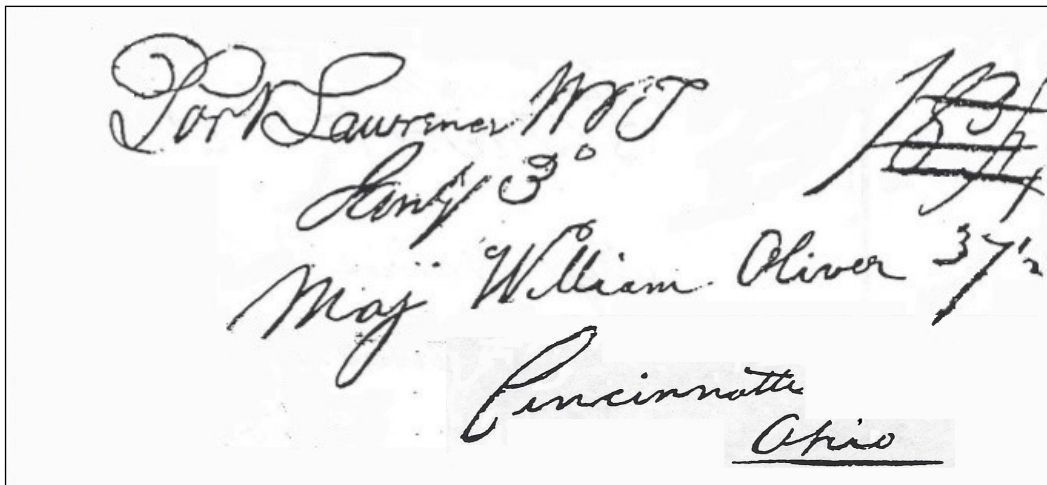


Figure P1-10

Port Lawrence #1 - 3 January 1834

Last letter recorded from Port Lawrence #1 just days before the location of this office was changed. A copy of the charter of the Erie & Kalamazoo was made for William Oliver, an original investor in Port Lawrence #2.

Courtesy of the State Library of Ohio, Columbus, Ohio.

Major William G. Oliver Born Virginia 1787-28 Dec 1851 War of 1812 Officer, Ohio State Senator. Served under Gen. William Henry Harrison in fighting against Tecumseh and Shawnee. Oliver granted a military land warrant in NW Ohio. Member Port Lawrence Company with Martin Baum. Helped establish settlements near Toledo, OH including laying out Maumee City in 1817. In 1825 Oliver and Baum established a steam mill and operated a wholesale flour business. Later moved to Cincinnati, OH, became a member Ohio State Senate 1837 to 1839. When Harrison became President in 1841, Oliver was appointed Postmaster of Cincinnati. https://www.findagrave.com/memorial/24534490/william-g_oliver

Tremainville, Michigan Territory

Tremainville, Michigan Territory, opened for business on 7 January 1834 under postmaster Calvin Tremain, who gave way to Sanford L. Collins on 23 March 1835. Manuscript markings were used at this office without exception. Established as a Michigan Territory post office, ten letters have been recorded with Michigan postmarks. The first seven letters are in Michigan archives and libraries, remaining three being in the hands of collectors.

Chart on left is original 1984 inventory with chart on the right being the 2020 inventory. There are now fourteen known Tremainville, MT and one Ohio, posted nine days before Michigan statehood. Three are in archives and thirteen are privately owned. Highlights on left hand chart indicate known covers in as of September 1975 when an article on the Strip appeared in the American Philatelist.

Marking Date	Marking Color	State Marking
18 February 1834	Red	M.T.
1 April 1834	Red	M.T.
14 May 1834	Red	M.T.
20 September 1834	Red	M.T.
14 December 1834	Red	M.T.
12 February 1835	Red	M.T.
21 February 1835	Red	M.T.
7 April 1835	Black	M.T.
12 June 1835	Black	M.T.
22 June 1836	Black	M.T.

Location	Date	Year	Cancel Type	State Mark	Rate	Color
Publically Owned	18-Feb	1834	MS	MT	Free	?
Publically Owned	1-Apr	1834	MS	MT	Free	Red
Privately Owned	14-May	1834	MS			
Privately Owned	20-Sep	1834	MS			
Privately Owned	14-Dec	1834	MS	MT	Free	?
Privately Owned	20-Jan	1835	MS	M.T.	6	Red
Publically Owned	12-Feb	1835	MS	MT	Free	Red
Privately Owned	21-Feb	1835	MS	MT	Free	Red
Privately Owned	23-Feb	1835	MS	MT	6	Red
Privately Owned	7-Apr	1835	MS	MT	25	Black
Privately Owned	25-Apr	1835	MS	MT	6	Black
Privately Owned	12-Jun	1835	MS	MT	25	Black
Privately Owned	15-Aug	1835	MS	M.T.	6	Black
Privately Owned	22-Jun	1836	MS	M.T.	25	Black
Privately Owned	18-Jan	1837	MS	O.		Black

In addition to letters recorded above, a number of letters bearing manuscript "Tremainville, O." postmarks have been recorded,

the earliest to date being March of 1837. Clearly, additional letters must be found before effective date of changeover from Michigan to Ohio postmarks can be definitively established. Still, much has been learned in recent years about the Tremainville story.

Postmaster Collins, who served during the critical period of the conflict between Ohio and Michigan over the disputed territory, was himself a captain in the Ohio militia and he purchased a rifle in 1835, the better to repel forces of Michigan. His sentiments, therefore, were unequivocally with Ohio in dispute. (See figure TR-1)

Notwithstanding his Ohio sentiment, Postmaster Sanford Collins was aware that application had already been made for the relief of the Toledo postmaster from his position for his temerity in postmarking Toledo mail from Ohio rather than from Michigan. Moreover, Collins was appointed as a P.M. of a Michigan office and had posted his bond on that basis. If he took the bold step of using Ohio markings while still under Michigan jurisdiction, he might very well have lost his appointment. In addition, Collins was located north of Toledo and his community was used as the rendezvous point for posses bent on invading Toledo from Michigan. Also, the mail from Toledo and Tremainville was conveyed north to Michigan by stagecoach or dispatch rider, giving Michigan authorities ample opportunity to examine the mail for improper markings. Collins had ample incentive to postmark his mail properly and bide his time.

It appears that Collins did just that. Recent discovery of a Tremainville, M.T. letter dated 22 June 1836 advances the known use of Michigan markings from this post office by a year. Examination of letters in the Sanford Collins Collection of the Toledo-Lucas County Public Library at Toledo, Ohio indicate that local writers wrote to the office as an office located in Ohio during the first half of 1836 while New York writers still addressed their letters to Tremainville, Michigan.

As 1836 wore on, letters from Monroe and Detroit to Tremainville reflected a "state of uncertainty". Finally, the U.S. Post Office itself only realized that Tremainville was in Ohio (See Figure TR-2) by June of 1837, half a year after Michigan relinquished formal title to Tremainville and the rest of the Strip

When did Tremainville begin using Ohio manuscript markings? Use of Ohio markings between 22 June 1836 and 26 January 1837 is problematical. It may be said with certainty that the changeover surely occurred no later than 26 January 1837 .

Soldiering on long after fuss and feathers of border dispute had settled, Tremainville office succumbed to the inevitable on 8 August, 1853. An expanding Toledo stretched tentacles of growth which made the little post office in a general store a redundant reminder of days long past. Only name and a few scarce letters remain.

POST OFFICE DEPARTMENT,
Washington, 23 March 1837.

Sir:

I have concluded to appoint you ~~Postmaster~~ at *Tremainville*
County of *Monroe, Territory* State of *Michigan*
in which capacity you will be authorized to act, upon complying with the following requirements:

1st. To execute the enclosed bond, and cause it to be executed by two sufficient sureties, in the presence of suitable witnesses, and the sufficiency of the sureties to be certified by a qualified magistrate.

2d. To take and subscribe the oath or affirmation of office enclosed, before a magistrate, who will certify the same.

3d. To exhibit your bond and qualification, duly executed and certified as aforesaid, to
Calvin Tremain or the person having charge of the Post Office
of *Tremainville* and then to deposit them in the mail, addressed
to this Department, Northern or Southern Division, as the case may be.

You will then be entitled to enter on the duties of the office, and to take charge of the public property belonging to the Post Office aforesaid, such as desks, cases, boxes, maps, tables of post offices, laws and instructions, mail keys, blanks, letters and papers on hand, and stationary.

After the receipt, at this Department, of your bond and qualification, duly executed and certified, and my approval of the sufficiency of the same, a commission will be sent to you.

It will be your duty to continue in the charge of the office, either personally or by assistant, until you are relieved from it by the consent of the Department, which will be signified by the discontinuance of your office, or the appointment of your successor.

I am, respectfully,
Your obedient servant,

W. G. Murray

N. B.—The quarters expire on the 31st of March, 30th June, 30th September, and 31st December. Accounts must be rendered for each quarter.
Postmasters are unauthorized to give credit for postage. Want of funds, therefore, is no excuse for failure of payment. Payments, to the Department, must be punctually made; if called for by drafts, whenever the draft is presented.
If deposits are ordered, they should be made within fifteen days after the termination of the quarter, unless required to be made oftener.
A Postmaster must not change the name by which his office is designated on the books of the Department, without the order of the Postmaster General.
Be careful, in mailing letters, to post-mark each one, in all cases, with the name of your Office, and State; and in all communications to the Department, to embrace, in the date, the name of your Post Office, County, (or District,) and State.
Special attention in these instructions, and a careful perusal of, and frequent reference to, the law and general Instructions, are expected of you and your assistants.

Sanford L. Collins, Esq.

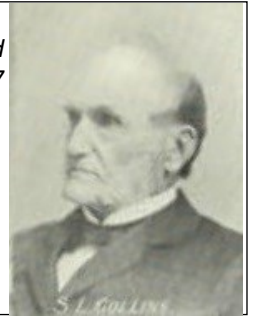
Figure TR-1
Appointment
of Sanford L.
Collins as
postmaster at
Tremainville.

Note;
prohibition
against
changing the
name of his
office without
permission.

Courtesy of
Toledo
Lucas County
Public Library,
Toledo, Ohio

Sanford L. Collins: 4 April 1805 - 2 February 1889: Born Brownsville, Jefferson County, New York. Came to Toledo in 1831, when it was known as Port Lawrence/Vistula. Opened a store in old house located Summit and Jefferson streets. First stock of goods offered for sale in village. 1833 opened a store at Tremainville, until 1837 under name S. L. Collins & Co. He farmed extensively and devoted much time to improvement of his estate.

Tremainville Postmaster from 1834 to 1842. Active in promoting development, not only where he resided, but county at large. Particularly in improvement of roads leading into the country in various directions. When Lucas County was organized, he was first treasurer. 1840 he participated in the organization of Washington Twp, filling numerous township offices. Active Mason. Many years his chief occupation was the cultivation of his lands in and near Toledo.



Washington, January, 1837.

SIR :

To determine with as much accuracy as possible the relative positions of the several Post Offices in the United States, so that they may be correctly delineated on the maps of the Department, you are requested to fill up the spaces and answer the questions below, and return the same to this Department, care of H. A. BURR.

The recent fire having destroyed all the information before obtained on this subject, renders your immediate attention to it necessary.

I am, sir,

Very respectfully, &c.

AMOS KENDALL,

Postmaster General.

The name of my office is *Tremainville*
 It is situated in Range *10 Seven*
 Township *No Nine* (East ~~of~~ West) *South.* *Y on the N.E. corner*
 of ~~the~~ *the Smith west* quarter of *the 23^d* section, *Post Lawrence Twp*
 County of *Lucas* State of *Ohio - late Monroe County Mich.*

What are the names of the Post Offices nearest to your office, and their distance from it by the mail route?

Ans. *Salado 3 Miles Manhattan 3 Miles Whiteford 8 Miles*
Lambertville 7 Miles

If you are on a river, creek, or brook, what is its name, and on which side of it are you?

Ans. *Ottawa River passes through our village in a north-*
eastly direction - emptying itself in to Maumee Bay
the Post Office is ~~on~~ on the southeastern side of said River

Very Respectfully
From Ott Lovt S. Collins
P.M.

Figure TR-2
January 1837

Report of site
location to
Postmaster
Amos Kendall.

National
Archives
[https://catalog.
archives.gov/
id/608210](https://catalog.archives.gov/id/608210)

Tremainville Mich
- Feb 18 1834
Hon. Lucius Lyon
House of Representatives
Washington City
D.C.

Figure TR-3

Tremainville - 18 February 1834.

Earliest known letter postmarked Tremainville.

Andrew Palmer petitioned against the removal of the U.S. Land Office from Monroe, Territory to Detroit. Palmer was later active as an Ohio advocate in the disputed territory.

Courtesy of the William L. Clements Library, University of Michigan, Ann Arbor.

Tremainville Mich
- April 1 1834
Lucius Lyon Esq
Washington City D. C.

Figure TR-4

Tremainville - 1 April 1834.

April 1, 1834. Red manuscript postmark on a letter sent as a follow-up to an earlier letter requesting a war pension. The name of the office was now Tremainville rather than Port Lawrence.

Courtesy of the William L. Clements Library, University of Michigan, Ann Arbor.

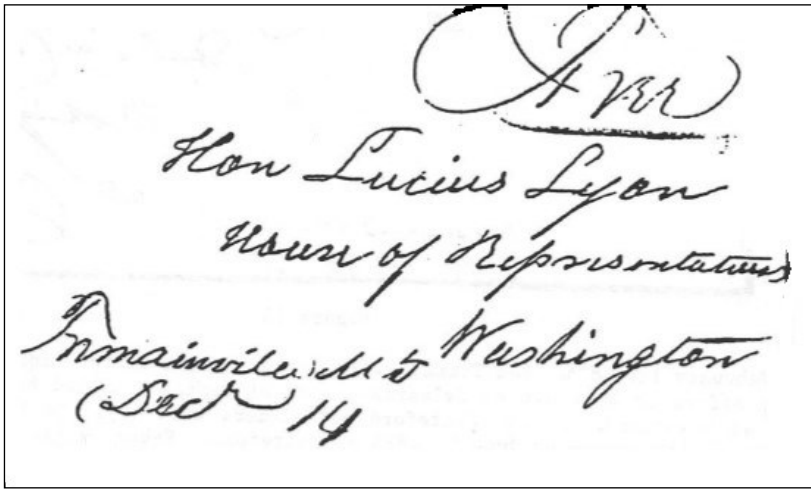


Figure TR-5
 Tremainville - 14 December 1834.
 Letter from Michigan agitator David White seeking a Michigan post office at his settlement of Whiteford, later Sylvania, Ohio. Manuscript postmarks were used exclusively at Tremainville.
 Privately Owned



Figure TR-6
 Tremainville - 20 January 1835.
 To Alpheus Felch at Monroe, from J V D Gutther at Tremainville. Mentions Mr. N.A. Whitney, Eliias Gunser, J. Campbell and William Rose
 Privately Owned.
 Image Courtesy <https://erniesmichigan.com>

Figure TR-7
 Tremainville - 12 February 1835
 Red Tremainville postmark on a letter requesting creation of a post office to be known as Sylvania. Rival petition called for office to be known as Whiteford. Whiteford petitioners were loyal to Michigan Territory. The new office opened on June 2, 1835 as Whiteford. 2 February, 1859 witnessed the final triumph of Ohio as the office changed its name to Sylvania.
 Courtesy of the William L. Clements Library, University of Michigan, Ann Arbor.

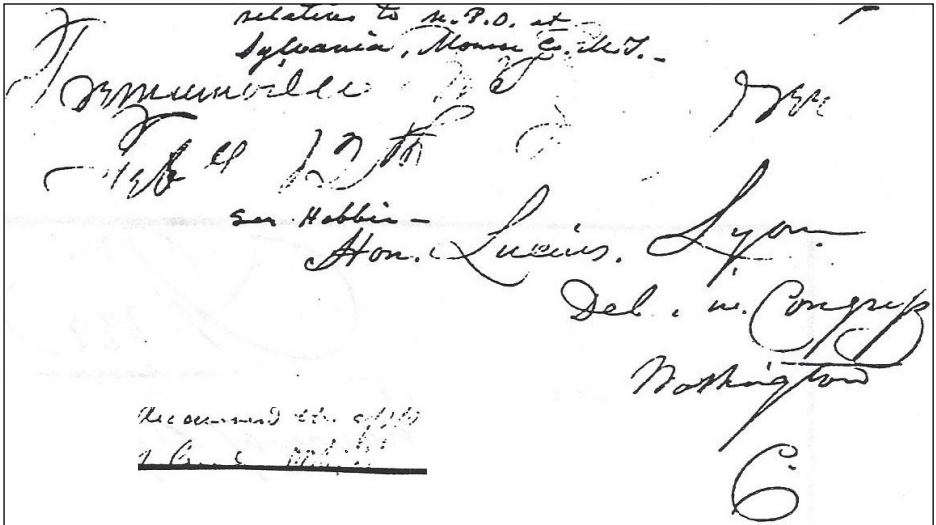


Figure TR-7

Tremainville - 21 February 1835

Red manuscript postmark and MS Free Frank. Date lined Whiteford from David White to Hon. Lucius Lyon, House of Representatives, Washington. Concerning petition for there to be a Post Office at that place named Sylvania; He would like it to be called Whiteford "The name of Sylvania was put into the blank and the circulated in the Township of Port Lawrence where they have no more interest in a Post Office at this point than the Man in the Moon" Mentions Mr. Wilson - Aaron B Watkins should be postmaster.

Privately Owned

Image Courtesy <https://erniesmichigan.com>

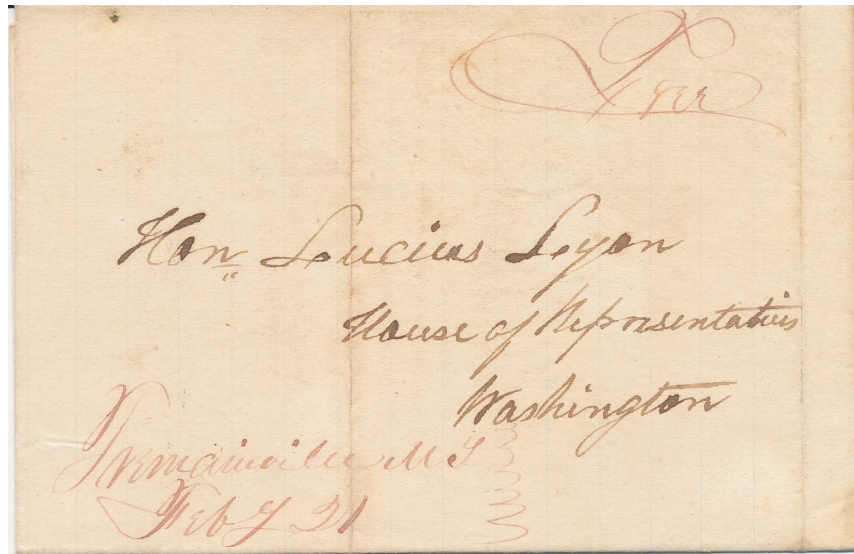


Figure TE-8

Tremainville - 23 February 1835

Tremainville never handled much mail. Most non-archival letters were addressed to Limerick, New York. Red Manuscript cancel and 6 cent rate To Alpheus Felch at Monroe from J.V.D Sutphen at Tremainville regarding a prosecution for his wife's share from the State of New York.

Privately Owned

Image Courtesy <https://erniesmichigan.com>

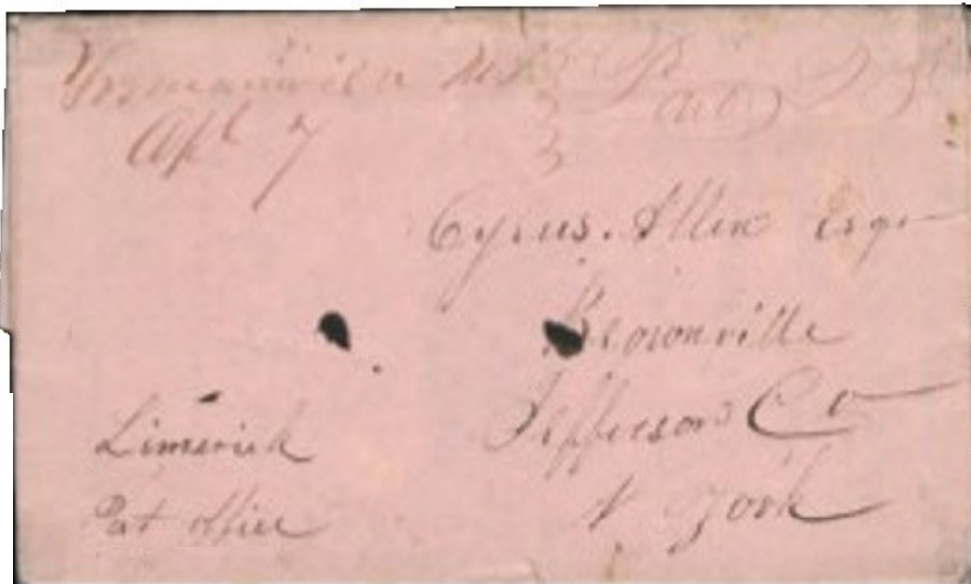


Figure TR-9
 Tremainville - 7 April 1835
 Tremainville never handled much mail. Most non-archival letters were addressed to Limerick, New York.
 Privately Owned

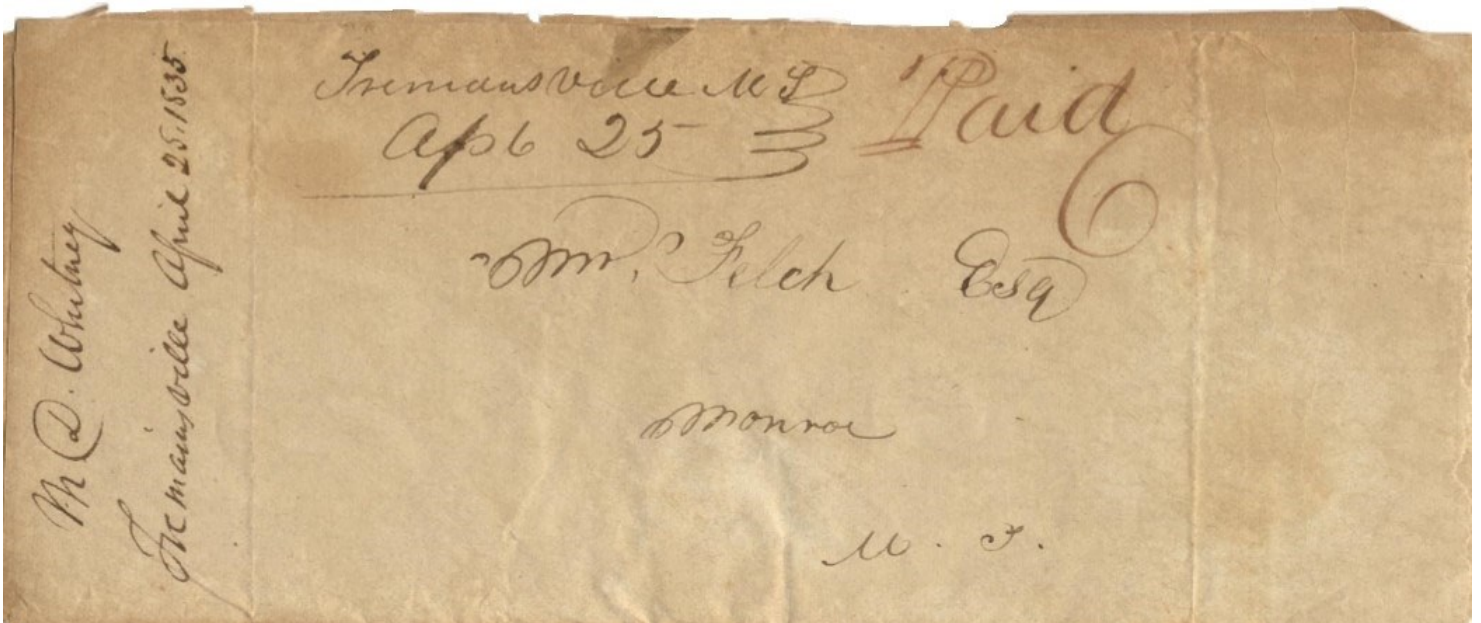
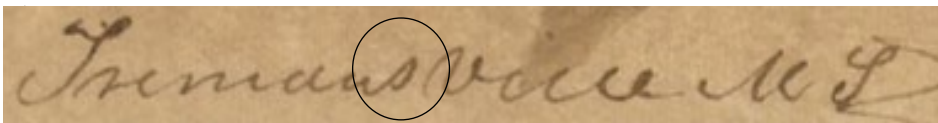


Figure TE-10
 Tremainville - 25 April 1835
Note: There is an "S" in Tremain(s)ville.
 Manuscript cancel and MS Paid "6" rate. To Alpheus Felch at Monroe, MT from M. D. Whitney at Tremainville, MT. About the suit between him and Mr. Riggs.
 Privately Owned
 Image Courtesy <https://erniesmichigan.com> from Bill Allen and Craig Whiteford Auctions 2001 Lot 86.

Figure TR-11

Tremainville - 12 June 1835

Posted during height of Toledo War, Tremainville was just three miles from Toledo office which was using manuscript Ohio postmarks. Although P.M. Collins was a Captain in the Ohio militia, his office was Michigan Territory. The crossroads served as rallying point for Michigan posses on their forays into Toledo.

This letter is written by an I.M. Brown to his wife. It details the difficulties of his trip, including two days to travel the last thirty miles through the Black Swamp. Last known public appearance of this cover was part of the auction of the Ball collection 10 March 1990, by Richard C. Frajola, Inc. at Garfield Perry Stamp Show in Cleveland.

2171 Tremainville M.T. Jun 12 ms pmk and "25" rate on 1835 folded letter to Rochester, N.Y., usage while Michigan Territory, aged, one of three reported, non archival, examples.....Est. 750-1,000

Privately Owned

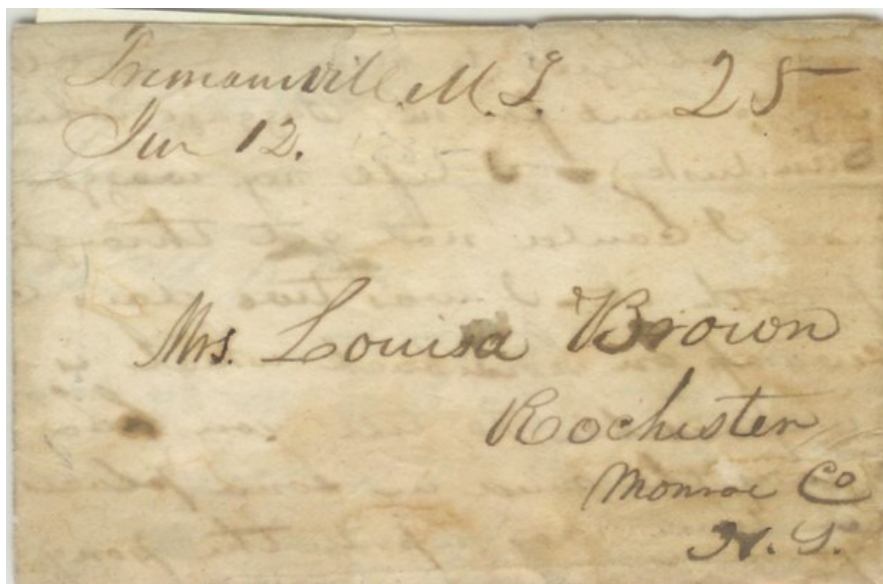


Figure TR-12

Tremainville - 15 August 1835

Red Tremainville postmark To Alpheus Felch at Monroe from J.V.D Sutphen at Tremainville regarding sale of lands and deeds.

Privately Owned

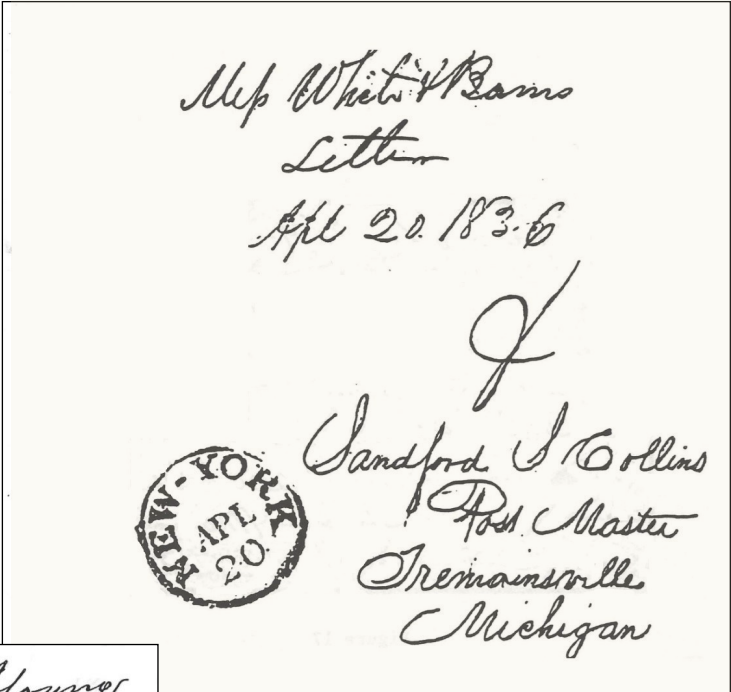
Image Courtesy <https://erniesmichigan.com>



Figure TR-13
20 April 1836

New York, N.Y. to Tremainville, Michigan. White & Barne was a principal supplier to the postmaster's dry. goods business. They would know if Collins was postmarking his mail Ohio and follow suit.

Courtesy of Toledo Lucas County Public Library, Toledo, Ohio



S. M. Young
May 23. 1836

Mannec City
13 May

Free

Sanford J. Collins Esq
Post Master
Tremainville
Lucas County
Ohio

Figure TR-14
23 May 1836

Local Ohio people writing Tremainville in 1836 addressed their mail to Ohio, while Michigan correspondents addressed their mail to Tremainville, M.T. Presumably, local people knew that Collins had been deputized an officer in the Ohio Militia, for which purpose he purchased a double barrel shotgun.

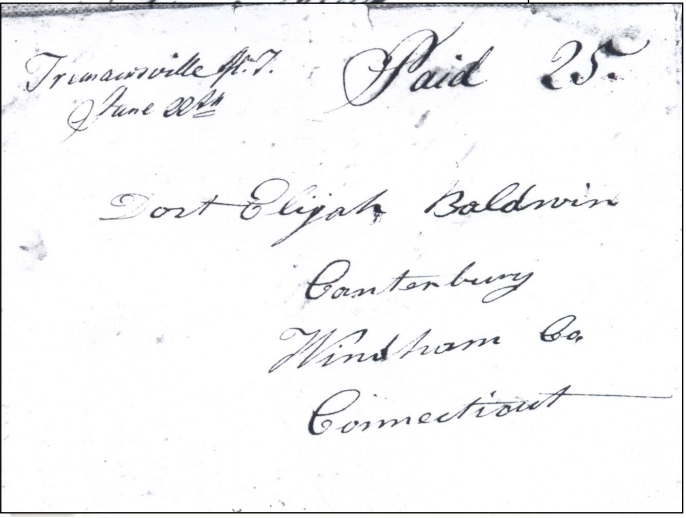
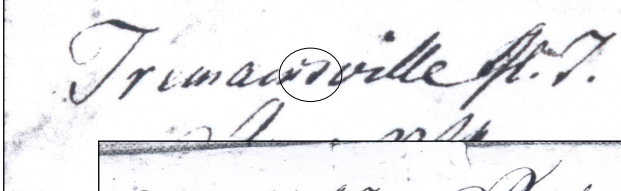
Courtesy of Toledo Lucas County Public Library, Toledo, Ohio

Figure TR-15
Tremainville, M.T. - 22 June 1836

Note: There is an "S" in Tremain(s)ville.

Latest date known for use of Michigan postmark from Tremainville. Letter advances by a year inclusive dates for the marking but leaves a gap of seven months before Michigan relinquished jurisdiction. Month of changeover is yet unknown. *T.S. Bishop at Tremainville to DR. Eluah Baldwin at Canterbury, Windham Cty, CN. Concerning Land speculation also letter to Esther from T.S. Bishop describing their journey, Thomas is building a barn, and Delia sends her love.*

Privately Owned
Image Courtesy of <https://erniesmichigan.com>



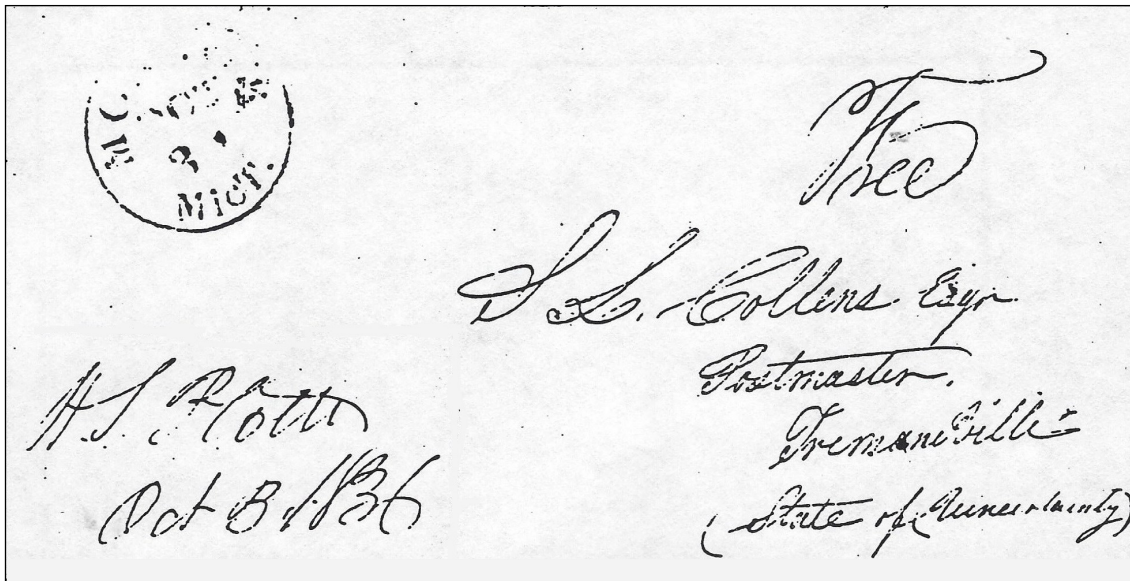


Figure TR-16

3 October 1836

This letter from Monroe, Michigan Territory to Tremainville indicates that a "state of uncertainty" was the order of the day at Tremainville. Michigan had declined to assent to the assignment of the Toledo Strip to Ohio and had yet to hold a second convention to decide the issue

Courtesy of Toledo Lucas County Public Library, Toledo, Ohio

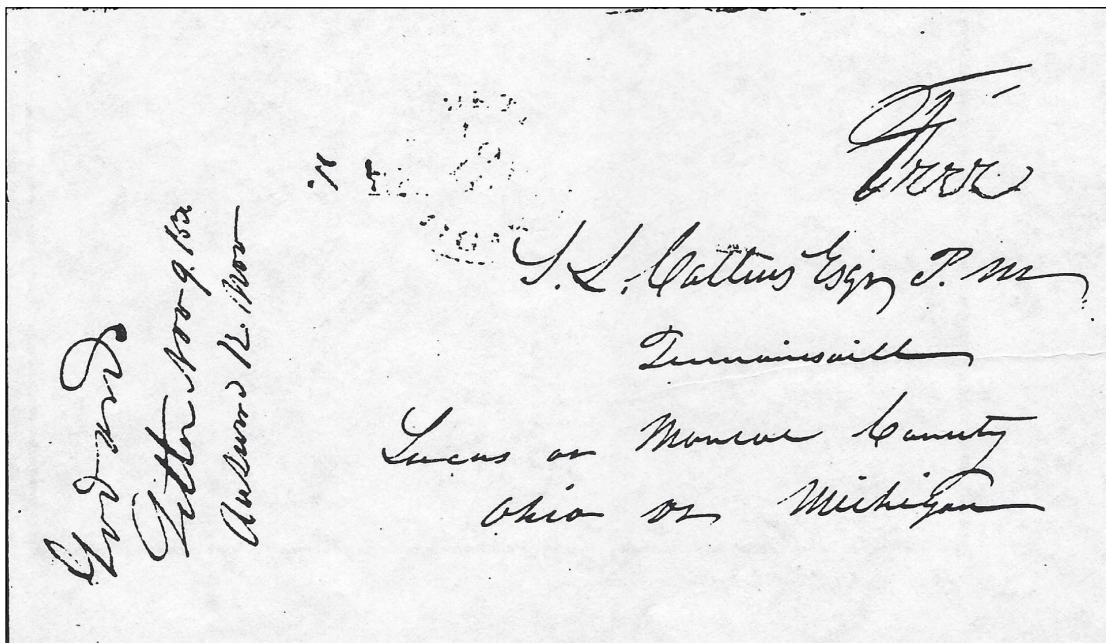


Figure TR-17

10 November 1836

Detroit, Michigan, to Tremainville, Lucas or Monroe County, Ohio or Michigan,. Mr. Godard, of Detroit, was a business partner of Sanford Collins and formerly addressed his mail to Tremainville, Michigan.

Courtesy of Toledo Lucas County Public Library, Toledo, Ohio

Figure TR-18

16 December 1836

New York City to Tremainville, Ohio
16 December 1836 White & Barnes, suppliers of dry goods to Sanford Collins, were now addressing their mail to Ohio. Did Sanford Collins use a manuscript Ohio postmark by this time on all or part of his mail? Our latest recorded M.T. marking is 22 August 1836.
Courtesy of Toledo Lucas County Public Library, Toledo, Ohio

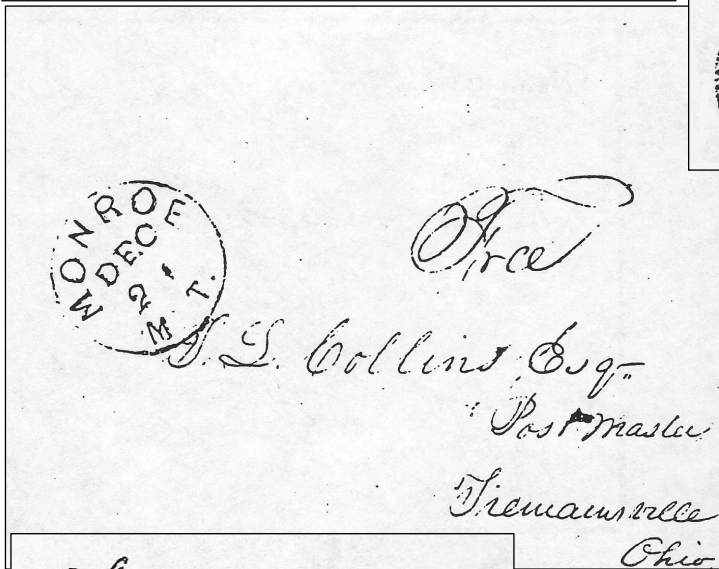
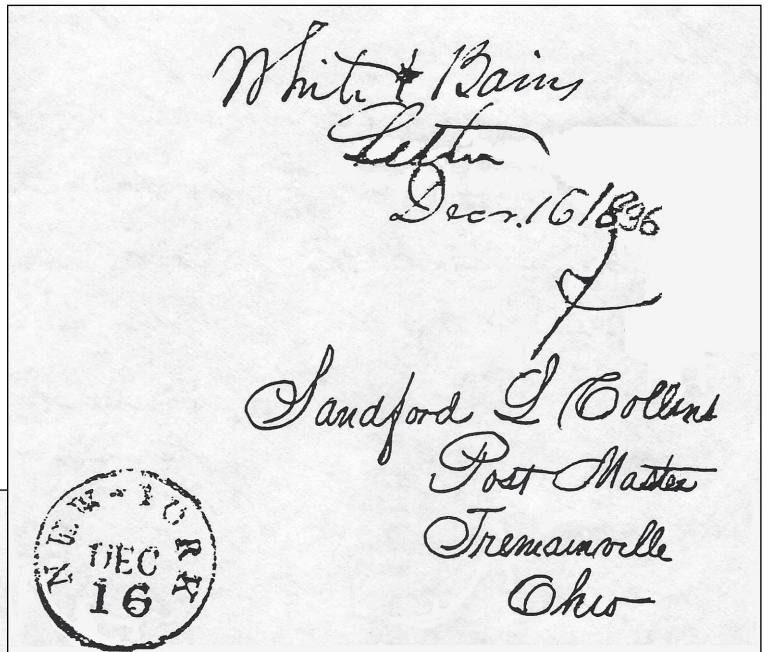


Figure TR-19

21 December 1836 - Monroe, Michigan Territory, to Tremain(s)ville, Ohio
Apparently period of uncertainty was over in Monroe twenty miles north of Tremainville.
Note: the "S" circled in enlargement
Courtesy of Toledo Lucas County Public Library, Toledo, Ohio

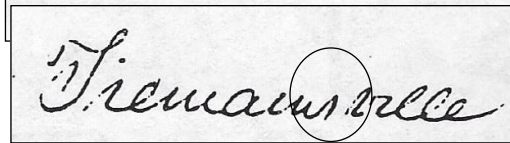
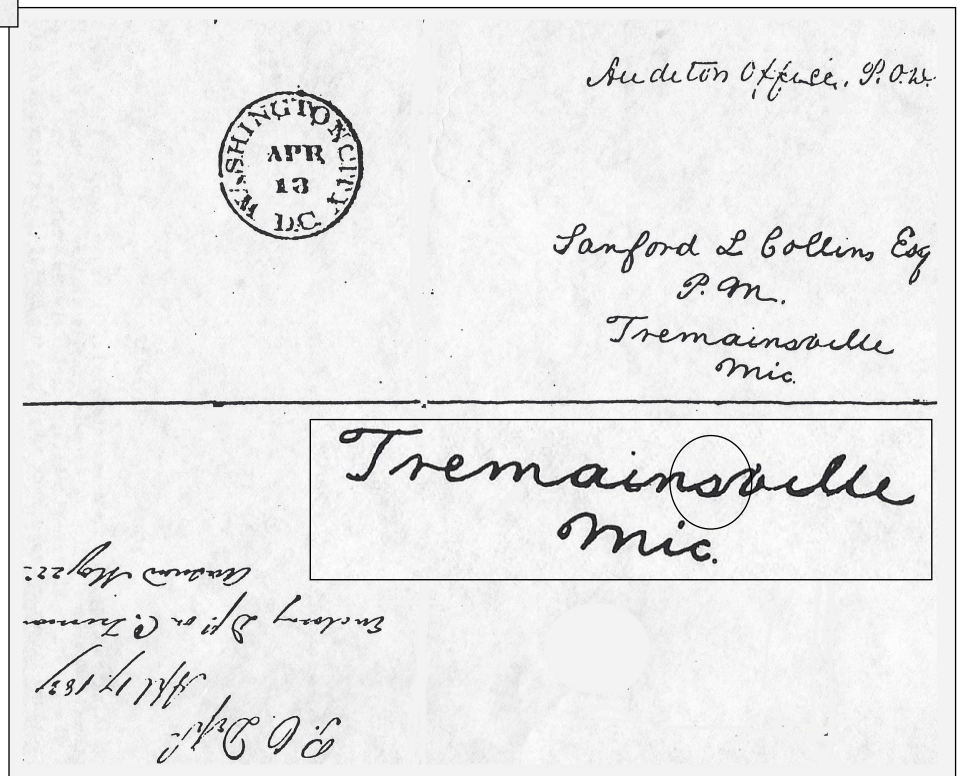


Figure TR-20

13 April 1837
Washington D.C. to Tremain(s)ville, Mic
Note: the "S" circled in enlargement

Controversy over the Toledo Strip was settled but the Post Office Department still didn't know it.
Text of letter in Figure TR-21
Courtesy of Toledo Lucas County Public Library, Toledo, Ohio

Unsure what is meant as the postmark here is 13 April 1837 and the date of letter in Figure TR-21 is 28 January 1837.



Post Off. Dept
St. Louis & Division
January 27th 1838

Sir

The Contract on the route (No
1700) between Detroit & Lower Sandusky
has been directed to visit your office
with the mail - so long as he was staying
at

Respectfully
Yours
J. M. Keble
Asst. Postm.

John Tremainville
Postmaster
M. T.

Figure TR-21

28 January 1837

Change in mail route directed to the postmaster at Tremainville, Michigan Territory,
one day after Michigan achieved statehood.

Courtesy of Toledo Lucas County Public Library, Toledo, Ohio

Post Office Dept.
Department Office
June 3rd 1837

Sir

From a letter received at this Department, it appears that you locate your office in Ohio. The one made in this Department it is noted to be in Monroe County, Michigan. Please inform, if it be in Ohio, in what portion thereof it is situated, in order that it may be corrected.

Very respectfully
Your Obedt. Servt.
Rob. Johnston
Dep. Comm. U.S. Gen.

M. V. Tremain
Monroe Co., Michigan

Figure TR-22

3 June 1837 - Washington City, D.C. to Tremain(s)ville, Mic.

Better late than never. The Post Office Department finally realized that there was a question about the location of Tremainville. Obviously Mr. Collins had never received instructions from the Department to change the official designation of his office from Michigan to Ohio.

Courtesy of Toledo Lucas County Public Library, Toledo, Ohio

Post Office Dept
Appointments Office
Sept. 19 1837

Sir

In consequence of the change
in the designation of your office to
Lucas County, Ohio it is necessary that
new bond be executed; a blank for the
purpose is therefore herewith enclosed
which you will execute & return to
the Department without delay

Very respectfully
Your obedient Servant
Rob. Johnston
: 2^d Apt. P.M. G.

S. A. Collins Esq. Pro.
Tremainville
Lucas Co

Figure TR-23

10 September 1837 - Washington City, D.C. to Tremain(s)ville, Mic.

The change from Michigan to Ohio was now in need of an official form before acknowledged
by the Department, at least by the Appointments Office.

Courtesy of Toledo Lucas County Public Library, Toledo, Ohio

Port Lawrence #2, M.T.

One can only regret the dearth of surviving letters from this post office, established on the banks of the Maumee River on January 8, 1834, Stephen B. Comstock serving as postmaster. *Only three letters* have been recorded thus far as survivors of the year in which this post office served a new and small community.

Below the chart on the left is original 1984 inventory with the chart on the right being the 2020 inventory. There are now three known Port Lawrence #2, MT and no Ohio. One is in an archive and the other two are privately owned. The highlights on left hand chart indicate known covers in September 1975 when an article on the Strip appeared in the American Philatelist.

Marking Date	Marking Color	State Marking
13 July 1834	Red	M.T.
6 August 1834	Red	M.T.

Location	Date	Year	Cancel Type	State Mark	Rate	Color
Privately Owned	9-Apr	1834	MS	M.T.	18 3/4	Black
Publically Owned	13-Jul	1834	MS	M.T.	10	Black
Privately Owned	6-Aug	1834	MS	M.T.	25	Red

All postmarks are of the manuscript type, as might be expected of a small office. Moreover, the residents of Port Lawrence and contiguous Vistula had already determined to merge their separate identities into a single village to be known as Toledo. There was thus little impetus to purchase a post marking device until Toledo post office became a reality.

Were any letters postmarked from Ohio at this office before its demise on 8 January 1835? No evidence has surfaced to date that Ohio manuscript postmarks were ever used at Port Lawrence #2 and it seems unlikely that they were so used.

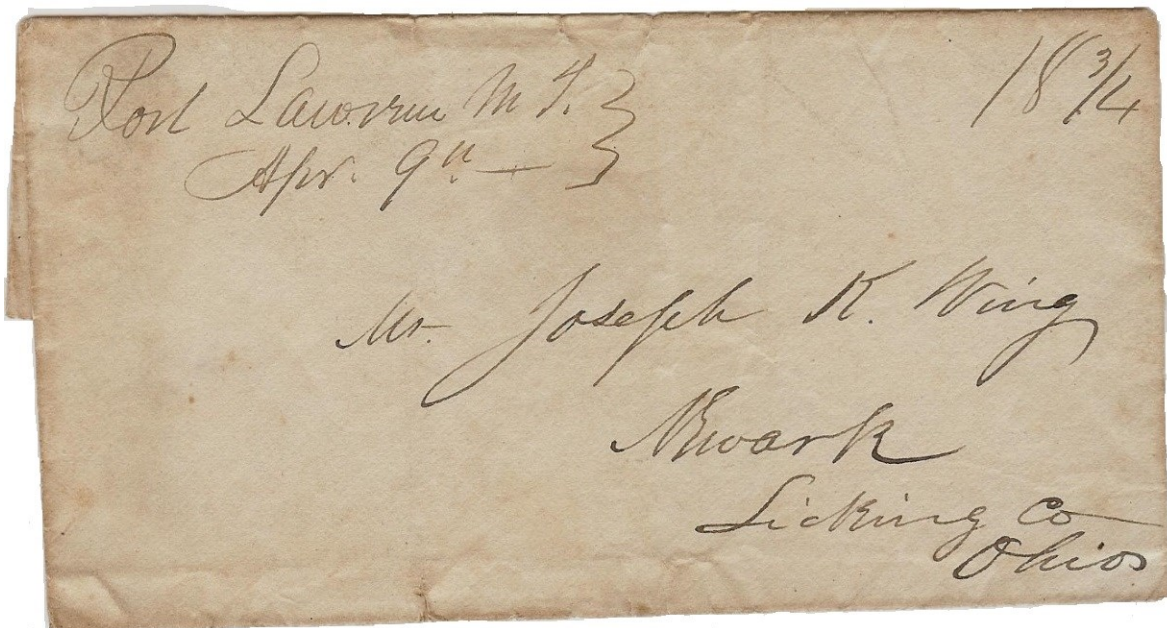


Figure P2-1

Port Lawrence #2 - 9 April 1834

This is the oldest known surviving cover from Port Lawrence # 2. Sent to Joseph Wing in Newark, Ohio.

This was the second office to bear the name . It was located on the bank of the Maumee River at the Mouth of Swan Creek.

The name was derived from Commodore Perry's famous ship, the Lawrence.

Privately Owned

Figure P2-2

Port Lawrence #2 - 13 July 1834.

Letters are quite rare, only *three* having surfaced to date. This example was sent to Governor Porter, who was soon to die of cholera. This was the second office to bear the name. It was located on the bank of the Maumee River. The name was derived from Commodore Perry's famous ship, the Lawrence.

Courtesy of the Michigan History Division, State Archives, Lansing, Michigan.

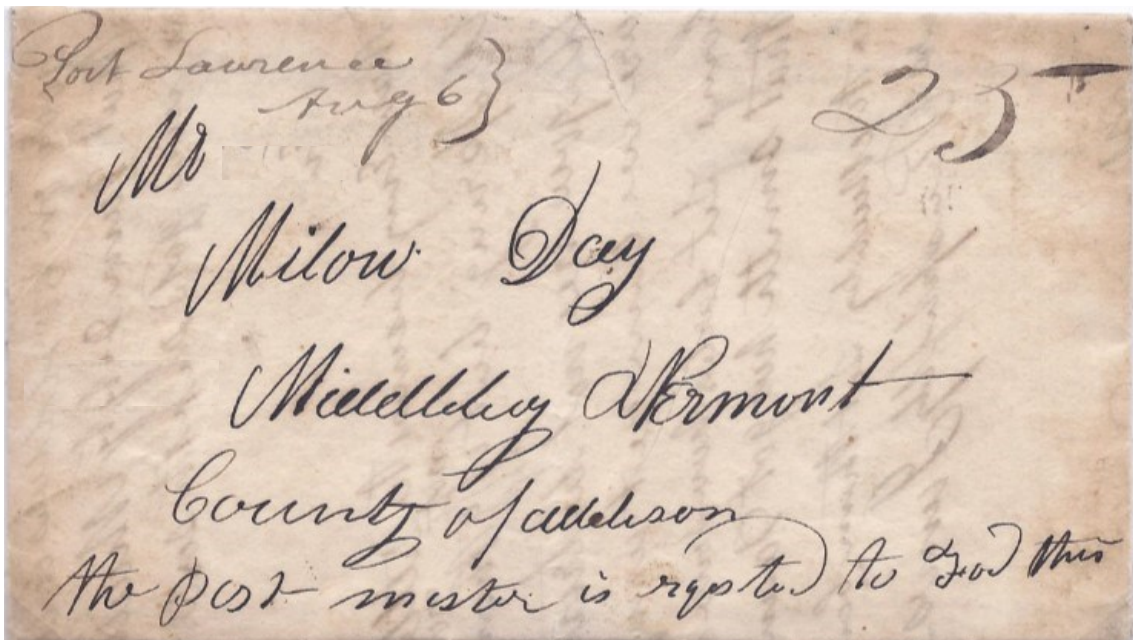
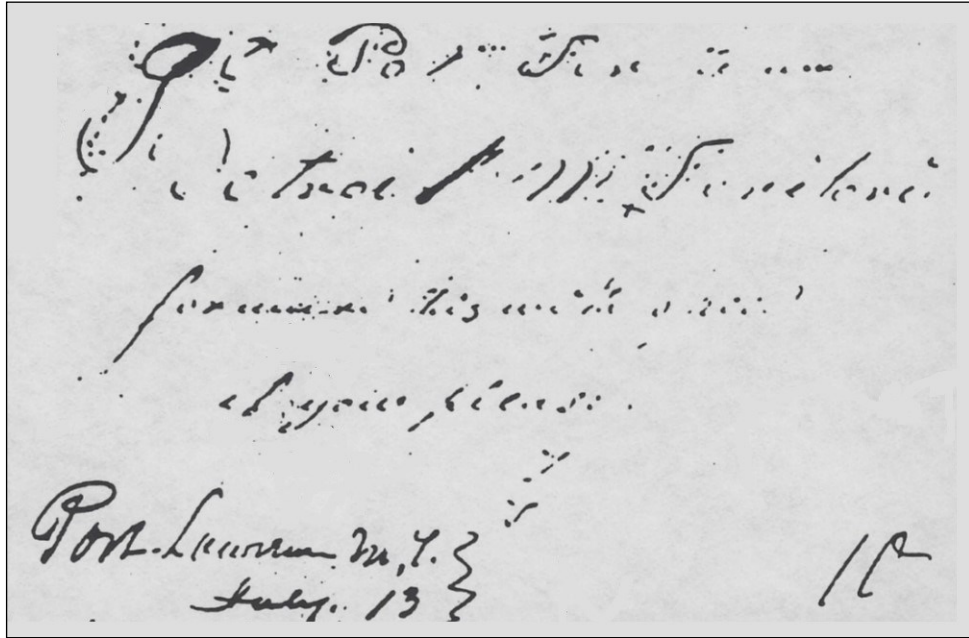


Figure P2-3

Port Lawrence #2 - 6 August 1834.

Third of the Port Lawrence #2 letters, also in black. To date no evidence has suggested the use of Ohio postmarks from this office, although it was soon to be renamed Toledo and would use Ohio postmarks.

Five months later this site would join with community of Vistula to form Toledo. Stephen Comstock, postmaster at Port Lawrence #2 would also be first postmaster of Toledo.

Is this an Ohio sentiment by not noting "M.T." in the post office marking?

Privately Owned

Vistula, Michigan Territory

What can be said about Vistula, Michigan Territory post office? On balance, very little. Established 8 January 1834 as a companion and competing office located within walking distance of Port Lawrence #2, but one surviving manuscript postmark remains in Michigan archives to attest to its existence.

Location	Date	Year	Cancel Type	State Mark	Rate	Color
Publically Owned	19-Mar	1834	MS	MT.	10	Black

Postmaster Theodore Bissell catered to the needs of Vistula residents during his tenure of one year, the office giving way to Toledo on 8 January 1835. Toledo opened for business the next day and Vistula ceased to be.

Given proximity of Vistula to Port Lawrence and Tremainville, one wonders why a post office was felt to be necessary at this location. The finder of a letter postmarked from this office may take considerable pride in the ownership of an item of great rarity and prime desirability.

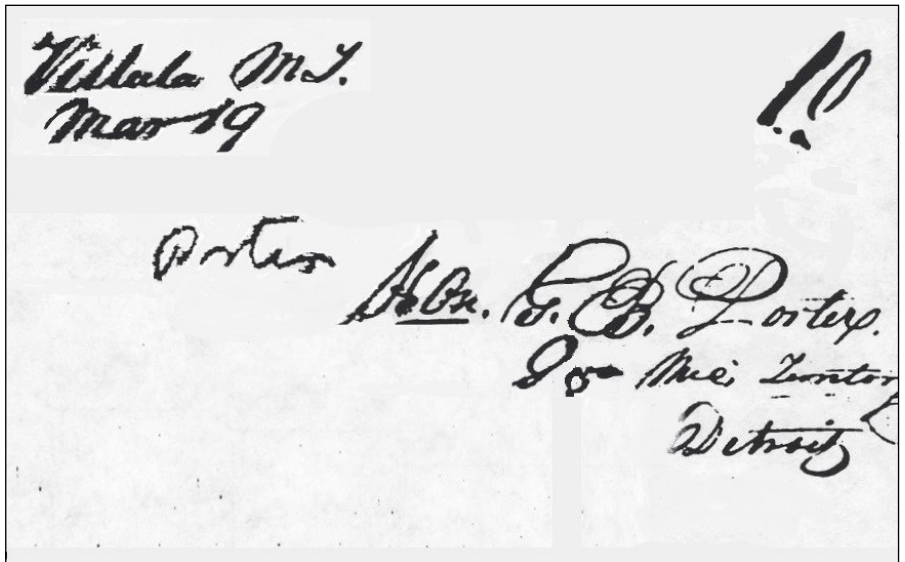
Figure V-1

Vistula - 19 March 1834

Unique? No other example has been seen from Vistula, companion post office to Port Lawrence #2. Postmaster was Theodore Bissell, a dry goods merchant. Population served by Vistula, Port Lawrence #2, and Tremainville 250-300 persons.

Courtesy of Michigan History Division, State Archives, Lansing, Michigan 1984

Currently at William L. Clements Library, University of Michigan, Ann Arbor.

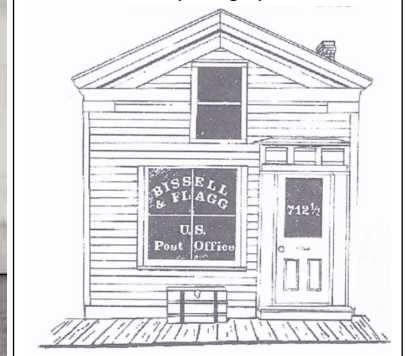


Red dot indicates location of Edward Bissell's store.

Map of Port Lawrence and Vistula 1834
 Courtesy Toledo Lucas County Public Library

<https://ohiomemory.org/digital/collection/p16007coll33/id/29670>

Drawing of Vistula's Post Office made from an old photograph.



Toledo, Michigan Territory

Occupying center stage both in the jurisdictional dispute between Ohio and Michigan Territory over the "Toledo Strip" and as the focus of controversy over the attendant postal markings of the period, Toledo post office and its postmarks must be considered at length. Thirty-four letters of various markings and ink colors have been recorded thus far, with the possibility that more examples may yet surface.

Established on 9 January 1835 as a replacement for both Port Lawrence #2 and Vistula, Toledo's first postmaster, Stephen B. Comstock, assumed his duties at the new Toledo office. Even as the dispute between Ohio and Michigan Territory was heating up Comstock responded to prevailing the sentiment of his local constituency, ignoring his office's status as a Michigan Territory post office and employed manuscript Ohio markings on outgoing mail.

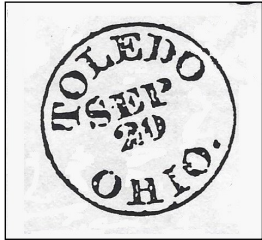
Chart on left is original 1984 inventory with chart on the right being the 2020 inventory. There are now thirty-five known Toledo, Ohio and five M.T. covers. It appears fifteen remain in archives and the other twenty-five are privately owned. Highlights on left hand chart indicate covers in September 1975 when an article on the Strip appeared in the American Philatelist.

Marking Date	Marking Type	Marking Color	State Marking
29 Mar 1835	MS	Black	O.
4 May 1835	MS	Black	O.
23 May 1835	MS	Black	O.
23 May 1835	MS	Black	O.
2 Jul 1835	MS	Black	O.
17 Jul 1835	SL	Black	OHIO
19 Jul 1835	SL	Black	OHIO
2 Sep 1835	SL	Black	OHIO
4 Sep 1835	SL	Black	OHIO
13 Sep 1835	SL	Black	OHIO
20 Sep 1835	CDS	Black	OHIO
6 Nov 1835	SL	Black	M.T.
23 Nov 1835	SL	Black	M.T.
18 Jan 1836	SL	Black	M.T.
20 Jan 1836	SL	Black	M.T.
24 Jan 1836	SL	Black	M.T.
20 Feb 1836	CDS	Black	OHIO
12 Mar 1836	MS	Black	O.
23 Apr 1836	MS	Black	Ohio
3 Jun 1836	CDS	Black	OHIO
8 Jun 1836	CDS	Black	OHIO
20 Jun 1836	CDS	Black	OHIO
21 Jul 1836	CDS	Red	OHIO
5 Aug 1836	CDS	Red	OHIO
10 Aug 1838	CDS	Black	OHIO
1 Sep 1836	MS	Black	Ohio
25 Nov 1836	CDS	Black	OHIO
4 Dec 1836	CDS	Black	OHIO
4 Jan 1837	CDS	Black	OHIO
8 Jan 1837	CDS	Black	OHIO
14 Jan 1837	CDS	Black	OHIO
18 Jan 1837	CDS	Red	OHIO

Location	Date	Year	Cancel Type	State Mark	Rate	Color
Privately Owned	5-Mar	1835	MS	O.	6	Black
Privately Owned	29-Mar	1835	MS	O.	18 3/4	Black
Privately Owned	20-Apr	1835	MS			
Publically Owned	23-May #1	1835	MS	O.	18 3/4	Black
Publically Owned	23-May #2	1835	MS	O.	18 3/4	Black
Publically Owned	2-Jul	1835	MS	O.	12 1/2	Black
Privately Owned	9-Jul	1835	SteamBoat	NO	NO	Blue
Publically Owned	17-July	1835	SL	OHIO	18 3/4	Black
Publically Owned	19-July	1835	SL	OHIO	25	Black
Privately Owned	16-Aug	1835	SL	OHIO	25	Red
Privately Owned	2-Sep	1835	SL	OHIO	25	Black
Publically Owned	4-Sep	1835	SL	OHIO	18 3/4	Black
Publically Owned	13-Sep	1835	SL	OHIO	37 1/2	Black
Publically Owned	20-Sep	1835	CDS	OHIO.	Free	Black
Publically Owned	6-Nov	1835	SL	M.T.	37 1/2	Black
Publically Owned	23-Nov	1835	SL	M.T.	18 3/4	Black
Privately Owned	18-Jan	1836	SL	M.T.	18 3/4	Black
Publically Owned	20-Jan	1836	SL	M.T.	Free	Black
Privately Owned	24-Jan	1836	SL	M.T.	Free	Black
Publically Owned	20-Feb	1836	CDS	OHIO.	Free	Black
Publically Owned	12-Mar	1836	MS	O.	Free	Black
Privately Owned	18-Apr	1836	MS	O.	25	Black
Publically Owned	23-Apr	1836	CDS	Ohio	18 3/4	Black
Privately Owned	20-May	1836	CDS	OHIO.	18 3/4	Black
Privately Owned	23-May	1836	CDS	OHIO.	18 3/4	Black
Privately Owned	8-Jun	1836	CDS	OHIO.	25	Black
Publically Owned	20-Jun	1836	CDS	OHIO.	Free	Black
Privately Owned	21-Jul	1836	CDS	OHIO.	183/4 FWD	Red
Privately Owned	5-Aug	1836	CDS	OHIO.	Free	Red
Privately Owned	10-Aug	1836	CDS	OHIO.	10	Black
Privately Owned	1-Sep	1836	MS	Ohio	Free	Black
Privately Owned	24-Oct	1836	MS	Ohio	Free	Black
Privately Owned	1-Nov	1836	MS	Ohio	Free	Black
Privately Owned	4-Dec	1836	CDS	OHIO.	18 3/4	Black
Privately Owned	7-Dec	1836	CDS	OHIO.	18 3/4	Black
Privately Owned	24-Dec	1836	CDS	OHIO.	Free	Black
Privately Owned	26-Dec	1836	CDS	OHIO.	6	Black
Privately Owned	5-Jan	1837	CDS	OHIO.	12 1/2	Black
Privately Owned	8-Jan	1837	CDS	OHIO.	12 1/2	Black
Privately Owned	16-Jan	1837	CDS	OHIO.	25	Black
Privately Owned	18-Jan	1837	CDS	OHIO.	18 3/4	Black
Privately Owned	20-Jan	1837	CDS	OHIO.	12 1/2	Black

An early consequence of Comstock's behavior was a howl of protest from Michigan authorities, resulting in a letter from William T. Barry, then Postmaster General of the United States, to Lucius Lyon, Michigan Territorial Senator at Congress. Barry wrote to solicit from Lyon the name of a successor to Comstock at Toledo, in consequence of Comstock's presumption in favor of Ohio's claim. Whether Comstock retained his position due to the intercession of Lyon or as a result of the arrival in Toledo on 3 April 1835 of Richard Rush and Benjamin Howard, mediators appointed by President Andrew Jackson, or due to some other circumstance, we do not know.

We do know that Comstock continued in office until he was relieved by Emery D. Potter on 25 July 1836. We also have the evidence of surviving letters that manuscript Ohio postmarks continued to be applied at Toledo through 2 July 1835, when a straight-line "TOLEDO, OHIO" postmark came into use, being applied to Toledo letters posted between 17 July 1835 and 13 September 1835. Finally, we have a new 28mm circular postmark applied to a letter posted from Toledo 20 September 1835. This distinctive postmark also capitalized on the state name, proudly proclaiming the aspirations of the Toledoans, if not the status of their post office. At this point all Ohio postmarks disappeared from the Toledo scene until February of 1836.



Why? *In September 1835, President Jackson decreed the area would be under Michigan's authority until the matter was settled.*

Although no documented, definitive answer may yet be given, we feel free to speculate that Postmaster Comstock may well have received a written directive from new Postmaster General Amos Kendall, who succeeded Barry on 1 May 1835, to use Michigan Territory markings until such time as the Congress might deal with Ohio's claim to the disputed territory. Furthermore, both parties to the dispute had cooled their rhetoric somewhat and withdrawn their militia forces from the immediate area. At any rate, Ohio postmarks were supplanted at Toledo by M.T. postmarks no later than 6 November 1835.

Five consecutive letters bearing straight-line M.T. markings have been recorded between 6 November 1835 and 24 January, 1836. Their period of use coincides with Michigan's attempt to achieve statehood as a fait accompli, a gambit which failed when their newly elected Congressmen were refused seating in the Congress. Michigan retained its territorial status and the Toledo post office reverted to Ohio postmarks.

20 February 1836 marks a return to Ohio postmarks from Toledo, with a reappearance of the Toledo circular date stamp first recorded the previous September. It was followed by March and April manuscript Ohio postmarks. Further examples are needed to establish a definite pattern of usage.

15 June 1836 was a watershed day in the history of Toledo because Congress formally transferred jurisdiction to Ohio as rider to the Arkansas Statehood Act, Michigan refused to acknowledge it. Notwithstanding a return to use of the "OHIO" circular date stamp, for good. The Strip was still claimed by Michigan until 26 January 1837 when that territory became a state and received western two thirds of upper peninsula as compensation for its loss of the Toledo area.

At what point should the collector regard his Toledo CDS "OHIO" covers as being legitimate Ohio usages of relatively little collector interest instead of the highly desirable and expensive to purchase souvenirs of the defiant sentiments of a miscreant postmaster? One might argue for the date of 15 June 1836 because Congress recognized Ohio's claim on this date. Still, Michigan refused its assent to this settlement for months to come and continued to press its claim until a Convention of Assent held late in the year finally recognized the inevitable. Moreover, we have already seen that the U.S. Post Office was still unaware until June of 1837 that Tremainville was in Ohio. We have, to date, seen no directive establishing a date for the effective transition from Michigan Territory to Ohio status for the Toledo post office. What date should we use?

26 January 1837 appears to be the most significant date to use as a basis for evaluating the status of Toledo letters. It officially marks the end of the confusion over jurisdictional rights to the disputed strip. It marks the end of Michigan claims and Michigan taxes. No M.T. markings have surfaced after this date from any of the offices in the contested area. Thus, regardless of the legal status of any of the offices on this date, it appears to be the most appropriate date for considering the Strip post offices as having passed effectively to the jurisdiction of Ohio.

Earliest known
 use of a Toledo
 postal marking.
 Black MS on
 letter to
 Alpheus Felch at
 Monroe, M.T.
 from James
 Maddock at
 Toledo. Request
 all money to be
 paid to him from
 Mr. Seranton,
 demands to Mr.
 Andrew Palmer,
 and asks about
 the Tillman suit.
Privately Owned

Figure TO-1 Toledo, Ohio. - 5 March 1835.



ALPHEUS FELCH:

Fifth governor of Michigan, born Limerick, Maine 28 September 1804. Early education attained at Phillips Academy in New Hampshire, later at Bowdoin College graduated in 1827. Studied law, admitted to bar in 1830, and established a legal practice in Houlton, Maine. After moving to Michigan, Felch entered a political career. He served as member of Michigan House of Representatives 1835 to 1837, and was state bank commissioner 1838 to 1839. State auditor general in 1842, and associate justice of the Michigan Supreme Court 1842 to 1845. Felch secured the Democratic gubernatorial nomination, and won governorship 4 November 1845. During his tenure, state statutes were amended; the state capital relocated to Lansing; and state's population continued to increase. Felch resigned governorship on 3 March 1847, upon election to the U.S. Senate serving until 1853. He secured appointment as president of commission organized to settle Spanish and Mexican war claims. He served three years. He passed away on 13 June 1896.

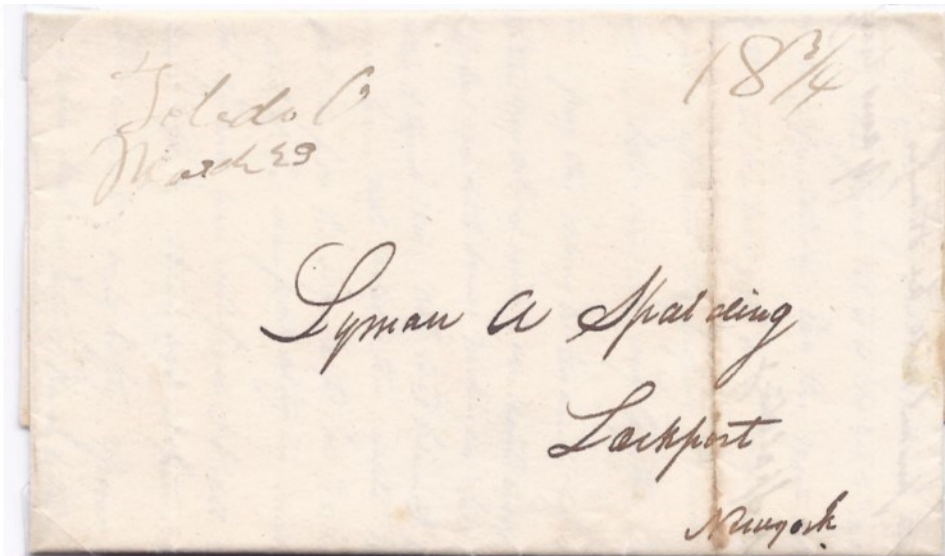
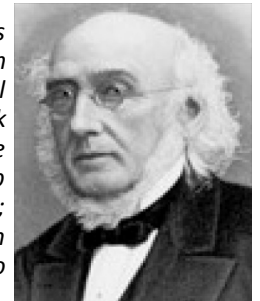


Figure TO-2

Toledo, Ohio. March 29, 1835.
 The manuscript postmark on this letter was the earliest recorded from the office, when monograph was written, and it represents the sentiments of Toledo postmaster Stephen B. Comstock.
 The writer was a newly arrived immigrant who headed his letter "Toledo, M.T.".

Ball Collection
 (Sold 6 June 2000)
Privately Owned

Lyman A. Spalding-Recipient of letter above .

- Born at Scipio, Cayuga County, New York, 28 February 1800
- Died 7 January 1885
- Had large milling operation in Lockport, New York
- Sent employees to Toledo area for business opportunities.
- Invested heavily in Toledo area

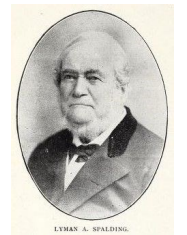


Figure TO-3

9 April 1835

Letter from W.T. Barry, Postmaster General, to Michigan's Lucius Lyon, soliciting the name of a replacement for the postmaster of Toledo.

Courtesy of the William L. Clements Library, University of Michigan, Ann Arbor.

Post Office (Dept.
April 9, 1835.

Sir,

An application has been addressed to me for the removal of the Post Master of Toledo, Michigan Territory; & the appointment of a successor, upon the ground of his having assumed to determine, without an order from this Dept.; the location of his Office as being in the State of Ohio, & his having taken an improper part in the controversy now pending, between that State & Michigan Territory, which has created much excitement & dissatisfaction among the people.

You will confer a favor by communicating your views in relation to the proposed change, & should you advise it, you will please recommend a suitable person as the successor of the present incumbent.

Hon. Lucius Lyon
(Detroit, Mic. T. }

I am respectfully
Ch. Off. Serot.

W. T. Barry

Figure TO-4

Toledo 23 May 1835

Manuscript postmarked letter to Governor Robert Lucas of Ohio regarding the boundary issue.

Posted during the period when Toledo residents were supposed to be free to choose whether they were in Ohio or Michigan.

Courtesy of the State Library of Ohio, Columbus, Ohio.

Robert Lucas:

(1 Apr 1781–

7 Feb 1853)

12th Ohio Governor 1832 to 1836.

1st Governor of Iowa Territory 1838 to 1841.

Born near Mecklenburg, VA now Shepherdstown, W. VA.

Lucas came from Quaker family. Father, a Revolutionary war veteran, owned slaves and large amounts of land. Robert received some early schooling in mathematics and surveying, skills that would prove invaluable to his future work.

At nineteen, moved to the Scioto Valley Northwest Territory. The family bought parcels of land. Nearby town of Lucasville was named for them. For his recruiting skills during hostilities between England, France, and U.S. Lucas was made Captain in 1807.

Elected to Ohio General Assembly in 1808. Political moves made him General in 1810. Served War of 1812. Gained prominence in court-martial of General William Hull. Journals he kept were used as evidence to convict Hull. 1818 named Speaker of Ohio Senate. Ohio Presidential elector in 1820 for James Monroe. Actively campaigned for Andrew Jackson. 1828 Presidential elector for Andrew Jackson. Won senate seat 1829. Chairman 1832 Democratic National Convention. Candidate for governor 1832, and won.

Lucas County, Ohio, was established and named for him during second term, in defiance of the Michigan Territory, which also claimed the land around the mouth of the Maumee River – thus provoking almost-bloodless Toledo War.

Iowa Territorial Governor, 1838–1841 While governor of Iowa, was involved in dispute similar to “Toledo War” with Missouri.

[https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Robert_Lucas_\(governor\)](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Robert_Lucas_(governor))

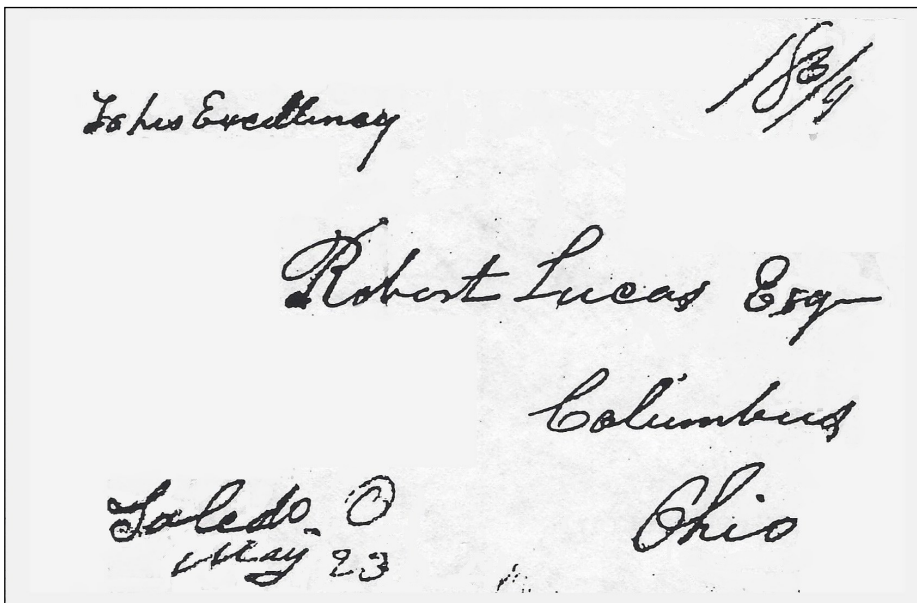
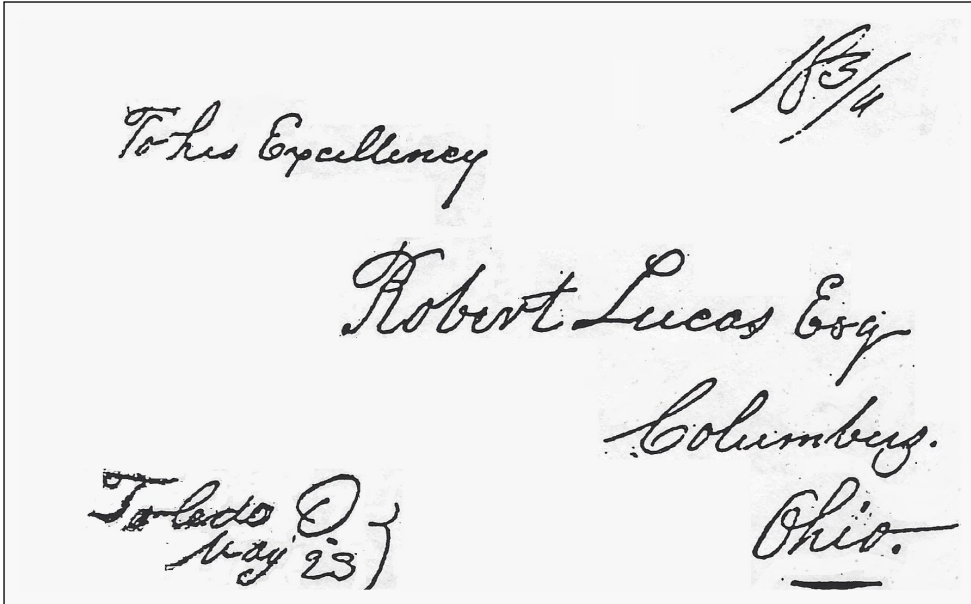
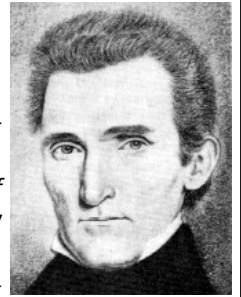


Figure TO-5

Toledo 23 May 1835

Manuscript postmarked letter to Governor Robert Lucas of Ohio regarding the boundary issue.

Posted same date as above, it was a period when Toledo residents were supposed to be free to choose whether they were in Ohio or Michigan.

Courtesy of the State Library of Ohio, Columbus, Ohio.

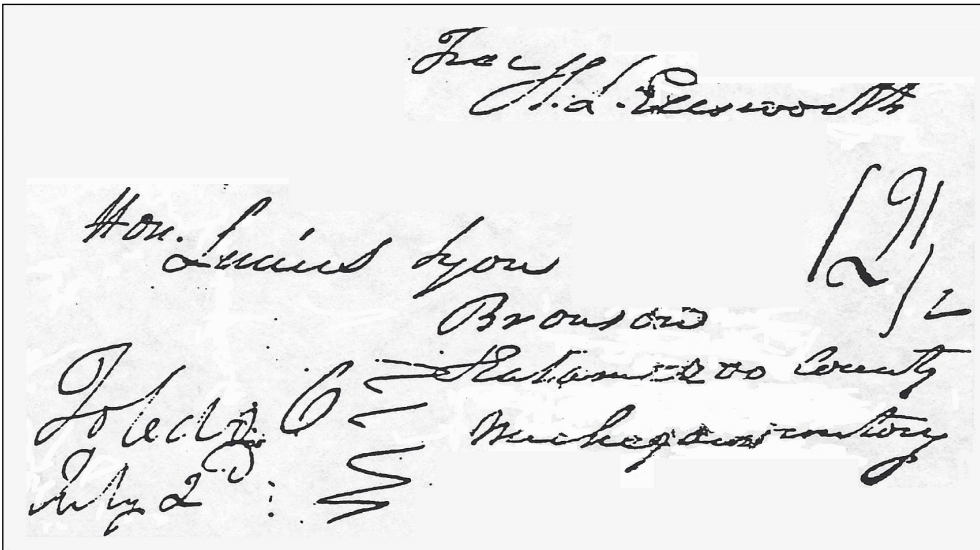


Figure TO-6
Toledo, O. 2 July 1835.
Manuscript Ohio postmark was applied to Sen. Ellesworth's letter despite the fact it was datelined Toledo, Michigan.
Courtesy of the William L. Clements Library, University of Michigan, Ann Arbor.

Figure TO-7
Toledo Ohio - 17 July 1835
This straight-line postmark replaced manuscript postmark. Unknown to collectors until recent years, four examples recorded are in Ohio archives, none in Michigan.
Courtesy of the State Library of Ohio, Columbus, Ohio.

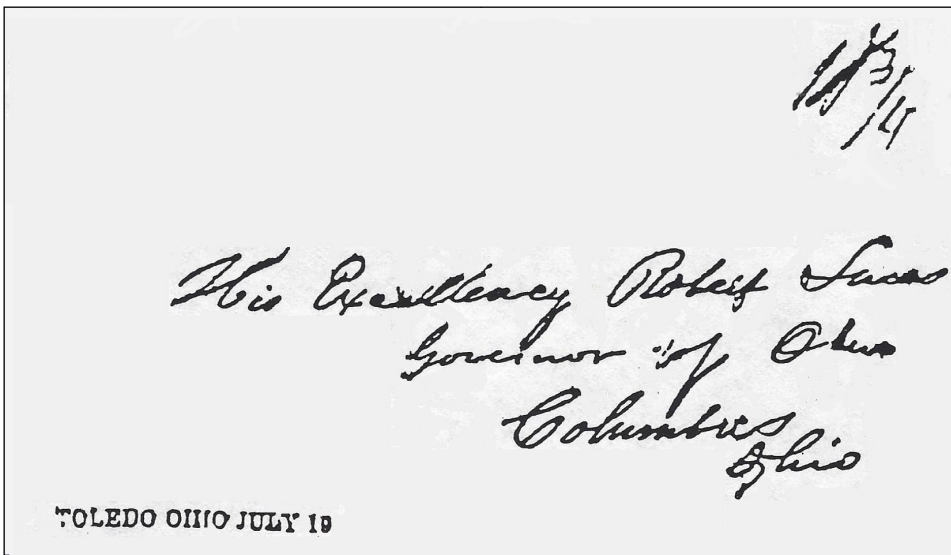
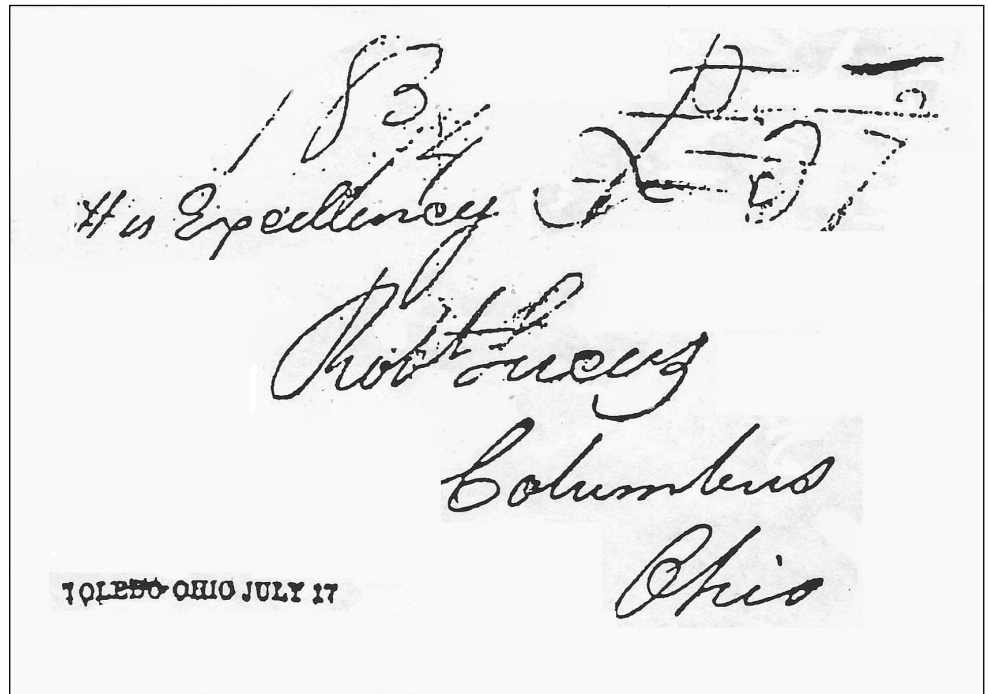
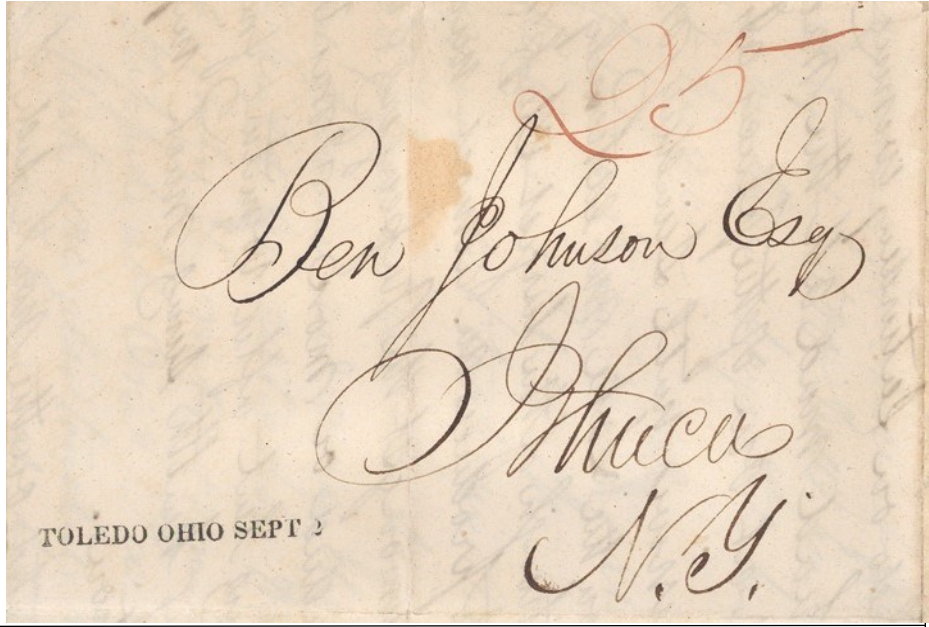


Figure TO-8
Toledo, Ohio - 19 July 1835.
Second recorded example of the straight-line Ohio postmark used at Toledo.
Another boundary issue letter mailed at height of the dispute.
Courtesy of the State Library of Ohio, Columbus, Ohio



Figure TO-9
 Toledo, Ohio - 16 August 1835.
 Postmaster Stephen Comstock began using
 "Straight Line" hand stamp in July 1835.
 Postmark black and rate in red.
 One of two known with private ownership.
 Privately Owned

Figure TO-10
 Toledo, Ohio.-2 September 1835.
 The time period inclusive of 17 July 1835, to 13 September 1835 is notable for a use of a straight-line postmark claiming Toledo for Ohio. No other postmarks have been recorded during this period. Six of these are extant, with four being in archives. To Ben Johnson ESQ. at Ithica, New York from H.L. Walbridge at Toledo. Date lined Toledo, MT: "Arrived yesterday on steamboat General Porter, from Buffalo. We ran aground and were detained for 4 hours. This place (Toledo) or some spot near here will eventually be a



large important place. A railroad is now building from Adrian in Lenawee County MT to this place 23 miles. **THERE IS NOW AND HAS BEEN A GREAT EXCITEMENT HERE ON SUBJECT OF THE BORDERING BETWEEN OHIO AND MICHIGAN...OFFICERS HAVE BEEN APPOINTED BY OHIO FOR THE DISPUTED TERRITORY,AND GOVERNOR LUCAS HAS APPOINTED A COURT TO BE HELD IN THIS PLACE ONE WEEK FROM TODAY. THIS PLACE IS TO BE COUNTY SEAT OF NEW CO CALLED LUCAS.** I infer you to a news paper and send for the particulars of the contemplated war." Mentions Captain Norton, Orin Phelps in Buffalo.

Was from the Ball collection.

Last known public appearance of this cover was as part of the auction of the Ball collection 10 March 1990, by Richard C. Frajola, Inc. at Garfield Perry Stamp Show in Cleveland.

2162 Toledo Ohio Sept 2 straight line pmk and ms "25" rate on 1835 folded letter to Ithaca, N.Y., usage before Michigan Statehood, the only reported example not in an archive, very fine.....Est. 2,500-3,000

Privately Owned

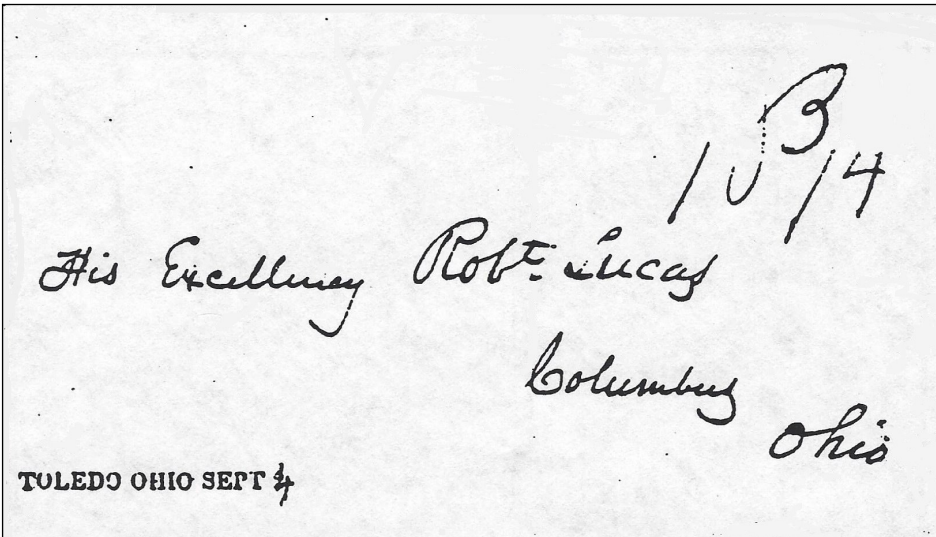


Figure TO-11
Toledo, Ohio –4 September 1835.
Written by L.C. Andrews of the Adjutant General's Office of Ohio, reporting further on the boundary question. Originally dated 2 September, the manuscript "4" was applied to date.
Courtesy of the State Library of Ohio, Columbus, Ohio

Figure TO-12
Toledo, Ohio.
13 September 1835.
This is the latest date recorded for use of this distinctive postmark. It is also another L.C. Andrews boundary letter.
Courtesy of the State Library of Ohio, Columbus, Ohio.

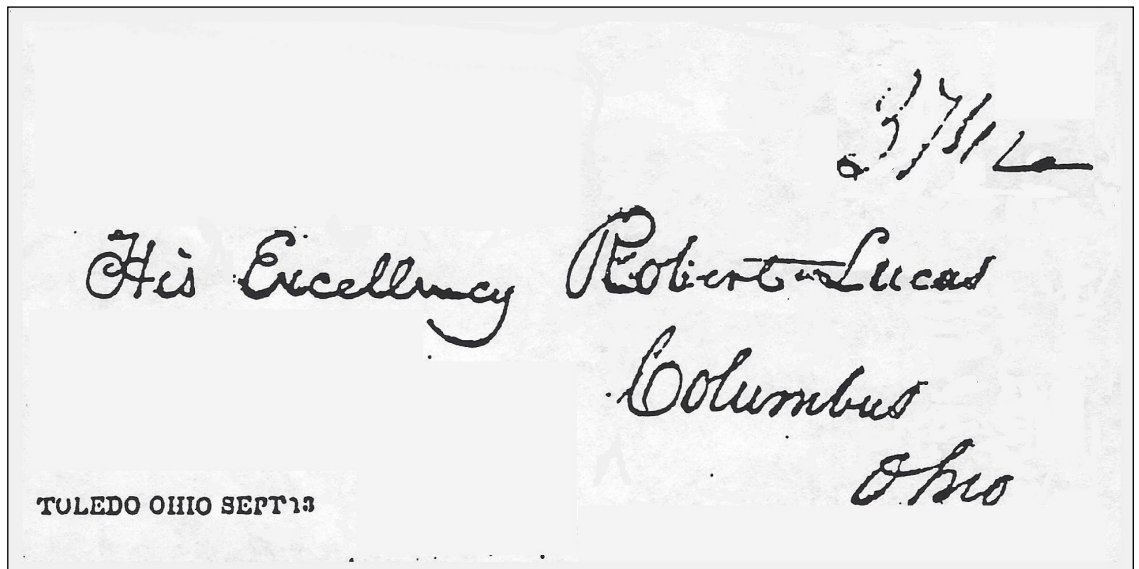


Figure TO-13
Toledo, Ohio
20 September 1835.
This boundary letter from Andrew Palmer of Toledo marked the first recorded use of the distinctive all-capitals circular postmark. Stamped in black ink, the postmark appeared nearly nine months before Toledo Strip was awarded to Ohio.
Courtesy of the State Library of Ohio, Columbus, Ohio

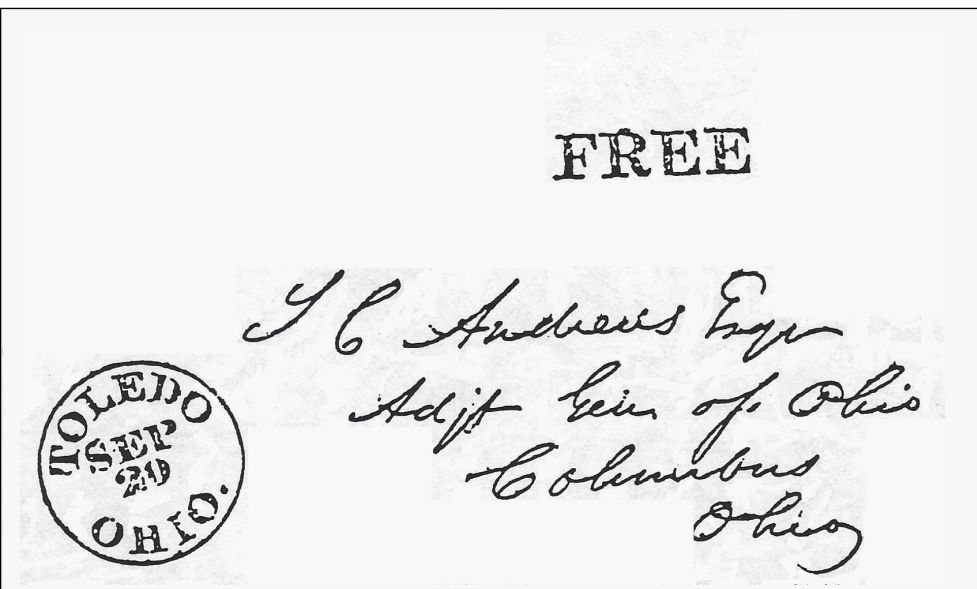


Figure TO-14

Toledo, Ohio.-
6 November 1835.

Although blurred, this is earliest dated example of a straight-line Toledo, M.T. postmark. Established as a Michigan Territory post office, Toledo had not previously used a proper (M.T.) postmark.

Courtesy of State Library of Ohio, Columbus, Ohio.

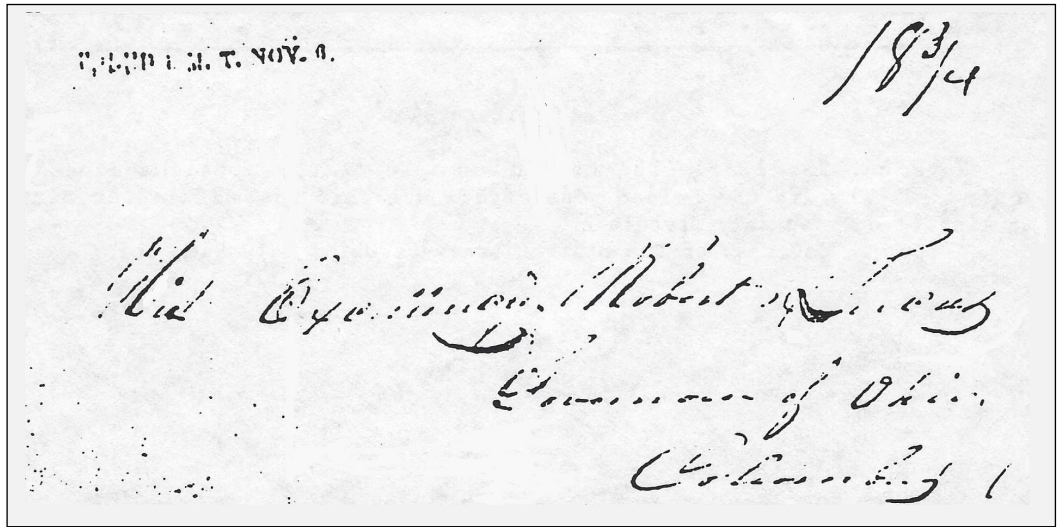


Figure TO-15

Toledo, Ohio
23 November 1835.

Second example straight-line Toledo, M.T. postmark. Why did the Toledo post office use this postmark after months of Ohio markings? One can only speculate.

(In September 1835 President Jackson decreed that a Michigan designation be used by all offices in disputed area until matter was settled.)

Courtesy of the State Library of Ohio, Columbus, Ohio

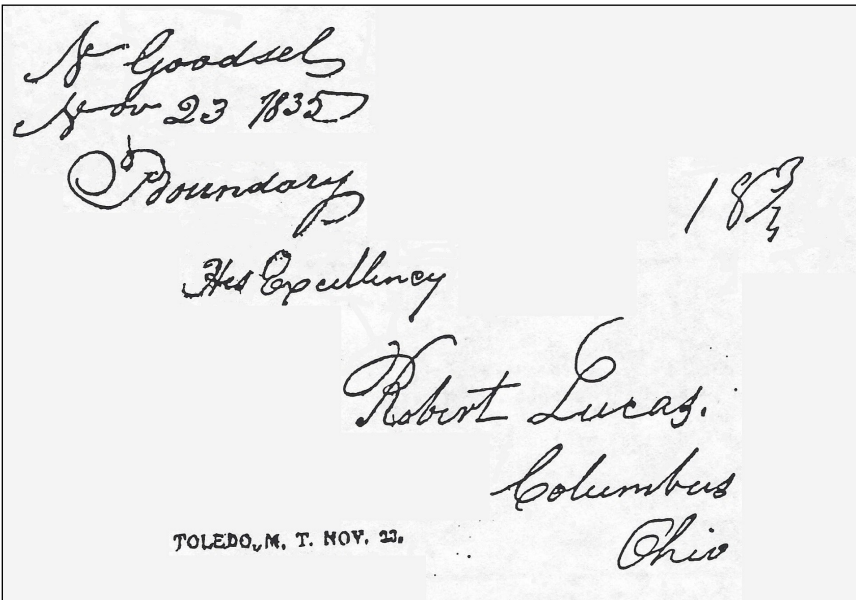


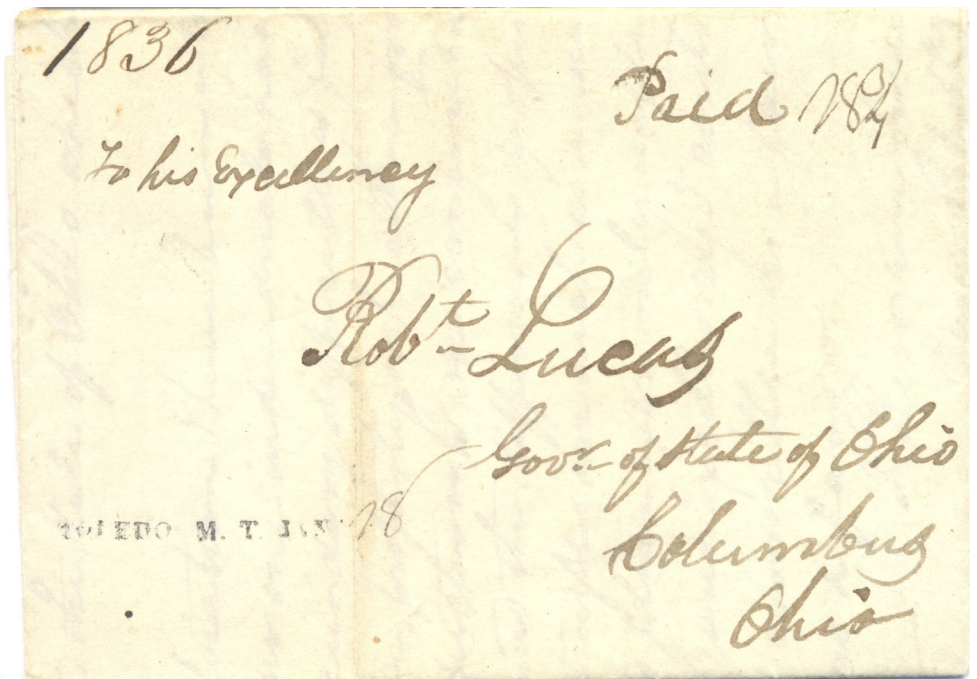
Figure TO-16

Toledo, Ohio
18 January 1836

Another example of the M.T. marking, all of which are struck in black ink.

Courtesy Paul Rohloff

Sold at auction,
13 January 1989
at ARIPEX,
by Richard C. Frajola
Privately Owned.



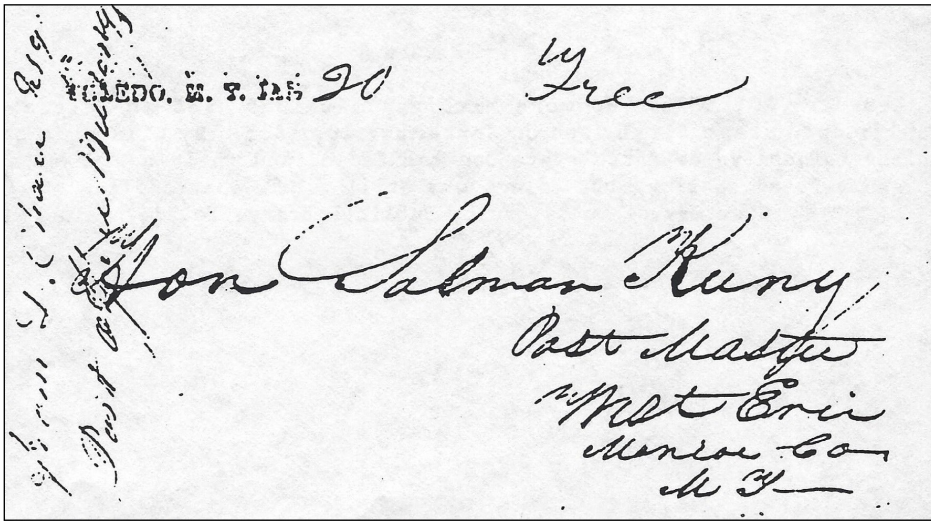


Figure TO-17
 Toledo, Ohio
 20 January 1836
 Letter from Daniel Chase, soon to be postmaster
 At new Manhattan, M.T. post office.
 Courtesy of Michigan History Division, State Archives,
 Lansing, Michigan.

Figure TO-18
 Toledo, Ohio – 24 January 1836
 Daniel Chase, who fifteen days later became postmaster at new Manhattan M. T. post office wrote letter.
Latest known use of "straight line" Toledo M. T. postmark . One of two in private collections.
 Privately Owned

Route: Toledo, Lower Sandusky, Cleveland, Lockport
 Contractor: #1451 Detroit-Lower Sandusky
 Rate: Effective May 1, 1816

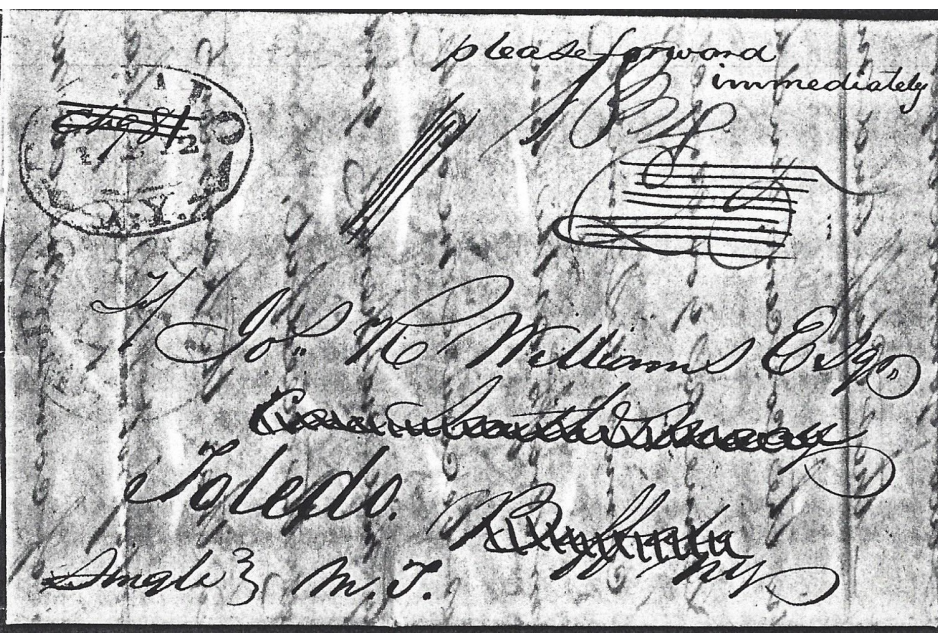
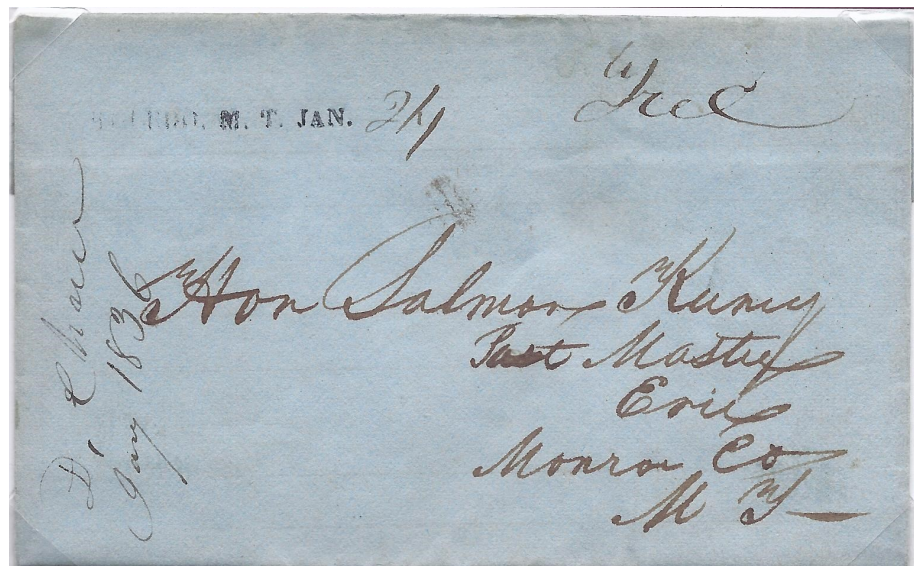


Figure TO-19
 Toledo, Ohio
 6 February 1836.
 No more Michigan markings being used at Toledo.
 This image is from a copy of a letter found an old dealers box.
 This letter showing no Toledo markings is addressed to Toledo M.T. and was sent from New York City to Buffalo. At Buffalo a 18 3/4 rate was added and forwarded to Toledo
 Unknown Ownership

Figure TO-20

Toledo, Ohio
20 February 1836.

Free frank to Postmaster
Collins.

*The circular date stamp first
used on 20 September 1835
returns. By this time the
attempt by Michigan to
achieve de facto statehood
had failed, but Toledo was
still a M.T. post office.*

Courtesy of Toledo Lucas
County Public Library,
Toledo, Ohio

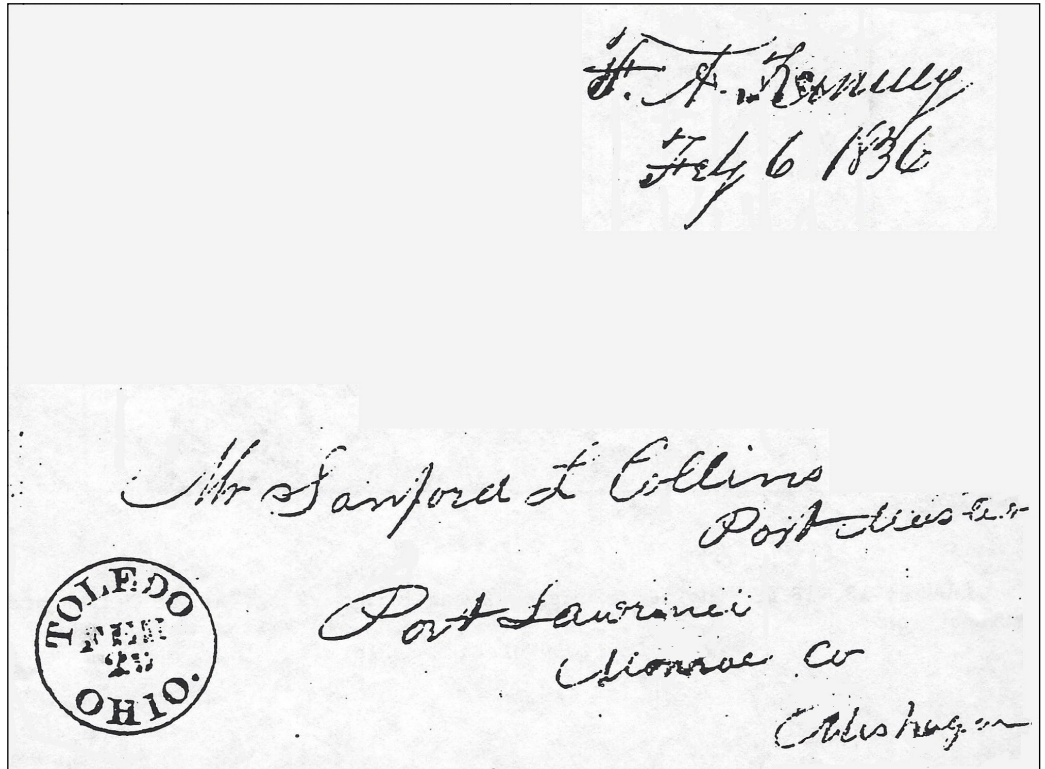


Figure TO-21

Toledo, Ohio
12 March 1836.

Return to a manuscript Ohio postmark. At this time Ohio's claim on the disputed territory was "in the bag" and the Toledo office seems to have felt it safe to return to Ohio postmarks.

Courtesy of the State Library of Ohio, Columbus, Ohio.

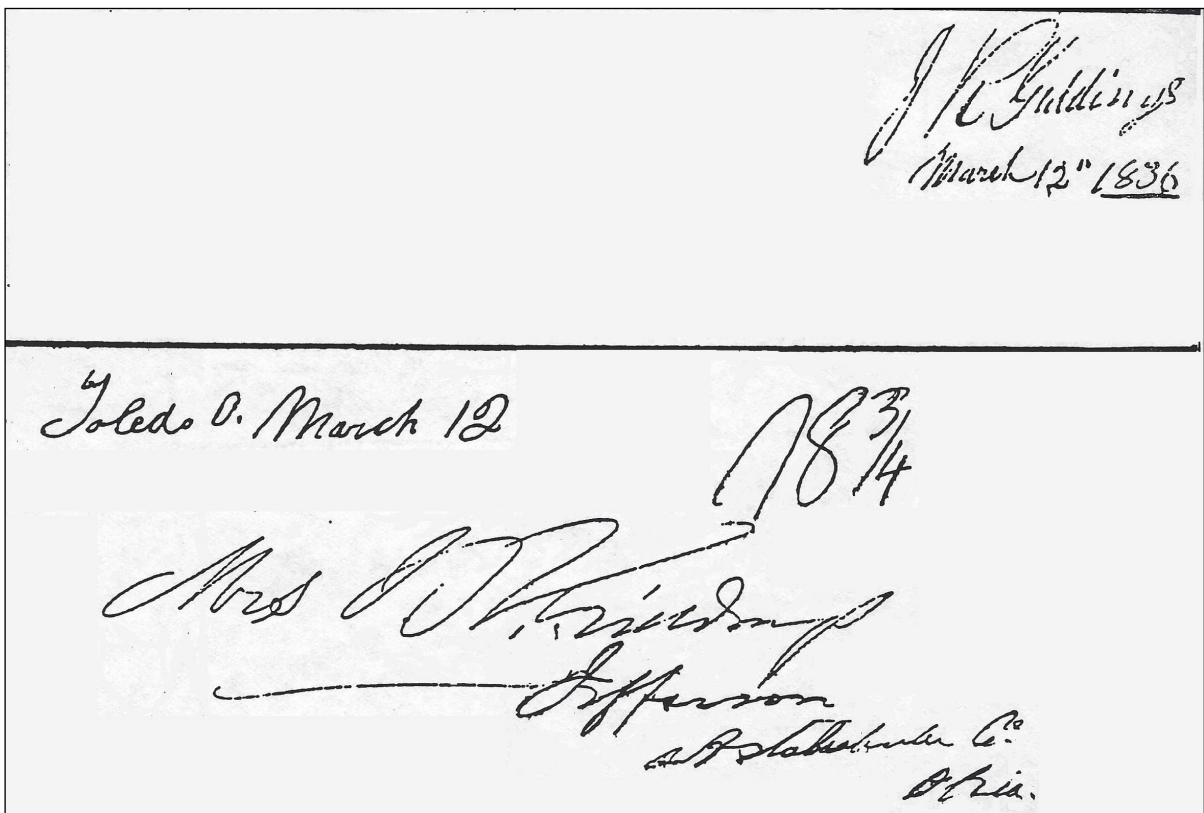


Figure TO-22

Toledo, Ohio - 20 May 1836.

Manuscript 25 with two page letter to Boston, NY missent and forwarded. Letter datelined Manhattan M.T.

Emery Potter, Toledo postmaster began using a CDS in early 1836 after discontinuation of "Straight Line"

M.T. Note date written in.

Earliest known Toledo CDS in private hands.

Privately Owned

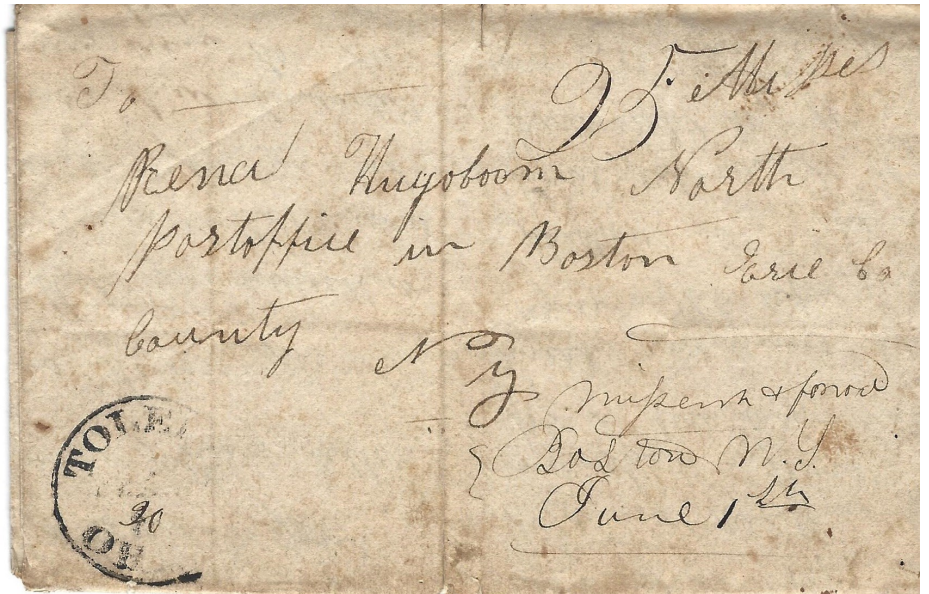


Figure TO-23

Toledo, Ohio - 23 May 1836.

Emery Potter, Toledo postmaster, began using a CDS in early 1836 after discontinuation of "Straight Line".

Last straight line used "M.T.", new CDS is Ohio. Note date written. Displays a "PAID" handstamp previously not seen in Toledo.

Privately Owned



Route: Toledo-Ft. Wayne-Chicago

Contractor:

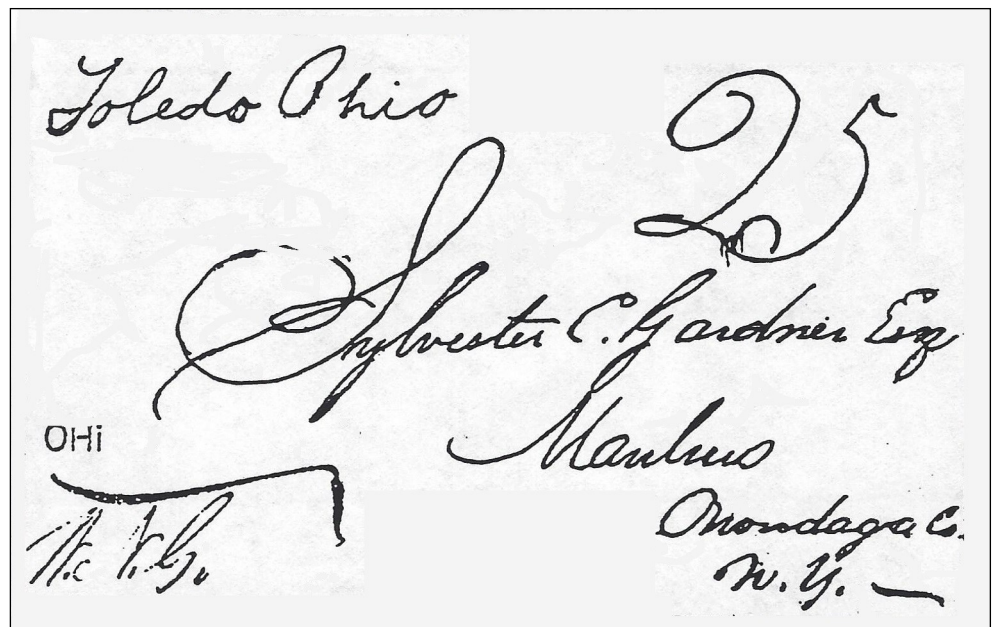
Rate: Effective May 1, 1816

Figure TO-24

Toledo, Ohio - 23 April 1836.

Again a manuscript Ohio postmark.

Courtesy of the State Library of Ohio, Columbus, Ohio.



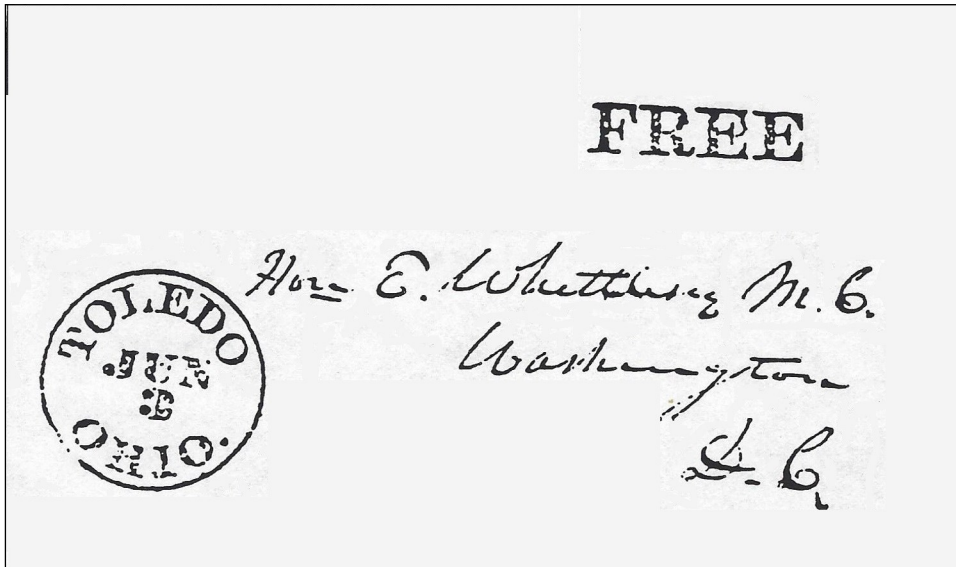


Figure TO-25
 Toledo, Ohio –3 June, 1836
 Letter to Representative Whittlesey and a permanent return to the 28mm circular date stamp at Toledo. Still a Michigan Territory post office for the next seven months, Toledo never looked back.
 Courtesy of the Western Reserve Historical Society, Cleveland, Ohio.

Figure TO-26
 Toledo, Ohio - 8 June 1836.
 Still a week before passage of Clinton Act and the earliest dated non-archival letter bearing the distinctive postmark, black, on an immigrant's letter.
 Letter recounting good times writer enjoyed living in Ogden, NY
 Privately Owned



Emery Davis Potter (October 7, 1804 – February 12, 1896)

- Born Providence, Rhode Island, Died Toledo, Ohio
- Studied law Cooperstown, New York
- Moved Toledo, Ohio 1834
- Opened first law office
- 2nd Toledo Postmaster 25 July 1836-23 April 1839
- Judge of circuit court northern counties of Ohio.
- Elected to Twenty-eighth Congress
- Mayor of Toledo 1846-1848.
- Member State house of representatives 1848-1850.
- Elected to the Thirty-first Congress

- Chairman Committee on Post Office and Post Roads
- City solicitor 1861 and 1862.
- Member Board of Education 1864 and 1865
- State senate 1874-1876 and served as president.
- Retired from active practice in 1880.

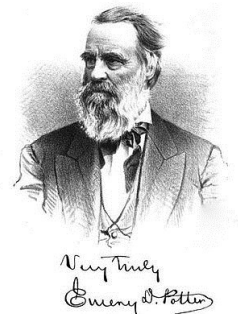


Figure TO-27

Toledo, Ohio –20 June 1836.

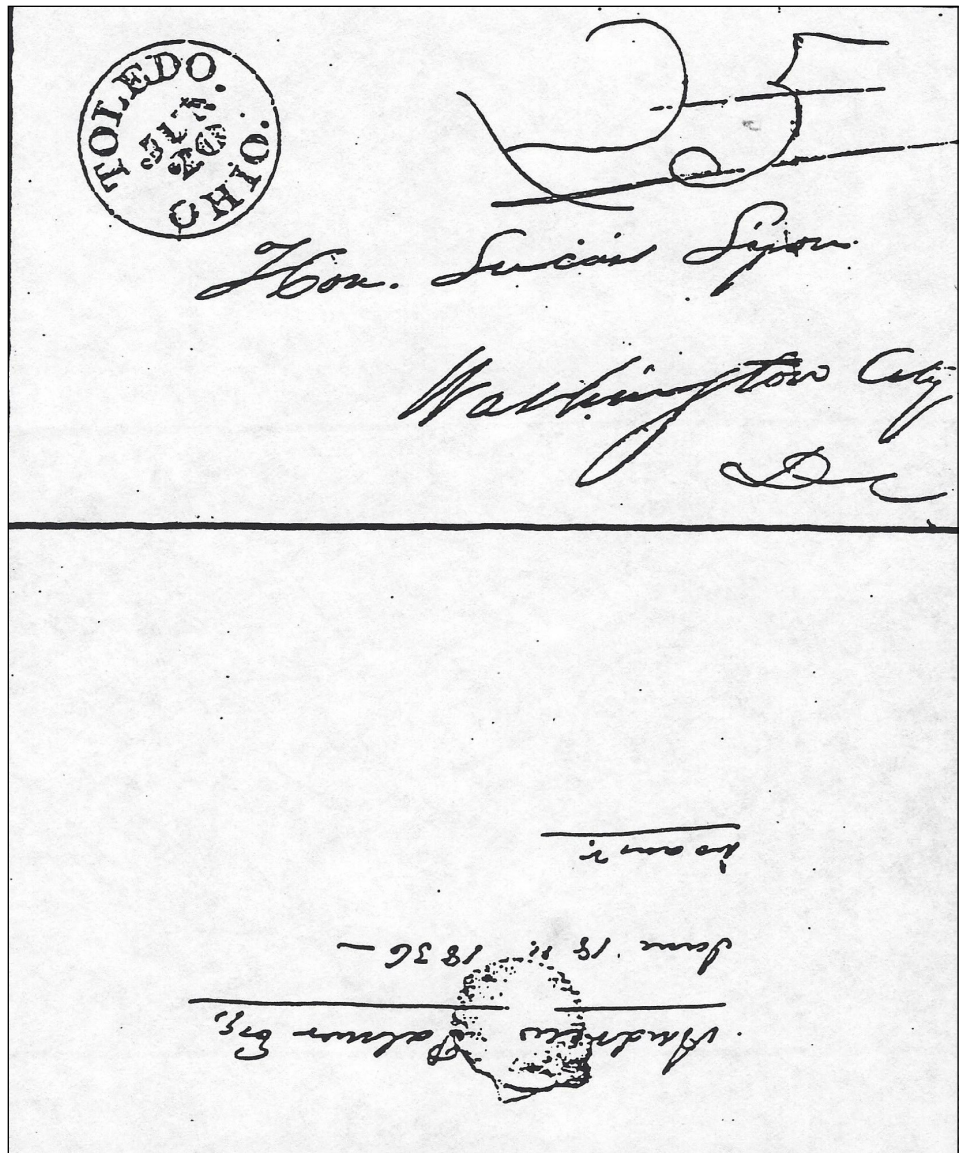
Letter from Andrew Palmer, the man who traveled to Washington frequently and pushed Ohio's claim in the strip territory.

Did he order this postmarking device as a political maneuver?

15 June 1836, passage of Arkansas statehood bill, also cemented Ohio's right to the Toledo Strip area.

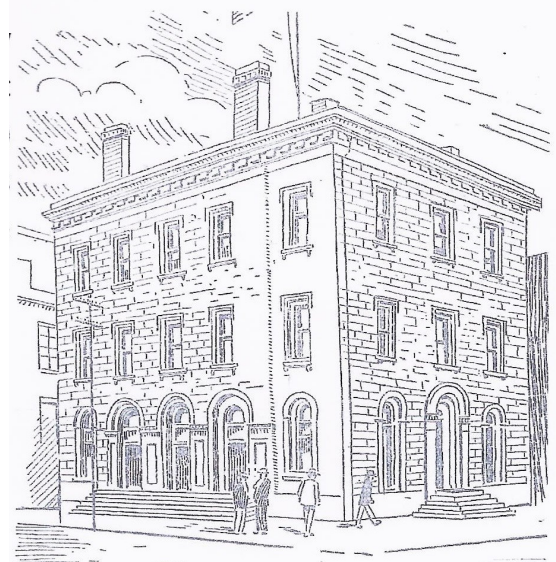
Postmarked just five days later, this is earliest recorded postmark designating the change.

Courtesy of
William L. Clements Library,
University of Michigan,
Ann Arbor.



The Toledo Post Office was established 9 January 1835; however "The Post Offices of Ohio" by John S. Gallagher and Alan H. Patera 1979 lists an establishment date of 25 July 1836. The 1836 date most likely rises from 15 June 1836 legislation admitting Michigan to the Union and all legal documents in the hands of Michigan authorities being turned over to Ohio on 11 July 1836. Post office records show the office being changed to an Ohio office on 25 July and Emery B. Potter being appointed an Ohio postmaster on that date.

A brick building was built on Summit Street between Madison and Oak. Oak is today Jackson) The building stood by itself with no other buildings around.



For a short time between 20 June 1836 and 10 August 1836 the Toledo Post Office changed to red ink. The reason for this is unknown for sure however, as immediately followed passage of the bill giving the strip to Ohio a good guess would be that the postmaster wanted the Ohio to really stand out.

Figure TO-28

Toledo, Ohio – 21 July 1836

This cover serviced 3 September 2020. Purchased a number of years ago it was not a priority for the owner and was stored for many years. Sent to Joseph Williams in Toledo, from New York, but Williams was not in Toledo. Toledo applied a red CDS, red forwarding mark (ford), added 18 3/4 cent postage and sent it on to Williams in Buffalo.

Privately Owned



Figure TO-29

Toledo, Ohio – 5 August 1836

Circular postmark in red with red "FREE" as well as postmaster free frank. Emery Potter was the lawyer who was principal speaker at the mass celebration attendant upon passage of the Clinton Act on June 15, 1836. He became postmaster on July 25, 1836.

Privately Owned

Figure TO-30

Toledo, Ohio –10 August 1836.

Carried by steamboat and addressed to Hon. Micajah Williams, one of the original owners of the Port Lawrence tract, and Ohio Acting Canal Commissioner in 1827, at Detroit from H. Smith, Capt. U.S. Army at Toledo - Date line Steamboat North America - Regarding the waters of Lake Erie which are an average of two feet higher than the previous year.

Author's collection at time.



Last known public appearance was the auction of the Ball collection 10 March 1990, by Richard C. Frajola, Inc. at Garfield Perry Stamp Show in Cleveland.

Image Courtesy of <https://erniesmichigan.com>
Privately Owned

2163 Toledo Ohio Aug 10 black cds and ms "17" rate on 1836 folded letter to Detroit, usage prior to Michigan Statehood, letter dated aboard "Steamboat North American" by a Navy Capt. regarding the water level on Lake Erie, addressed to the Ohio Canal Commissioner, aged fold, fine strike..... Est.

Figure TO-31

Toledo, Ohio -1 September 1836

Emery D. Potter used his free frank on a trip East to wrap up his affairs. No Michigan markings appear on mail posted during his tenure. He was a champion of Ohio sovereignty and a future mayor, congressman, and judge from Toledo. Author's collection at time.

Last known public appearance of this cover was 10 March 1990 when it was sold at auction, Richard C. Frajola, Inc. at the Garfield Perry Stamp Show in Cleveland.

2164 (Free, E.D. Potter, P.M., Toledo, Ohio) free frank on Aug. 31, 1836 folded letter to Winfield, N.Y., ms "Schuylers Lake N.Y." pmk, one week after P.M. appointment, prior to Michigan Statehood, travelling free frank usage, edges stained. Est. 400-500

Privately Owned.

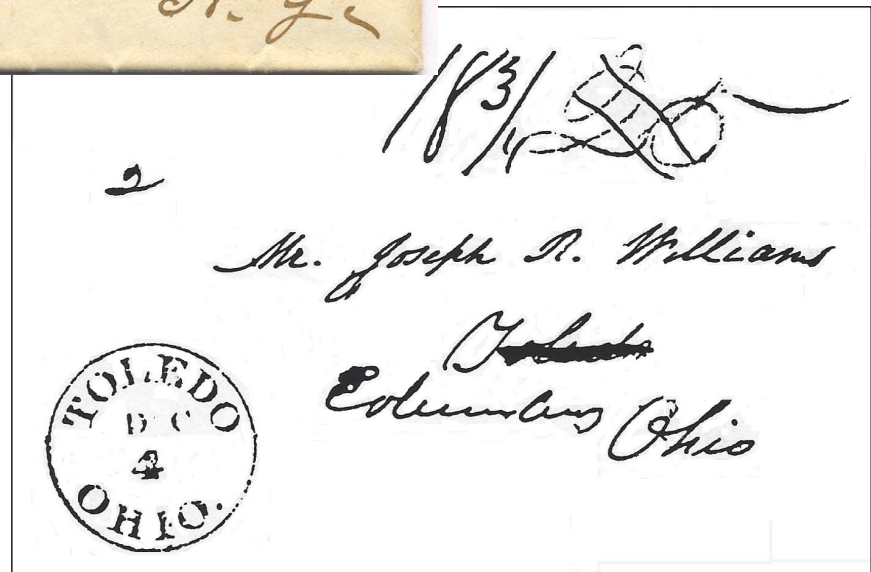
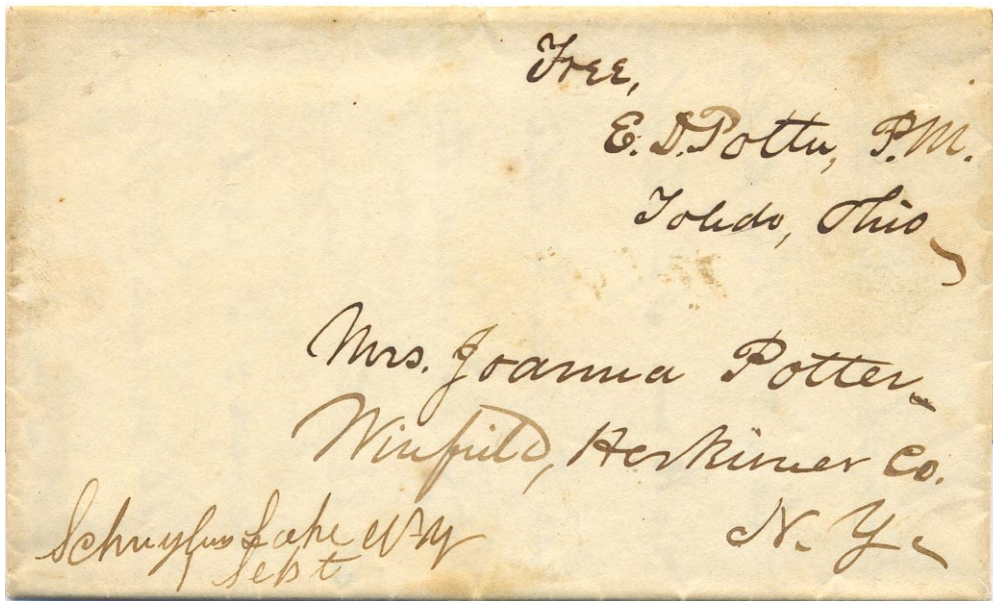


Figure TO-32

Toledo, Ohio -4 December 1836.

Posted November 22, 1836 at New Bedford, Massachusetts and forwarded from Toledo with a black postmark. Still before Michigan statehood. Author's collection at time.

Last known public appearance of this cover was 10 March 1990 when it was sold at auction, Richard C. Frajola, Inc. at the Garfield Perry Stamp Show in Cleveland.

2165 Toledo Ohio Dec 4 black forwarding pmk and ms rate change on 1836 folded letter from New Bedford, Mass, with faint cds, to Columbus, letter addressed to J. Williams, later became first President of Michigan State, usage prior to Michigan Statehood, soiled. Est. 100-150

Privately Owned

Figure TO-33

Toledo, Ohio –7 December 1836.

Posted Constantine, MT
29 November 1836 it arrived in
Toledo to find Williams was in
Cincinnati.

Toledo CDS of 7 December
applied as a forwarding mark. A
new rate of 18 3/4 cent applied
to forward to Cincinnati .

Letter is from Thomas Macy, in
New York concerning real-estate
investments.

Privately Owned



Figure TO-34

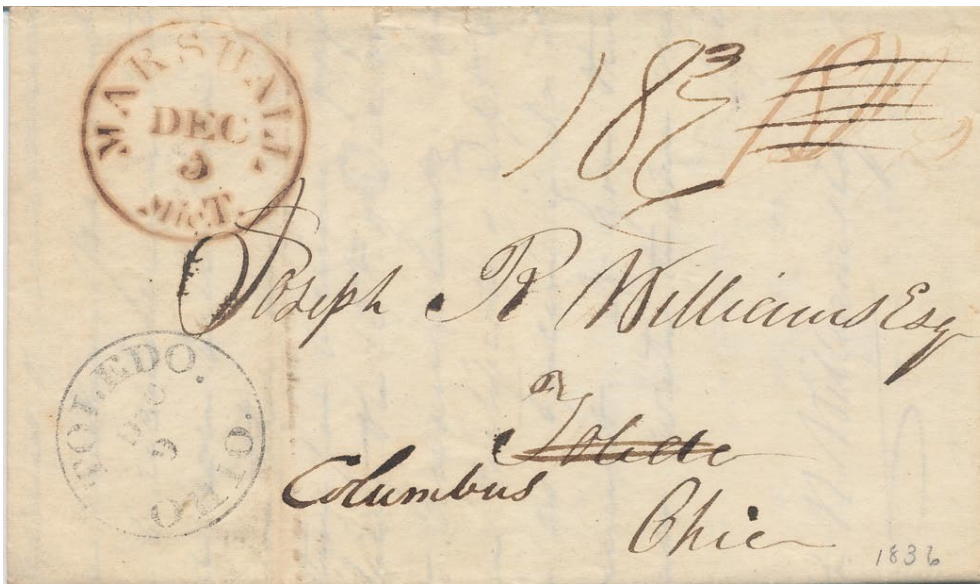
Toledo, Ohio –9 December 1836.

Posted Marshall, MT
5 December 1836, from James
Anderson Ionia, Ionia, Co. MT.

It arrived in Toledo
9 December 1836
to find Joseph R. Williams was in
Cincinnati. Toledo CDS of
7 December applied as
forwarding mark. A new rate of
18 3/4 cent applied forwarding to
Cincinnati .

Letter is from Thomas Macy, in
New York concerning real-estate
investments.

Privately Owned



Joseph Rickelson Williams (November 14, 1808 – June 15, 1861)

- ◆ Born Taunton, Massachusetts
- ◆ Graduated from Harvard in 1831 with distinguished honors.
- ◆ Moved to Toledo, served as the agent for New England Company seeking land investments
- ◆ 1839 moved to Constantine, Michigan, invested in construction/operation of flour mills
- ◆ Member of Michigan constitutional convention of 1850
- ◆ 1853 returned to Toledo, purchased Toledo Blade
- ◆ **In 1856, Williams sold the paper assumed duties as first President of the Agricultural College of the State of Michigan First Land-Grant Institution to be established in U.S and now Michigan State University.**
- ◆ 1860 Elected to Michigan Senate
- ◆ 1861 President pro tempore senate
- ◆ 1861 14th Michigan Lieutenant Governor
- ◆ 1861 Reorganization Act of 1861. Mandated Agricultural College return to a four-year curriculum
- ◆ 1861 Lobbied Washington D. C. for passage of Morrill Land-Grant Colleges Act

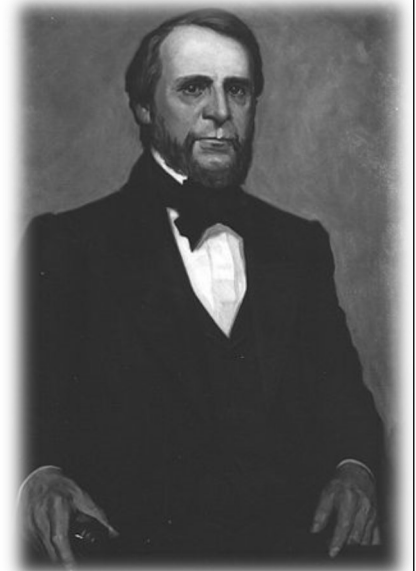




Figure TO-35
 Toledo, Ohio
 17 December 1836.
 Posted New York December 5, 1836 it arrived in Toledo to find Joseph R. Williams was in Columbus. Toledo CDS of 17 December applied as Forwarding mark.
 A new rate of 18 3/4 cent was applied to forward to Columbus. Letter is from Thomas Macy, in New York concerning real-estate investments.
 Privately Owned

Figure TO-36
 Toledo, Ohio – 24 December 1836.
 This 25 December 1836 Letter to Toledo is from Toledo PM Potter using his franking privileges from Columbus. "Tell him (Lewis) that my rifle must be kept in good order, for I may be under necessity of using it in an affair of Honor. Bradford, first keep your eye on the gun." Tells of being sick and asks about news of the railroad saying he may go to Washington on Monday or Tuesday, or come home to Toledo in the course of ten days from now.
 Privately Owned



H.S. Bradford was a Toledo attorney who is listed as Clerk of Council in 1840



Figure TO-37
 Toledo, Ohio – 26 December 1836.
 This 26 December letter to Gilead, MT is interesting in that it was part of auction of the Ball collection 10 March 1990, by Richard C. Frajola, Inc. at Garfield Perry Stamp Show in Cleveland, but it was not included in his census when monograph was first published.
 Was it a later purchase?
 Image from old auction catalogue on line.
 Privately Owned

Figure TO-38

Toledo, Ohio – 5 January 1837

Single letter posted 5 January 1837, 12 1/2 cent rate to Columbus. Rate for distance of 150 to 400 miles.

Last known Toledo postmark prior to Toledo's charter 7 January 1837

Official end of the "Toledo War" was just nineteen days away

Privately Owned



Figure TO-39

Toledo, Ohio – 8 January 1837.

First known Toledo postmark after being incorporated 7 January 1837

From New Bedford, Massachusetts addressed to Joseph Williams at Toledo, Mr. Williams was not in town.

Toledo office forwarded it to Columbus and added 12 1/2 cents due.

Privately Owned

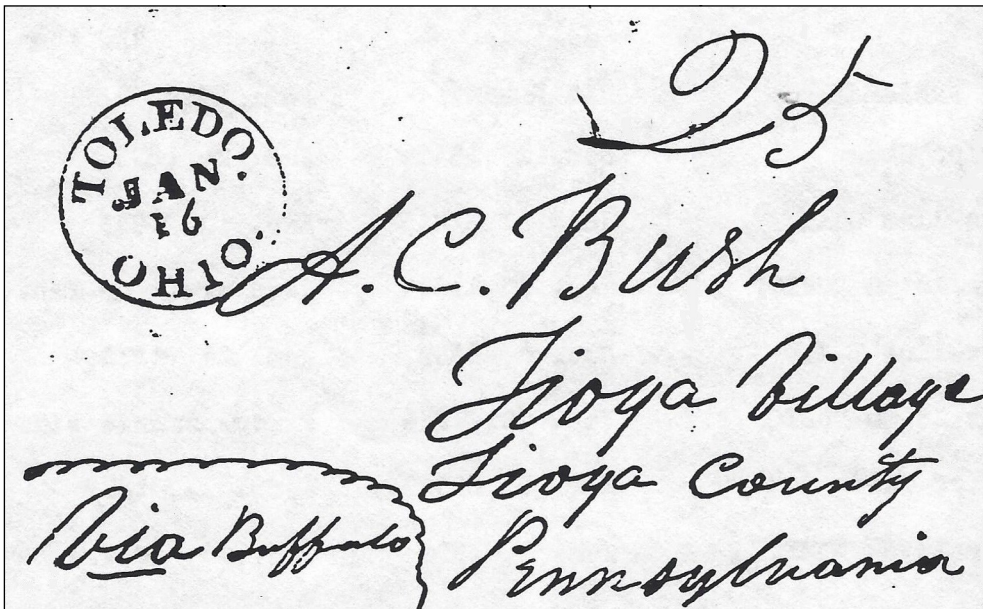


Figure TO-40
 Toledo, Ohio –16 January 1837
 Red Toledo postmark, 10 days
 before Michigan statehood.
 Privately Owned

Figure TO-41
 Toledo, Ohio
 18 January 1837.
 Toledo letter before
 Michigan statehood on
 26 January 1837.
 Addressed to Mr. B.S.
 Brown, commander of
 Ohio militia during the
 dispute.
 Privately Owned

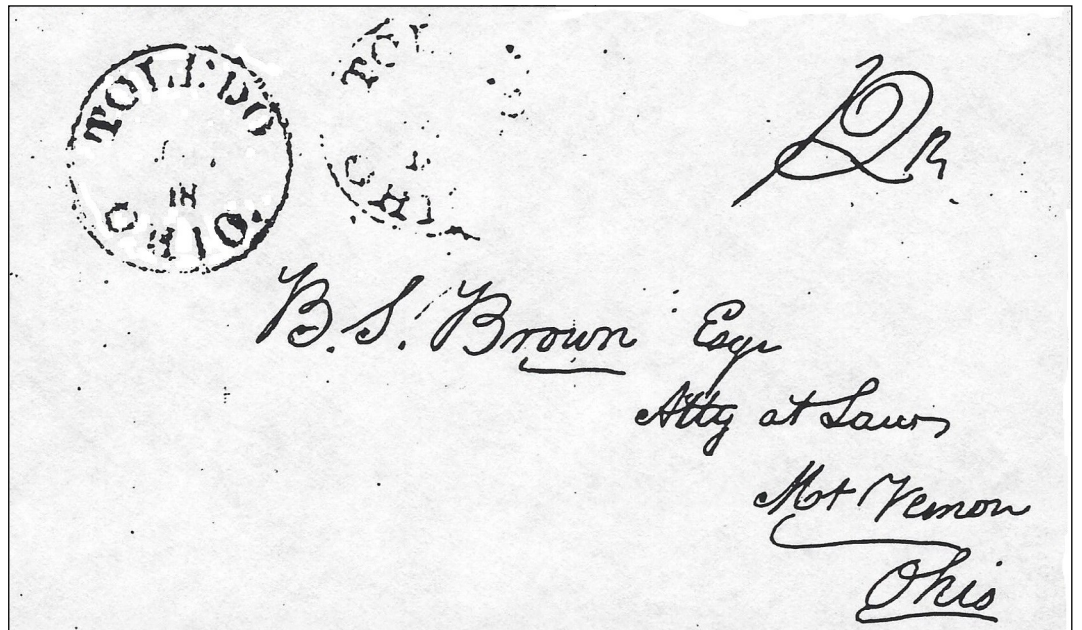


Figure TO-42
 Toledo, Ohio –20 January 1837
 Black Toledo CDS postmark, 6
 days before Michigan statehood.
 Latest known postmark before
 Michigan Statehood.
 Privately Owned.



Part of auction of the Ball
 collection 10 March 1990, by
 Richard C. Frajola, Inc. at Garfield
 Perry Stamp Show in Cleveland.

Chronology of Postmarks Used at Toledo

(based on actual known covers)

Figure 7

Type of Postmark		First Known Use	Last Known Use
Manuscript Toledo, O.		5 March 1835	2 July 1835
Straight-line TOLEDO OHIO		17 July 1835	13 September 1835
Circular 28mm "OHIO"		20 September 1835	1 November 1835
Straight-line TOLEDO, M.T.		6 November 1835	24 January 1836
Circular 28mm "OHIO"	SAME AS ABOVE	20 February 1836	1 March 1836
Manuscript Toledo, Ohio		12 March 1836	23 April 1836
Circular 28mm "OHIO"	SAME AS ABOVE	23 May 1836	20 June 1837
Circular 28mm "OHIO" RED		21 June 1836	7 August 1836
Circular 28mm "OHIO"	SAME AS ABOVE	8 August 1836	20 January 1837
Circular 28mm "OHIO" RED		18 January 1837	18 January 1837

Whiteford, M.T.

Although public sentiment in the Sylvania and Whiteford settlements north of Toledo favored Ohio's claim, David White of Whiteford stood to lose much if Ohio prevailed. One of the principal landowners in the area, he anticipated a personal bonanza with construction of a road across southern Michigan leading to a fine port on Lake Erie at Bay Settlement (Erie, Michigan). Accepting an appointment as a general in the Michigan territorial militia, lobbying for a territorial post office named for his community, and pressing Michigan's claim in his correspondence, White kept his tiny post office in Michigan as long as he could. Established on 2 June 1835 with James White serving as postmaster, Whiteford contributed four surviving letters to Michigan libraries.

Chart on left is original 1984 inventory with chart on right being the 2020 inventory. In thirty-six years only one new cover has surfaced, the 25 May 1836. Highlights on left hand chart indicate known covers in September 1975 when an article on the Strip appeared in the American Philatelist.

Marking Date	Marking Color	State Marking
6 Jan 1836	Black	M.T.
10 Feb 1836	Black	M.T.
2 Mar 1836	Black	M.T.
10 Dec 1836	Black	Mich.

Location	Date	Year	Cancel Type	State Mark	Rate	Color
Publically Owned	6-Jan	1836	MS	MT	Free	Black
Publically Owned	10-Feb	1836	MS	MT	Free	Black
Privately Owned	2-Mar	1836	MS	MT	Free	Black
Privately Owned	25-May	1836	MS	None	25	Black
Publically Owned	10-Dec	1836	MS	Mich.	Free	Black

Even as Toledo was returning to use of Ohio postmarks, the Whiteford office continued using manuscript Michigan markings throughout 1836, thus reflecting the sentiments and economic self-interest of White. Indeed, a letter postmarked from Sylvania, Ohio (There was no post office there.) and dated 16 May 1837 was addressed to Governor Joseph Vance of Ohio, successor to Governor Lucas, complaining that Michigan authorities continued to administer jurisdiction there and petitioning the new governor for relief. Clearly, the situation in Whiteford indicates that personal choice on the part of the postmasters in the disputed area overrode all other considerations in the absence of directives from the U.S. Post Office.

When were Ohio markings first used from Whiteford? We can only speculate in the absence of examples, but we have already seen that the Toledo postmaster came under heavy fire for using Ohio postmarks early in 1835. Postmaster Collins of Tremainville received a letter from the U.S. Post Office in June, 1837 expressing surprise to learn that his office was located in Ohio. Given these facts as well as our knowledge of David White's strong Michigan sentiments, we speculate that no Ohio postmarks will surface from Whiteford dated prior to January 26, 1837, and possibly well beyond that date.

White eventually reconciled himself to being an Ohioan and schemed for an appointment to a judgeship within that state, much to the chagrin of some Toledo people. Whiteford also reconciled itself to Ohio, becoming the post office of Sylvania, Ohio on February 12, 1859. It remains open today,

...serving lovely bed-room suburb Toledo.

David White Came to area in 1831, Whiteford Township, Monroe County, MI is named for him.

Along with Judge William Wilson, White was original founder of Sylvania. They parted company 1834 over border dispute.

White platted Whiteford (map) and had a sawmill SE corner Main & Monroe. Boundary Street on this map was the border between Whiteford and Sylvania when White and Wilson parted ways.

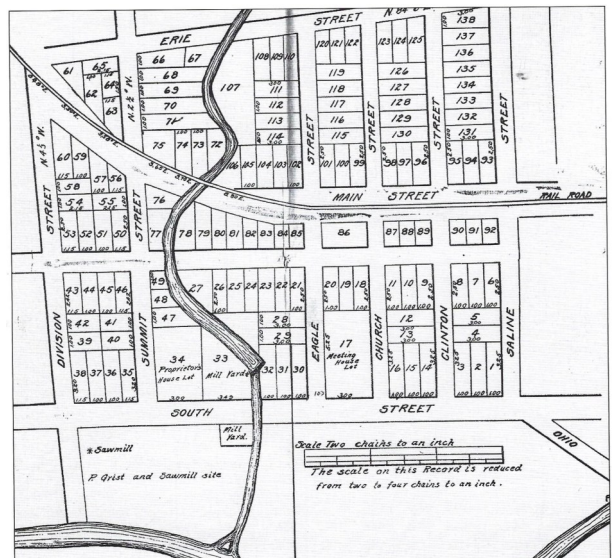


Figure W-1
 21 February 1835
 Postmarked Tremainville, this letter from David White, of Whiteford denigrating, inhabitants of Sylvania and staking claim to a post office at Whiteford, a paper town in 1835.
Privately Owned

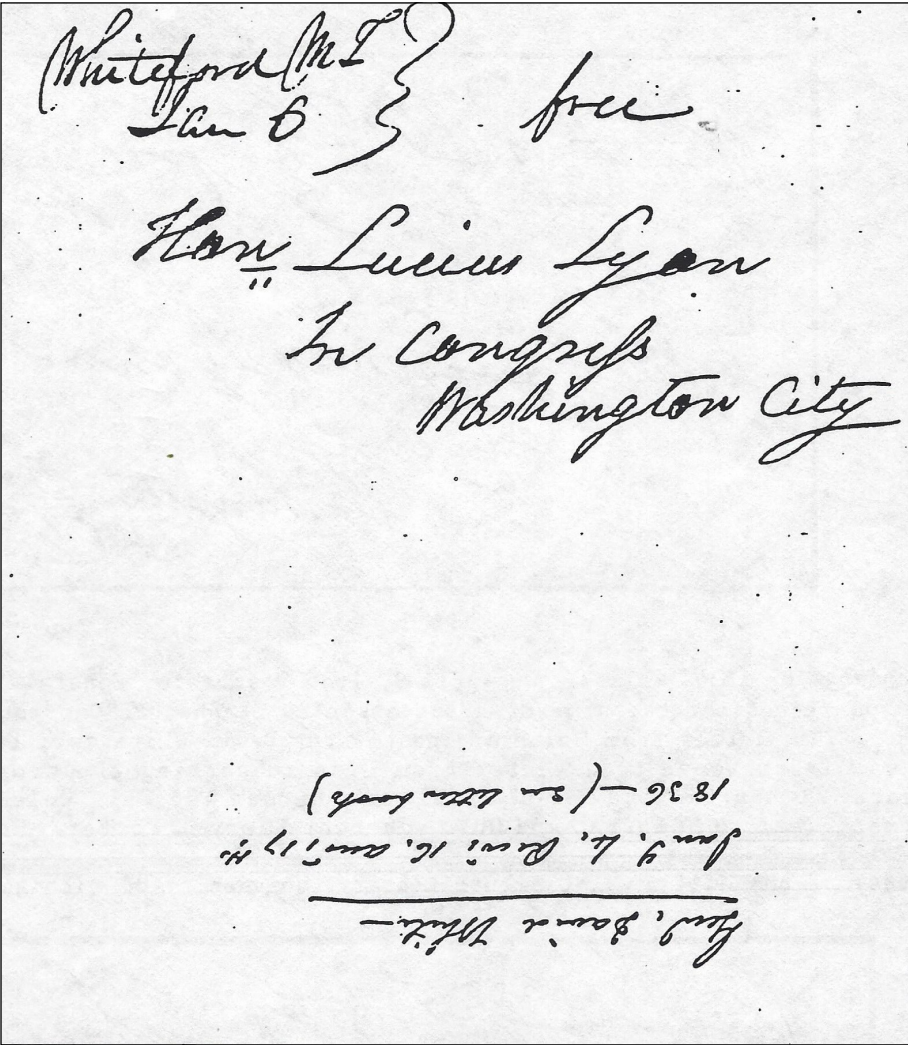
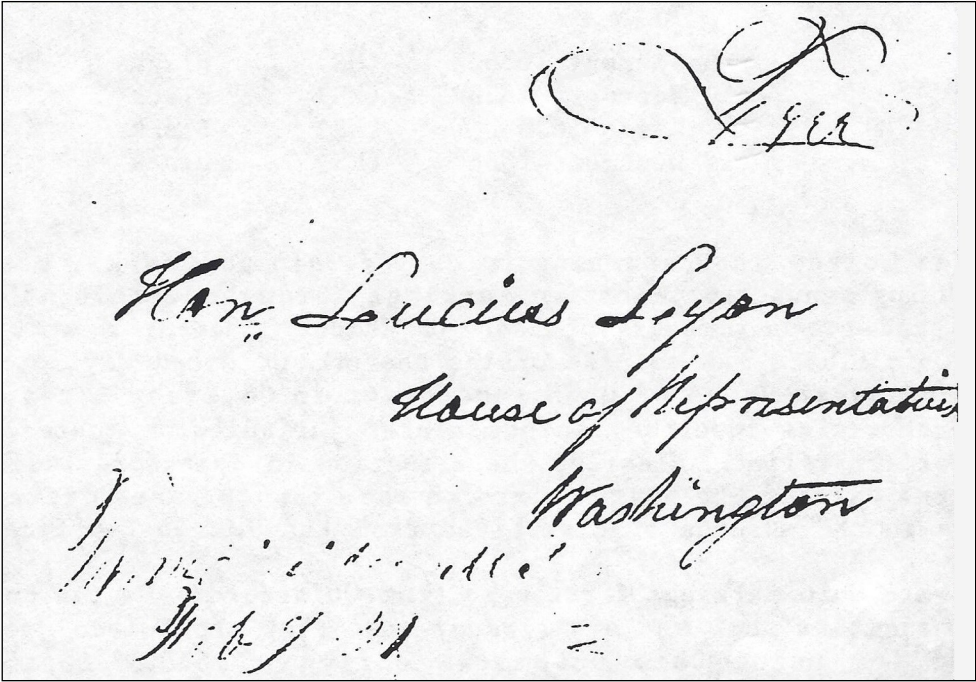


Figure W-2
 Whiteford - 6 January 1836
 Letter from David White, proprietor of Whiteford, regarding the boundary question and postal routes. White never slackened his efforts to wrench the Strip from Ohio.
 Courtesy of the William L. Clements Library, University of Michigan, Ann Arbor.

Figure W-3
Whiteford - 10 February 1836

On 9 April 1835 Postmaster General W.T. Barry (Figure T0-3) wrote Lucius Lyon requesting the name of a successor to Stephen B. Comstock as postmaster at Toledo. This letter from Whiteford postmaster David White, written nearly a year later, was in response to a letter from Lyon requesting the name of a possible successor. Although White named Michigan adherent and Whig Coleman Keeler, the appointment went to Democrat and Ohio adherent Emery D. Potter. He took office on 26 July 1836.
Courtesy of the William L. Clements Library, University of Michigan, Ann Arbor.

Whiteford Mich }
Feb 10 } free

Hon Lucius Lyon
In Congress
Washington City
D C

Whiteford Mich }
March 2 } free

Hon Lucius Lyon
In Congress
Washington City
D C

Figure W-4
Whiteford - 2 March 1836

To Lucius Lyon at Washington City from David White at Whiteford regarding a petition for an appropriation to complete the Indiana Road, asking the route be based on the Michigan and Ohio Border when resolved. "IF MICHIGAN SHALL BE ROBBED OF PART OF HER TERRITORY, SHE OUGHT NOT ALSO TO BE ROBBED OF THE BENEFIT OF HER TRADE" Mentions Mr. Williams, and Mr Davis from Massachusetts.

White never quit lobbying for himself.

Privately Owned

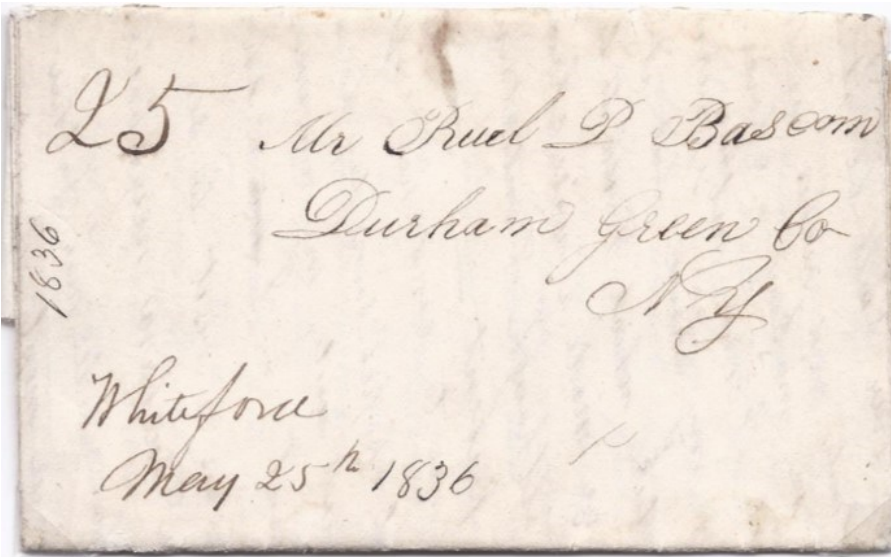


Figure W-5
Whiteford - 25 May 1836
While other known examples of manuscript Whiteford postmarks include a Michigan Territory designation this cover makes no such indication.
Privately Owned

Ruel P. Bascom:
Born 2 November 1796 Addison , Vermont
Died 5 July 1873

Figure W-6
16 May 1836
Letter from Sylvania freeholders to new governor of Ohio, Joseph Vance. Sylvania had petitioned for a post office but lost out to neighboring Whiteford, whose proprietors were staunch Michigan men.
There was no Sylvania office until 1859 when Whiteford, Ohio was changed to Sylvania.
Courtesy of the State Library of Ohio, Columbus, Ohio.

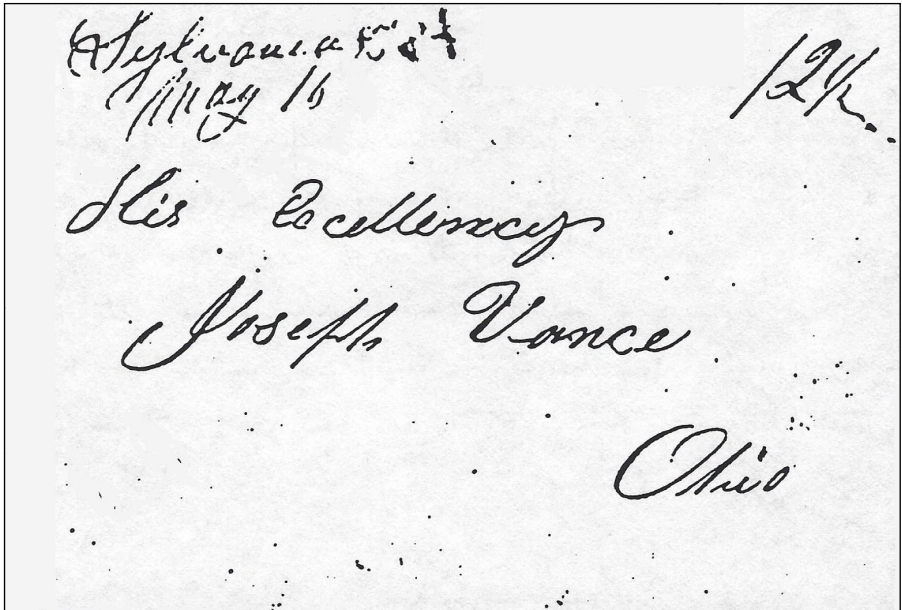


Figure W-7
Whiteford - 10 December 1836
White requested a change in mail routes. A mail route from Toledo to Blissfield, Michigan delivered mail once weekly to Whiteford. Another route took mail from Toledo to Adrian thrice weekly, passing Whiteford without stopping. Earlier machinations by the postmaster at Bay Settlement (Erie, Michigan) attempted to route mail through Manhattan to Bay Settlement, bypassing Toledo and Tremainville.
Courtesy of the William L. Clements Library,

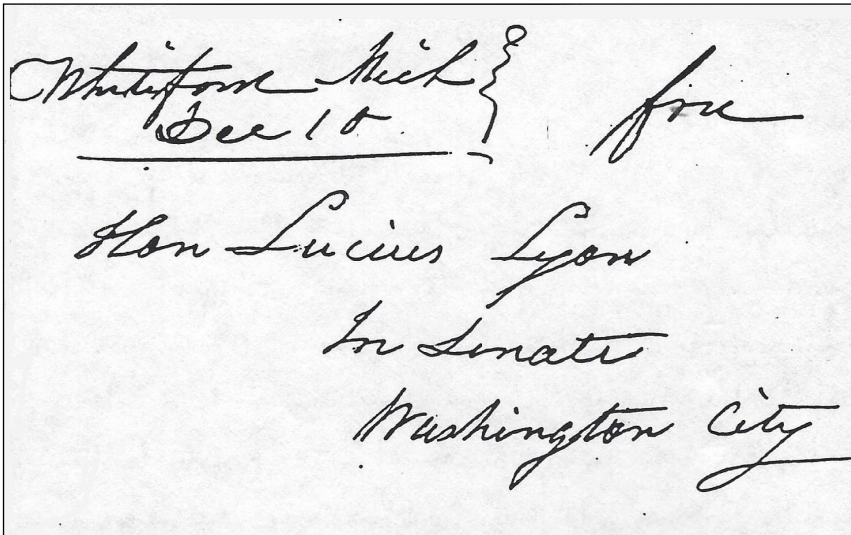


Figure W-8

14 February 1838

David White of Whiteford became a loyal Buckeye - for a consideration.

Times change, people don't.

Privately Owned

Toledo Feb 14 th 1838

Friend Brown

Very much to our surprize H. D. Mason Wm
H. Daniels & one or two others at Port Lawrence have taken
extraordinary & unprecedented pains to get White of Sylvania
appointed Judge in Downman place - White you will recollect was
Captain in the Michigan Army - in the Toledo War - was appointed
Judge by Michigan - acted in that capacity within our territory
declared he would not live in Ohio - & would move out if set off - Since
set off - he has been incessant in his application for some office - & it is suf-
fered that Daniels & Mason have ulterior views wishing to get White
out of the way - to make room for themselves & secure his influence
I need not say one word to you about the necessity of a judge
in town, nor of the pettifogging of John Berdan - I can hardly keep my
patience when I see men such fools - sacrificing their best interests
& the interests of the community. We met them & tried reason - they
will not reason - except they say it will defeat us the next election.
They say they have & will send expressers to all parts to get peti-
tions - they may do so - for any one will sign such a petition -
Even Stickney signed Whites petition. He wants to get it off - now
now Dear Sir we send our papers directed to Osborn - & we
rely on you to shoulder the matter right through - You will
see that the names are not to be sneezed at - In haste

Yours

W. S. Brown Esq -

W. Jenkins

Columbus Ohio -

Manhattan, Michigan Territory

Another post office established within the disputed territory during the jurisdictional altercation between Ohio and Michigan Territory, Manhattan was opened for business on 8 February 1836. Postmaster Daniel Chase owed his appointment to the exertions of Michigan authorities and postmarked his mail appropriately and legally with M.T. postmarks at least through 12 August 1836. Seven existing letters posted before Michigan statehood point to an early Manhattan acceptance of Ohio sovereignty. In addition, there is a 28 July CDS OHIO letter in existence which has been claimed as a 1836 usage. The date has never been verified by the contents.

Chart on left is original 1984 inventory with chart on right being the 2020 inventory. In thirty-six years three new covers have surfaced, the 25 April 1836, and 26 April 1836. Now ten covers known from Manhattan prior to Michigan statehood and the 28 July cover has been verified as 1836. Highlights on left chart indicate known covers in September 1975 when an article on the Strip appeared in the American Philatelist. 1975 inventory indicates a 28 July 1833 cover missing from 1984 census reappearing in 2020.

Marking Date	Marking Color	State Marking
19 Mar 1836	Black	M.T.
13 Apr 1836	Red	M.T.
24 Jun 1836	Black	M.T.
20 Jul 1836	Black	M.T.
12 Aug 1836	Black	M.T.
21 Nov 1836	Black	OHIO
3 Jan 1837	Black	OHIO

Location	Date	Year	Cancel Type	State Mark	Rate	Color
Publicly Owned	19-Mar	1836	MS	MT	Free	Black
Privately Owned	13-Apr	1836	MS	M.T.	25	Black
Privately Owned	25-Apr	1836	MS	MT	25	Red
Privately Owned	26-Apr	1836	MS	MT	Free	Black
Privately Owned	24-Jun	1836	CDS	M.T.	12 1/2	Black
Privately Owned	20-Jul	1836	CDS	M.T.	12 1/2	Black
Privately Owned	28-Jul	1836	CDS	OHIO	12 1/2	Black
Privately Owned	12-Aug	1836	CDS	M.T.	25	Black
Privately Owned	15-Nov	1836	CDS	OHIO	6	Black
Privately Owned	21-Nov	1836	CDS	OHIO		Black
Privately Owned	3-Jan	1836	CDS	OHIO		Black
Privately Owned	17-Jan	1837	CDS	Ohio.	12 1/2	Black

We now have seen Toledo using inappropriate Ohio postmarks at least as early as March of 1835, Tremainville using M.T. postmarks at least as late as June of 1836, Whiteford using Michigan postmarks as late as December of 1836, and the Manhattan post office switching over to Ohio postmarks at least by November of 1836. Why did Manhattan switch to Ohio markings at this time, long after Toledo and before Whiteford?

Perhaps Chase at Manhattan moved to an Ohio postmark when it became acceptable thing to do. He may have been following lead of Tremainville. Maybe he was influenced by proximity of Manhattan to Toledo, just four miles away. Whatever his reason, we feel confident in saying that it was a matter of personal choice on his part. It may also be said that holders of Manhattan, "OHIO" letters postmarked before 26 January 1837, when Michigan relinquished jurisdiction, own philatelic items of greater interest than letters postmarked later in 1837.

For a number of reasons, not least of which was great Panic of 1837, Manhattan soon declined as commercial proposition, the post office lingering until 4 March 1858. By 1872 the old Manhattan area joined Tremainville as a part of metropolitan Toledo.



Figure M-1

Manhattan MT 19 March 1836

Daniel Chase, postmaster at the new office established on 8 February 1836, used his franking privilege on a visit to Detroit. His purpose was to obtain a bank charter from the Michigan legislature for Manhattan. Both the bank and the railroad were reasons for Manhattan men to wish to remain in Michigan.

Courtesy of the State Library of Ohio, Columbus, Ohio.

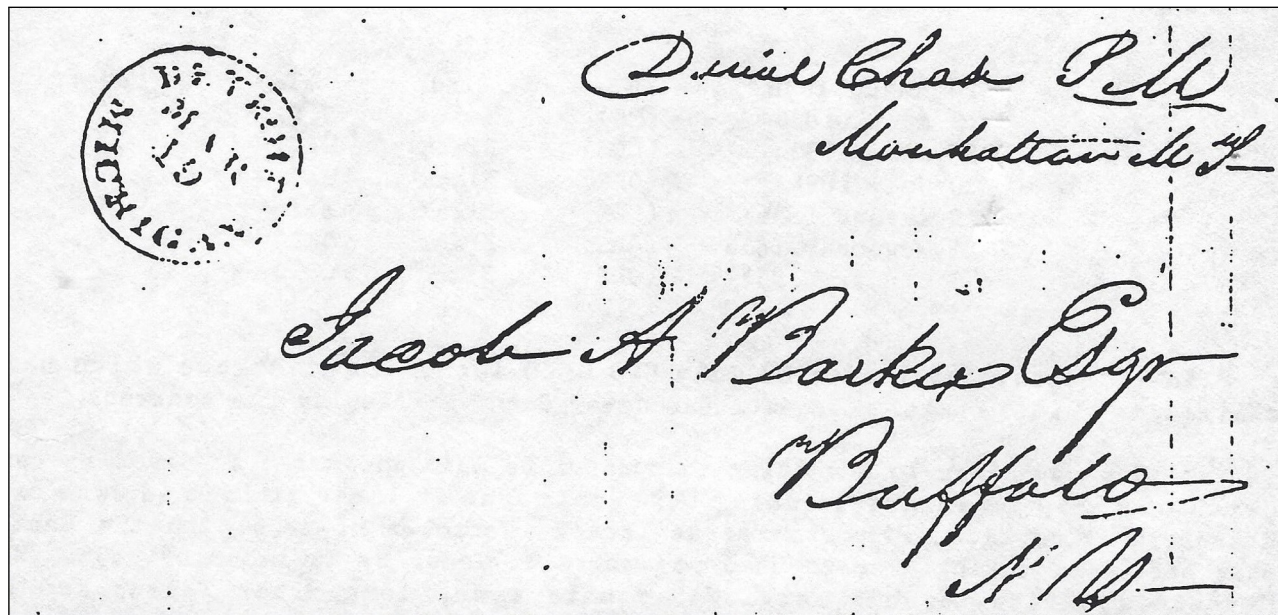


Figure M-2

Manhattan M.T. - 13 April 1836

Dated in Manhattan, Ohio, this letter, never the less, received a manuscript Michigan marking. Although citizens of Manhattan knew full well by this date that they were Ohio residents, the post office was established as a Michigan office and therefore had no business using Ohio markings.

Courtesy of the William L. Clements Library, University of Michigan, Ann Arbor.

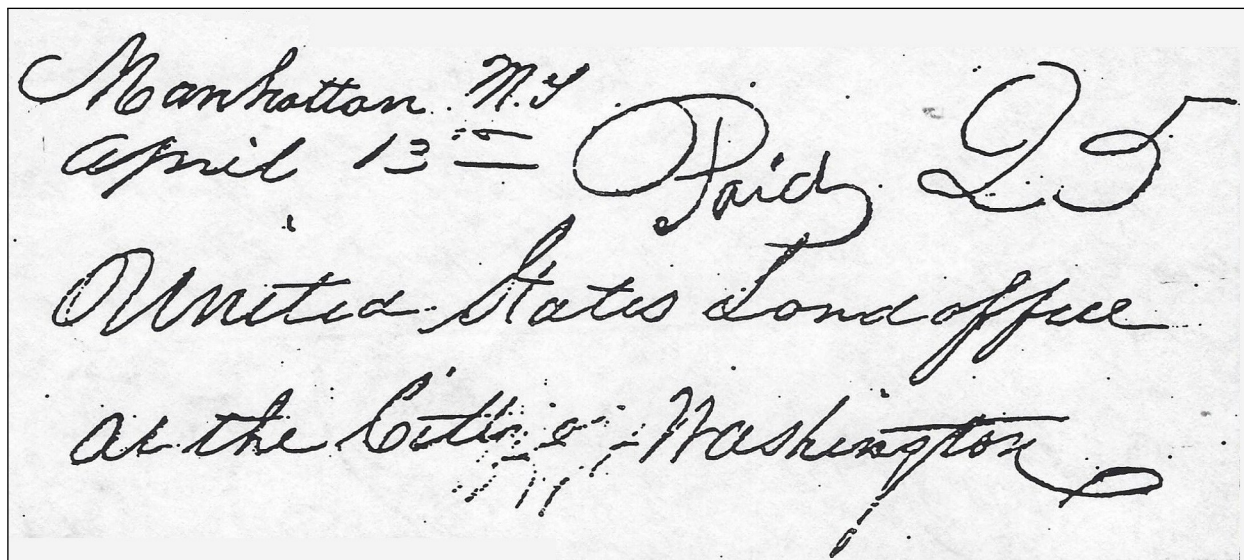




Figure M-3
 Manhattan M.T. - 25 April 1836
 Manuscript Manhattan M T and Cincinnati Ohio CDS - Forwarded to Middletown, Ohio to Miss Louisa E. Denman from George A. Denman and Jane B. Denman at Manhattan M T concerning family matters.
 Privately Owned

Figure M-4
 Manhattan M.T.
 26 April 1836
 Manuscript Manhattan M T to Monroe - Free frank of Daniel Chase to Alpheus Felch at Monroe City Requesting his presence at a meeting of the trustees.
 Privately Owned

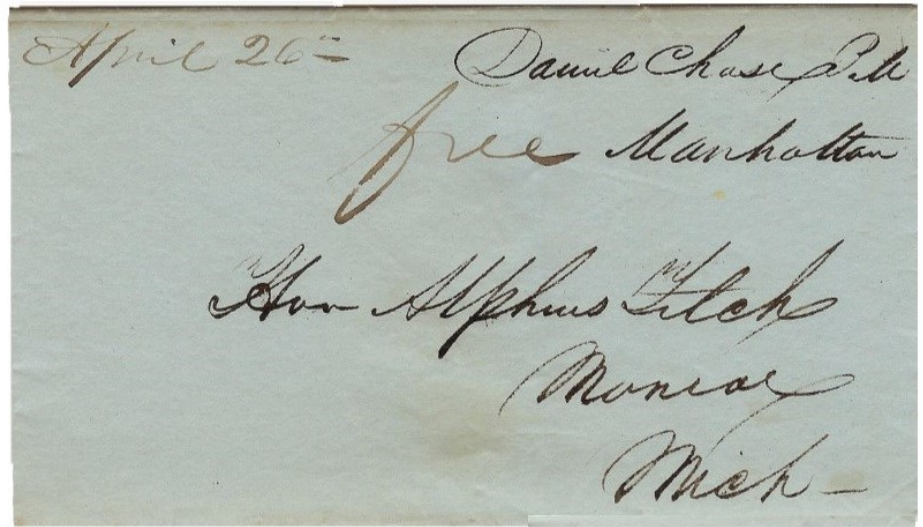


Figure M-5
 Manhattan M.T. - 24 June 1836
 Double strike of all-capitals Manhattan, M.T. circular date stamp. Manhattan, opened as a Michigan office, used this postmark at least through August of 1836 before switching to Ohio postmarks. By November, office had made changeover, well in advance of Michigan statehood.
 Image Courtesy of <https://erniesmichigan.com/Hayes/Whitford> Auction 2013 Lot 7
 Privately Owned

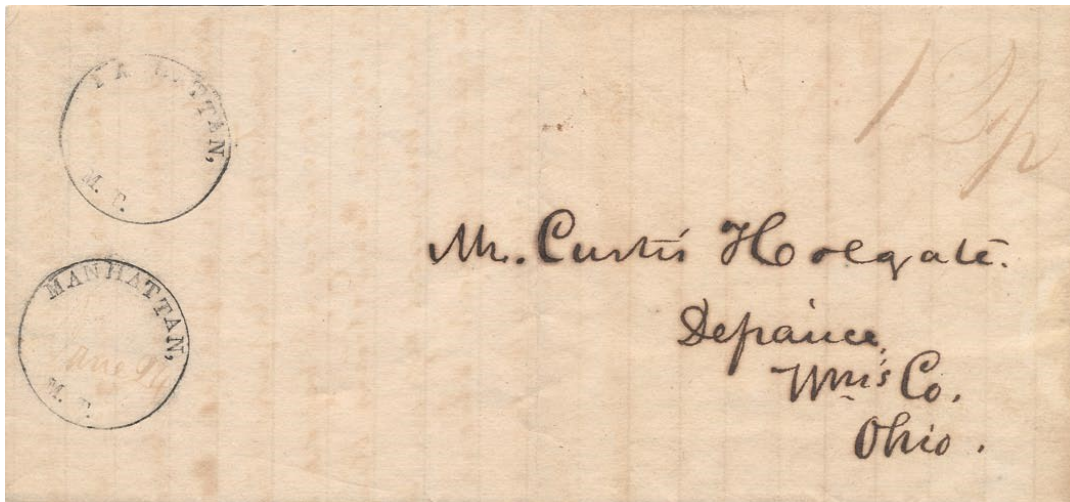


Figure M-6

Manhattan M.T. - 20 July 1836

Manhattan, M.T. CDS with manuscript date.

To Elisha Sill Esq, Saybrook, Connecticut from his son at Manhattan, MT.

Privately Owned

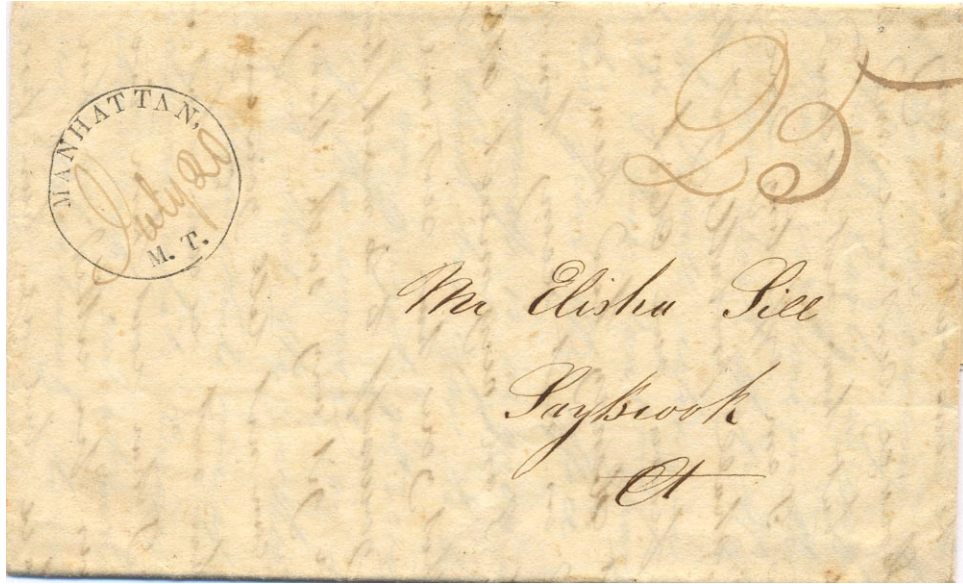


Figure M-7

Manhattan M.T. - 28 July 1836

Manhattan, M.T. CDS with manuscript date.

To Elisha Sill ESQ. at Saybrook, Conn from his son at Manhattan. Part of a page by woman describing her flower garden. Regarding improvements he made to his farm, his new well. Mentions John P., George and Chase, Charles, Mr. Pon, Deland, Aunt Lord, Louisa, Mr. Plat Card and his wife....."WE HAVE A LITTLE ENGLISH GIRL ABOUT TEN YEARS OLD TO WORK FOR HER BOARD. SHE IS UNCOMMONLY HANDY"

Courtesy of <https://erniesmichigan.com>

Privately Owned

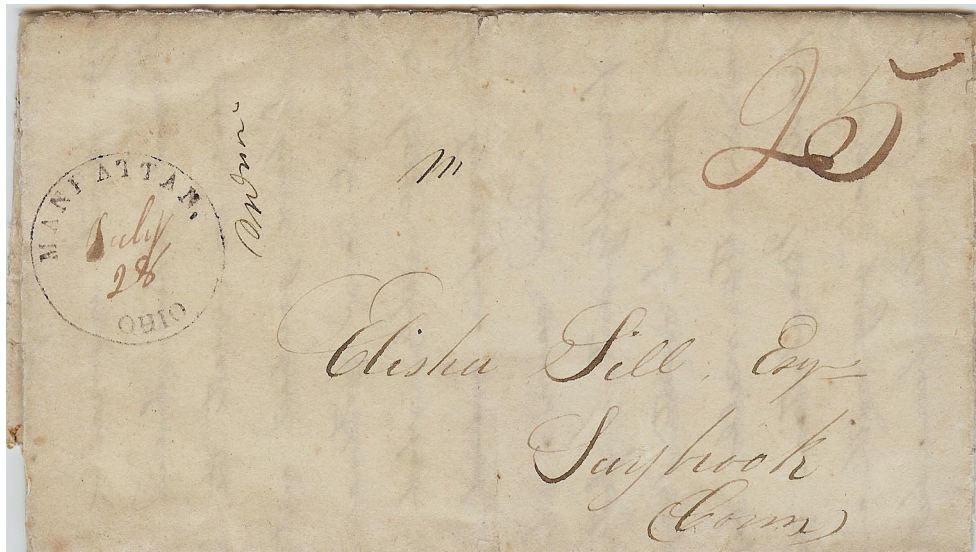


Figure M-8
 Manhattan M.T.
 12 August 1836

Last known date for this office to use M.T. markings. Note the CDS on the letter.

The Clinton Act was two months in the past and Michigan statehood was more than four months in future. Again, one can only speculate on the exact date of the changeover in postal markings

Privately Owned.

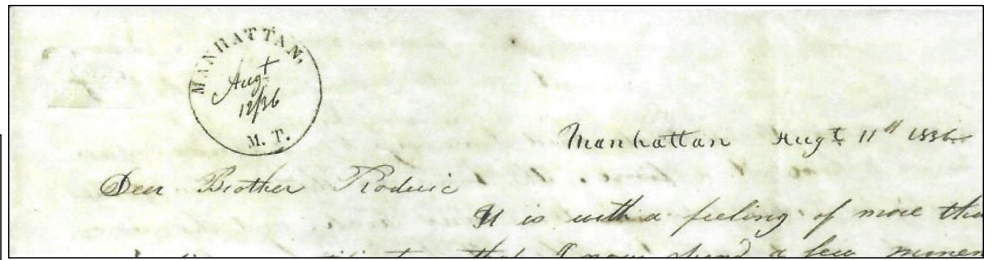


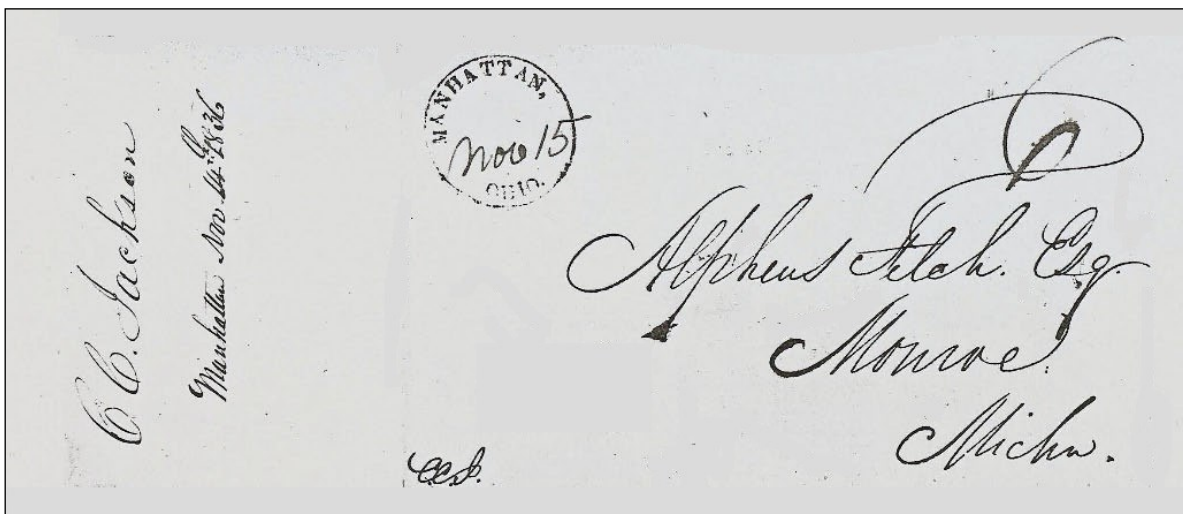
Figure M-9

Manhattan, OHIO - 15 November 1836

CDS with manuscript date. To Alpheus Felch at Monroe, MT, from C.C. Jackson at Manhattan. Mentions Van Buren and John Bryan - About Toledo Strip controversy. Opens with "HURRAH! HURRAH! HURRAH! THREE CHEERS FOR OLD PENNSYLVANIA" and continues "SHE STANDS AS FIRMLY AS THE SUN IN THE HEAVENS, AND HAS GLORIOUSLY DEFENDED THE CAUSE OF VAN BUREN, EQUAL RIGHTS, AND 'UNCOMPROMISING HOSTILITY TO THE UNITED STATES BANK'."

Image Courtesy of Bill Allen and Craig Whitford Auctions

Privately Owned.



Vernon, Michigan Territory

Vernon, established on 29 October 1836, has left no known letters behind to mark its brief passage. Located in Lenawee County Michigan, Vernon was far to the west of the Toledo area *as can be seen on the map below*. Last of the Strip offices to open, it became Lyons, Ohio on 4 September 1837 and has continued in service under that designation. It may be conjectured that confusion over Michigan's southern boundary continued beyond statehood and that Michigan markings continued to be used at Vernon for some time until situation was clarified. Postmaster Allen E. Wilcox certainly was far enough away from the Toledo area to have escaped the controversy in the main arena of the dispute. No definite conclusions may be reached regarding the Vernon situation until some letters or other evidence surfaces, if ever.

Battle of Phillips Corners

Far removed from Toledo, Vernon was two miles west of Battle of Phillips Corners.



At the site is an Ohio Historical Marker that reads: *(On it's south side)*

The Battle of Phillips Corners took place on April 26, 1835, and is sometimes referred to as the Toledo War. The altercation began when Ohio Governor Robert Lucas sent a survey party to re-mark the 1817 William Harris survey line, located on land claimed by Michigan Territory. When the survey party stopped to rest on land owned by Colonel Eli Phillips of the Michigan Militia, Under-Sheriff William McNair formed a posse of local deputies. Acting under authority of Michigan Territory Governor Stevens Mason, McNair and his force attempted to arrest the survey party for illegal trespass on Michigan Territory. The three Ohio Boundary Commissioners escaped accompanied by Colonel Sebried Dodge of the Ohio Corps. of Engineers and

Pennsylvania & Ohio Canal surveyor and engineer. Shots were fired in the direction of the surveyors, but no one was killed or wounded; however, nine members of the armed party were arrested.

(On it's north side)

The Northwest Ordinance of 1787 defined the boundary of the northern and southern tier of states to be carved out of the Northwest Territory, as a line drawn east from the southernmost tip of Lake Michigan until it intersects Lake Erie. Controversy over the exact location of that line led to the 1834-1837 boundary dispute between the State of Ohio and Michigan Territory. Passions ran high as everyone on both sides of the boundary knew that a great port city (Toledo) would emerge in the disputed territory. President Andrew Jackson settled the dispute in 1836 when he signed an act that recognized the current border between Ohio and Michigan, giving Michigan 9,000 square miles of Upper Peninsula land and awarding the disputed strip of approximately 470 square miles to Ohio. Michigan then joined the nation as a state the following year.

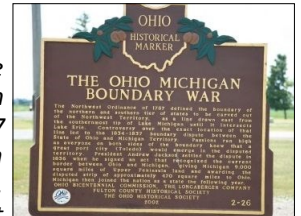


Figure 9

Small print at bottom, below Post Office, Post Roads, Canals, Railroads ,reads;

Late Topographer to the Post Office

Geographer to the House of Representatives of the U.S.

Entered according to the act of congress July 10, 1839, by David H. Burr, in clerk's office of the District Court of the District of Columbia .



III. POSTMASTER COMPENSATION

Postmaster compensation figures from the United States Register of 1837, covering the fiscal years 1 July 1835 to 30 June 1837, do not answer jurisdictional questions adequately. We have already seen that the U.S. Post Office was unaware that Tremainville was in Ohio until the accounting office received the returns for the quarter ending 30 June 1837.

As listed in the Register, Daniel Chase received all his compensation (\$127.44) as an Ohio postmaster, none as a Michigan postmaster, although his office opened as a Michigan office on 8 February 1836.

Stephen O. Comstock at Toledo was listed as a Michigan postmaster with no compensation figure and his Ohio compensation was combined with that of Emery D. Potter, who took office as Ohio postmaster in July, 1836. Combined figure was \$1,205.08.

Tremainville's Sanford L. Collins is listed as postmaster under both Ohio and Michigan listings, but all compensation (\$50.75) is listed under Ohio. As previously noted, it was news to the U.S. Post Office that Collins was working in Ohio.

Wilcox of Vernon was compensated \$5.44 for three quarters of the fiscal year. The office had not been established until after the end of the 1 July – 30 September 1836 quarter. This situation is complicated further by the existence of a Vernon post office in Trumbull County, Ohio. All Vernon letters should be examined carefully to determine their actual office of origin.

Finally, James White of Whiteford is listed in the 1837 Register as having received \$34.08 compensation for three quarters as a Michigan postmaster and \$47.37 compensation for two quarters as an Ohio postmaster. If one quarter was divided between Ohio and Michigan, might it have been divided as of 26 January 1837?

Figure 10

Chart that appeared in "Territorial Postal History of the Toledo Strip", The American Philatelist, Volume 89, No. 9, September, 1975, pp. 809-819, reflects the figures quoted above. This is a biannual report and covers the years 1 July 1835 to 30 June 1837. James White's compensation for five quarters was the result of his office not opening until three quarters into the reporting period and Vernon was not established until the fourth quarter 1836. Missing from the discussion above and the chart below is Erastus Cottrell of Gorham who received \$0.07 for one quarter being established 24 January 1837. If one is going to use the Michigan Statehood of 26 January 1837, then this office must be included.

No compensation listing exists under Michigan for Manhattan, Toledo, Tremainville, as E.D. Porter was not appointed at Toledo until after 15 June 1836 it appears all compensation for the two years was combined under Ohio. Since another Vernon existed in Ohio (1811-1903 Trumbull County) perhaps Lucas County's Vernon got combined and listed under the other.

TABLE III		
<i>Listings from the 1837 United States Register</i>		
<i>Post Office Name</i>	<i>Michigan Listings Postmaster/Compensation</i>	<i>Ohio Listings Postmaster/Compensation</i>
Manhatton *	No Listing	Daniel Chase (\$127.44)
Toledo	Stephen D. Comstock ††	Stephen D. Comstock E. D. Potter (\$1,205.08)
Tremainville †	Sanford L. Collins ††	Sanford L. Collins (\$50.75)
Vernon	Allen E. Wilcox (\$5.44) (3 Quarters)	See Text
Lyons	See Text	No Listing
Whiteford	James White (\$34.08) (3 Quarters)	James White (\$47.37) (2 Quarters)

* Spelled variously, as shown or more commonly as Manhattan.
 † Spelled variously, as shown or occasionally as Tremainsville.
 †† No figures given, nor any explanation.

IV. SUMMARY

Much has been learned in recent years about the postal history and markings of the Toledo Strip, thanks in large measure to the efforts of Dr. Tom Kingsley, Kenneth Priestley, Paul Rohloff, Wilbert W. Wagner, Charles I. Ball and others. Misconceptions have been corrected, errors rectified, gaps in dates shortened significantly. The list of known letters has been expanded and verified by examination. Particularly helpful has been the discovery in disparate places of letters and Post Office documents which have clarified much which had been in doubt. For instance, the discovery of the letter from the Postmaster General to Lucius Lyon regarding the removal of the Toledo postmaster and the letter to Collins at Tremainville in June, 1837 regarding the location of his office have certainly illuminated the role of the preference of individual postmasters in deciding how they would postmark their mail and the extent to which their superiors were aware of their activities. Yet, much remains to be learned.

Too few examples from most offices have been unearthed to place the date of changeover from Michigan to Ohio markings with the exactitude that good scholarship requires. Additional holdings in the philatelic community must be reported, if they exist. Michigan archives must be researched much more thoroughly and reported. Finally, archives of the old U.S. Post Office may contain nuggets of information that have not yet been mined. Hopefully, a reader may be sufficiently motivated to pursue the story of the Toledo Strip further and add to the record compiled to date.

Little has changed over the years with regard to the relative rarity of Strip letters in collector hands. Only *four* letters from Port Lawrence #1 are known to be in private collections, while Tremainville has contributed another twelve, Port Lawrence #2 two and Vistula none. Toledo has the greatest variety and also the largest number in private holdings, with *twenty-eight*. Of this few, some varieties are represented in private collections by only one example. *Two* Whiteford, M.T. letters are in private hands and no letters are known from Vernon. Manhattan has nine examples in private hands, with three major varieties, *five* M.T., *three* "OHIO", and *one* with no designation, are examples available to collectors. Completion of a Toledo Strip collection may well be an impossible task. Certainly, it is a most challenging one!

George's observation that archives must be researched more thoroughly still rings true today. Many sources refer to letters from principles of the area during this time period and they need to be more closely examined for postmarks. As several of the privately owned covers have changed hands, a couple of times, since the 1975 American Philatelist article, hope for new material surfacing for private collections appears to be slim.

In the past thirty-six years additional covers have surfaced that provide a greater insight into the area's postal history. With what we now know it appears state designation on markings from Strip post office progressed as such.

Depot - *In his book, Benjamin Franklin Stickney and the Maumee Valley, Kenneth R. Dickson notes that several letters exist from Stickney to Lewis Cass, Michigan's Territorial governor from 1813 to 1831, written from Depot still exist. Dickson states on page 191 "The first recorded letter postmarked Depot M.T. was on December 1, 1823 with Benjamin Franklin Stickney as postmaster" These need to be located and examined for postal markings This office was established as a Michigan Territory office and closed prior to the beginning of the controversy so it is safe to believe any markings were Michigan.*

Port Lawrence #1 - *This office was established as a Michigan Territory office and closed prior to the beginning of the controversy. The ten known covers bear Michigan markings and there is no reason to believe any Ohio markings might exist.*

Tremainville - *This office was established as a Michigan Territory office and continued in operation through the controversy until 1853. Of the fifteen known covers, all but one show Michigan markings. The one is 18 January 1837 eight days prior to Michigan statehood. There is a large gap in known covers from June 1836 to January 1837. It would be reasonable to believe, considering this office's location at the junction of three routes into Michigan, that Michigan markings were used until January 1837. Additional covers from this time period need to be located to form any firm conclusions.*

Port Lawrence #2 - This office was established as a Michigan Territory office and closed prior to controversy really heating up. The three known markings are all Michigan markings and there is no reason to believe any Ohio markings might exist.

Vistula - This office was established as a Michigan Territory office and closed prior to controversy really heating up. The one known marking is a Michigan marking and there is no reason to believe any Ohio markings might exist.

Toledo - This office was established as a Michigan Territory office; however, all postal markings from the start were Ohio markings until September 1835 when President Jackson decreed Michigan's authority over the area until dispute was resolved. After this decree, five Michigan markings are known. February 1836 saw Ohio markings re-appear with no more Michigan markings known. On 15 June 1836 Congress enacted legislation admitting Michigan to Union as soon as it agreed to take western two thirds of Upper Peninsula of Wisconsin Territory in exchange for Toledo Strip. On 25 July 1836 Emory Potter was appointed Toledo postmaster as an Ohio postmaster.

Whiteford - This office was established as a Michigan Territory office and continued well after Michigan statehood. Five known markings are all Michigan and with town founder, Dave White, favoring the Michigan position, there is no reason to believe any Ohio markings might exist during strip period.

Manhattan - This office was established as a Michigan Territory office and continued well after Michigan statehood. Of the eleven known markings, five Michigan markings are known prior to 25 July 1836 when Emory Potter was as an Ohio postmaster for Toledo. Of the six after that date, five are Ohio and one is Michigan. It would appear this office made its changeover at the 25 July date.

Vernon - This office was established as a Michigan Territory office. No markings are known from this office prior to Michigan statehood.

Gorham - This office was established as an Ohio office. No markings are known from this office prior to Michigan statehood.

POST ROUTES

Early postal routes before 1821 are discussed on page five

Most of the postal route to the Maumee Valley were postmarked through Ft. Meigs with Almon Gibbs as postmaster. In 1821 the route of Sandusky - Ft. Meigs - Port Lawrence - River Raisin - Detroit was changed. In a conversation between William Woodbridge, Secretary of the Michigan Territory, and Benjamin Franklin Stickney, establishing an additional station would provide better access to mail and faster delivery. A new station was established at Port Lawrence, named Depot, and mail would come directly from Sandusky and mail to Ft. Meigs would then be sub-routed south. This occurred around December 1823.

The first Post Office in Port Lawrence Township (established 1835) was established at Tremainville, and bore the name Port Lawrence, with Cyrus Fisher as Postmaster. Mail was carried three times a week on horseback, between Detroit and Lower Sandusky (Fremont).

A plan for Port Lawrence #2, with S. B. Comstock as Postmaster, was devised while Comstock was PM at Tremainville. A mail route between the two offices was to be established, with Major Stickney as mail carrier, the sum to be paid him to be the net proceeds of the new office, provided it did not exceed \$15.00 per quarter. Tremainsville became the Distributing Office for Port Lawrence and Vistula. All this was planned in 1833 according to "History of Toledo and Lucas County" 1888.

After the conflict, Toledo began to grow rapidly and in 1839 certain post routes were established with Toledo as the starting point. Contracts made as follows:

1. Toledo, via Manhattan, Erie, Monroe, to Detroit, in four-horse post coaches.
2. Toledo, via Defiance, Adrian and Rome, to Jonesville, 67 miles, in railroad cars to Adrian and four-horse coaches the rest of the way.
3. Toledo, via Maumee, Perrysburg, Lower Sandusky, Bellevue, Norwalk, Milan, Elyria, Ohio City, to Cleveland, daily in four-horse coaches.
4. Buffalo, Erie, Cleveland, Sandusky, Toledo, Monroe and Detroit, daily by steamboats.

These routes were maintained until the railroads dispossessed them.

V. TERRITORIAL COVERS OF THE TOLEDO STRIP

Toledo - 9 January 1835 - In Service						
Location	Date	Year	Cancel Type	State Mark	Rate	Color
Privately Owned	5-Mar	1835	MS	O.	6	Black
Privately Owned	29-Mar	1835	MS	O.	18 3/4	Black
Privately Owned	20-Apr	1835	MS			
Publically Owned	23-May #1	1835	MS	O.	18 3/4	Black
Publically Owned	23-May #2	1835	MS	O.	18 3/4	Black
Publically Owned	2-Jul	1835	MS	O.	12 1/2	Black
Privately Owned	9-Jul	1835	Steam Boat	NO	NO	NO
Publically Owned	17-July	1835	SL	OHIO	18 3/4	Black
Publically Owned	19-July	1835	SL	OHIO	25	Black
Privately Owned	16-Aug	1835	SL	OHIO	25	Red
Privately Owned	2-Sep	1835	SL	OHIO	25	Black
Publically Owned	4-Sep	1835	SL	OHIO	18 3/4	Black
Publically Owned	13-Sep	1835	SL	OHIO	37 1/2	Black
Publically Owned	20-Sep	1835	CDS	OHIO.	Free	Black
Publically Owned	6-Nov	1835	SL	OHIO	37 1/2	Black
Publically Owned	23-Nov	1835	SL	M.T.	18 3/4	Black
Privately Owned	18-Jan	1836	SL	M.T.	18 3/4	Black
Publically Owned	20-Jan	1836	SL	M.T.	Free	Black
Privately Owned	24-Jan	1836	SL	M.T.	Free	Black
Publically Owned	20-Feb	1836	CDS	OHIO.	Free	Black
Publically Owned	12-Mar	1836	MS	O.	Free	Black
Privately Owned	18-Apr	1836	MS	O.	25	Black
Publically Owned	23-Apr	1836	MS	Ohio	25	Black
Privately Owned	20-May	1836	CDS	OHIO.	18 3/4	Black
Privately Owned	23-May	1836	CDS	OHIO.	18 3/4	Black
Privately Owned	8-Jun	1836	CDS	OHIO.	25	Black
Publically Owned	20-Jun	1836	CDS	OHIO.	Free	Black
Privately Owned	21-Jul	1836	CDS	OHIO.	FWD 183/4	Red
Privately Owned	5-Aug	1836	CDS	OHIO.	Free	Black
Privately Owned	10-Aug	1836	CDS	OHIO.	10	Black
Privately Owned	1-Sep	1836	MS	Ohio	Free	Black
Privately Owned	24-Oct	1836	MS	Ohio	Free	Black
Privately Owned	1-Nov	1836	MS	Ohio	Free	Black
Privately Owned	4-Dec	1836	CDS	OHIO.	18 3/4	Black
Privately Owned	7-Dec	1836	CDS	OHIO.	18 3/4	Black
Privately Owned	24-Dec	1836	CDS	OHIO.	Free	Black
Privately Owned	26-Dec	1836	CDS	OHIO.	6	Black
Privately Owned	5-Jan	1837	CDS	OHIO.	12 1/2	Black
Privately Owned	8-Jan	1837	CDS	OHIO.	12 1/2	Black
Privately Owned	16-Jan	1837	CDS	OHIO.	25	Black
Privately Owned	18-Jan	1837	CDS	OHIO.	18 3/4	Black
Privately Owned	20-Jan	1837	CDS	OHIO.	12 1/2	Black

V. TERRITORIAL COVERS OF THE TOLEDO STRIP

Tremainville - 7 January 1834 - 8 August 1853						
Location	Date	Year	Cancel Type	State Mark	Rate	Color
Publically Owned	18-Feb	1834	MS	MT	Free	?
Publically Owned	1-Apr	1834	MS	MT	Free	Red
Privately Owned	14-May	1834	MS			
Privately Owned	20-Sep	1834	MS			
Publically Owned	14-Dec	1834	MS	MT	Free	?
Privately Owned	20-Jan	1835	MS	M.T.	6	Red
Publically Owned	12-Feb	1835	MS	MT	Free	Red
Privately Owned	21-Feb	1835	MS			
Privately Owned	23-Feb	1835	MS			
Privately Owned	7-Apr	1835	MS	MT	25	Black
Privately Owned	25-Apr	1835	MS	MT	6	Black
Privately Owned	12-Jun	1835	MS	MT	25	Black
Privately Owned	15-Aug	1835	MS	M.T.	6	Black
Privately Owned	22-Jun	1836	MS	M.T.	25	Black
Privately Owned	18-Jan	1837	MS	O.		Black
Whiteford - 2 June 1835 - 11 February 1859						
Publically Owned	6-Jan	1836	MS	MT	Free	Black
Publically Owned	10-Feb	1836	MS	MT	Free	Black
Privately Owned	2-Mar	1836	MS	MT	Free	Black
Privately Owned	25-May	1836	MS	None	25	Black
Publically Owned	10-Dec	1836	MS	Mich.	Free	Black
Manhattan - 8 February 1836 - 3 March 1858						
Publically Owned	19-Mar	1836	MS			
Privately Owned	13-Apr	1836	MS	M.T.	25	Black
Privately Owned	25-Apr	1836	MS	MT	25	Red
Privately Owned	26-Apr	1836	MS	MT	Free	Black
Privately Owned	24-Jun	1836	CDS	M.T.	12 1/2	Black
Privately Owned	20-Jul	1836	CDS	M.T.	12 1/2	Black
Privately Owned	28-Jul	1836	CDS	OHIO	12 1/2	Black
Privately Owned	12-Aug	1836	CDS	M.T.	25	Black
Privately Owned	21-Nov	1836	CDS	OHIO		Black
Privately Owned	3-Jan	1836	CDS	OHIO		Black
Privately Owned	17-Jan	1837	CDS	Ohio.	12 1/2	Black

V. TERRITORIAL COVERS OF THE TOLEDO STRIP

Port Lawrence #1 - 7 October 1825—6 January 1834						
Location	Date	Year	Cancel Type	State Mark	Rate	Mark Color
Privately Owned	12-Jan	1832	MS	Mic Ty.	25	Black
Privately Owned	6-Mar	1832	MS	Mic Ty.	25	Black
Privately Owned	30-May	1832	MS	Mic.	25	Black
Privately Owned	27-May	1833	MS	MT.	25	Black
Publically Owned	17-Oct	1833	MS	M.T.	10	Black
Privately Owned	4-Nov	1833	MS	M.T.	18 3/4	Black
Publically Owned	21-Nov	1833	MS	M.T.	Free	Red
Publically Owned	3-Dec	1833	MS	M.T.	18 3/4	Red
Publically Owned	12-Dec	1833	MS	M.T.	Free	Red
Publically Owned	3-Jan	1834	MS	M.T.	37 1/2	?
Port Lawrence #2 - 8 January 1834 - 8 January 1835						
Privately Owned	9-Apr	1834	MS	M.T.	18 3/4	Black
Publically Owned	13-Jul	1834	MS	M.T.	10	Black
Privately Owned	6-Aug	1834	MS	M.T.	25	Red
Vistula 8 January 1834 - 8 January 1835						
Publically Owned	19-Mar	1834	MS	MT.	10	Black
Depot - 1 December 1823 - 6 October 1825						
None Known						
Vernon - 29 October 1836 - 3 September 1837						
None Known						
Gorman - 24 January 1837 - 19 January 1873						
None Known						

VI. CHRONOLOGY OF TOLEDO STRIP POST OFFICES

Office	Established	Closed	1st Postmaster
Depot	1 December 1823	6 October 1825	Benjamin F. Stickney
Port Lawrence #1	28 October 1825	6 January 1834	Benjamin F. Stickney
Tremainville	7 January 1834	8 August 1853	Calvin Tremain
Port Lawrence #2	8 January 1834	8 January 1835	Stephen B. Comstock
Vistula	8 January 1834	8 January 1835	Theodore Bissell
Toledo, MT	9 January 1835	24 July 1836	Stephen B. Comstock
Toledo	25 July 1836	In Service	Emory B Potter
Whiteford	2 June 1835	11 February 1859	James White
Whiteford became Sylvania	12 February 1859	In Service	
Manhattan	8 February 1836	3 March 1858	Daniel Chase
Vernon	29 October 1836	3 September 1837	Allen E. Wilcox
Vernon became Lyons	4 September 1837	In Service	
Gorham	24 January 1837	19 January 1873	Erastus Cottrell
Gorham became Fayette	20 January 1873	In Service	

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VIII APPENDIX I

Northwest Ordinance (1787)

Adopted 13 July 1787, by Confederation Congress. Chartered a government for Northwest Territory, method for admitting new states from territory, and listed a bill of rights guaranteed territory.

Following principles outlined by Thomas Jefferson in Ordinance of 1784, authors spelled out plan subsequently used for all expansions to the Pacific.

Three principal provisions were ordained: (1) division of Northwest Territory into "not less than three nor more than five States"; (2) a three-stage method for admitting a new state — a congressionally appointed governor, secretary, and three judges to rule in the first phase; an elected assembly and one non-voting elected delegate to Congress in second phase, population of territory reached "five thousand free male inhabitants of full age"; a state constitution drafted and membership to the Union to be requested in the third phase when the population reached 60,000; and (3) a bill of rights protecting religious freedom, right to a writ of habeas corpus, benefit of trial by jury, and other individual rights. Ordinance encouraged education and forbid slavery.

The ordinance is a printed document, dated in the last paragraph and signed by the secretary of Congress, Charles Thomson.

AN ORDINANCE for the GOVERNMENT of the TERRITORY of the UNITED STATES, North-West of the RIVER OHIO.

BE IT ORDAINED by the United States in Congress assembled, That the said territory, for the purposes of temporary government, be one district; subject, however, to be divided into two districts, as future circumstances may, in the opinion of Congress, make it expedient.

Be it ordained by the authority aforesaid, That the estates both of resident and non-resident proprietors in the said territory, dying intestate, shall descend to, and be distributed among their children, and the descendants of a deceased child in equal parts; the descendants of a deceased child or grand-child, to take the share of their deceased parent in equal parts among them; and where there shall be no children or descendants, then in equal parts to the next of kin, in equal degree; and among collaterals, the children of a deceased brother or sister of the intestate, shall have in equal parts among them and among collaterals, the children of a deceased brother or sister of the intestate, her third part of the real estate for life, and one third part of the personal estate; and this law relative to descents and dower, shall remain in full force until altered by the legislature of the district. — And until the governor and judges shall adopt laws as herein after mentioned, estates in the said territory may be devised or bequeathed by wills in writing, signed and sealed by him or her, in whom the estate may be, (being of full age) and attested by three witnesses; — and real estates may be conveyed by lease and release, or bargain and sale, signed, sealed, and delivered by the person being of full age, in whom the estate may be, and attested by two witnesses, provided such wills be duly proved, and such conveyances be acknowledged, or the execution thereof duly proved, and be recorded within one year after proper magistrates, courts, and registers shall be appointed for that purpose; and personal property may be transferred by delivery, saving, however, to the French and Canadian inhabitants, and other settlers of the Kaskaskias, Saint Vincent's, and the neighbouring villages, who have heretofore professed themselves citizens of Virginia, their laws and customs now in force among them, relative to the descent and conveyance of property.

Be it ordained by the authority aforesaid, That there shall be appointed from time to time, by Congress, a governor, whose commission shall continue in force for the term of three years, unless sooner revoked by Congress; he shall reside in the district, and have a freehold estate therein, in one thousand acres of land, while in the exercise of his office.

There shall be appointed from time to time, by Congress, a secretary, whose commission shall continue in force for four years, unless sooner revoked, he shall reside in the district, and have a freehold estate therein, in five hundred acres of land, while in the exercise of his office; it shall be his duty to keep and preserve the acts and laws passed by the legislature, and the public records of the district, and the proceedings of the governor in his executive department; and transmit authentic copies of such acts and proceedings, every six months, to the secretary of Congress: There shall also be appointed a court to consist of three judges, any two of whom to form a court, who shall have a common law jurisdiction, and reside in the district, and have each therein a freehold estate in five hundred acres of land, while in the exercise of their offices; and their commissions shall continue in force during good behaviour.

The governor and judges, or a majority of them, shall adopt and publish in the district, such laws of the criminal and civil, as may be necessary, and best suited to the circumstances of the district, and report them to Congress, from time to time, which laws shall be in force in the district until the organization of the general assembly therein, unless disapproved of by Congress; but afterwards the legislature shall have authority to alter them as they shall think fit.

The governor for the time being, shall be commander in chief of the militia, appoint and commission all officers in the same, below the rank of general officers; all general officers shall be appointed and commissioned by Congress.

Previous to the organization of the general assembly, the governor shall appoint such magistrates and other civil officers, in each county or township, as he shall find necessary for the preservation of the peace and good order in the same: After the general assembly shall be organized, the powers and duties of magistrates and other civil officers shall be regulated and defined by the said assembly; but all magistrates and other civil officers, not herein otherwise directed, shall, during the continuance of this temporary government, be appointed by the governor.

For the prevention of crimes and injuries, the laws to be adopted or made shall have force in all parts of the district, and for the execution of process, criminal and civil, the governor shall make proper divisions thereof;—and he shall proceed from time to time, as circumstances may require, to lay out the parts of the district in which the Indian titles shall have been extinguished, into counties and townships, subject, however, to such alterations as may thereafter be made by the legislature.

So soon as there shall be five thousand free male inhabitants, of full age, in the district, upon giving proof thereof to the governor, they shall receive authority, with time and place, to elect representatives from their counties or townships, to represent them in the general assembly; provided that for every five hundred free male inhabitants there shall be one representative, and so on progressively with the number of free male inhabitants, shall the right of representation increase, until the number of representatives shall amount to twenty-five, after which the number and proportion of representatives shall be regulated by the legislature; provided that no person be eligible or qualified to act as a representative, unless he shall have been a citizen of one of the United States three years and be a resident in the district, or unless he shall have resided in the district three years, and in either case shall likewise hold in his own right, in fee simple, two hundred acres of land within the same:—Provided also, that a freehold in fifty acres of land in the district, having been a citizen of one of the states, and being resident in the district; or the like freehold and two years residence in the district shall be necessary to qualify a man as an elector of a representative.

The representatives thus elected, shall serve for the term of two years, and in case of the death of a representative, or removal from office, the governor shall issue a writ to the county or township for which he was a member, to elect another in his stead, to serve for the residue of the term.

The general assembly, or legislature, shall consist of the governor, legislative council, and a house of representatives. The legislative council shall consist of five members, to continue in office five years, unless sooner removed by Congress, any three of whom to be a quorum, and the members of the council shall be nominated and appointed in the following manner, to wit: As soon as representatives shall be elected, the governor shall appoint a time and place for them to meet together, and, when met, they shall nominate ten persons, residents in the district, and each possessed of a freehold in five hundred acres of land, and return their names to Congress; five of whom Congress shall appoint and commission to serve as aforesaid; and whenever a vacancy shall happen in the council, by death or removal from office, the house of representatives shall nominate two persons, qualified as aforesaid, for each vacancy, and return their names to Congress; one of whom Congress shall appoint and commission for the residue of the term; and every five years, four months at least before the expiration of the time of service of the members of council, the said house shall nominate ten persons, at least before the expiration of the time of service of the members of council, the said house shall appoint and commission to serve as members of the council five years, unless sooner removed. And the governor, legislative council, and house of re-

APPENDIX II

Northwest Ordinance (1787) (Page 2)

representatives, shall have authority to make laws in all cases for the good government of the district, not repugnant to the principles and articles in this ordinance established and declared. And all bills having passed by a majority in the house, and by a majority in the council, shall be referred to the governor for his assent; but no bill or legislative act whatever, shall be of any force without his assent. The governor shall have power to convene, prorogue and dissolve the general assembly, when in his opinion it shall be expedient.

The governor, judges, legislative council, secretary, and such other officers as Congress shall appoint in the district, shall take an oath or affirmation of fidelity, and of office, the governor before the president of Congress, and all other officers before the governor. As soon as a legislature shall be formed in the district, the council and house, assembled in one room, shall have authority by joint ballot to elect a delegate to Congress, who shall have a seat in Congress, with a right of debating, but not of voting, during this temporary government.

And for extending the fundamental principles of civil and religious liberty, which form the basis whereon these republics, their laws and constitutions are erected; to fix and establish those principles as the basis of all laws, constitutions and governments, which hereafter shall be formed in the said territory;—to provide also for the establishment of states, and permanent government therein, and for their admission to a share in the federal councils on an equal footing with the original states, at as early periods as may be consistent with the general interest:

It is hereby ordained and declared by the authority aforesaid, That the following articles shall be considered as articles of compact between the original states and the people and states in the said territory, and forever remain unalterable, unless by common consent, to wit:

Article the First. No person, demeaning himself in a peaceable and orderly manner, shall ever be molested on account of his mode of worship or religious sentiments in the said territory.

Article the Second. The inhabitants of the said territory shall always be entitled to the benefits of the writ of *habeas corpus*, and of the trial by jury; of a proportionate representation of the people in the legislature, and of judicial proceedings according to the course of the common law; all persons shall be taxable unless for capital offences, where the proof shall be evident, or the presumption great; all fines shall be moderate, and no cruel or unusual punishments shall be inflicted; no man shall be deprived of his liberty or property but by the judgment of his peers, or the law of the land; and should the public exigencies make it necessary for the common preservation to take any person's property, or to demand his particular services, full compensation shall be made for the same;— and in the just preservation of rights and property it is understood and declared, that no law ought ever to be made, or have force in the said territory, that shall in any manner whatever interfere with, or affect private contracts or engagements, bona fide and without fraud previously formed.

Article the Third. Religion, morality and knowledge, being necessary to good government and the happiness of mankind, schools and the means of education shall forever be encouraged. The utmost good faith shall always be observed towards the Indians; their lands and property shall never be taken from them without their consent; and in their property, rights and liberty, they never shall be invaded or disturbed, unless in just and lawful wars authorized by Congress; but laws founded in justice and humanity shall from time to time be made, for preventing wrongs being done to them, and for preserving peace and friendship with them.

Article the Fourth. The said territory, and the states which may be formed therein, shall forever remain a part of this confederacy of the United States of America, subject to the articles of confederation, and to such alterations therein as shall be constitutionally made; and to all the acts and ordinances of the United States in Congress assembled, conformable thereto. The inhabitants and settlers in the said territory, shall be subject to pay a part of the federal debts contracted or to be contracted, and a proportional part of the expenses of government, to be apportioned on them by Congress, according to the same common rule and measure by which apportionments thereof shall be made on the other states; and the taxes for paying their proportion, shall be laid and levied by the authority and direction of the legislatures of the district or districts or new states, as in the original states, within the time agreed upon by the United States in Congress assembled. The legislatures of those districts, or new states, shall never interfere with the primary disposal of the soil by the United States in Congress assembled, nor with any regulations Congress may find necessary for securing the title in such soil to the bona fide purchasers. No tax shall be imposed on lands the property of the United States; and in no case shall non-resident proprietors be taxed higher than residents. The navigable waters leading into the Mississippi and St. Lawrence, and the carrying places between the same shall be common highways, and forever free, as well to the inhabitants of the said territory, as to the citizens of the United States, and those of any other states that may be admitted into the confederacy, without any tax, impost or duty therefor.

Article the Fifth. There shall be formed in the said territory, not less than three nor more than five states; and the boundaries of the states, as soon as Virginia shall alter her act of cession and consent to the same, shall become fixed and established as follows, to wit: The western state in the said territory, shall be bounded by the Mississippi, the Ohio and Wabash rivers; a direct line drawn from the Wabash and Post Vincent's due north, to the territorial line between the United States and Canada, and by the said territorial line to the lake of the Woods and Mississippi. The middle state shall be bounded by the said direct line, the Wabash from Post Vincent's to the Ohio; by the Ohio, by a direct line drawn due north from the mouth of the Great Miami to the said territorial line, and by the said territorial line. The eastern state shall be bounded by the last mentioned direct line, the Ohio, Pennsylvania, and the said territorial line: Provided however, and it is further understood and declared, that the boundaries of these three states, shall be subject so far to be altered, that if Congress shall hereafter find it expedient, they shall have authority to form one or two states in that part of the said territory which lies north of an east and west line drawn through the southerly bend or extreme of lake Michigan; and whenever any of the said states shall have sixty thousand free inhabitants therein, such state shall be admitted by its delegates into the Congress of the United States, on an equal footing with the original states in all respects whatever; and shall be at liberty to form a permanent constitution and state government: Provided the constitution and government so to be formed, shall be republican, and in conformity to the principles contained in this article; and so far as it can be consistent with the general interest of the confederacy, such admission shall be allowed at an earlier period, and when there may be a less number of free inhabitants in the state than sixty thousand.

Article the Sixth. There shall be neither slavery nor involuntary servitude in the said territory, otherwise than the punishment of crimes whereof the party shall have been duly convicted: Provided always, that any person escaping into the same, from whom labor or service is lawfully claimed in any one of the original states, such fugitive may be lawfully reclaimed and conveyed to the person claiming his or her labor or service as aforesaid.

Be it ordained by the authority aforesaid, That the resolutions of the 23d of April, 1784, relative to the subject of this ordinance, be, and the same are hereby repealed and declared null and void.

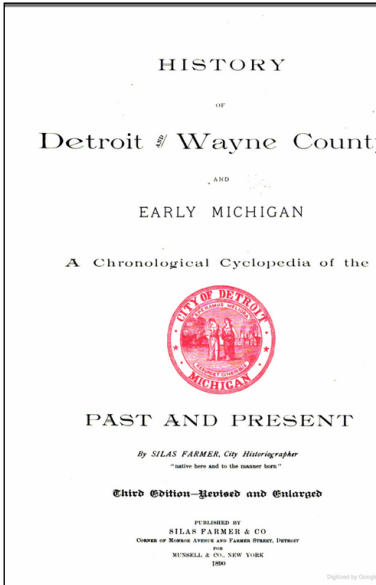
DONE by the UNITED STATES IN CONGRESS assembled, the 13th day of July, in the year of our Lord 1787, and of their sovereignty and independence the 12th.

Cha. Thomson

The article on which Michigan based its argument is the Fifth Article setting provisions for states to be formed from the territory.

APPENDIX III

Full text of page 879



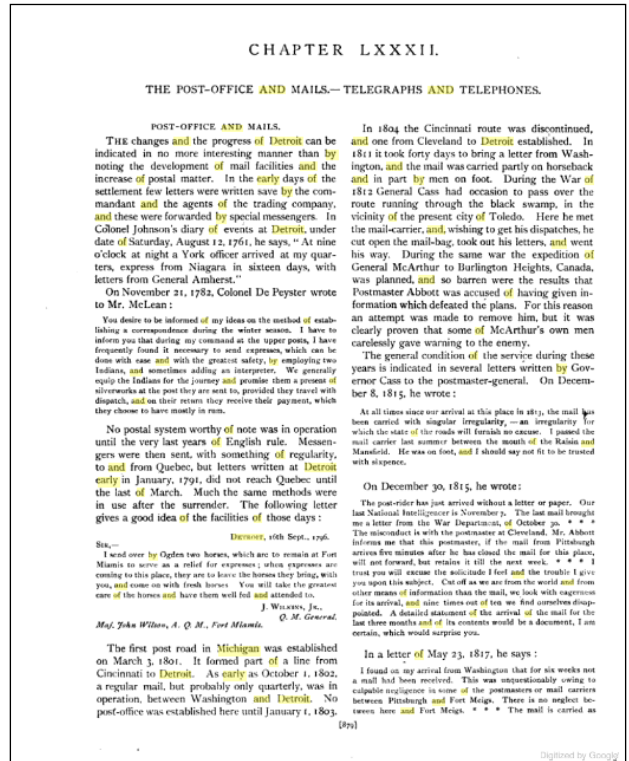
CHAPTER LXXXII THE POST OFFICE AND MAILS TELEGRAPHS AND TELEPHONES

The changes and the progress of Detroit can be indicated in no more interesting manner than by noting the development of mail facilities and the increase of postal matter in the early days of the settlement. Few letters were written by the commandant and the agents of the trading company and these were forwarded by special messengers. In Colonel Johnson's diary of events at Detroit under date of Saturday August 12, 1761 he says, "At nine o'clock at night a York officer arrived at my quarters express from Niagara in sixteen days with

letters from General Amherst." On November 21 1782 Colonel De Peyster wrote to Mr. McLean, "You desire to be informed of my ideas on the method of establishing a correspondence during the winter season. I have to inform you that during my command at the upper posts, I have frequently found it necessary to send expresses which can be done with ease and with the greatest safety by employing two Indians and sometimes adding an interpreter We generally equip the Indians for the journey and promise them a present of silvcrworks at the post they are sent to, provided they travel with dispatch and on their return they receive their payment, which they choose to have mostly in rum." No postal system worthy of note was in operation until the very last years of English rule. Messengers were then sent with something of regularity to and from Quebec but letters written at Detroit early in January 1791 did not reach Quebec until the last of March. Much the same methods were in use after the surrender The following letter gives a good idea of the facilities of those days. Detroit 16th Sept 1796 "Sir I send over by Ogden two horses, which are to remain at Fort Miami to serve as a relief for expresses, when expresses are coming to this place, they are to leave the horses they bring, with you, and come on with fresh horses. You will take the greatest care of the horses and have them well fed and attended to."

J Wilkins, Jr.
Q. M. General.
Maj. John Wilson, A. Q. M., Fort Miami.

The first post road in Michigan was established on March 3, 1801. It formed part of a line from Cincinnati to Detroit. As early as October 1 1802 a regular mail but probably only quarterly, was in operation, between Washington and Detroit. No post office was established here until January 1 1803 In 1804 the Cincinnati route was discontinued and one from Cleveland to Detroit established In 1811. It took forty days to bring a letter from Washington and the mail was carried partly on horseback and in part by men on foot. During the War of 1812 General Cass had occasion to pass over the route running through the black swamp in the vicinity of the present city of Toledo. Here he met the mail carrier and wishing to get his dispatches he cut open the mailbag, took out his letters and went his way. During the same war, the expedition of General McArthur to Burlington Heights Canada was planned and so barren were the results that Postmaster Abbott was accused of having given information which defeated the plans For this reason an attempt was made to remove him but it was clearly proven that some of McArthur's own men carelessly gave warning to the enemy. The general condition of the service during these years is indicated in several letters written by Governor Cass to the postmaster general. On December 8, 1815 he wrote, "At all times since our arrival at this place in 1813, the mail has been carried with singular irregularity, an irregularity for which the state of the roads will furnish no excuse. I passed the mail carrier last summer between the mouth of the Raisin and Mansfield. He was on foot and I should say not fit to be trusted with sixpence." On December 30 181 5 he wrote "The post rider has just arrived without a letter or paper. Our last National Intelligencer is November 7. The last mail brought me a letter from the War Department of October 30. The misconduct is with the postmaster at Cleveland. Mr Abbott informs me that this postmaster if the mail from Pittsburgh arrives five minutes after he has closed the mail for this place will not forward but retains it till the next week. I trust you will excuse the solicitude I feel and the trouble I give you upon this subject. Cut off as we are from the world and from other means of information than the mail, we look with eagerness for its arrival and nine times out of ten we find ourselves disappointed. Should a detailed statement of the arrival of the mail for the last three months and of its contents would be a document I am certain which would surprise you." In a letter of May 23, 1817 he says, " I found on my arrival from Washington that for six weeks not a mail had been received. This was unquestionably owing to culpable negligence in some of the postmasters or mail carriers between Pittsburgh and Fort Meigs There is no neglect between here and Fort Meigs The mail is carried as (continued to page 880 but not relevant to this study)"



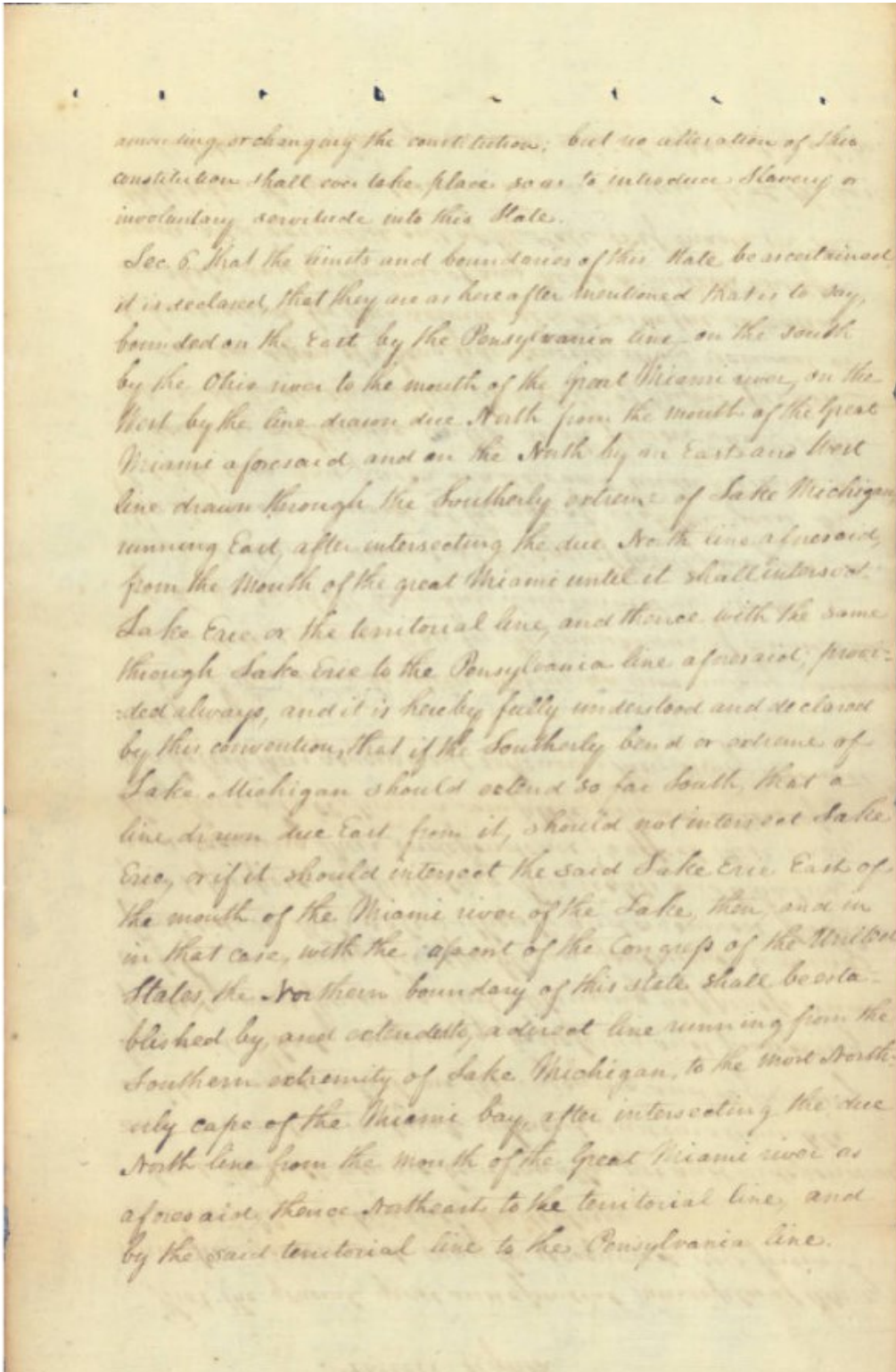
APPENDIX IV

Ohio Constitution

Article VII - Section 6

(Page 17)

Section laying out Ohio's boundaries and approved by Congress on 10 February, 1803



amending or changing the constitution; but no alteration of this constitution shall ever take place, so as to introduce Slavery or involuntary servitude into this State.

Sec. 6. That the limits and boundaries of this State be ascertained, it is declared, that they are as here after mentioned That is to say, bounded on the East by the Pennsylvania line, on the South by the Ohio river to the mouth of the great Miami river, on the West by the line drawn due North from the mouth of the great Miami aforesaid, and on the North by an East and West line drawn through the Southernly extreme of Lake Michigan running East, after intersecting the due North line aforesaid, from the Mouth of the great Miami until it shall intersect Lake Erie, or the territorial line, and thence with the same through Lake Erie to the Pennsylvania line aforesaid, provided always, and it is hereby fully understood and declared by this convention, that if the Southernly bend or extreme of Lake Michigan should extend so far South, that a line drawn due East from it, should not intersect Lake Erie, or if it should intersect the said Lake Erie East of the mouth of the Miami river of the Lake, then and in that case, with the assent of the Congress of the United States, the Northern boundary of this state shall be established by, and extendeth, a direct line running from the Southern extremity of Lake Michigan, to the most Northernly cape of the Miami Bay, after intersecting the due North line from the Mouth of the Great Miami river as aforesaid, thence Northeast to the territorial line, and by the said territorial line to the Pennsylvania line.

The United States Congress approved an enabling act on 30 April 1802, empowering Ohio Territory to begin the process of becoming a state. Thirty-five delegates were elected on 1 November to form a constitutional convention. Among them were Edward Tiffin, James Sargent, Francis Dunlavy, Bazaleel Wells, Nathaniel Massie, Thomas Worthington, Samuel Huntington, Ephraim Cutler, and Rufus Putnam. The delegates assembled in Chillicothe to write a constitution composed of sections from other state constitutions. Document was approved by Congress on 10 February 1803 and Ohio was seventeenth state admitted. Constitution's 26 pages measure 9" x 14" .

1802 Ohio constitution gave virtually all power to the legislature. The Senate and House of Representatives appointed the Supreme Court and the governor had no veto power. Although the constitution did ban slavery in Ohio, a motion to grant African Americans the right to vote failed by one vote in the constitutional convention.

APPENDIX V

EARLY OHIO POSTAL ROUTES BY WILLIAM D. OVERMAN *at*

[https://resources.ohiohistory.org/ohj/browse/displaypages.php?display\[\]=0055&display\[\]=21&display\[\]=29](https://resources.ohiohistory.org/ohj/browse/displaypages.php?display[]=0055&display[]=21&display[]=29)
Regular United States mail service followed closely upon the heels of organized government in the Northwest Territory. The Ohio country business had increased to the place where it was necessary for the rider to lead an extra horse as early as

1796, for, as the Postmaster-General wrote, "The western mail weighs 120 lbs. and is too heavy for one horse." Detroit needed service. It was proposed that a route be established in December 1802 from Cincinnati to Detroit, but it was a long distance and there was little in the way of accommodations for the riders.¹² Although some mail went through to Detroit, for they had a post office established in 1803, regular service did not begin until 1805 when a route was established *via* Pittsburgh, Warren (Ohio), Cleveland, and thence to Sandusky and Detroit. It was in 1805 that the Cleveland office was established and the Postmaster-General wrote to Jefferson that he had engaged "two faithful, enterprising, hardy young woodsmen" to carry the mail.¹³ An act of Congress, April 23, 1800, provided for the establishment of postal routes from Washington in Kentucky to Manchester (Ohio), and thence to Chillicothe, over the lower end of Zane's Trace and from Marietta to Zanesville on the Muskingum.¹⁴ In 1804, the year after Ohio became a State, other routes were provided.¹⁵ These were: Pittsburgh to Warren by Cleveland to Detroit; Chillicothe to Alexandria (at the mouth of the Scioto River, now west of the city of Portsmouth); from Chillicothe to



Franklinton (later to be incorporated in the city of Columbus); Cincinnati through Franklin and Dayton to Stanton, thence through Wainsville (Waynesville) and Deerfield to Charleston; and from Zanesville to Gnadenhutten. The act permitted the Postmaster to make contracts and this does not mean that service between these towns was immediately forthcoming. The Postmaster-General in 1803 was Gideon Granger who had the longest term of any in American history, 13 years. Return J. Meigs, who followed him served nine years.¹⁶ Granger and other national leaders of the period were interested in the development of the West. The rapid extension of postal routes and facilities during the next quarter of a century, operated at a loss to the government, is evidence of this desire. Granger wrote to Senator James Jackson, November 22, 1803, in reply to the Senator's inquiry as to the feasibility of extending the carriage of mail by the use of stages or covered wagons. The Postmaster said that the use of such means would be a great public utility but recited the many difficulties that would present themselves in crossing mountains and streams in the western states. With reasonable encouragement, he believed the necessary arrangements might be affected in a short time. He further recommended the extension of mail contracts from four to seven years and a 50% increase in the expenditure for conveyance.¹⁷ The State capital of Ohio was at Chillicothe from 1803 to 1809, when it was moved to Zanesville. It was returned to Chillicothe in 1812 only to move permanently to Columbus in 1816. A study of a map of postal routes for this period would show lines radiating from Chillicothe as spokes from the hub of a wheel. Later the center was to shift northward as settlement progressed and Columbus became the hub of activity. In 1810, all existing post routes were discontinued and a whole new system was provided.¹⁸ (Continued page VI)

APPENDIX VI

EARLY OHIO POSTAL ROUTES BY WILLIAM D. OVERMAN *continued*

The routes established in 1810 were:

1. Pt. Pleasant, Virginia, by Gallipolis, Scioto Salt Works, Chillicothe, Franklinton, Worthington, Delaware, Mt. Vernon, Mansfield, Ripley, Bronson to Huron, on Lake Erie.
2. Marietta to Belpre.
3. Marietta by Athens, Chillicothe, New Market (Highland County), Williamsburg (Clermont County), Milford, Columbia, Cincinnati to North Bend.
4. Wheeling, Virginia, by St. Clairsville, Morristown, Frankford, Cambridge, Zanesville, Springfield (Now South Zanesville), New Lancaster (now Lancaster), Chillicothe, and Brown's Cross Roads to Maysville, Kentucky.
5. Cincinnati by Crosby, Hamilton, Franklin, Dayton, Stanton, Troy, Piqua Town, Springfield, Ludlow, Xenia, Waynesville, Lebanon, and Montgomery to Cincinnati.
6. Chillicothe, by Pee Pee (now Piketon) to Alexandria (now on the west side of the Scioto River from Portsmouth).
7. Zanesville by Gnadenhutten and New Philadelphia to Canton.
8. Marietta by Waterford, Zanesville, Newark (Granville) to Worthington and Urbana.
9. Troy to Greenville.
10. Brook Court House in Virginia to Steubenville, and Faucettstown (now to E. Liverpool?) to New Lisbon.
11. Greensburg or Beavertown, Pennsylvania, by N. Lisbon, Deerfield, Ravenna, Hudson, Cleveland, Huron, Perkins, Paterson, and Sandusky to Ft. Miami (near present city of Toledo).
12. Greensburg, Pennsylvania, by Poland, Youngstown, Warren to Jefferson and return by Williamsfield, Smithfield, and Brookfield to Warren .
13. Litchfield by Canfield, Jefferson, and Austinville to Cleveland.
14. Youngstown to Canfield.

In tracing these routes it is necessary to refer to contemporary maps. An original manuscript map of Ohio¹⁹ by John F. Mansfield compiled in 1806 from "returns in the Office of the Surveyor General," and other early maps dated 1818 and 1825, have been most useful. Many of these towns have either gone out of existence or have changed names to make it impossible to trace them on any more recent map. There were many instances of two towns having the same name and it became necessary for one of them to change to avoid confusion. This duplication occurred in the names Springfield, Charleston, Lexington, Deerfield, Jefferson, among others. By laws in 1812, 1814, 1815, 1817, 1818, 1819, 1820, 1823,²⁰ these routes were altered or supplemented so that as the new counties were added, service could be extended to the county seat and intervening towns.

The New York post office had collected \$5,537.18 in 1791, Philadelphia \$9,674.40 and Pittsburgh \$140. The earliest statistics on Ohio indicates a total for 1801 of \$1,515.67, with an increase to \$2,495.85 in 1802.²¹ From these humble beginnings the business in Ohio increased to where by 1816 there were 134 post offices with 2,778 miles of post roads. The cost of carrying this mail was \$12,476 with a net revenue of \$7,950.63 leaving the Post Office "in the red" to the extent of \$4,525.37.

12. *Annals of Congress, 1801, 1575-6.*

13. *Postmaster General Letterbook N, 95, 305, in Rich, History of Post Office, 77-8, 85.*

14. *Annals of Congress, 1799-1801, 1479.*

15. *Ibid., 1803-5, 1283-4.*

16. Benjamin Franklin had served 21 years as Colonial Postmaster and for one year after the Declaration. But after Granger and Meigs, the average until 1861 was less than two and one-half years each. See Ross A. McReynolds, *United States Postal Development, 1607-1931* (Summary of a Ph. D. Thesis, Univ. of Chicago, 1931),

17. *American State Papers, Post Office, 1789-1833, 29.*

18. *Annals of Congress, 1810, 2550.*

19. In Ohio State Archaeological and Historical Society Library.

20. *Annals of Congress, 1811-12, 2295; 1812-13, 1318; 1813-14, 2841; 1814-15, 1930-31; 1816-17, 1302; 1817-18, 2574; 1819, 2519; 1820, 2595; 1820-21, 1827; 1822-23, 1393.*

APPENDIX VII

Page from Congressional Record of the 7th Congress
1 March 1803 providing Ohio Statehood

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HISTORY OF CONGRESS.

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SENATE.

Proceedings.

MARCH, 1803.

entitled "An act concerning the City of Washington;" and a bill, entitled "An act for settling sundry claims to public lands of the United States south of the State of Tennessee;" in which bills they desire the concurrence of the Senate.

The two bills last brought up for concurrence were read, and ordered to the second reading.

The VICE PRESIDENT laid before the Senate the credentials of ISRAEL SMITH, elected a Senator of the United States for the State of Vermont, for six years, commencing on the fourth day of March, 1803; and they were read and ordered to lie on file.

The bill, entitled "An act to reduce the Marine Corps of the United States," was read the second time, and referred to Messrs. BRADLEY, TRACY, and LOGAN, to consider and report thereon.

The bill entitled "An act for the relief of Paul Coulon," was read the second time, and referred to Messrs. TRACY, ANDERSON, and OLCOTT, to consider and report thereon.

The bill, entitled "An act for the relief of Joshua Harvey and others," was read the second time, and referred to Messrs. WRIGHT, BRADLEY, and ANDERSON, to consider and report thereon.

Mr. NICHOLAS, from the committee to whom was referred "An act in addition to an act, entitled 'An act to amend the Judicial system of the United States,'" reported it without amendment.

Ordered. That it pass to a third reading.

Mr. T. FOSTER, from the committee to whom was referred the bill, entitled "An act for erecting a light-house at the entrance of Penobscot bay, or any other place, in its vicinity, that may be deemed preferable by the Secretary of the Treasury," reported the same without amendment.

Ordered. That it pass to a third reading.

Ordered. That the committee on the petition of Cloe Strong be discharged.

The bill, entitled "An act to make provision for persons that have been disabled by known wounds, received in the actual service of the United States, during the Revolutionary war," was read a third time and passed as amended.

The bill, entitled "An act in addition to, and in modification of, the proposition contained in the act, entitled "An act to enable the people of the Eastern division of the Territory Northwest of the river Ohio to form a constitution and State government, and for the admission of such State into the Union, on an equal footing with the original States, and for other purposes," was read the third time, and passed.

The bill, entitled "An act concerning the insurance of buildings, goods, and furniture, in the county of Alexandria, in the Territory of Columbia," was considered, and passed to a third reading.

The consideration of the bill, entitled "An act to amend the acts providing for the sale of the lands of the United States in the Territory Northwest of the river Ohio, and above the mouth of Kentucky river," was resumed. And on the question, Shall this bill pass to the third reading? it was determined in the negative. So the bill was lost.

The amendments to the bill, entitled "An act

in addition to an act, entitled 'An addition to an act regulating the grants of land appropriated for military services, and for the Society of the United Brethren for propagating the Gospel among the Heathen,' and for other purposes," were considered; and it was agreed that the bill pass to a third reading.

The bill, entitled "An act authorizing the transfer of the duties of supervisor to any other office," was considered, and passed to a third reading.

The amendments to the bill, entitled "An act to make Beaufort, the City of Washington, and Passamaquoddy, ports of entry and delivery; to make Easton, Nanjemoy, and Tiverton, ports of delivery; to change the name of the district of Nanjemoy to that of St. Mary's; to authorize the establishment of a new collection district on Lake Ontario; and the appointment of a surveyor at Nanjemoy, were considered and adopted; and the bill passed to a third reading as amended.

The amendments to the bill, entitled "An act regulating the grants of land, and providing for the disposal of the lands of the United States south of the State of Tennessee," were considered and agreed to.

Ordered. That this bill pass to a third reading as amended.

The amendments to the bill, entitled "An act concerning the salt springs on the waters of the Wabash river," were considered and agreed to.

Ordered. That this bill pass to a third reading as amended.

Ordered. That the bill, entitled "An act more effectually to provide for the organization of the Militia of the District of Columbia," pass to the third reading.

A message from the House of Representatives informed the Senate that the House have passed a bill, entitled "An act to enable the President of the United States to make restitution to the owners of the Danish brigantine called the *Henrick*;" in which they desire the concurrence of the Senate. The bill last mentioned was read, and ordered to a second reading.

Ordered. That the petition of Aaron Man be referred to the Secretary for the Department of Treasury, to consider and report thereon at the next session of Congress.

WEDNESDAY, March 2.

The VICE PRESIDENT being absent, the Senate proceeded to the election of a President *pro tempore*, as the Constitution provides, and the ballots being collected and counted, the whole number was found to be 18, of which 10 make a majority: Mr. Bradley had 13, Mr. Morris 3, Mr. Hillhouse 1, and Mr. Logan 1.

Consequently, the Hon. STEPHEN R. BRADLEY was elected President of the Senate *pro tempore*.

Ordered. That the Secretary wait on the President of the United States, and acquaint him that, in the absence of the Vice President, they have elected the Hon. STEPHEN R. BRADLEY President of the Senate *pro tempore*.

APPENDIX VIII

Page from Congressional Globe of the 24th Congress
26 January 1837 admitting Michigan to the Union

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TWENTY-FOURTH CONGRESS. SESS. II. CH. 6, 9. 1837.

mentioned, said parent or guardian shall be allowed pay therefor on making satisfactory proof as in other cases, and the further proof that he is entitled thereto by having furnished the same.

Persons other than minors to be paid for property risked by them which has been lost.

SEC. 7. *And be it further enacted*, That in all instances where any person other than a minor has been or shall be engaged in the military service aforesaid, and has been or shall be provided with a horse or equipments, or with military accoutrements by any person, the owner thereof, who has risked or shall take the risk of such horse, equipments, or military accoutrements on himself, and the same has been or shall be lost, captured, destroyed, or abandoned in the manner before mentioned, such owner shall be allowed pay therefor, on making satisfactory proof as in other cases, and the further proof that he is entitled thereto, by having furnished the same, and having taken the risk on himself.

Acts of 19 February, 1833, ch. 33; and 30 June, 1834, ch. 153, repealed.

SEC. 8. *And be it further enacted*, That the act passed on the nineteenth of February, eighteen hundred and thirty-three, entitled "An act for the payment of horses and arms lost in the military service of the United States against the Indians on the frontier of Illinois and Michigan Territory," and an act passed on the thirtieth of June, eighteen hundred and thirty-four, entitled "An act to provide for the payment of claims for property lost, captured or destroyed by the enemy, while in the military service of the United States, during the late war with the Indians on the frontier of Illinois and Michigan Territory," be, and the same are hereby, repealed.

Limitation of act.

SEC. 9. *And be it further enacted*, That this act shall be and remain in force until the close of the next session of Congress.

APPROVED, January 18, 1837.

STATUTE II.

Jan. 26, 1837.

CHAP. VI.—*An Act to admit the State of Michigan into the Union, upon an equal footing with the original States.*

Act of June 15, 1836, ch. 99.
Act of June 23, 1836, ch. 121.

Whereas, in pursuance of the act of Congress of June the fifteenth, eighteen hundred and thirty-six, entitled "An act to establish the northern boundary of the State of Ohio, and to provide for the admission of the State of Michigan into the Union upon the conditions therein expressed," a convention of delegates, elected by the people of the said State of Michigan, for the sole purpose of giving their assent to the boundaries of the said State of Michigan as described, declared, and established, in and by the said act, did, on the fifteenth of December, eighteen hundred and thirty-six, assent to the provisions of said act, therefore:

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled, That the State of Michigan shall be one, and is hereby declared to be one, of the United States of America, and admitted into the Union on an equal footing with the original States, in all respects whatever.

Admitted into the Union.

Entitled to a deposit of the surplus revenue.

Act of June 23, 1836, ch. 115.

SEC. 2. *And be it further enacted*, That the Secretary of the Treasury, in carrying into effect the thirteenth and fourteenth sections of the act of the twenty-third of June, eighteen hundred and thirty-six, entitled "An act to regulate the deposits of the public money," shall consider the State of Michigan as being one of the United States.

APPROVED, January 26, 1837.

STATUTE II.

Jan. 31, 1837.

CHAP. IX.—*An Act to authorize certain rail-road companies to construct rail-roads through the public lands in the Territory of Florida.*

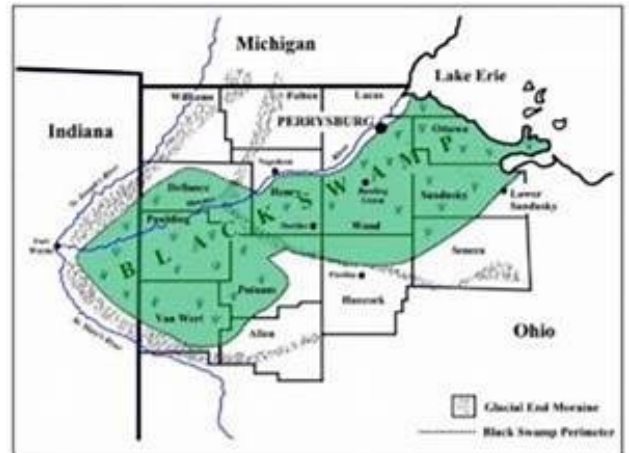
East Florida Rail-road Company authorized

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled, That the East Florida Rail-road Company, a corporation established by an act of the Governor

APPENDIX IX

The Black Swamp

The Great Black Swamp was a glacially fed wetland in northwest Ohio, sections of lower Michigan, and extreme northeast Indiana, that existed from the end of the Wisconsin glaciation until the late 19th century. Comprising extensive swamps and marshes, with some higher, drier ground interspersed, it occupied what was formerly the southwestern part of proglacial Lake Maumee, a holocene precursor to Lake Erie. The area was about 25 miles wide (north to south) and 100 miles long, covering an estimated 1,500 square miles. Gradually drained and settled in the second half of the 19th century, it is now highly productive farmland. However, this development has been detrimental to the ecosystem as a result of agricultural runoff. This runoff, in turn, has contributed to frequent toxic algal blooms in Lake Erie.



Imagine, traveling and having to traverse 50 miles of this type of area.



The land once covered by the swamp lies primarily within the Maumee River and Portage River watersheds in northwest Ohio and northeast Indiana. The boundary was determined primarily by ancient sandy beach ridges formed on the shores of Lakes Maumee and Whittlesey, after glacial retreat several thousand years ago. It stretched roughly from Fort Wayne, Indiana, eastward to the Ottawa National Wildlife Refuge near Port Clinton along the Lake Erie shore, and from

(roughly) US 6 south to Findlay and North Star, Ohio in Darke County. Near its southern edge at the southwestern corner of present-day Auglaize County, wheeled transportation was impossible during most of the year, and local residents thought the rigors of travel to be unsuitable for anyone except adult men.

The vast swamp was a network of forests, wetlands, and grasslands. In the lowest, flattest areas, prone to permanent inundation, deciduous swamp forests predominated, characterized especially by species of ash, elm, cottonwood and sycamore. In slightly higher areas with some topographic relief and better drainage, beech, maples, basswood, tuliptree and other more mesic species were dominant. On elevated beach ridges and moraines with good to excessive drainage, more xeric species, especially oak and hickory, were dominant. Unlike other swampy areas of the Great Lakes, such as northern Minnesota, there were no conifers. The area contained non-forested wetlands, particularly marsh and wet prairies, with marshes being particularly extensive along the Lake Erie shoreline east of Toledo.



https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Great_Black_Swamp

<https://www.pbs.org/video/wbgu-documentaries-the-story-of-the-great-black-swamp/>

The Great Black Swamp: Historical Tales of 19Th-Century Northwest Ohio Paperback – October 1, 1999

The Great Black Swamp was the biggest reason Ohio paid little attention to the “Toledo Strip” and why Michigan was able to exert its influence on the area. The Great Black Swamp also affected postal routes. During extremely wet times of the year mail service had to be routed around the swamp. As early rates were calculated by mileage, an impassible swamp made it more expensive to mail a letter.

APPENDIX X

Text of First Letter on Record - Written from Toledo

(Swan's Camp) (Middle Grounds)
Located at Monroe & Summit Streets

A letter written by Father Edmund Burke
February 2, 1796 from
Nevin Winter's "History of Northwest Ohio" Vol. 1
Lewis Publishing Company
Chicago-New York
1917
Jesuit Relations page 202



Nevin Winter

The Jesuit Relations of Travels and Exploration is a 73-volume library. The original The Jesuit Relations has long been inaccessible to undergraduate students. Vitally important, the writings of seventeenth-century French Jesuits in Native North America tell the story of early American encounters. Father Burke's letter is in Volume 73 as near as can be determined.

Father Edmund Burke (1753-1820) Born at Maryborough, County Kildare, Ireland He studied and was ordained in Paris. While a priest of the Diocese of Quebec he was chosen to establish a mission on the Miami of Lake Erie (Maumee River) Some sources locate this mission at the site where Perrysburg is today; however, a reading of the letter seems to indicate the mouth of Swan Creek at the Maumee, Toledo's location. In 1789 he built the first church structure in Monroe, MI and was its first resident priest. He only stayed in the "Toledo area" about a year and eventually became Bishop of Sion, and vicar apostolic in Nova Scotia.

"I wrote from Quebec, if I rightly remember, the day before departure for this country; am now distant about five hundred leagues from it, on the western side of Lake Erie, within a few miles of the Miami fort, lately built by the British government. * * * I'm here in the midst of Indians, all heathens. This day a grand council was held in my house by the Ottawas, Chippewas and Pottowatomies. These people receive a certain quantity of Indian corn from the government, and I have been appointed to distribute it. That gives me a consequence among them which I hope will be useful, as soon as I can speak their language, which is not difficult.

"This (is) the last and most distant parish inhabited by Catholics on this earth; in it is neither law, justice nor subjection. You never meet a man, either Indian or Canadian, without his gun in his hand and his knife at his breast. My house is on the banks of a river which falls into the lake, full of fish and fowl of all sorts; the finest climate in the world, and the most fertile lands. * * * Next summer I go on three hundred leagues towards Mackina, or Lake Superior, where there are some Christian Indians, to see if I can collect them."

Alfred G. Boerger was born in Toledo, Ohio 11 November 1911. A historian and philatelist, he retiree from the Toledo Blade Newspaper, and relocated to Wilton Manors and Lauderdale, FL where he lived for 34 years. He was recognized worldwide as a Philatelist, researcher, writer, designer of U.S. First Day Covers, and was an expert in the ongoing U.S. Postal Phosphor Tagging Program, hence the nick-name "TAG". He was a lifelong member of the American Philatelic Society, the Hollywood Stamp Club, Stamp Collectors Club of Toledo, plus many others.

He died unexpectedly 26 May 2001 during a brief visit with his family in Toledo, OH.